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From the Editor

Susan Fingerman

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From the Editor

Susan Fingerman



The passing in July of Fred Kilgour, the founder of the OCLC Online Computer Library Center, leads me to reflect on just how far automation has carried libraries and the craft of librarianship.

OCLC was established to eliminate the duplication of cataloging effort by Ohio libraries, but like the Internet, the creation of the network itself led to much more than the originators had dreamed. This was due to the vision and the leadership of Kilgour, who led the organization from its inception in 1967 until he stepped down in 1980 as President and Chief Executive. He remained on the Board until 1985.

Worldcat, which now guides Internet searchers to library holdings, was created by Kilgour in 1971. In 1979 the Interlibrary Loan system was created. In the mid 80's I was pleased to be a member of the NELINET (New England Library Network) team working on the OCLC Group Access Capability (GAC) for regional holding identification and the establishment of general online interlibrary loan policies. Worldcat now contains over 74 million bibliographic records and 1 billion holdings contributed by more than 9,000 libraries around the world.

The OCLC Newsletter *NEXT Space* issue of September is dedicated to this remarkable man. <http://www.oclc.org/nextspace/003/letter.htm> It includes several cogent quotes from 1951 right up to his 1998 *The Evolution of the Book*.

One quote in particular struck me as a reminder of how much things remain the same, even as they change (plus ça change!) Note the date.

"Libraries now find themselves forced to a dynamic state of instability, which should not be confused with insecurity. Since the age of Pericles, the unstable periods in human history have been the most productive periods. Certainly, the period of instability

into which libraries are now entering after a long period of changelessness will be one of the intellectually productive periods in librarianship." "Implications for the Future of Reference information Service," in *Proceedings of the Conference held at the School of Library Service, Columbia University, March 20-April 1, 1966*

It's somehow comforting to me that libraries, while once again under attack, still seem to adapt and thrive. A particularly virulent diatribe against libraries as obsolete institutions was recently published in a Lawrence, Kansas newspaper and circulated on the Business and Finance listserve. It's made more disturbing by the fact that the writer claims to be "one who has devoted his entire life to education." Take a look at it, and count the ways that it infuriates and challenges you, and then the ways that it makes it's point! http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2006/oct/02/libraries_are_limited_obsolete/ Then take a look at this innovative idea from the UK <http://www.ideastore.co.uk/index/PID/1>.

Another significant change in our library world is the decision by Ellis Mount to retire from active duty! While thankfully he is very much still with us, Ellis has decided to give up all his current SLA activities and just become an "inactive" member. His "retirement" notice states that "It has been very rewarding to have been an active SLA member. If it develops that my services would be needed on any future occasion, I would be happy to help out." Ellis has "helped out" SLA and our Divisions for many years, and we owe him a tremendous amount of gratitude.

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'Til next time.
Susan Fingerman
Susan.Fingerman@jhuapl.edu

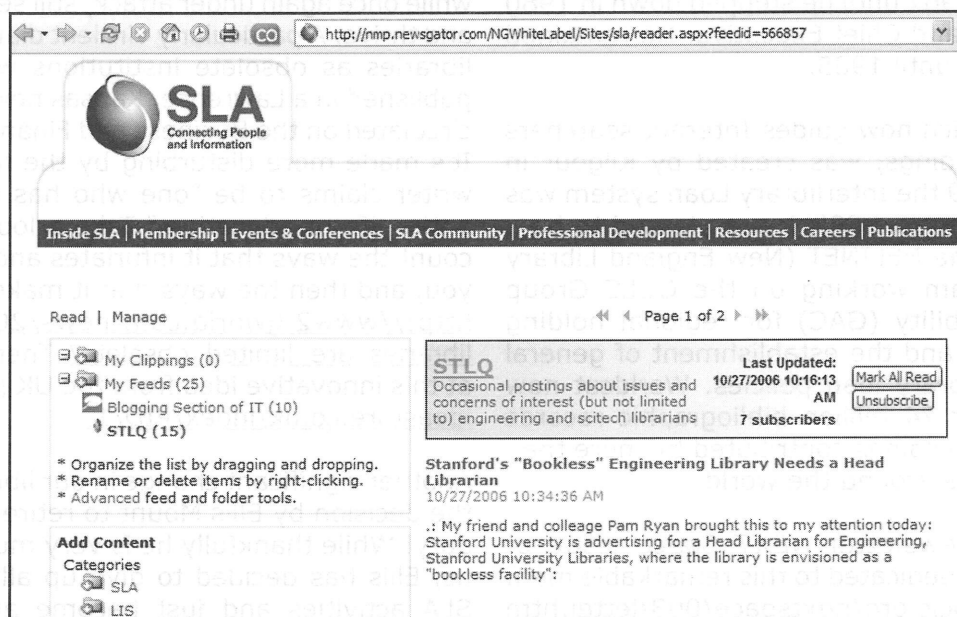
SLA Partners with NewsGator to Deliver Free Customized RSS Feeds to Info Pros

This just in as we went to press. Excerpted from the SLA Press Release

Alexandria, Virginia, USA, 23 October 2006 - The Special Libraries Association (SLA) announced today that it has partnered with NewsGator to launch an online service that delivers RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feeds to the desktops of thousands of information professionals. This exclusive service is free only to members of SLA, and is available at www.sla.org as part of the SLA News Connections.

SLA News Connections now includes access to open Web content driven by NewsGator's reader. Members of SLA can access the content through the "Resources" tab on the SLA home page. NewsGator is also offering free educational Webinars and a special SLA member discount on their solutions for businesses. More information is available in the News Connections area of the SLA Web site.

Questions about SLA News Connections may be directed to Carolyn Sosnowski, Information Specialist at SLA, on +1.703.647.4914 or csosnowski@sla.org.



NOTICE TO OUR READERS: August 2005 Issue now online

Dear Readers,

We are happy to announce that we have put a PDF of the August 2005 issue, Vol 59, No. 3, on the Science-Technology Division website as a sample issue. It can be found from the SciTech News page at <http://units.sla.org/division/dst/SciTechNews/SciTechNews.html>.

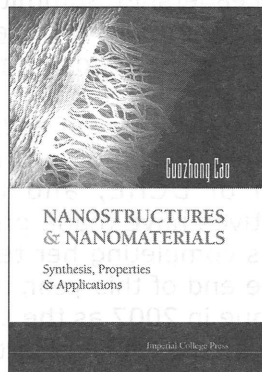
Thanks very much to Anna Ren, Web Master, and Christina Pikas, Assistant Editor, for helping to make this happen.

For those subscribers who did not receive this issue in print, we apologize for any inconvenience and hope you will enjoy the issue online.

Sincerely,
Susan Fingerman
Editor, SciTech News

Connecting Great Minds

Nanotechnology Highlights


 25 World Scientific
 YEARS OF PUBLISHING
 1 9 8 1 - 2 0 0 6
**NANOSTRUCTURES AND NANOMATERIALS**

Synthesis, Properties and Applications
 by **Guozhong Cao** (University of Washington, USA)

This important book focuses on the synthesis and fabrication of nanostructures and nanomaterials, but also includes properties and applications of nanostructures and nanomaterials, particularly inorganic nanomaterials. It provides balanced and comprehensive coverage of the fundamentals and processing techniques with regard to synthesis, characterization, properties, and applications of nanostructures and nanomaterials. Both chemical processing and lithographic techniques are presented in a systematic and coherent manner for the synthesis and fabrication of 0-D, 1-D, and 2-D nanostructures, as well as special nanomaterials such as carbon nanotubes and ordered mesoporous oxides.

448pp Apr 2004 1-86094-415-9 US\$98 £60

NANOPARTICULATES AS DRUG CARRIERS

edited by **Vladimir P Torchilin** (Northeastern University, USA)

This book can be used as an advanced textbook by graduate students and young scientists and clinicians at the early stages of their career. It is also suitable for non-experts from related areas of chemistry, biochemistry, molecular biology, biomedical engineering, physiology, experimental and clinical medicine, and pharmaceutical sciences, who are interested in general problems of drug delivery and drug targeting, as well as in more specialized topics of using nanoparticle-mediated drug delivery approaches in the individual areas of clinical medicine.

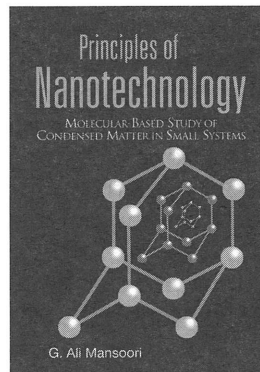
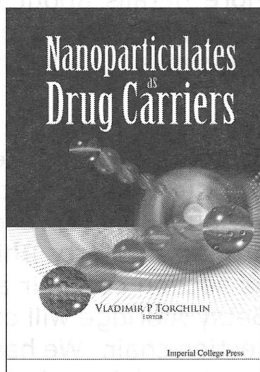
880pp (approx.) Fall 2006 1-86094-630-5 US\$148 £85

ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS OF NANOMATERIALS

Synthesis, Sorbents and Sensors
 edited by **Glen E Fryxell** (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, USA)
 & **Guozhong Cao** (University of Washington, USA)

The leading researchers contributing to this volume paint a picture of diverse synthetic strategies, structures, materials and methods. The book is organized into sections on nanoparticle-based remediation strategies, nanostructured inorganic materials (such as layered materials like the apatites), nanostructured organic/inorganic hybrid materials, and the use of nanomaterials to enhance the performance of sensors. The chemistries captured by the contributors form a rich and colorful tapestry.

450pp (approx.) Winter 2006 1-86094-662-3 US\$100 £58


World Scientific
 www.worldscientific.com
**PRINCIPLES OF NANOTECHNOLOGY**

Molecular-Based Study of Condensed Matter in Small Systems
 by **G Ali Mansoori** (University of Illinois at Chicago, USA)

Principles of Nanotechnology is self-contained and unified in presentation. It may be used as a textbook by graduate students and even ambitious undergraduates in engineering, and the biological and physical sciences who already have some familiarity with quantum and statistical mechanics. It is also suitable for experts in related fields who require an overview of the fundamental topics in nanotechnology. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of nanotechnology, a comprehensive glossary is included detailing abbreviations, chemical formulae, concepts, definitions, equations and theories.

360pp Mar 2005 981-256-154-4 US\$86 £52

NANOTECHNOLOGY CHALLENGES

Implications for Philosophy, Ethics and Society
 edited by **Joachim Schummer** (Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany) & **Davis Baird** (University of South Carolina, USA)

This volume includes the state-of-the-art philosophical, ethical, and sociological reflection on nanotechnology, written by leading scholars from the humanities and social sciences in North America and Europe. As it unravels the philosophical underpinnings of nanotechnology, it explores its ethical issues, its impact on human, environmental, and social conditions, and the options for reasonable risk management. It also examines the public discourse on nanotechnology and its related visions and provides both lessons from the past and outlooks for the future.

476pp Apr 2006 981-256-729-1 US\$95 £55

CONTROLLED GROWTH OF NANOMATERIALS

by **Lide Zhang, Xiaosheng Fang & Changhui Ye** (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China)

This book introduces the latest methods for the controlled growth of nanomaterial systems. The coverage includes simple and complex nanomaterial systems, ordered nanostructures and complex nanostructure arrays, and the essential conditions for the controlled growth of nanostructures with different morphologies, sizes, compositions, and microstructures. The book also discusses the dynamics of controlled growth and thermodynamic characteristics of two-dimensional nanostructured systems.

300pp (approx.) Winter 2006 981-256-728-3 US\$83 £48


Imperial College Press
 www.icpress.co.uk