



Volume 79, Issue 1

Spring 2014

## President's Message ~ Margarete Bower

Well, it looks as though spring will finally arrive. I saw the first crocuses blooming this week, and as we look forward to new flowers and green trees, we can also look forward to a new year of SLA activities. This month's presentation was on copyright issues, and I know other ideas are in development, so stay tuned.

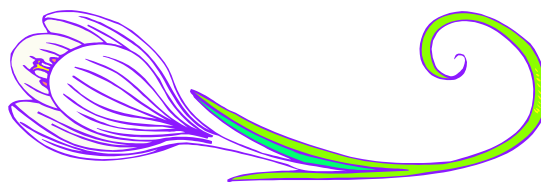
In January I attended the Leadership Summit in Memphis where President Kate Arnold spoke about her theme of "Beyond Borders." It's not only relevant because Vancouver will host the annual conference and she is the first SLA president from outside the U.S. Think of how we, as individuals, can go beyond our borders: learn a new skill, step into a new role, meet new colleagues, form a new collaboration. Our chapter crosses some borders, encompassing librarians from a wide variety of settings, but our members extend beyond the borders of Allegheny County and the state of Pennsylvania. How can we more effectively reach out to those members and make the chapter a more valuable resource for them?

One of the things I would like to build on this year is finding people who are interested in taking on an assistant role to work with some of the board members. It can be a good way to learn new skills, find out how SLA operates, and reduce the work for any one person. In particular, I'd be interested in hearing from anyone who would like to work with the bulletin editor and webmaster. It might be a way for you to cross some of your borders.

Another item from Leadership Summit was a change to October as the target month for choosing new officers instead of December, giving new officers more time to learn the role in advance. So, be prepared if we begin the nominations process earlier than usual.

I want to say thank you to the members of the board and Eve, as past-president, who have already provided valuable feedback and advice, and to Leslie for taking on the role of president-elect/program chair. We've talked a bit about asking the membership to help us identify ways to make the chapter more valuable to them, so there may be a survey later in the year. However, if you have ideas now, I'd love to hear them!

I look forward to an active and engaging 2014. Now, if the sun would just stay out for a while.



### Inside This Issue:

March Event Recap .....	2
April Event Recap .....	3
Cultural Diversity Week .....	4
Awards Awareness .....	6

## March Event Recap: Canada Night – Emily Mross

On March 27, four chapter members and one University of Pittsburgh MLIS student met at Hillman Library to share food, conversation and fun at the Vancouver-themed potluck.

To promote the upcoming SLA annual conference, which will be held June 8-10 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, participants brought food inspired by the Canadian region, including dishes of Japanese and Chinese origin. Desserts incorporated blueberries, a Vancouver staple, and Nanaimo bars, a rich chocolate dessert that incorporates coconuts, almonds and lots of butter. The bars are named for the second-largest city on Vancouver Island.

In addition to food, members discussed points of interest in the Vancouver area, and shared their plans for before and after the conference, including some travel around the Pacific Northwest. Everyone then put their Vancouver knowledge to the test with trivia detailing the history, geography and pop culture of the city.

If you're headed to Vancouver, you're in for a treat – and not just a Nanaimo bar.



### Chapter Member News

**Kathleen Phillips**, *Reference & Online Librarian at Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College in Charleston, WV* is the new Chair-Elect of the SLA Solo Division



SLA members feast on Canadian cuisine. Credit: Emily Mross

Welcome!

New Chapter

Members

**Rebecca Diehl**

**Emily Gorman**

**Allison Brungard**

**Tomiko Envela**

**Rich Louis**

**Meghan Philp**

## April Event Recap: Copyright – Leslie Eibl

Kateri Noone, a licensing consultant from the Copyright Clearance Center presented for an hour about copyright basics. Her presentation included information about copyright concepts including fair use and the public domain. Kateri and her colleague Troy Baker took questions from a few of the 14 attendees at the end of the presentation.

After the presentation, some of the attendees had snacks and dinner at the Porch.



### Links from Kateri Noone

#### Copyright Info:

[Campus Guide to Copyright Compliance](#)

[Get the Facts](#)

[Q&A on Copyright for the Campus Community](#)

[OnCopyright](#)

#### E-books and First Sale:

<http://www.digitaltrends.com/mobile/e-book-library-lending-broken-difficult/#!FFvyG>

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html/ref=hp\\_rel\\_topic?ie=UTF8&nodeId=200549320](http://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html/ref=hp_rel_topic?ie=UTF8&nodeId=200549320)

<https://www.overdrive.com/>

<http://blog.smashwords.com/2013/09/smashwords-signs-distribution-agreement.html>

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/02/business/media/redigi-loses-suit-over-reselling-of-digital-music.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/04/02/business/media/redigi-loses-suit-over-reselling-of-digital-music.html?_r=0)

<http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2013/06/bestselling-authors-call-library-e-book-lending>

Photo Credits: Leslie Eibl



## Cultural Diversity Week at Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College

—Kathleen Phillips

This year I was asked (last minute) to apply for the Diversity for Equity grant offered by West Virginia's Higher Education Policy Commission and received funds (hooray!). The grant must be used to promote diversity and equity (hence the clever title). The decision was made to split the funding in half and use it during both the Fall '13 and Spring '14 semesters, and have decided to host two 'weeks' for our students: **Cultural Diversity Week** from October 28 - 30, 2013 and **Literacy Week** from April 21 - 24, 2014.

I have to say, Cultural Diversity Week rocked! We had outstanding student, faculty and staff participation and the news even came.

Our most successful events were:

- The Diversity Tree:** The Diversity Tree was created out of an old, square shredder box, cardboard tubes from rolls of fabric donated by an upholstery shop, brown craft paper and lots of adhesive spray. The 'leaves' were stock paper cutouts of hands. I walked around campus and asked students, faculty and staff to trace their hands because not two hands are the same and my student worker diligently cut all 250 hands out. We attached quotes about culture and diversity to the base of the tree and had everyone on campus fill out a hand with: their name, their culture or heritage, and their favorite tradition and attach it to the tree with tape. We ordered T-Shirts sporting our logo and the phrase "Celebrate Diversity" which were given out to all who put a hand on the tree. All T-shirts were handed out on the first day and almost all hands were used. The tree is still in our lobby.
- The Snake and the Pot** (Belly dancer and Drummer):

This group performed Tuesday afternoon for a crowd of over 100 students, faculty and staff. Each dance and musical piece was introduced with a brief history and story. The belly dancer not only danced, but also performed a Peruvian love song on her violin. At the end of the performance they invited the participants to come forward and learn a few moves; also very popular!

- West Virginia Cloggers:** One of our faculty members is a member of this clogging group and they did a performance in our foyer Monday afternoon. Over 100 people attended this event. Each dance was preceded by its history and evolution of the steps. The ages of the members ranged from 4 – 70 years!



Diversity Tree on display at the school. Credit: Kathleen Phillips



West Virginia Cloggers perform. Credit: Kathleen Phillips

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Our other events were:

- **Night showing of “The Secret Life of Bees”:** Our book club chose this as their first book (by Sue Monk Kidd, excellent read) of the year and helped with the set up for our movie night. We purchased the rights and showed the film Tuesday evening in our foyer from 6:30 -8 and served soda, candy and popcorn. This event was not heavily attended (about 20 people) but did spark discussion both during and after the film, so it was definitely a success.
- **Take a Culture, Leave a Culture:** Wednesday was a duel event day! Our Student Services held the annual Boo Bash and Blood Drive and we set up a culture swap table. Everyone was encouraged to bring an item representing their culture or heritage, leave it at the table and take something they found interesting. All sorts of items were swapped: key chains, books, pins, stories, trinkets.

Our one unsuccessful event was:

- **Cultural Scavenger Hunt:** 4 faculty and staff members and I created clues about our culture, heritage or culture we found interesting. All clues were printed on a sheet of paper with the thought that students could search between classes or in their free time without having to find one clue to get to the next, and the clue creators set up stations with stickers (to add to the students’ papers signifying they made it) and tokens (bookmarks, candy, etc.). Unfortunately no students participated! Next year we may ask instructors to make the scavenger hunt extra credit and/or use a more interactive/virtual approach with pictures to be uploaded to a Facebook page. You live and you learn!

What I’ll do differently next time:

1. Create a committee. I planned and organized this week mostly by myself with the help of our Director of Student Services, James McDougle and my Student Worker, Kristia Seabolt.
2. Leave procrastination to the dogs. Time was my enemy. This is the first big event I have ever organized and definitely underestimated the time I needed to cut checks, order T-shirts, call performance groups, etc.
3. Advertise within classes more. We have found at our institution that the more instructors encourage their students to attend events, the more students show up. Also, giving extra credit for movie nights or scavenger hunts has been a positive factor in the past, so if we can get our faculty on board with that, attendance will hopefully improve

Literacy Week takes place in April 2014, but our committee has already been created, ideas have been brainstormed, and several people and performers have been contacted; it’s on a role!



“The Snake and the Pot”.  
Credit: Kathleen Phillips

**Editor’s Note: Look for an article about Literacy Week in the next issue of the Confluence!**

## Awards Awareness ~ Chris Heil

One quarter of 2014 is complete. In less than six months the Awards Committee will open nominations for Pittsburgh Chapter awards.

Have you noticed or heard of notable achievements or contributions by Chapter members? If not, then do some research or attend local Chapter meetings! Many of our members are active in their professions and make valuable contributions to their employers, local communities and other associations. Please make an effort to learn about their activities so you can identify chapter members who deserve recognition for their extra efforts. And don't be shy about "tooting your own horn"!

Awards are valuable in several ways: they differentiate individuals from the crowd, they recognize special achievements, and in the case of our Chapter awards, they put a little cash in your pocket. In the current employment market, differentiation should not be underestimated. Whatever helps an applicant stand out positively

from others is a plus. Although some of us might be uncomfortable receiving awards in public, we would probably admit it feels good to know that our peers think we did something really well. And I doubt any of us would turn down a few extra dollars. You can always donate the award fee to your favorite charity.

As the year goes on, please watch for good deeds by fellow chapter members. The Awards Committee will be soliciting nominations for these awards in early October:

- Leadership Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- Publications Award
- Innovation in Technology Award
- Catalyst Award
- Mentoring Award
- Promising Professional Award

For more details see the Chapter Awards [webpage](#).

### Upcoming Local Library Events

#### **Lunch and Learn Series**

CLP Downtown & Business  
612 Smithfield Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412.281.7141

**Thursday, May 1 at 12:15**—Investing 101

**Thursday, May 8 at 12:15**—Start, Manage, and Grow Your Business with ReferenceUSA Webinar

**Thursday, May 15 at 12:15**—Developing a Career at UPMC

**Thursday, May 22 at 12:15**—Job Couture : How to Dress to Get the Job You Want

#### **Patents and Trademarks: Get the Information You Need to Protect Your Intellectual Property : A Free Seminar for Inventors, Entrepreneurs, Educators and Legal Professionals**

Wednesday, May 14, 2014

9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh-Main (Oakland)  
International Poetry Room 2nd floor

Event is FREE. Registration is required.

Register at [http://www.carnegielibrary.org/events/details.cfm?event\\_id=103014](http://www.carnegielibrary.org/events/details.cfm?event_id=103014)

# sla.vancouver.com



## Beyond Borders

You don't want to miss out on these valuable benefits:

- The latest technologies from leading industry partners, all under one roof in the INFO-EXPO Hall!
- Keynote speaker John Wilbanks, Chief Commons Officer at Sage Bionetworks and a Senior Fellow in Entrepreneurship at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.



**Register today for #SLA2014**  
**June 8-10**

SLA-CPIT  
Special Libraries  
Association-  
Pittsburgh Chapter

[pittsburgh.sla.org](http://pittsburgh.sla.org)

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