



Volume 77, Issue 2

Summer/Fall 2012

## President's Message ~ Brian Steinmetz

Hello everyone!

Another summer is over and so our second half of programming begins. We have an exciting tour of the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh library scheduled for September 28<sup>th</sup>! Please make plans to attend.

If you've been thinking about getting involved with the chapter, now is a great time. We have opportunities for Secretary, Director, and President-Elect in 2013. We also have a few committee chairs opening up (Awards, Web Site).

The SLA website has a page titled, "[Why Seek a Leadership Position.](#)" The page states that, "Investing in volunteer efforts in SLA can provide an alternate track for management or professional training which might not be available through your employer. Getting involved in SLA leadership will provide professional and peer relationships that can broaden your technical and interpersonal skills, challenge you and enrich your life."

It also lists multiple reasons for getting involved:

- Developing new and existing skills and stretching abilities in a non-threatening environment
- Contributing to your profession and helping those new to our field
- Career building by using learned skills to excel in your career
- Networking with colleagues and making friends

I can personally testify about the benefits of volunteering with our local chapter. Every professional position I've held has been as a result of a contact I made through SLA (including an internship). I've learned skills to use in my professional and personal life, such as planning, public speaking, and networking. Plus, I've met a lot of great people in our chapter and from other chapters throughout the country.

Please contact me if you're interested in learning more about our chapter's volunteer opportunities.

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## Welcome New Chapter Members!

July	August	September
Patty Fox	Jennie Crowley	Melanie Cline
Kimberly Walsh	Cynthia Hodgson	
Alan Zahorsky		

## SLA 2012 Facilitates Skill Enhancement, Fresh Thinking for Thousands

[SLA 2012 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO](#), held in Chicago on July 15-18, attracted 3,473 information professionals and representatives of SLA's exhibiting partners. Of these, 1,613 paid to attend the full conference, which represents a 20% increase compared to attendance in Philadelphia last year.

SLA's INFO-EXPO, the premier exhibition of information management products and services, featured 207 companies showcasing their latest offerings.

Thought leaders facilitated more than 200 productive sessions, including the wildly popular *60 Sites in 60 Minutes* (exploring new and under-utilized information Web-sites), *From Info Pro to Info Hero: 5 Easy Ways to Turn Information into Insight*, *Tales from the Trenches: Contract Negotiation is not for the Faint of Heart*, and *Librarian as Entrepreneur: Contributing to Your Organization's Bottom Line through Marketing Initia-*

tives.

As reflected in the session titles, information professionals are assuming increasingly varied roles, while relying on a foundation of superior information management skills and expertise to achieve success and leadership in their fields.

"Thousands of hours of hard work by SLA members and staff and our industry partners went into this conference," recapped Janice Lachance, SLA's chief executive officer, during her speech on the last day of the conference. "The results speak for themselves: more than 250 educational sessions, continuing education courses, business meetings, and networking events; an INFO-EXPO hall packed with 200 vendors; a thought-provoking presentation by our keynote speaker, Guy Kawasaki; and something else that can't be measured—a sense of community pride that comes from sharing ideas and knowledge and

insights with your colleagues and being so energized by the experience that you can't wait to come back and do it all over again next year."

### SLA 2013

The SLA 2013 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO will be held 9-11 June in San Diego, under the theme "Connect, Collaborate and Strategize." The conference will feature focused continuing education courses, 4 lengthened session slots (2 hours rather than 90 minutes) to allow for the most in-depth discussion possible, and a cutting edge exhibit hall. The keynote speaker is Mike Walsh, author of *The CEO of Tomorrow* and leading authority on the digital revolution and emerging markets.

Link to the full press release: <http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/pressroom/pressrelease/12pr/pr2012-07.cfm>

## SLA Honors Two for Mentoring, Service, and Achievement

Bruce Rosenstein and Denise Callihan have been named 2012 recipients of the Special Libraries Association's (SLA) Rose L. Vormelker Award.

The award is presented to SLA members for exceptional service to the information profession through the education and mentoring of students and working professionals. The recipients are being honored for their dedication to mentoring, outstanding instruction in graduate school settings, and their own professional achievements.

"I'm honored to have Bruce and Denise as members of SLA's community," said SLA President Brent Mai. "They are consummate professionals, and most deserving recipients of this award. Not only do they put forth the effort to prepare newly minted professionals and students for our rapidly changing industry, they are prime examples of the importance and reward of being an information professional.

### About Denise Callihan

Denise Callihan has more than 19 years of

experience as a corporate technical librarian. After receiving her library degree from the University of Pittsburgh, Denise started her information career at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Science and Technology Department. She is currently manager of Research and Development Library Shared Services at PPG Industries.

Teaching is central to Denise's role at PPG. She has introduced her clients to the concept of end-user tools and resources, initiated lunch-and-learn seminars on various scientific e-tools (such as SciFinder, Beilstein, Knovel, ISIS, and Micropatent), implemented new online systems, created an e-library with e-books, and created a dynamic Sharepoint portal through which she reaches all of her clients. Over the years, Denise has added patent analysis and visualization to her skill set in order to profile patent landscapes of competitors and emerging technology areas.

Denise also enjoys mentoring students and young professionals and is an active leader in both the SLA Pittsburgh Chapter and the association's Chemistry Division.

While serving as president of the Pittsburgh Chapter, she championed the importance of reaching external audiences by expanding the definition of a special librarian. She placed an ad in the *Pittsburgh Business Times* that ran for a year to drum up publicity on SLA's behalf. For these and other contributions on behalf of SLA, Denise was profiled in the February 2007 issue of SLA's *Information Outlook*.

Denise has participated as an adjunct faculty at Pitt teaching library management and sci-tech resources. She also has served as an instructor for three SLA continuing education courses focusing on chemistry reference resources and patent searching.

Denise is proud to be a lifelong Pittsburgher. Aside from her professional activity, Denise enjoys down time with her husband, Dean, and her large extended family.

Link to full press release: <http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/pressroom/pressrelease/12pr/pr2012-05.cfm>

## SLA 2012 Rose L. Vormelker Award Winner: Denise Callihan ~ Lynn Berard

### The Movie:

[http://  
www.youtube.com/  
watch?  
v=sa\\_Wk8rtidk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sa_Wk8rtidk)

It's a movie you will not want to miss and has something for all of us: the award ceremony, giggles, the beautiful city skyline, happy shouting Pittsburghers and pom-poms. It's the *Pittsburgh, PA, Home to the Award Winning, Denise Callihan, tribute*. Thank you to all who made it to the "movie shoot" and to my son, Jeremiah Tinsley, for directing it. Not to be missed and now available on You Tube.....

The SLA conference season was especially rewarding this year for our chapter as we celebrated one of our own, Denise Callihan, as she was presented the Rose Vormelker honor on the stage in Chicago, IL the evening of July 17, 2012. Many chapter members were in attendance and our shout-outs, laughter and standing ovation were enjoyed by all in the hall that evening. Catch the video of the full event (including the other Rose winner, Bruce Rosenstein, who appears first in the video) by clicking the link



Current SLA president Brent Mai with Denise Callihan. Credit: Lynn Berard

above.

Followed by the official award presentation, a dinner of 15+ SLA members continued the celebration well into the night. It was a grand occasion for raising our glasses to our awardee and we made the most of it. Here is a bit of the backstory of how this much deserved award came to be.....

It was December 2011 and time to consider nominations for SLA awards. A study of the definitions of the awards that SLA confers matched brilliantly one of our deserving chapter members, the Rose L. Vormelker Award. This award is presented to SLA members for exceptional service to the information profession through

the education and mentoring of students and working professionals. The recipients are honored for their dedication to mentoring, outstanding instruction in graduate school settings, and their own professional achievements. We had a match – and it was Denise Callihan. As the call went out to nominate Denise, many wonderful letters and statements of support from a variety of library professionals, interns, students, and corporate colleagues poured into my mailbox. Each one painted a picture of Denise's generous spirit, uplifting personality and limitless energy. She exemplifies all the qualities of an excellent teacher, leader and friend that one wishes for in a mentor. Indeed, Denise loves her

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## SLA 2012 Conference Session Recap – Amy Watson

If I were to use one word to sum up my SLA Chicago trip, it would be “mobile,” in more ways than one.

SLA Chicago, for me, was a return to conference attendance. It's been several years since I've been active on the executive board of chapter leadership, so between the economy, travel budgets, and personal vacations, my attendance at the annual conference has been minimal. In that time gap, wow, have things changed!

On a personal level, mobile meant distance. Despite staying at the hotel closest to the convention center, it felt like we were an isolated island within a huge city of opportunities. By the end of our first day in Chicago, my pedometer told me I had racked up 13 miles on foot, between the conference and sight seeing. The convention center was a contrast to the previous annuals I've attended – feeling smaller, more disjointed, more separated, than our time in cities like Denver or Seattle. Don't get me wrong – it was my first time in Chicago, and I can't wait to go back! But in the future I now know to not stay near the convention center. Convenience of location, at more than a mile away, really wasn't that convenient.

In the sessions, I am one of the people who covet aisle seats in the back row, not only to sneak out if the session doesn't meet my needs, but also for people watching. One of the biggest trends I spotted was

the use of not paper, but tablet PCs or even smart phones, for note taking. True, I did see more than one person sneaking in a game of Words with Friends, but I was impressed with the number of people scribbling furiously with their styluses. On a personal level, I found following the [#SLAChicago hashtag](#) on Twitter a fascinating use of technology to stay up to the minute, to network, and follow trends across the convention.

Of the many sessions I attended, three stood out in their content. The first, Chemistry on the Go, sponsored by the Chemistry Division, gave seven vendors the opportunity to discuss their mobile applica-

tions. I have several scientists who are real road warriors, so learning that there are resources that they can access on the go is an exciting future opportunity that I know we'll need to address in our libraries. Kurt Zeilenbach, representing Sci-Finder Mobile, presented the statistic that 70% of their surveyed users want to monitor scientific information on a daily or weekly basis via a mobile device. Each of the vendors stressed their interest in users accessing content no matter where they are, or what device they're using, independent of platform. The American Chemical Society has three apps available in the iTunes store, and I suspect that they represent the future of sharing scientific information.

I also really enjoyed both



Cloud Gate in Millennium Park. Credit: Amy Watson



The Chicago skyline as interpreted by the Lego Store.  
Credit: Amy Watson

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## Promising Professional Award Winner Conference Recap - Ellie Gehman

I want to begin by extending my sincerest gratitude to the SLA Pittsburgh Chapter for generously enabling me to attend the 2012 SLA Annual Conference in Chicago, IL. I had an amazing experience at the conference and it would not have been possible without the support of the Pittsburgh Chapter.

Having attended the SLA Annual Conference and the ALA Annual Conference this year as a first-timer at both, I gathered some general conference tips that I would like to share.

**Use the conference planner!** I can't enthuse enough about conference planners. In the weeks leading up to both conferences, I took my time going through all of the sessions and marking the ones I was interested in. When I was ready to head off to the conference, I just printed out my schedule! This gave me a short and sweet list of sessions I knew I wanted to go to that I could carry around with me at the confer-

ence. This is also a great way to keep track of alternatives if a session doesn't turn out the way you expected. I also recommend downloading the mobile app. The app is sometimes updated before the signs outside the session rooms are, ensuring that you can use all of your time wisely.

That said, **be flexible!** Yes, I had my printed schedule from the planner, but I also added sessions and changed my mind after going through the program once I got to the conference. Sometimes following a whim can lead to a really great session.

**Take the time to explore the city.** This was my first time in Chicago, so I was really excited to be a tourist. My first night, I went on a tour and it was a great way to start off the conference. It's also good to

take breaks. I know what you're thinking: but what if I miss something awesome? There are so many events going on at the conference and you simply can't do them all. I

**"The INFO-EXPO is also a great way to start an impressive tote bag collection."**

learned this lesson the hard way by completely exhausting

myself at ALA. In Chicago, I took breaks by going to see different sights and attending receptions. It definitely made for a more relaxing experience.

**Go see the exhibits!** As a student, I didn't have any buying power in the exhibits. It was still fun to walk around and see what the vendors and other professionals were offering and discussing. The INFO-EXPO is also a great way to start an impressive tote bag collection.

**Don't be afraid of the free luncheon.** Everyone loves free food! There aren't too many free luncheons at SLA, so plan ahead by using the conference planner. One of my friends was wary about attending a lunch hosted by another LIS school, but when the event says "open to all" they mean it! While these lunches usually feature some kind of speaker (especially true for lunches hosted by vendors), this can be a plus because you get to learn something new while eating delicious food.

I was able to attend many different sessions while at SLA Annual. Here are a few of my favorites, and ones I highly recommend if they appear at the next conference.

**I) 60 Sites in 60 Minutes.** I consider myself to be pretty knowledgeable when it comes to the Internet, so I wasn't sure if this session would

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*"View from the rooftop reception I attended with members of the Pittsburgh chapter" - Ellie Gehman. Credit: Ellie Gehman*

## Business & Finance Award Winner Conference Recap - Lauren Reiter

I was able to attend the annual SLA conference this year, thanks to a student travel grant awarded to me by the SLA Business & Finance (B&F) division. It was my first time at SLA and my first time in Chicago, and I enjoyed both of these new experiences.

As a recipient of the B&F division student travel grant, I had the opportunity to proctor a continuing education session before the conference started. The "Conducting Financial Analysis" session showed me not only where to find financial data but how to begin analyzing that information. I am interested in becoming an academic business librarian and I think this session

gave me a better understanding of how business students might want to use financial information. Other interesting business sessions I attended were "Opening the Vault: International Economic Resources from the World Bank, IMF and OECD," which brought some free economic data resources to my attention, and "Skeptical Knowledge-Seeking: Business Research in the Age of 'Truthiness,'" which provided some valuable insights on business information literacy. I made sure to attend some sessions not directly related to business librarianship, including "Improv!-ing your Library Using the Principles of Second City." This session, which was a lot of fun, featured a local

improv troupe and demonstrated the usefulness of being able to think on your feet in a library setting.

In addition to the sessions, I attended the B&F and joint poster sessions. It was wonderful to have the chance to speak with people one-on-one about their experiences and research interests. There were also plenty of other opportunities to connect with people at the various division receptions, parties and informal get-togethers. I really appreciated the many opportunities the conference provided to connect and further relationships with SLA-Pittsburgh members and information professionals from elsewhere in the world. I enjoyed my first SLA experience and look forward to attending the conference again in the future.

### First-timer's thoughts

*I recently attended SLA in Chicago as a student. This was my first library-related conference, and it was thoroughly enjoyable and educational. While there, the thing that struck me most was the incredible breadth that the library profession has. I met people who hold all kinds of interesting positions and work with information in all sorts of way - certainly ways that I had not considered previously. I plan to continue attending SLA in the future and can't wait to return as a practicing member of the profession.*

**-Carrie Wardzinski**

## Chapter Member News

**Sarah Young** accepted a position as the Health Science and Policy Librarian at Cornell University's Mann Library. She is sad to be leaving Pittsburgh, but excited for this opportunity!

**Haley Hodum** started at K&L Gates as a Law Librarian at the beginning of August.

**Mark Vrabel** wrote "Challenging Cases in Multiple Myeloma" on pages 15-16 of the August 2012 *ONS Connect* supplement freely available at <http://www.ons.org/media/ons/docs/publications/connect/spotlight2012full.pdf>, and his assistance is acknowledged on page v of the Putting Evidence Into Practice: Improving Oncology Patient Outcomes: Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting monograph available for sale at <http://esource.ons.org/ProductDetails.aspx?SKU=INPU0638>.

**Barbara Folb** team taught the class [Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response](#), part of the Medical Library Association's Disaster Information Specialist certificate series. The class was offered in person for the Philadelphia chapter of MLA on August 21, and as a webinar on August 24. The web version was recorded and will be available at <http://www.mlanet.org/education/dis/index.html> for on-demand viewing. Both MLA members and non-members are eligible for completing the class series and earning the certificate.



## May Event – Amy Raimondi

On Wednesday May 16, the SLA Pittsburgh chapter hosted an e-book panel at SEI. The panel included Matt Shill (Ebrary), Jerry Eonta (EBSCO), Meagan Cooke (Knovel), and Charles Withington (Elsevier).

Here is what some attendees had to say about the event:

*I enjoyed hearing the panelists speak about different options for strategic e-book acquisition. There was great discussion centered around trends in the industry, too.* **-Sharon Palchak**

*This panel proved my suspicions that the eBook/eResource landscape is in total flux and the demand (for these resources) will likely rise. For smaller libraries, I wonder: Would it be worth waiting out the storm till the trend normalizes? Or do we pool our resources into creating our own ebook lending/business model?* **-Michelle Fried**

*The suggestion by Denise Callihan to conduct an “Information Audit” for our libraries was very interesting to me and I have made an appointment to meet Denise this week to discuss this over lunch. I will be bringing the book, “The Information Audit: A Practical Guide” by Susan Henczel to our meeting. In general I found this panel discussion to be very worthwhile and would like to thank Denise for organizing and moderating it.* **-Sheila Rosenthal**

*The Elsevier materials are really good research for us to consider and highlight when we speak to our users*

*and STAKEHOLDERS. The Research studies are very good (by Akel & Associates). I would highlight [http://www.elsevierforindustry.com/resource\\_center/index.shtml](http://www.elsevierforindustry.com/resource_center/index.shtml) This is the link where the market research studies are listed...I use these pretty often...*

*Also, Ebrary is in the midst of conducting a corporate e-book survey that could prove useful late down the road...I was pleased with all of our panelists comments and discussion. I was amazed at how few of our participants were actually purchasing ebooks (but then again, don't know if my question confused them – how many purchased ebooks TODAY (I meant currently))...* **-Denise Callihan**

## June Event – Lauren Reiter

On Tuesday, June 26, the Pittsburgh chapter and SLAPSG members met up for Happy Hour at The Porch at Schenley. The well-attended event offered wonderful opportunities for conversation and networking. In particular, it provided students with the chance to gain valuable insight from local information professionals about the job search, a challenge many SLAPSG members are contending with right now as they head towards their August 2012 graduation.



Follow SLA on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/slahq](https://www.facebook.com/slahq)



Photos of networking in action at the June event. Credit: Eve Wider

## Creating a Special Collection or Museum – Casey Sirochman

Casey Sirochman, past Secretary of the SLA Pittsburgh Chapter has been very busy an hour and half south of Pittsburgh as the newly appointed director of the Carnegie Free Library of Connellsville, PA. She has secured in the past year over \$45,000 in grant monies for multiple projects. One major project is the creation of the Connellsville Area Historical Museum, which will be housed in the Connellsville Area Historical Society room on the second floor in the library, which is accessible by an elevator. The museum is made possible by three different grant sources. The Community Foundation of Fayette County growth grant awarded the library \$5,000 for completion of a feasibility and design study for the museum that will be completed soon by Keith Cochran from Pittsburgh to remodel the room into a new tourist attraction. The Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau granted them \$20,000.

The Sprout Fund of Pittsburgh awarded a \$5,000 seed award to hire

a volunteer coordinator, web designer and to help defray advertising costs. According to the Sprout Fund's website, [www.sproutfund.org](http://www.sproutfund.org), the organization, "...enriches the Pittsburgh region's vitality by engaging citizens, amplifying voices, supporting creativity and innovation and cultivating connected communities." Founded in 2001, Sprout facilitates community-led solutions to regional challenges and supports efforts to create a thriving, progressive and culturally diverse region. "With strong working relationships to many community organizations and regional stakeholders, Sprout's approach has worked successfully across political and geographic boundaries to make hundreds of community-decided investments in early-stage projects, organizations, innovators and activities."

Library science professionals and students are asked to consider making this short-term, museum project a success and become a historical and logistical volunteer. Historical volunteers will complete

tasks related to the organization and preservation of materials and artifacts in the Connellsville Area Historical Society's collections as dictated by the volunteer coordinator. Example tasks include database entry, filing and alphabetizing. Good organizational skills are a necessity. Logistics volunteers are responsible for tasks related to the movement of artifacts and objects from one location to another as dictated by the volunteer coordinator. Tasks will include moving boxes and furniture both within the Carnegie Free Library and between the library and the historical society's Gibson House. Volunteers should be able to comfortably lift 50 pounds. Flexible hours are available and any amount of time a person can donate will be very helpful. For more information, please contact Julie Porterfield, volunteer coordinator, by calling 724-628-5640 or sending an email to [porterju14@gmail.com](mailto:porterju14@gmail.com). The museum will be open and free to users during library hours totaling 50 each week, beginning early February 2013.



Photos of the room where the museum will be created.

Credit: Casey Sirochman





## A Visit to the "Stamp" Library - Donna Beck

Bellefonte, PA was in the national news as the site of the Jerry Sandusky trial, but just over a week before the trial's start, I was on a day trip to visit the historic town's American Philatelic Research Library (APRL). Several businesses, including the American Philatelic Society (APS), occupy a former match factory.

Pulling into the Match Factory Place parking lot, I noticed two women outside talking. Even though my stamp-lover brother, Paul was with me for the trip, coaching me how to pronounce it, I was still worried that I would bumble on the word, philatelic. So, I asked the ladies where the "stamp" building was located. They readily directed us to the back of the lot.

Just in time for the Philadelphia Chapter's May 31 event, we were welcomed with a tour of the Library by Librarian, Tara Murray. I expected to see a tiny space, but the library has room for many shelves and several large tables, with space in the building already allocated for a future location.



Director of Information Services/Librarian, Tara Murray showing off Volume 1 of the 2013 Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue.

Credit: Donna Beck

### LIBRARIES AND STAMPS: Enjoy!

Go to APRL board member Larry Nix's Library History Bluff Blog to see the August 2, 2012 entry, "People in Libraries on Postage Stamps": <http://libraryhistorybluff.blogspot.com/>

Visit the Library's website to follow an online tour: <http://stamps.org/About-the-Library> \*Notice how their web address says "stamps" not "philatelic"!

Many of our Pittsburgh Chapter members would have really enjoyed learning about this special library and the separate organization that is the APS. Let me pique your interest by sharing some of my notes:

\*Did you know that Franklin Delano Roosevelt was considered the "Stamp Collecting President"?

\*Karl Rove, political analyst, is one of several famous APS members.

\*The APS offers an expertising service to evaluate stamps. They also maintain a collection of forgeries.

\*The APRL has complete sets of the Scott Catalogue, a stamp price list from the mid 1800's to the present, considered a stamp collector's bible.

\*A rare stamp called the "Inverted Jenny" or upside-down airplane 24 cents stamp was recently displayed at the APS 2012

StampShow.

\*Bellefonte, PA was a stop in the dangerous west-bound U.S. Air Postal Service transcontinental route, starting in 1918 and into the 1920's.

\*The APS location houses a civil war era post office on loan from the Smithsonian. You can also view a 1915 Rosback machine used to perforate 1-cent stamps.

\*Much of the APRL collection is assigned the Library of Congress call number range G, Geography, for stamps by country of origin. The call number section HE is also big since it represents philatelic literature.

\*The APRL only needs to subscribe to a few journal titles, instead counting on member donations to provide for the rest of their large journal collection.

\*Holdings for the APRL are not available via WorldCat but you can search the APRL and other stamp collections by using the Philatelic Union Catalog: <http://stamps.org/Union-Catalog-About>.

\*90,000 hand-written scrap cards, known as the Piper File, provide indexing for thousands of philatelic journal titles up until the late 1960's. Volunteer Librarian, Scott Tiffney is digitizing and transcribing this index. According to the stamp librarians,

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profession and it shows. As a 1999 Vormelker awardee, I am extremely proud to welcome Denise as one of the Vormelker family.

But don't take my word for it – evidence abounds in the letters from those whom have benefited from knowing Denise, here is a small sample:

*..... I can't tell you how many times I've referred back to what I learned in her class during the course of my work, whether answering a question in my official liaison areas (which include science departments) or helping to cover for a colleague's area.*

*..... Denise was invaluable in helping me get my first job as information professional. Not only was she supportive, but she helped me reach out to her network of law and business librarians to help me prepare for an interview.*

*.... Denise has demonstrated leadership and effort in advancing library tools that are key part of PPG science and technology development for new IP and new products. She plays a key role in our corporate innovation initiatives and is a supportive mentor on the use of new resources and tools introduced in this process.*

*— Denise had not just expanded my limited information technology skill set, she also shows me what is possible with these tools when circum-*



Denise Callihan after receiving award. Credit: Amy Watson

*stances warrant. Her advocacy at higher levels in the organization insures management understanding of the value of these activities so that the best information tools will be available to me and the rest of the organization.*

*..... Through the years, I saw the respect Denise garnered from her superiors, her peers, and her colleagues as well as from the various students involved in the chapter. She was, and still remains, an instrumental part of the Pittsburgh Chapter, as well as to the Chemistry Division, planning innovative programs for the chapter and teaching Divisional classes during annual conferences.*

*I know you join me in congratulating Denise on her award and acknowledging this worthy recognition. When you see her next, call her "Rosie" and thank her for her all she has done and continues to do for our chapter. Now, go watch the movie!*

*.... She believes that her staff should learn something new every day, and her level of continual enthusiasm for creating a world class information center within our corporation is unmatched.*

## information outlook

# Online

ALWAYS ON YOUR DESKTOP.




[www.sla.org/io](http://www.sla.org/io)



## Amy's Top Ten from 60 Sites in 60 Minutes

**Skillshare** – “a community marketplace for classes” - finds brick & mortar classes to both learn and teach.

**Jux** – a new blogging platform that showcases mixed media and visual content.

**Rome 2 Rio** – how to get anywhere, from anywhere. Provides travel routes via plane, train, bus, ferry, and car.

**Knoema** – a visual data sharing platform, connecting analytical and presentation tools. Need a chart for a presentation? Start here.

**Mindbloom** – helps you “grow the life you want.” A personal development game (and app) that promotes work life balance.

**Goby** – “What do you want to do, where?” A travel site that facilitates searches for things like “Haunted houses in Pittsburgh.”

**Luxury Link** – find discounts on HIGH end travel.

**Catch a Fire** – use your professional expertise as a volunteer.

**Utopic** – keep your bookmarks, favorites, links, and tags organized.

**Udacity** – free online education and learning, curated by university professors.

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**60 Apps in 60 Minutes** and **60 Sites in 60 Minutes**, though both had fewer library applications than personal ones. The standout for me from **60 Apps** was [Easybib.com](http://Easybib.com), an app that

allows you to take a photo of a book's barcode and it automatically creates the citation for you. Where was that when I was in school? I encourage everyone to click through the slides of the **60 Sites** presentation, my top ten sites are included in the sidebar.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the highlight of the entire conference – the awards ceremony! It was a genuine pleasure to see Denise Callihan recognized with the Rose L. Vormerker Award. It's no secret that she's been a big mentor to me, and seeing her receive international recognition was a great moment for our chapter. After the ceremony several chapter members met up for a great dinner and a fun time together, networking and just having a great time. It was a great way to kick off the conference! Congratulations again Denise!

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prove valuable. I was surprised and pleased to see that the presenters listed a ton of websites I had never heard of before! This session is very popular, so make sure to get there early to get a seat.

**2) Patent Research 101.** One of my goals for SLA Annual was to branch out of my comfort zone a little more. I don't know anything about patents; I thought I would give this session a try so I could learn something completely new. WOW, this session was in-

## SAVE THE DATE

June 9-11, 2013

San Diego, California

SLA Annual Conference  
& INFO-EXPO

tense. The presenters gave so much information and were so knowledgeable on the subject.

### 3) IT Division & Dow Jones

**Dance Party.** Ok, this one is a little silly, but you can't miss out on THE party of the conference! It was so much fun to dress up in this year's 1920s theme and dance for hours. This is definitely the best way to wind down the conference.

Through the Promising Professional Award, I was able to meet new people, spend time with the Pittsburgh chapter, learn new things about the profession, and have a wonderful conference experience. Thank you so much to the SLA Pittsburgh Chapter for this opportunity!



Carrie Wardzinski, Justine Malone, Eleanor Gehman, Lauren Reiter, and Tallie Casucci at the 20s themed IT Dance Party during the SLA Annual Conference. Credit: Tallie Casucci



## SLAPSG Update

—Tallie Casucci

SLAPSG hosted several summer events during many students' final semester at the University of Pittsburgh. These events ranged from library related and professional development to social gatherings and sporting events.

In late June, SLAPSG co-hosted a networking happy hour with the SLA-Pittsburgh Chapter. Students and Pittsburgh Chapter members soaked in the beautiful weather and conversation over drinks and food at The Porch at Schenley. Six students attended the event, and all agreed that they had a wonderful time talking to and receiving advice from Pittsburgh's finest librarians.

This summer, SLAPSG also organized tours of three venues of interest in Pittsburgh. Realizing that this was several students' last months living in Pittsburgh, SLAPSG encouraged students to attend [Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation's](#) Grant Street and Mellon Square free downtown walking tour. Three SLAPSG students met downtown to learn about the Pittsburgh's buildings and history. Some of the highlights included the Allegheny County Courthouse's Richardson Romanesque architecture and the smart E-shaped building design, intended to keep the building cool before air conditioning was invented.

SLAPSG also toured [Rolef Shalom Biblical Botanical Garden](#). This garden contains every plant mentioned in the Bible, including plants that have biblical names. Five students met to explore the garden which is designed to parallel the geography of the Holy Land. Each plant contains a small



Linda Whitefield, Renee Pieschke, Tallie Casucci, Carrie Wardzinski, and Ryan Champagne at Rolef Shalom's Biblical Botanical Garden. Credit: Tallie Casucci

plague with its name and accompanying Scripture verse. While listening to the tour guide, the group learned about the varied plant life in Israel, historical uses for some plants, and the plant or flower's role in Biblical stories.

Thanks to head archivist Matt Wrubican, the three cataloguers, Erin Byrne, Marie Elia, and Elaina Vitale, and two student interns, Will Gray and Elliot McNally, SLAPSG toured [The Andy Warhol Museum](#) Archives. After learning about Andy Warhol himself and the museum's collection, the SLAPSG students were able to see the time capsules and hear about the process of cataloguing and some of the surprises found in the time capsule boxes throughout the process.

Five students attended the SLA annual meeting in Chicago. Everyone enjoyed

the conference and the city of Chicago itself. While not at the conference, the students ate deep dish pizza and Chicago style hot dogs, listened to blues at Buddy Guy's Legends, watched the Chicago Cubs actually win at Wrigley Field, and visited several museums and the aquarium. While at the conference, several students reported that the exhibits were their favorite event since they

traded Heinz pickle pins for exhibitor swag. In addition to attending their specific interest groups' programming and breakfasts, the students attended some of the Spotlight Sessions, such



In Chicago, Justine Malone and Eleanor Gehrman pose in front of a painted cow, which is not as cool as Liverpool's Superlambanana. Credit: Tallie Casucci

as The New Knowledge Services, 60 Apps in 60 Minutes Redux, and Improv!-ing your Library using the Principles of Second City. Overall, all the

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## Clarion Student Chapter Update – Michael Widdersheim

The Japanese term 'fushime' refers to a division between two segments of bamboo. Like the term 'milestone,' it signifies the end of a segment of one's life, as well as the promise of a new segment. The junction between this year and last will prove to be one fushime in the life of Clarion's SLA student chapter.

Beginning in the fall of 2012, Clarion's MSLS program will eliminate on-campus courses and shift to a fully virtual format. Once run primarily by on-campus graduate students, Clarion's SLA student chapter must transition into a largely virtual, decentralized organization supported by graduate distance members and on-campus undergraduate members. It is still unclear in what way this transition will occur. Last year, our organization hosted bi-weekly meetings using web conferencing software called Wimba, supported through Clarion's virtual learning platform, D2L. Distance members could therefore participate synchronously and asynchronously. Though we had some success with this format--we had two active distance members, and several latent distance members--we did not, to my mind, satisfactorily integrate distance members into the chapter. Our challenge this year is to sustain a student organization which is relevant and receptive to both on-campus and distance members on a local, national, and global scale.

Our global aspirations begin with local, tangible steps. Our first event for the fall 2012 semester is a back-to-school fundraiser titled Book-Based Designz. The sale items are repurposed books fashioned into lamps, bookmobiles, shelves, and other décor. This sale will be held on campus during first-year student orientation and the first week of school. Later in the semester, we hope to continue professional development activities such as our colloquium series. The presentations will be archived for asynchronous viewing.

Bamboo flourishes in groves. We hope to hear from you all about opportunities for our SLA student chapter members.

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students had a great time meeting other librarians and learning more about the opportunities and advancements within the field.

During the final SLAPGS summer meeting in July, the students watched a PowerPoint presentation created by Elizabeth Druga, a librarian at Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library. In addition to working with the actual presidential collection, Druga enjoys working with researchers who use the facility to find information to write books, articles, or just learn about Ford's life and times. The wonderful presentation is now available for future SLAPSG members, particularly those interested in presidential and other government related libraries.

Finally, the book-end to SLAPSG's summer events was Library Night at PNC Park. Five students cheered for the Pittsburgh Pirates and exhibited Zoltan pride.



Sally Cooper, Laura Barkema, Tallie Casucci, Martha Knuth, and Linda Whitefield cheer for the Pittsburgh Pirates at PNC's Library Night.

*Credit: Tallie Casucci*

### SLA CAREER CENTER

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Find the right job in your industry!

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digitized efforts such as the searchable collection of U.S. Postal Bulletins have allowed for useful resources to become even more useful to researchers. APRL staff member Neil Coker



APRL staff member, R. Neil Coker, standing in front of the Civil War era post office housed inside the American Philatelic Society's building space. Credit: Donna Beck

helps to provide reference assistance to fellow philatelists.

\*You can purchase stamps and other merchandise in person and online from the APRL. I had a hard time choosing what stamp tie to purchase for my brother!

In addition to philatelic digitization efforts, we learned about Pennsylvania State University's The People's Contest: A Civil War Era Digital Archiving Project. Penn State University Libraries provides a good summary of the project: <http://peoplescontest.psu.edu/psu/peoplescontest/about.html>. Sabra Statham, Project Coordinator explained that despite what has been amassed about the Civil War, scholarly materials related to the "home front" experience are lacking. One reason behind this absence is that the various cultural heritage organizations

are without enough skilled staff to address the collections that they own. In Pennsylvania, many communities have historical societies and deciding what to digitize can be complex. Sabra said that project members first needed to define the parameters, what is the Civil War era? (1851-1874) and what is meant by home front? (children, women, etc.) She described in detail their efforts to catalog inaccessible collections and to identify rich research ones. Over 500 collections have been surveyed with decisions to digitize those of high intellectual value based in part on a detailed assessment form that describes the contents of each collection. The Emilie Davis Diaries about a free, young African American woman living in Philadelphia during the Civil War have been identified as a significant find worth the effort to transcribe.

Thanks so much to the SLA Philadelphia Chapter especially Rosanna Lindquist and Janet Hughes for arranging the event and to President-Elect Valerie Ryder for inviting the Pittsburgh Chapter.

## My SLA: The Podcast continues to receive important participation from outside of the information profession.

A Partnership for Success features Pat Skarulis, VP and CIO of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Pat discusses the importance of the information center at one of the premier cancer treatment and research institutions in the world.

Full version: <http://my.sla.org/?p=763>

Highlights: <http://my.sla.org/?p=774>

Pat Skarulis and, later in the episode, Donna Gibson (Director of Library Services for Sloan-Kettering) address such questions as:

-How do the jobs of everyone at Sloan-Kettering depend on the information center team?

-How has a partnership for success (both between Pat and Donna, and between the information center and the rest of Sloan-Kettering) been fostered?

-How is an information center made public-facing, both physically and digitally?

## SPECIAL INVITATION FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SLA CHAPTER

Join the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Special Libraries Association for a special Virtual Lunch webinar series with Scott Brown and Kim Dority. The pair of LIS career gurus will be presenting three must-attend sessions highlighting job changes, marketing to Non-LIS employers, and personal and professional branding.

SLA members will receive special pricing of \$20 per session (non-members \$30), with the opportunity to register for all three for \$50 (non-members \$75).

- October 18: What Do I Do Now? How to Prepare for - and Take Advantage of - Possible Job Changes
- November 15: Transferable Skills: Identifying and Marketing Your Unique Value to Non-LIS Employers
- December 20: So Tell Me About Yourself: Personal and Professional Branding for LIS Students and Professionals

For more information and to register, visit: <http://rockymountain.sla.org/tag/virtual-programs/>



## Archival Internships – Rebecca Potance

Between May 23 and June 13 of this year I invited anyone who has ever completed an internship in an archive or library special collections department to complete an online survey about their experience. Since the survey was conducted entirely online, I recruited participants through numerous social networking websites and listservs. The inspiration for the survey was a discussion on the listserv for the Students and New Archives Professionals Roundtable of the Society of American Archivists about the ethics of unpaid internships. It became clear during the conversation that what employers, archival education programs and interns are calling an archival internship varied considerably. The only quantitative research that I could find on the subject was an article by Jeannette Bastian called "Measuring the Success of Internships in an Archives Education Program." That article was published 10 years ago and focused exclusively on current and former students of Simmons' Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Nevertheless, it is a useful point of comparison. Similar to the Simmons survey, my goal was to determine the validity of anecdotal conversation about the significance of internships to the career of archivists and special collections librarians [1]. Some of the questions were basic, attempting to identify who interns are, where they completed their internship, for how long etc. Other questions were aimed at assessing what the interns benefitted from the experience, both personally and financially. The survey included 18 questions and generated 301 responses. Because many new professionals have completed multiple internships in their career, respondents were encouraged to take the survey as many times as needed to represent different internships.

For the most part, the type of institution where participants interned at was similar to the results of the Simmons survey. Academic institutions were named as the most common host site in both surveys, with 40% of responses in the SNAP survey and 53% in the Simmons survey. This is unsurprising given that the majority of respondents were students in colleges/universities and discovered their internship through their school. At 22%, museums were the next most frequently named internship site in the SNAP survey, which was about the same percentage as the Simmons survey. Only 2% of internships surveyed by SNAP were held in corporate archives, compared to 12% of the Simmons internships [2]. Respondents named historical societies (6), community archives (2), digital archives (2), public libraries (4), a cemetery, a zoo and a private high school archive in the 8% of responses categorized as "other."

The results of the compensation question were consistent with my expectations based on personal experience and conversations I've had with other interns over the years. About 32% of internships surveyed offered at least partial financial assistance in the form of wages or a stipend. Almost half of internships surveyed (49%) offered academic credit as the only form of compensation. Only 1% (6 responses) indicated that their internship included some form of tuition assistance or scholarship, even though 41% of respondents stated that internships were a mandatory component of their education. The concept of having to pay full tuition to work for free did not sit well with at least one respondent. Most participants in the survey completed their internship in the last 5 years, when tuition in archival education programs regularly increased as entry-level jobs became more competitive.

After controlling for those who had not yet completed their internship, 21.8% of respondents indicated that their internship host offered them a job. This is slightly higher than the 18% reported in the Simmons survey; however, that survey only assessed full time employment offers [3]. Both figures are well below the 61.2% of full time job offers employers made to interns in all fields according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers [4]. Interestingly, 29.1% of paid archival interns received job offers from their former internship host while only 18.6% of archival interns did who were not compensated financially. This is consistent with previous research that has shown paid interns are more likely to be offered employment than unpaid interns [5]. The reasons for this aren't entirely clear. Two people mentioned on the survey that their internship host wanted to hire them but did not have the funds to do so. Thus, it may be that organizations that can't afford to pay their interns can't afford to offer them a job either.

Contrary to stereotypes of interns making coffee for their supervisors, most people surveyed who interned in a repository performed entry-level archival tasks as part of their internship. The most common internship duties were arranging, cleaning/rehousing and writing descriptions for archival materials. At 38%, scanning was the next most frequently reported internship duty. Several interns indicated separately that they were there to work on a mass digitization project, for which scanning is typically the intern's responsibility. Answering reference questions (26%) and marking electronic finding aids using the Encoded Archival Description metadata standard (21%) were the next most commonly reported duties.

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The most commonly cited archival materials interns worked with were analog text-based and graphic materials. Archival education programs have been given a lot of lip service to the importance of digital preservation, but the results of this survey indicate that most new archivists are not getting experience in digital preservation techniques. Only 14% of interns indicated that they worked with born-digital records, and only 21% with digitized records. As one respondent put it, "I found it frustrating that, while I was constantly hearing of the importance of developing digital skills and software/standards proficiencies, my internship exposed me only to very traditional, paper-based processing and bare bones, hard copy finding aid production."

Most interns indicated that they learned something, even if it was not what they expected to learn. Only 13% of respondents indicated that they did not learn much that they didn't already know. However, 28% of respondents indicated that they learned only about the specific materials or technology used at the internship site, and not how to apply archival theory into practice. As one respondent pointed out, sometimes the internship supervisors have not been trained in archival theory, so they were in no position to teach the interns what they do not know themselves.

Interns didn't have too many complaints, but, among those that did, inadequate supervision and training were the most frequently cited problem areas. This is consistent with the Simmons survey's suggestion that "the internship supervisor plays a key role in the success of an internship" [6]. According to the Society of American Archivists' "Guidelines for a Graduate Program in Archival Studies,"

"Practical experience also provides students with structured feedback on their applied archival skills and with mentoring by records professionals working in the field" [7]. However, a slight majority of interns stated that they did not receive structured feedback (52%), and some interns (8%) were being supervised by someone who is not a records professional. A few respondents also mentioned that the organization in general or the internship in particular was not very organized. The second most frequently cited problem with internships was that they were not challenging and/or did not relate to the intern's career goals. Several interns who completed the survey stated that they had to take the initiative to benefit from the experience. It is my hypothesis that when organizations don't pay their interns, the host site does not put much thought or effort into the design and implementation of the program.

Overwhelmingly, respondents had mostly positive things to say about their internship experience. The vast majority would probably or definitely recommend their internship to someone else. A few people stated that their internship was what inspired them to be a librarian or archivist or lead indirectly to their current position in the field. Some respondents stated that they formed relationships with people whom they met there that lasted after the internship ended.

This survey helps clarify what interns are doing, earning and learning in the archives. Ideally, I would like to see SNAP conduct another internship survey in the future to assess any changes and add additional questions. For example, I did not think that people who held internships in countries outside of the US would be interested in this survey until a person attending a university in Canada contacted me about it. As a result, survey participants

were not required to identify the geographic location of the internship. However, everyone had the option of adding that information in the final comment box, and a few people did. One person mentioned that s/he was a Kenyan and presumably interned in Kenya. Based on the responses, I assume that most people completed their internship somewhere in the US. Because labor laws and educational standards differ by location, it would be necessary for respondents to identify where the internship was held in order to understand the effect of local and national regulations.

The complete list of responses and a summary of the internship survey are available on my Google website at <https://sites.google.com/site/rebeccapotance/>. You can also contact me for a PDF copy if you would like to share it with your institution.

## REFERENCES

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4. "2012 Internship & Co-Op Survey," April 1, 2012, <http://www.naceweb.org/s04252012/intern-conversion-rate/?menuID=112&referral=knowledgecenter>
5. Adams, Susan, "Odds Are Your Internship Will Get You a Job," *Forbes*, July 25, 2012, accessed July 28, 2012, <http://www.forbes.com/sites/susanadams/2012/07/25/odds-are-your-internship-will-get-you-a-job/>.
6. Bastian, "Measuring the Success of Internships," 168.
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# Tour

## Children's Hospital Family Resource Center and Library

*SLA Pittsburgh Chapter  
Presents a guided tour  
with Ann Love, Supervisor,  
Family Resource & Library  
Services and Carolyn  
Biglow, Medical &  
Consumer Health  
Librarian*



**Date: September 28, 2012  
Time: 6:00-9:00pm**

**6:00-6:30 Meet and Greet**

**6:30-8:00 Tour**

**8:00 Dinner at a local restaurant**

**FREE = Pittsburgh Chapter  
Members & Students  
\$5 = non-members**

**Go To**  
<http://tinyurl.com/d5gaoab>  
**& RSVP by September 24**



**Have any suggestions for future programs? location ideas?  
Want to roll up your sleeves and get involved in chapter pro-  
gram planning? Any and all suggestions are welcome!**

**Contact Eve at [ewider@pitt.edu](mailto:ewider@pitt.edu)**

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[units.sla.org/chapter/  
cpit/index.htm](http://units.sla.org/chapter/cpit/index.htm)

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any submissions, issues or con-  
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