



Chapter Member News

Mark Vrabel, MLS, AHIP, ELS, wrote "Challenging Cases in Multiple Myeloma" on pages 11-12 of the September 2013 *ONS Connect* supplement freely available at http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/ons/spotlightonsymposia_2013/.



Karen Liljequist accepted a position as the Liaison Program Coordinator at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC). Thank you Karen for your service to the SLA Pittsburgh Chapter!

Donna Beck presented her poster "Move Over E-Readers, Here Come the Tablets! Implementing a Program to Suit Your Special Library" at the SLA Annual Conference in San Diego.

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Welcome !

New Chapter Members

Brooke Hyatt

Jessica Boudakian

Krista Ford

Sandy Russell

SLA in San Diego: Lessons Learned Through Networking – Leslie Eibl

Connect, Collaborate, and Strategize. This was the theme of this year's SLA Annual Conference in San Diego, CA and these three tasks proved a great way to define my first SLA conference experience. Through all of the conference sessions, events, and info expo booths, the conference was a unique experience. The lessons learned are those that I find myself using in work and life situations. I could not have attended the conference without the assistance of the Promising Professional award, and for that I extend my gratitude to the SLA Pittsburgh chapter for their continual support and guidance in the early stages of my career.

Before leaving for the conference, I thought that I was completely prepared. I looked over the pre-conference emails, read the first-timer tips and tricks, made some last minute business cards, and planned my conference schedule using the online planner and mobile app. While it was an organized plan, it quickly became disorganized as the conference started and each session looked more interesting. This, along with my expectation that most of my conference experience would take place in conference sessions, was the first of what was to be many lessons learned by a SLA conference first-timer.

One of my largest goals upon conference registration was to gain a better understanding of the information profession outside of an academic library environment. On the first day I took a continuing education course, *The Road to Successful CI: From Novice to Expert*. This course quickly helped me realize that information management topics such as knowledge management and competitive intelligence can be applied in variety of



Our 2013 Promising Professional Award Winner at the Annual Conference *Credit: Leslie Eibl*

ways and work environments. I also found that using breaks in the day and sessions like this one are a great opportunity to learn about different professions through networking. It was after this session that I revisited my initial schedule. I decided that instead of attending sessions on topics I was familiar with, I would attend sessions on ones I wanted to learn more about from both the conference presenters and attendees. This resulted in a successful mix of sessions ranging from Big Data to Knowledge Management to a Q&A session workplace advice from experienced professionals.

The most valuable experience for me was the time spent with chapter members and other information professionals. I came to the conference ready to connect with my colleagues and I soon discovered they felt the same way. After attending the first-timers meet and greet I was especially impressed with how admired our chapter is. Upon mentioning I was a member of the Pittsburgh chapter, I was often asked if I

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SLA Annual Conference Recap - Donna Beck

My SLA conference frustration:

My Monday morning conference goal was to attend the “Next Generation Sci-Tech Librarians” session. However, when I arrived 3 minutes before the start, the room was packed beyond occupancy limit. I could not even squeeze into the room.

My SLA conference best twist of fate:

I wandered down the hall, into and out of another session, finally sitting in the back of the Spotlight Session, “Organizing Knowledge.” The speaker was Patrick Lambe from Straits Knowledge. His slides are available at: http://www.sla.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/OrganizingKnowledge_Lambe.pdf He is also author of the book, *Organising Knowledge: Taxonomies, Knowledge and Organisational Effectiveness*.

“Task”onomy

A beginning slide—Taxonomy and metadata as “glue”—was at first glance very overwhelming and almost cause for me to walk out of yet another session. But, I was drawn in by Lambe’s stories. One tale referenced an anthropology study that observed blacksmiths who did not put their tools away by type of tool. The blacksmiths put their tools in an arrangement by how they were going to do their work the next day.

Lambe states: Classification is not always organization

The tale of the blacksmiths set the theme for the rest of the talk by illustrating the idea that if we need to go to designated places to get each item or idea, then we spend all our time trying to find those places. “Taskonomy” serves to solve this problem by mapping out a task then putting appropriate

links to what you need in order to perform that task. For example, instead of a PDF file linking to a manual, you could link to a paragraph related to a task.

Google approach

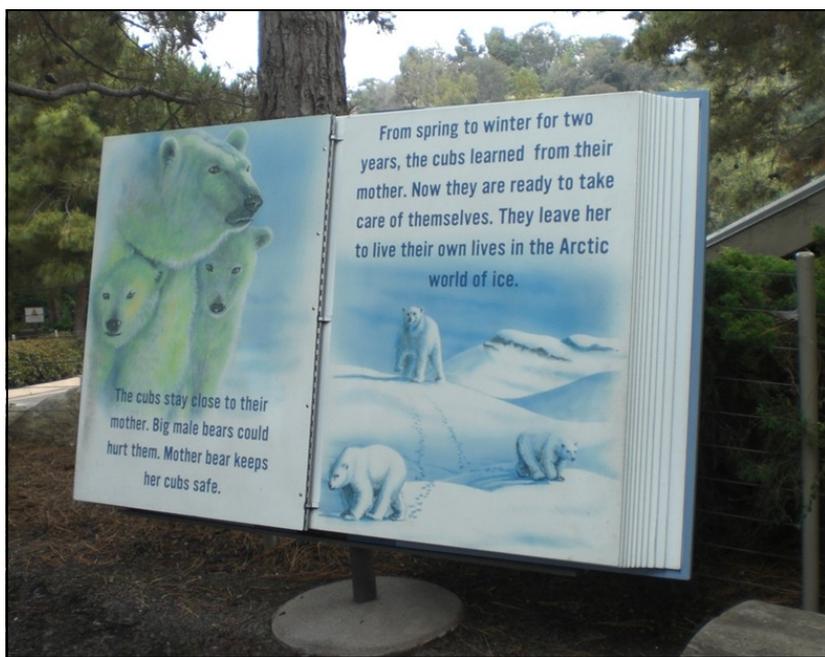
Google Glass...what’s that? Mr. Lambe also referred to Google’s new way to frame information in context with wearable technology in the form of eye frames. You can collect data from what you are viewing real time. I found out that a company has already patented binocular head-mounted display frames. Hmm, maybe if I had a spare couple thousand I could get myself a pair of these and be prepared to attend an overflowing SLA session by using my Google glasses to view in from just outside the doorway. Or, I could have had fun with them by recording my view above the tree tops on the Sky Ride from one end of the San Diego Zoo to the other.

I loved San Diego

You learn something new every SLA conference that you attend! I even found information on polar bears in a giant book at the San Diego Zoo. The purple flowering jacaranda trees were in bloom and beauty was everywhere I looked.

P.S...

...means Poster Session. I presented a poster at the All-Sciences Poster Session and Reception. For a copy of the poster, see the link, “Move Over E-Readers, Here Come the Tablets” at <http://guides.library.cmu.edu/iPad>



Polar bear book at the San Deigo Zoo. Credit: Donna Beck

July Event Recap: Sharing and Learning –Lynn Berard and Denise Callihan

A *Happy Hour* session was held at The Porch in Oakland on July 9th. The session was organized by Lynn Berard and Denise Callihan who chair the **Partner & Community Relations Team**. With a total of 20 in attendance, there was a good mix of students, members, and non-members who helped make the night festive and enjoyable.



Happy Hour at The Porch Credit: Lynn Berard

Following the happy hour and a short walk over to UPitt's Business School, over 20 people stuck around to attend a "sharing & learning" session highlighting smart websites/resources.

For those of you who couldn't make it, volunteers provided a brief orientation and description of a resource or tool that has made a difference to them in their life, and felt compelled to share. Please see the following resources that were discussed:

- Magda Esposito showcased Dropbox (www.dropbox.com). Magda noted it as "one of my favorite websites that allows online storage with access anywhere from multiple platforms and devices". Magda described how useful it was to her in school to always have assignments and details at her fingertips. And many in the group who use it shared how friendly the service is to their professional life.
- Jessica Boudakian, shared the popular blog, "Ask a Manager" by Alison Green (<http://www.askamanager.org/>). According to Jessica, Alison is an experienced HR professional, who gives advice on resume and cover letter writing, interviewing, and how to deal with difficult coworkers and situations. As a student, Jessica has found it very helpful and it has made her much more confident in entering the job market. You'll also find it addictive- especially reading the question and answer area!
- Leslie Eibl shared Feedly.com (www.feedly.com), since Google Reader is no longer available. Leslie noted that she's used feedly for information organization in the past, and mentioned its functionality on both desktops and mobile devices.
- Denise Callihan shared a freeware tool called Freemind (<http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/>

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PITTSBURGH CHAPTER AWARDS Trivia Quiz



How well do you know our Chapter award winners? Before you read Deb Martin's article encouraging you to nominate colleagues for chapter awards, take this quiz. Match the Award with the Winner(s) from the recent past.

Award

Winner(s)

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Catalyst Award | a. Lynn Berard, Amy Watson, Eve Wider & Kate Joranson |
| 2. Innovations in Technology Award | b. Eve Wider, Rachel Callison |
| 3. Leadership Award | c. Esther Nathanson, Lynn Berard |
| 4. Lifetime Achievement Award | d. Leslie Eibl, Ellie Gehman |
| 5. Mentoring Award | e. Rachel Callison, Amy Raimondi |
| 6. Publication / Authorship Award | f. Karen Liljequist |
| 7. Promising Professional Award | g. Brian Steinmetz |
| 8. SPECIAL: Golden Retread Award | h. Denise Callihan & Eve Wider |

Correct answers appear on page 8 of this newsletter and at http://pittsburgh.sla.org/?page_id=573

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knew a particular chapter member or how wonderful a chapter member was to work with on a committee. One of the most productive sessions I attended was a round table discussion sponsored by the Academic Division. The discussion format allowed me to actively participate and relate to the topics presented. I was able to learn from the discussion review and apply session information to my work. After the session, I had the opportunity to continue some of the conversation with another attendee and was glad to be able to collaborate and learn from this experience. I realized that learning to connect with conference attendees outside of session time is just as important as attending and participating in conference sessions.

In a session I attended about change management the presenter mentioned that creating connections makes knowledge grow and that "change happens with 1,000 cups of coffee." After 3 days of learning and connecting with colleagues, I would definitely agree. This conference has taught me that networking is not just gaining LinkedIn connections and collecting emails. It is a mentoring relationship designed as a window to sharing work and career experiences. More importantly, finding a way to connect and build upon these experiences with each individual goes beyond the conference walls and, in my opinion, is a core responsibility for any information professional. I hope to keep up this responsibility to the chapter and profession and am thankful that the SLA Pittsburgh chapter has supported me to do so.

2013 Awards Nominations – Deb Martin

Well, it's that time of year again! It's amazing that we are already planning our annual awards and business meeting. Please keep Thursday evening, December 5 open for this event.

Throughout our chapter's history, we have been blessed with an active membership worthy of numerous SLA chapter annual awards. This year is no exception. We have members who are consummate contributors despite juggling family, community, and employment responsibilities. You may be the only person that is aware of the accomplishments or contributions of one of our peers. Please, take a moment to recognize your fellow chapter members by nominating them for our annual awards. Self-nominations are welcomed.

Award descriptions and examples of past award winners follow. We've also provided prompts that may help elicit the perfect candidates for our 2013 awards. Please take a few minutes to brainstorm and, whatever the inspiration, let us know whom you would like to honor.

Catalyst Award \$50 Recognizes a member who has provided innovative solutions to issues that significantly affect the mission and values of the Chapter. Recent award winners include Rachel Callison, Amy Raimondi, and Donna Beck. Is there a candidate who uses their organizational, people, or technical skills to further our chapter's goals? Is there a behind-the-scenes member whose dedication constantly supports our mission and values?

Innovations in Technology Award \$50 Given to a member who has developed methods or tools to streamline and simplify information tasks through the use of advanced technology so as to achieve actionable results. Past award winners include Karen Liljequist, Amy Watson, and Adele Barsh. Do we have a member who has helped simplify a routine task? Has anyone applied technology to help streamline a chapter process?

Leadership Award \$150 Recognizes a Chapter member who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the Chapter over the past year. Previous award winners include Deborah Barker, Kim Gregory, and the Animal Friends Service Project Team. Who has gone above and beyond the call with regards to providing leadership to our chapter this past year? What about service? Is there a member who is always willing and able to provide direction and assistance?

Lifetime Achievement \$100 Honors a professional librarian for outstanding achievement and accomplishments reflecting the goals of the library profession. The honoree will have shown extended and sustained periods of distinguished commitment to the Pittsburgh Chapter and SLA. Recent award winners include Esther Nathanson, Lynn Berard, and Ange Pollis. Who among us has exhibited life-long dedication towards the library profession, our chapter, and SLA? Who do you think of when any chapter or professional need comes to mind?

Mentoring Award \$50 Presented to a Chapter member in recognition of exceptional contributions in the area of mentoring students and/or practicing professionals in the field. Past award winners include Denise Callihan, Eve Wider, and Earl Mounts. This year, which chapter members have effectively served as mentors? Has someone assisted you through a difficult or complicated situation? Who do you turn to regardless of the circumstances?

Publication / Authorship Award \$50 Presented to a Chapter member who has made a significant contribution to the published literature or created an important electronic document or tool. Examples include: journal articles, conference presentations, book chapters, web pages, blogs, etc. Previous award winners include Lynn Berard, Kate Joranson, and John Fudrow. Some of our members are shy when it comes to publishing. Are you aware of any member's contributions this past year? You may be the only one that knows, so please let us know.

For a complete list of past award winners, see http://pittsburgh.sla.org/?page_id=573.

Instructions: The CPIT Award Nomination Form is available at the site above.

Please complete one form for each nomination, send your Word or PDF forms via email to Chris Heil: chrisheil51@gmail.com. Nominations are due by November 8, 2013.

Job Survey Feedback –Karen Liljequist

The following is feedback from an informal survey about the job posting process.

Do you think that these preview e-mails are valuable to job seekers in the Pittsburgh area?

The preview e-mails are valuable to members who are “geographically limited” to the Pittsburgh area and who may not have time to regularly search job postings. Members also appreciate the e-mail previews before the jobs are posted to the SLA site. The feedback was positive and members recommended continuing the posting process as is.

We post jobs that are 4 hours away or closer. Should we narrow the geographic area?

SLA members liked the wide coverage of the area from Buffalo to DC, but recommended not expanding beyond that range. Members liked seeing what's out there and who's hiring. Members also felt that they might move for the right reasons and that there just weren't enough jobs in the immediate Pittsburgh area.

Have any of our postings resulted in a job interview for you or someone else?

One member actually had two job interviews because of jobs that were listed in these emails. Members also reported not posting as many jobs to the list this year.

Have any of these listings resulted in an actual job offer and/or position acceptance?

One member actually accepted a job offer (her current position and first position out of school) because of a job posted on the list.

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[index.php/Main_Page](#)). Freemind is a free mind-mapping tool that allows you to organize your thoughts visually. Check out other tips at <http://mindmappingsoftwareblog.com/the-8-best-ways-to-improve-your-mind-maps/>

- Lynn Berard brought up a terrific new app by CMU researchers called Tiramisu, the real-time bus tracker (<http://www.tiramisutransit.com/>). Tiramisu is a crowd-powered transit information system. Tiramisu literally means “pick me up” in Italian. This app provides easy access to schedule and real-time arrival information for our local public transportation, and also includes the CMU bus shuttle. Sorry out of towners, right now this app is just for Pittsburghers and New Yorkers, but they plan to add more transit agencies soon.

Do you have an interesting app, website, blog, or tool? Please share it with us so that we can promote to the larger community!

SLA Board of Directors Elections

The election of the 2014 SLA Board of Directors will run 4 September – 25 September at 5:00 p.m. EDT.

For more information and candidate bios, go to:

<http://www.sla.org/governance/board-of-directors/board-candidate-election/>



AWARD TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. e, 2. f, 3. b, 4. c, 5. h, 6. a, 7. d, 8. g

WPLLA (Western PA Law Library Association)

presents:

In the Balance: Tools to Increase Your Personal & Professional Productivity Presented
by John DiGilio

Thursday, September 12th, Noon – 1pm

at:

Reed Smith
225 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

(Note: Please bring a photo ID to present at the security desk upon arrival)

or: your desktop

Please RSVP to agillin@reedsmith.com and please note if you'd attend on-location or remotely in your RSVP. If you wish to attend remotely, a LiveMeeting link will be e-mailed to you close to the presentation date.



SLA-CPIT
Special Libraries
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letter of the *Special
Libraries Association - Pittsburgh
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Article submission deadline is
DECEMBER 9, 2013. Please
contact Amy Raimondi, editor,
at araimondi@lecom.edu with
any submissions, issues or con-
cerns relating to the newsletter.



The **Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MAC)** is
hosting its 2013 annual meeting at the Pittsburgh Renaissance Hotel, October 13-
15. This year's theme, *Renaissance on the Rivers*, explores rebirth and revitalization
in health sciences libraries.

To learn more and register, go to:
<http://macmla.libguides.com/macmla2013>

If you register by the September 6th early bird deadline, you will save \$50!

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