The Confluence

*Newsletter of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the
Special Libraries Association*

SLA

President's Message and Platform - 2004/2005 Year -
Jan Deitch

I've got to begin this evening by thanking several people who have been a huge help to me throughout this past year as President-Elect:

Many thanks to Brian for passing his expertise in program planning along to me. It's always a challenge to come up with innovative venues for our dinner meetings - places where the food is good, the parking reasonable and accessible, the location as

centrally located to the majority of our members as possible, and the price in line with our budgets. Brian helped me to find those places.

Many thanks to Amy for putting together our professional development programs. Our rescheduled Factiva marketing program happened last month to an enthusiastic reception by our members and a good attendance. We have Amy to thank for coordinating it initially with Factiva.

Many thanks to Mandy for keeping our finances in order and for working towards some ideas for a solid manageable budget for helping to keep our Chapter productive and solvent in the future.

I have to thank Denise for sharing her invaluable expertise as a past president of our Chapter. Denise attends all meetings and seems just as enthusiastic to me about our Chapter and our students and all of us professionals as she was the day I first met her. She continues to be tireless in her support of our Chapter and we all owe her many thanks for that.

Big thanks go out to Kim and John as past presidents for their continued support of our Chapter.

And…to Barb Spiegelman…so many thanks for her continued contributions of door prizes for all our meeting drawings. She's really helped to put some fun into our meetings.

There are many others who have contributed so much to our Chapter this year and who continue to contribute. The Chapter's thanks go out to all of you. I'll have lots more people to thank next year; I have no doubt, because this is all about teamwork, volunteerism, and shared participation.

I've enjoyed this past year as President-Elect of our Pittsburgh SLA Chapter. To have had the opportunity to participate in SLA's Leadership Conference was an invaluable experience for me. I learned so many new tips and ideas to hopefully apply to our chapter this coming year. I think it was a real treat for those who attended our March Chapter meeting to get to meet our SLA International Executive Director – Janice LaChance and to spend some time with SLA's incoming President – Ethel Salonen.

Every year brings new challenges. This coming year will be no exception. I reiterate our Chapter's purpose as stated by Brian last year and THAT IS to continue to provide our members with networking, educational, and individual development opportunities.

Brian very kindly shared his focus areas for our Chapter for this past year with me – again - and those areas seem to be universal among non-profit professional organizations in terms of keeping them going and in

> **…to continue to provide our members with networking, educational, and individual development opportunities…**

In this issue:

helping them to provide value and benefits to their members. We've got to continue to focus on:

1. Our Members and Potential Members

Two words – Retention and Recruitment. We have got to retain the members that we have now and we have got to attract new members.

- ➢ We will continue the flow of communication to all our members via our Chapter listserv and get a web-based bulletin out at our Pittsburgh Chapter website.
- ➢ Continue to reach out to members who do not attend meetings and try to figure out ways to encourage their participation.
- ➢ Work hard to attract new members.

2. Our Student Chapters

We all know that our students are our future. We'll continue to plan programs for them and to liaison with the Student Chapters at the University of Pittsburgh and Clarion University.

- ➢ I think we've got to continue to address the issue of the job market and job opportunities for recent graduates by continuing to host job fairs, job skills roundtables, and job-related virtual seminars geared at our students.
- ➢ Denise's comments in the April '04 SIS Link magazine about jobs developing in new areas utilizing our professional skills and the 'alternative' career path as a possibility for us are very timely. I think we've got to explore those alternatives for our students and members and keep them current on those non-traditional areas.
- ➢ We'll continue to sponsor students attending the annual conference.

Jan at the May 2003 Business Meeting

3. Collaboration

Our vendors have been very generous and supportive of our Pittsburgh Chapter.

- ➢ We have to continue to cultivate our relationships with our vendors and to attract new vendor organizations to partner with.
- ➢ I'd like to see us work harder this year to co-host and co-sponsor some of our programs with the other information/library-related groups in our area. We stepped that up this past year and it does help with sharing costs, vendors, and programs. It's also fun and it encourages networking with other groups of related professionals.

4. Marketing our Pittsburgh Chapter

We have to continue to market and pr our chapter wherever appropriate.

- ➢ Judy Lesso has done a very good job this past year in getting our meetings posted to the appropriate newspapers.
- ➢ I think we need to continue Brian's initiative from this past year and encourage attendance and exhibits at meetings of other library and non-library related groups to further expand our visibility in the community and potentially attract new members.
- ➢ We will continue to do what we can to improve our image in the community and to

communicate the value of special libraries and professionals who provide information services.

In closing… I'd like to say that I'm excited about this coming year as President of our Pittsburgh SLA Chapter. As is always the case with volunteer organizations, it takes a whole army of people to make a year successful. I welcome all suggestions, ideas, and input – I'll need it. I'm looking forward to working with you all and I hope you all know that I'm very approachable and that I'm here to serve you – our chapter members.

We're all too familiar with the sight of orange construction barrels in Pittsburgh, but here at *The Confluence*, we're under construction too. Our goal with this issue was to publish content now, worry about formatting later. To that end, the chapter needs help from its members. Are you a closet graphic designer? We'd love to see a new logo or banner. Have you seen another chapter newsletter that wowed you with design or format ideas? Share it with us.

The chapter has been incredibly fortunate in that Bhuva Narayan, a MLIS student at Pitt and intern with Adele Barsh has stepped up and accepted the challenge of revamping our newsletter's image, with the new format to be unveiled with our January 2005 issue. Any ideas, suggestions, or questions you have for a new format for *The Confluence* can be directed to her at: Bhuva_Narayan@yahoo.com

Field Placement And Internship Program At The University Of Pittsburgh – Angela Pollis

Would you consider adding a staff member to your Library or Information Center by hosting a student from the University of Pittsburgh's School of Information Science? Chapter members at H.J. Heinz, PPG, Seagate, and CMU have had students doing work-study activities at their facility and they highly recommend the program.

The University of Pittsburgh's School of Information Science has active programs in field placement and internships in their Master Degree program. The objective of the program is to provide the student with experience in a work environment of a library or information center. Upon completion of core courses, the student is qualified to apply the skills, methodologies, and theories that they have learned into practical work. The assignments must be of professional content and substance.

A field placement entails 3 credits/150 hours of supervised professional work in an approved information environment. No compensation is given to the student.

A faculty advisor, a site supervisor and the Field Experience and Placement Advisor coordinate the assignment. Angela Pollis has been appointed to the position of Field Placement Advisor and is assisting the faculty in locating appropriate sites specifically in special libraries. The student must submit a written report upon completion of the field experience.

A grade is given based on performance as rated by the site supervisor and the quality of the final report as rated by the faculty supervisor

Internships are also opportunities for students to gain practical work experience during their education. However, internships are paid positions, whereas field placement positions earn course credit.
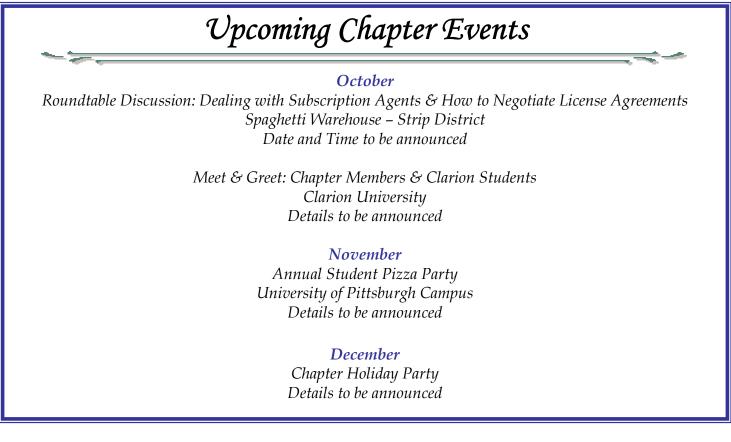
Start thinking and planning ahead now for 2005!!

If you are interested in sponsoring a student enrolled in the Department of Library Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh, please contact Angela Pollis to discuss the details of the program. Please contact her at: a.pollis@worldnet.att.net or by phone at: (412) 856-8386.

Because the student has to register for this program, the semester that starts in January 2005 will be the next term for a student to start a field placement. Start thinking and planning ahead now for 2005!!

Upcoming Chapter Events

October
Roundtable Discussion: Dealing with Subscription Agents & How to Negotiate License Agreements
Spaghetti Warehouse – Strip District
Date and Time to be announced

Meet & Greet: Chapter Members & Clarion Students
Clarion University
Details to be announced

November
Annual Student Pizza Party
University of Pittsburgh Campus
Details to be announced

December
Chapter Holiday Party
Details to be announced

The *Online Directory of Special Libraries* Improves –
Adele L. Barsh

During the last week of September, a mass emailing went out to the people and libraries listed in the *Online Directory of Special Libraries in Pittsburgh and Vicinity.* It is the second-to-last activity for the "roll out" of this service to the general library community. During this process, we hope to generate updates to contact information and content for the libraries currently listed in the directory.

Chapter members might not be aware that the *Online Directory* is only the most recent permutation of a line of directories published by this chapter as a service to the local library community. The Directory of Special Libraries in Pittsburgh and Vicinity has been published intermittently at least as far back as 1938, according to OCLC *WorldCat* records. Several chapter members, past and present, have worked to create each edition. During the course of our recent *Online Directory* update,

we even have heard from the creator of the 1984 edition! The *Directory* was last published in 1994, so this electronic one is our 14th edition.

The online project began in the spring of 2002, with the official public "launch" of the directory in May of 2004. The *Online Directory* has benefited greatly from the work of six graduate students from the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Library & Information Science, two of whom have been student Pittsburgh Chapter members. Their work has included identifying libraries, gathering information, and verifying data. They have created the email, and edited the XML and HTML files that comprise the means by which we produce the current directory. Bhuva Narayan, currently a student member of our chapter, is deeply involved with this project. Her energy, as well as her background in editing and the publishing industry, are assets to moving it forward. Ed Hahn, another current Chapter member,

> **...we hope to raise the awareness of the critical mass of special libraries in the area...**

performed a great amount of work on this directory, and was significant in making it "go live" this spring.

Since the last 1994 print edition, 27 area special libraries closed or were absorbed by units/other companies, and 13 new libraries were established. Of the new ones, 46% are corporate libraries. More than 45 libraries, those that were new and some that were

already established, were added to the directory for the first time. For the *Online Directory*, we were able to expand the geographical coverage to include parts of West Virginia adjacent to Pennsylvania, as well as more coverage of the libraries in the counties beyond Allegheny, to include all of western Pennsylvania. There were significant changes to the listings for health care system libraries. Now, there is more comprehensive coverage of county law libraries and some private law practice libraries, as well as expanded coverage of academic special library collections. More historical and archival collections were added, too.

Once any updates are completed from the current mailing of those included in the directory, we plan to publicize the service more widely, to all academic, public and special libraries in the region. By doing so, we hope to raise the awareness of the critical mass of special libraries in the area, as well as motivate other special libraries to list themselves with us, making it a networking tool broadly useful to the our entire professional community.

Future plans include establishing a PDF version of the directory that could be downloaded by individuals or libraries to add to their home collections. Also, we hope soon to create an OCLC record for the new edition. Down the road, interface enhancements may be considered, like adding the ability to do a library, person, subject, or keyword search.

View the *Online Directory* via http://www.sla.org/chapter/cpit/dirpages/intro.html.

WANTED

⚜ A chapter member who is interested in becoming the editor of *The Confluence*. This is a great opportunity for virtual/distance members to participate!
⚜ Articles for the January issue of *The Confluence*.

Contact Jan Deitch if you are interested in either opportunity. We know that the chapter is full of great talent – it's time to show it off!

5 Simple Steps to Better Knowledge Management -
Nancy Flury Carlson

Knowledge management within large organizations gets a lot of press. Expertise directories, collaboration processes, and knowledge transfer techniques are just a few examples of how organizations implement better ways to allow people to connect, communicate and learn. Over the years we have all read articles detailing success stories and lessons learned. Many of us have led or participated in initiatives to evaluate KM issues and gaps and to develop and implement new solutions.

Successful KM initiatives in large organizations typically involve talent from many parts of the organization. For example, a KM project to improve knowledge transfer from senior to junior employees in a given functional area would involve functional experts and management from the functional area. But it might also pull in the expertise of human resources, training, information technology, and information resource specialists. The right mix of organizational experts can ensure a better solution.

While organization-wide KM projects are essential, not to mention fascinating to work on, the nature of large projects reduces the amount of control any one individual can have. So instead of writing about a complex KM project that you may or may not be able to implement in your organization, I wanted to write about some simple but effective KM techniques that anyone could use. These ideas are not brain surgery or rocket science; they are just simple, quick practices that take a few seconds to implement but can save blocks of time later.

1 I never metadata I didn't like
Some document management practices require the addition of metadata, but much of the documentation from our daily work processes is not part of formal document systems and many people do not use this capability, which is built into many applications. By selecting "File, Properties" or its equivalent from within one of your Word, Excel, or other documents, you can enter basic information like the document title, author name, and subject. Documents with metadata provide an extra set of clues for future users. Sometimes the author field in the file properties contains the only mention of who authored a given document – if they included the metadata. Some search engines can take advantage of the metadata, so that an automated search for your document will present more coherent information in a results display to the searcher, instead of meaningless file names.

2 Give confusion the boot with footers
Have you ever held an important document in paper form but had no idea where the electronic version was? Maybe it was one of your own masterpieces, or maybe it was a key handout from a meeting that you barely remember going to. Always include a footer on your documents that indicates at minimum the file name of the document, but preferably the entire path and file name. Most applications include a simple one- or two- click way to insert this information into a footer. Include your name or initials in the footer as well, to prevent confusion about whose personal network drive the file resides on.

> ...just simple, quick practices that take a few seconds to implement but can save blocks of time later.

3 Dating for fun and profit
While you are in the footer, why not include the document date? Time flies when you're having fun, but it's no fun to have to flip through calendar pages or project files to try to figure out when a particular document was created. Depending on the type of document you are creating, it might be useful to include a "created on" date, a "last updated" date, or an automated date field that shows the current date when the document is printed. And don't limit "dating" to your electronic files. Always write the appropriate date in a visible place on meeting notes, printed pieces, or any documents that you want to keep for future reference.

4 The problem with PDFs
The availability of PDF files provides instant access to beautiful documents that, in the old days, we used to wait days or weeks to receive in the mail. Researchers often print PDF files or selected pages from these documents for reference. Although PDF files are typically professionally produced and visually stunning, they don't always come with a footer telling us what the document is, and almost never print with any indication of the URL that shows where the document came from. Take a moment during the frenzy of research to organize these PDF prints and hand-write the URL, a brief description, and the date you downloaded it. This basic information can be very useful the next time you review this document – you won't have to wonder where and when it's from.

5 They'll thank you for this
The next time you send a spreadsheet to ten people before a meeting, check to see how it will look when they print it out. You may want to take a moment to change the page orientation, add gridlines, set the print area, resize the font, etc., so that when the spreadsheet is printed it will be cohesive and usable in printed form. No one wants to have to flip from page to page to see that last column, or print out twice as many pages as necessary when a quick reformatting could have reduced the print size. While you're formatting your sheet, don't forget to add a meaningful header and footer.

If you are not already following the practices described above, try to incorporate them into your ongoing work processes. These tips will help you manage your own personal knowledge, but they will also make a broader impact as information and documents that you create find their way to others in your organization. We've all seen statistics about the percentage of work time engineers, scientists, lawyers, researchers, etc. spend in the process of looking for information. Most of these simple practices will reduce that percentage and support higher productivity for you and for those to whom you provide information.

Nancy Flury Carlson is an analyst in the Nuclear Services Strategic Management group at Westinghouse Electric Co., LLC. Westinghouse Electric Company, wholly owned by BNFL plc of the United Kingdom, is the world's pioneering nuclear power company and is a leading supplier of nuclear plant products and technologies to utilities throughout the world. Today, Westinghouse technology is the basis for approximately one-half of the world's operating nuclear plants

Blogs and Librarians: An Introduction – **Amy Watson**

What is a Blog?
The majority of blogs are basically publicly accessible journals or diaries for individuals. Content varies from links and commentary, to personal thoughts and essays, to online quiz results and jokes. The cliché that "there's something for everyone on the internet" can also be applied to blogs, in that there's a blog for everyone online, be they bloggers themselves, or readers. Celebrities have jumped on this bandwagon too, including the likes of author Neil Gaiman and celebrity chef Alton Brown. In fact, Wil Wheaton, perhaps best known for starring in *Stand by Me* and *Star Trek: The Next Generation* as a teen, has what is considered by many one of the best celebrity blogs online today, and has a whole new fan following as a result.

> **Blogging is a great way for anyone to keep readers up to date on new information.**

A blog (short for weblog) is an increasingly popular method of information dissemination. In the beginning, blogs were kept by individuals with a knowledge of HTML who were both authors and coders, but with the availability of online blogging sites such as TypePad, Moveable Type, Blogger, and LiveJournal, becoming a blogger is increasingly easy, and in many cases, free. Postings on a blog are almost always in chronological order, and the frequency of entries varies as much as the subjects of the blogs themselves.

Blogging, Libraries and Librarians…
So how are blogs and blogging related to libraries? Blogging is a great way for anyone to keep readers up to date on new information. Instead of doing complete revamps of library web pages, many libraries have included a blog function to keep their patrons up to date on new resources, market events, even include a quote of the day. There is even a blog simply about libraries who are using blogs – Blog Without a Library, that on its index page lists over 200 libraries that are using blogs in interesting ways.

Every day more librarians are embracing blogs, both as readers and as authors. Personally, I find that reading the informal commentaries on current events in our profession (well documented, of course – we're librarians!) keep me up to date, offer different points of view, and challenge the way I think about our profession. While not all librarians' blogs are related to their work, I'd like to highlight several that I consider useful resources for keeping abreast with new developments in our field.

Four Highlights…
Jessamyn West, a public outreach and reference librarian in Vermont, is the librarian behind Librarian.net. It is one of the most popular librarian blogs online today, as many other blogs reference back to her postings as the inspiration of their own writing. With the subtitle of "Putting the Rarin' Back in

Blogs Continued

Librarian Since 1993", this blog is not afraid to criticize libraries for failing to embrace technology and not thinking out of the box. Recent topics she has covered include librarians vs. Google, WiFi access at public libraries, using Instant Messenger as a virtual reference tool, as well as blogging her experiences at this year's Democratic National Convention. Librarian.net is updated several times a week, and archives are available back to 1999. Ms. West is also the co-editor of and a contributor to *Revolting Librarians Redux: Radical Librarians Speak Out*.

Steven M. Cohen is a law librarian in New York, and has been blogging several times a week at Library Stuff since early 2002. Mr. Cohen's blog is "dedicated to resources for keeping current and professional development," and recently has been writing with a more technical slant on the field. In August Library Stuff covered knowledge management, social software, and RSS feeds. He is also a contributing editor to Resource Shelf, a group blog concerning resources and news for information professionals.
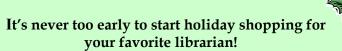
Karen Schneider is also known as the Free Range Librarian, a blog of daily entries about librarianship. According to the site, it features subjective, opinionated entries without the benefit of editorial review. Ms. Schneider's blog offers more commentary than the other blogs mentioned here, and has recently covered topics such as subject vs. keyword searching, cultural program donations, and ALA and blogging. She is the author of several resources concerning libraries and internet

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filters, the co-moderator of the PubLib discussion group, as well as the director of the Librarian's Index to the Internet.

One New Thing is the quest of Lynette Reville, a librarian in Australia, to learn one new thing every day. Started in January 2004, and as of July being updated three days a week, it is almost a voyeuristic opportunity to 'watch' someone relatively new to the field embark on self-taught professional development. Among recent posts, she has discussed communication in reference interviews, subdirectory searching in Google, being asked to register for access to news online, and censored books. She also maintains the New Librarian's Resource Page.

I hope that you find this introduction to weblogs to be useful, and the four blogs that I've

highlighted to be as interesting as I do. In future issues of *The Confluence*, I hope to address subject specific librarian blogs, such as blogs by law librarians, science librarians, cataloguers, and blogs with a library and technology link. And if you have any blogs that you find to be particularly useful – please share!

Links mentioned in this column:
http://www.typepad.com
http://www.movabletype.org/
http://www.blogger.com
http://www.livejournal.com/
http://www.neilgaiman.com/journal/journal.asp
http://www.altonbrown.com/pages/rants.html
http://www.wilwheaton.net
http://www.blogwithoutalibrary.net/
http://www.librarian.net
http://www.librarystuff.net
http://www.resourceshelf.com
http://freerangelibrarian.com
http://nlrp.blogspot.com/

It's never too early to start holiday shopping for your favorite librarian!

● Librarism.com Collection Development
"Zen Librarian" - "I Have Secret Powers, I'm a Librarian" and other fun shirts and mugs.

● LibrarianGear.com
"Beware of Rowdy Librarian" is the least racy of these librarian themed shirts, mouse pads, greeting cards and intimate apparel.

● The Lipstick Librarian! Ephemera
"Accessories for the sassy librarian" – shirts, mugs, mouse pads, bags, greeting cards and more. Check out the link to the sister site "for when you're not feeling quite service-oriented…"

● The Curmudgeonly Librarian Superstore
Are you an "Information Hottie"? Is your "Other Car a Bookmobile"? - Then this is the store for you. Shirts, hats, travel mugs, boxers and bumper stickers, many with a cataloguing theme.

● Librarian Avengers Store
Show the world your librarian pride with shirts, mugs, mouse pads, hats, bags and more. Be sure to check out the "Why you should worship a librarian" gear.

Unravel the Secrets of the Future – Hogwash or Science? - Denise Callihan

How many times do you wish you had a crystal ball to peer into and see what the future holds? "I wish I would have known *THAT* was coming or better yet, I should have seen *THAT* coming!"

Some future events have provided many warning signs, that if we just would have put them all together, may have allowed us to prepare for that something coming & thwart it if need be. Is the Amazing Kreskin the only one with the answers of what the future holds or can the future be predicted by anyone?

John Naisbitt, futurist pioneer known for his best-selling book, *Megatrends*, says "The only reliable way to anticipate the future is by understanding the present." (http://www.naisbitt.com)

Some events are easy to predict, because they are tried and true, really no anticipating is necessary because you already know the outcome. Take for example, when you put 3 or 4 ingredients together – Presto! You'll make cake. But, vary the recipe just a bit, and it might be bread…or even play dough!

Other events may be scanned or forecast because of past experience. Remember the old rhyme, "Red sky at night, sailor's delight, red sky at morning, sailor take warning." Sailors scanned the horizons, noted telltale signs of the color of the sky, and prepared for the future.

We foretell the future every day we prepare based on evidence that we have either gathered from past episodes or researched for a specific event. When traveling, instead of winging it or driving by *impulse,* you may visit AAA to get a trip tick that warns you of roads to beware…this is all based on AAA's knowledge of the big picture. AAA contacts all of the major interstates to see what construction is going on, where it is occurring, and what impact it might have on your trip. You might even tweak AAA's course based on your knowledge of a frequently traveled area, knowing to avoid traveling during a certain time or tacking on extra time to absorb bottleneck traffic. You have gathered appropriate information, used some technique to anticipate any likely impacts, and thwarted them! Anticipating potential scenarios stops you from being caught off guard of the future and allows you to make farsighted decisions. Some of these same efforts or techniques can be used to anticipate the business horizon.

> **Anticipating potential scenarios stops you from being caught off guard of the future and allows you to make farsighted decisions.**

Signposts

There are people who have this gift of sight in the business world. You know many of them by the name 'successful entrepreneur' or 'visionary leader'. "…[W]e often think people are successful because they are just lucky, when in fact it was their foresight that made them lucky. Foresight enabled them to take advantage of opportunities and to avoid problems that trap other people."*(1)* They are adept at reading the signs that are provided in how people behave on a daily basis and using them to plan strategically. Besides charting one fixed course, they are most successful because they adapt and remain flexible, constantly changing direction as the current takes them. These signs may be obvious to them, but might not be visible to someone who is not watching for them, and thus, not able to respond to them. "Individuals who get startled by the future weren't paying attention."*(2)*

These signs or events are known as trends, or megatrends when they impact society so strongly. A trend is defined as a general direction in which something tends to move. How wishywashy of a definition is *THAT*! But, it's like the flowing of water or a stream. The strongest current has the most momentum, and it's on top of you before you know it so you'd better be prepared.

So, how do we start to pay attention? Take a look at the list of sites below. This set of sites won't give you a forecast of next week, or provide information about a specific date in time, but rather provide a glimpse of what *might* happen in the long-term future and offer some ideas and opinions about the forces shaping the world.

I only focused on the large organizations that make some of their information available for free to the public. There are many other companies who, for a fee, will tailor their research or watch a specific industry. (One that comes to mind is SRI Consulting Business Intelligence's Scan: Anticipating Futures program.)

Continued on Page 9

Denise's Short List of Forecasting Sites:

Battelle
(http://www.battelle.org/forecasts/default.stm) Scroll down to see Battelle's predictions of top ten technologies for the decade.

Global Business Network
(http://www.gbn.org) GBN is internationally acclaimed for its leadership in the evolution and application of scenario thinking & strategic conversation. Out-of-the-box thinking is encouraged to break out and change mental maps and to embrace uncertainty. Stewart Brand, originator of the *Whole Earth Catalog* is a founding member. Not all content is available for free (your company must be a member to access everything), but there is a great collection of insights and articles available in the GBN Ideas section.

Institute for the Future
(http://www.iftf.org)
Here are some reports selected that provide a future roadmap (better than a triptick!)
http://www.iftf.org/docs/IFTF_2004_TYF_Intro.pdf - *2004 - 10 year forecast – perspectives*
http://www.iftf.org/docs/2003_Ten-Year_forecast.pdf *2003 - 10 year trends* (193 pages)
http://www.iftf.org/docs/SR-797_Map_of_decade.pdf - *Map of the Decade* (2-page visual)
http://www.iftf.org/docs/SR-773_Shape_Shifting_in_the_World_of_R&D.pdf - *Shape shifting in the world of R&D*

Old Farmer's Almanac
(http://www.almanac.com)
They've been around since 1792 providing long-term weather forecasts for farmers. Not just for farmers anymore! Take a look!

The Rand Corporation
(http://www.rand.org) The first think tank! Judy Lesso, Librarian at Pittsburgh Rand is also a SLA Member and PR committee chair. Here are some interesting reports, but be sure to review the full list of reports available.
http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2004/RAND-MG164.pdf - *Forces Shaping the Future Workforce and Workplace in the United States:*
http://www.rand.org/publications/MR/MR1008/#contents - *New Forces at Work: Industry Views Critical Technologies:*

Trendwatching
(http://www.trendwatching.com) Teams of spotters around the world observe people's behavior and activities and translate them into the most promising & emerging consumer trends, offer insights, and related hands-on business ideas. If you're into this kind of thing, make some money and sign up to be a springspotter for trendwatching.com! Who best to spot trends but information professionals!
http://www.springwise.com/springspotters.html

World Future Society Organization
(http://www.wfs.org)
Believe it or not, there is an actual organization dedicated to predicting the future. I would love to see what happens at their dinner meetings! They are known for the newsletter, *The Futurist*, but also for their list of the top trends/forecasts. There's even a local Pittsburgh chapter!
http://www.wfspgh.org.

Just for fun, you can use any one of the links above in Google to find out other sites that link to them. You'll see plenty of sites that may lead you down a path of no return! (remember in Google link:site).

One site I found this way is called the ChangeMariner.

ChangeMariner
(http://www.changemariner.com) Tool for forecasting investment, business, and career opportunities by identifying long-term secular change. The site is an interesting one of news stories that have larger impact. I was able to find other quadrants NOT listed on their site by using some of our other expert techniques, see for example:
Automotive Quadrant:
http://www.changemariner.com/a/cat_industry_automotive.html

1. The Art of Foresight: Preparing for a Changing World (A special report from The World Future Society), *The Futurist*, May-June 2004, 38, 31(6).
2. Hamel, G. *Leading the Revolution: How to Thrive in Turbulent Times by Making Innovation a Way of Life*; Plume Books: New York, 2002; p. 129.

Chapter Member News

John DiGilio has exciting news: I wanted to send you all a note to inform you of something exciting that is happening in my life. It is also something that is, in so many ways, bittersweet. After almost 7 years here at **Kirkpatrick & Lockhart**, I am moving on to a new phase in my career. I have accepted an offer from **West Publishing** that will move me back to the West Coast. It was sudden and was not a decision that I made with any degree of ease.

I am not leaving due to unhappiness. I actually came to Pittsburgh from Los Angeles almost 8 years ago. Since that time, the folks here at K&L and in the Pittsburgh Chapter of SLA have been my friends and my family. It has been an honor to work here in Pittsburgh with so many fine, caring people. It has also been an honor to watch my firm and my chapter grow and change. It has long been my hope that I have been able to make my own contribution to the success of both. I will take many, many wonderful memories away with me and I promise to stay in touch.

You all have been an important part of my life. For both the bad and good, I have literally lived my profession over these years. I do not regret it one bit. Your kindness, friendship and collaboration have sustained me. I will miss you all.

My last day at K&L will be October 13. I will be in Los Angeles and on the job by November 1. As soon as I have forwarding information, I will share it with you all.

Thank you for an amazing 7 years!

After an extensive national search, the **Carnegie Mellon University Libraries** are pleased to announce the appointment of **Donna Beck** to the position of Engineering Librarian with liaison responsibility to the Mechanical Engineering, Materials Science, and Chemical Engineering departments.

Ms. Beck has worked in academic, medical, museum, law and corporate libraries in a variety of capacities. She received the 2004 Student Conference Stipend Award from the Special Libraries Association Pittsburgh Chapter. The appointment to this position will be effective October 1, 2004.

Tim Gaus reports that The Corporate Information Center will be moving to the new **Heinz Food Innovation and Quality Center** in Marshall Township next year.

According to Tim, plans are for the library to be in the center of the 2nd floor, surrounded by the offices of the food technologists and staff working there, so they'll be in a very high-visibility location. He understands that they'll have a lot of natural light, and he's looking forward to putting together an attractive and highly functional setting for the collection.

Tim states "…maybe I can finally host an SLA meeting there sometime, if people don't mind the drive north on 279!" For more information on the new facility, check out the articles in Yahoo News and the Pittsburgh Post Gazette.

Earl Mounts and his team from **Alcoa Technical Center** emerged victorious at the 14th Annual Alle-Kiski Spelling Bee held on September 15, 2004. The Bee is sponsored by Comcast and organized by the Alle-Kiski Learning Center located in Arnold, PA. The AKLC offers adult classes in math and language skills, GED preparation, daily living skills, and English as a second language. Earl and his team successfully navigated the thicket of words like stichomythic, vichyssoise, gneiss, trinitrotoluene, and glockenspiel to emerge triumphant with tintinnabulation.

Treasurer's Report

On 08/23/04, the Pittsburgh Chapter of SLA had a balance of $6,948.99. This includes $2,610.54 in our Checking account and $4,338.45 in our SLA Pooled Fund. For the fiscal year of 09/01/03-08/31/04, we had the following Inflows and Outflows:

INFLOWS
09/01/03 - 08/31/04

Dues Allotment	$1,608.00
Interest Income	$ 154.25
Meeting Income	$3,868.50
Miscellaneous Income	$ ---
Sponsorships	$1,000.00
TOTAL	$6,630.75

OUTFLOWS

Bank Charges	$ 29.78
Meeting Expenses	$ 6,175.14
Miscellaneous Expenses	$ 4,512.72
Postage & Supplies	$ 567.87
TOTAL	$11,285.51

OVERALL TOTAL $(4,654.76)

Respectfully submitted,
Mandy Mitchell

New Journals – Earl Mounts

(This column was published previously in *Sci-Tech News*, January 2003)

Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering. 1570-761X. Editor: A. Ansal. Kluwer. v.1, 2003. 3/year. $150.00. http://www.kluweronline.com/issn/1570-761X/current

Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering, the official publication of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering, is devoted to original and interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed papers on theoretical and applied research related to the broad spectrum of earthquake engineering. The journal provides a forum for the European Earthquake Engineering Community to present and discuss matters of major interest, such as important European damaging earthquakes, new developments in earthquake regulations, and national policies applied after the occurrence of major seismic events (for example strengthening of existing buildings, etc.). Topics that fit the broad spectrum of BEE include but are not necessarily restricted to: seismic hazard studies and methods for mitigation of earthquake risks; earthquake source mechanism and strong motion characterization and their use for engineering applications; response and analysis of geological and geotechnical site conditions under earthquake excitations; cyclic behavior of soils; response, analysis and design of earth structures and foundations under seismic conditions; zonation and microzonation methodologies; earthquake scenarios and vulnerability assessments; earthquake codes and improvements; response, analysis and design of all man made structures under seismic conditions; performance based seismic evaluation and design; repair and strengthening; damage assessments; transportation and lifeline systems in seismic environments; seismic response of historical monuments and structures; seismic isolation, passive energy dissipation, active control of vibrations and other modern technologies for energy dissipation; and earthquake risk mitigation policies and methodologies.

Biosecurity and Bioterrorism: Biodefense Strategy, Practice, and Science. Editors: T. O'Toole and T.V. Inglesby. 1538-7135. Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. v.1, 2003. 4/year. $324.00. http://www.liebertpub.com/bsp/default1.asp

Biodefense is a public health and national security issue of the highest priority. This new journal *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism* covers bioscience, medical and public health response, infrastructure and institutions, international collaborations, agroterror/food safety, and citizen response and responsibility. The journal provides an international forum for debate and exploration on the many issues posed by biological weapons and terrorism. *Biosecurity and Bioterrorism* will also play a significant role in establishing a cohesive and urgently needed vehicle for the establishment of major educational efforts and interaction on issues of research, policy, prevention, and preparedness. The journal will pull together national and international strategy, professional practice, and technical and scientific issues and integrate them in a way to foster communication within various professional communities, including medicine, public health, law, national security, bioscientific research, and vaccine and drug development.

Everyday Food. Editor: J. Hill. Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia. v.1, 2003. 26/year. $18.00. http://www.marthastewart.com/

Everyday Food: It's small enough to fit in your purse, but big enough to simplify your life, with more than 50 fast recipes per issue, from entrées to desserts and side dishes, plus clever kitchen tips and techniques. All our recipes are special, but they use just supermarket ingredients and equipment you already own. You don't need special stores, special skills, special tools—or lots of time.

Information Visualization. 1473-8716. Editor: C. Chen. Palgrave Macmillan. v.1, 2002. 4/year. $347.00. http://www.palgrave-journals.com/ivs/

Information Visualization is a central forum for all aspects of information visualization and its applications. The journal is essential reading for researchers and practitioners of information visualization and is of interest to computer scientists and data analysts working on related specialties. Articles in the latest issue include: Aesthetics versus functionality, Information visualization for advanced vehicle displays, Cognitive measurements of graph aesthetics, Representing high-dimensional data sets as closed, Sensitivity encoding to support information space navigation: a design guideline, Liver cancer detection system based on the analysis of digitized color images of tissue samples obtained using needle biopsy, and DEViD: a media design and software ergonomics integrating visualization for document retrieval.

International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education. 1571-0068. Editor: F. Lin. Kluwer. v.1, 2003, 4/year. $180.00.
http://www.kluweronline.com/issn/1571-0068/current

The objective of this journal is to publish original, fully peer-reviewed articles on a variety of topics and research methods in both science and mathematics education. The journal includes articles that address common issues in mathematics and science education and cross-curricular dimensions more widely. Contemporary educators highlight the importance of viewing knowledge as context-oriented and not limited to one domain. This concurs with current curriculum reforms worldwide for interdisciplinary and integrated curricula. Modern educational practice also focuses on the use of new technology in assisting instruction, which may be easily implemented into such an integrated curriculum. The journal welcomes studies that explore science and mathematics education from different cultural perspectives.

International Journal of Web Engineering and Technology (IJWET) 1476-1289. Editor: L. Uden. Inderscience. v.1, 2003. 4/year. $435.00.
http://www.inderscience.com/editorialindex.html

IJWET aims to provide an interdisciplinary forum for the exchange of ideas concerning theoretical, technical, practical, social and pedagogical issues. It focuses on the evolution of the software engineering process and dedicated technologies, methods and models for Web applications. Subjects covered include: design methods and models;

architectural, design and navigation patterns, and pattern mining; application processes and methodologies; integration with legacy systems; migration of legacy systems to Web environments; performance monitoring and evaluation; Web knowledge management ; evaluation and metrics; mobile web services; Web engineering for wireless platforms; user interface design issues; advanced hypermedia functionality; ethical, cultural and societal issues associated with Web engineering and technologies, and their impacts; e-commerce and business; Web and universal accessibility; and Semantic Web.

Iterations: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Software History. 1541-843X. Editor: J.R. Yost.
http://www.cbi.umn.edu/iterations/tc.html

Iterations is a new journal published by the Charles Babbage Institute (CBI) to provide an electronic forum for scholarship and other discourse on the history of software. It is launched as a component of CBI's NSF-sponsored software history project, "Building a Future for Software History." Established in 1977, the Charles Babbage Institute (CBI) is a research center and archives at the University of Minnesota dedicated to promoting study of the history of information technology. CBI conducts and fosters research, preserves relevant documentation, offers graduate fellowships, and sponsors symposia, conferences, and publications. The NSF awarded a grant to CBI in September 1999 to develop, organize, and disseminate resources and knowledge on the history of software. The project has four components: organizing a knowledge network of individuals in the software community,

creating a Web-based historical dictionary of software, publishing an online journal of software history, and conducting an oral history initiative to interview pioneering individuals in software from academe and industry.

Journal of Academic Ethics. 1570-1727. Editor: D.C. Poff. Kluwer. v.1, 2003. 4/year. $220.00.
http://www.kluweronline.com/issn/1570-1727/current

The *Journal of Academic Ethics* is an interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal devoted to the examination of ethical issues related to all aspects of post-secondary education, primarily within a university context. The journal provides a forum for the publication and discussion of original research on a broad range of ethical considerations in research, teaching, administration and governance. Representative areas of investigation include ethical considerations in: selection of research subjects and research methods; treatment of human and animal subjects; treatment of diversity regarding race, gender, class, ethnicity; referencing and citation behavior; grant and funding assessments; publication editing, refereeing processes and procedures; conflicts of interest; plagiarism, deception, fraud; and graduate training versus exploitation of graduate students.

Journal of Archival Organization. 1533-2748. Editors: R.C. Carter and T.J. Frusciano. Haworth Information Press. v.1, 2002. 4/year. $120.00.
http://www.haworthpressinc.com/store/product.asp?sku=J201

The Journal of Archival Organization is an international journal encompassing all aspects of the arrangement, description,

and provision of access to all forms of archival materials. Included are articles on processing techniques and procedures, preparation of finding aids, and cataloging of archival and manuscript collections in accordance with MARC, AACR2, and other rules, standards, and cataloging conventions. The journal places emphasis on emerging technologies, applications, and standards that range from Encoded Archival Description (EAD) and methods of organizing archival collections for access on the World Wide Web to issues connected with the digitization and display of archival materials. Topics include: management and staffing issues relating to archival organizational functions; specifically, arrangement and description of historical records collections; innovative approaches to methods of intellectual and physical access; retrieval of historical records in information systems; and reviews of projects and procedures, standards, and issues in organizing archival collections for storage and onsite use and availability through the Internet.

Journal of Grid Computing. 1570-7873. Editors: P. Kacsuk and I. Foster. Kluwer. v.1, 2003. 4/year. $288.00.
http://www.kluweronline.com/issn/1570-7873/current

Grid computing is an emerging technology that enables large-scale resource sharing and coordinated problem solving within distributed, often loosely coordinated groups--what are sometimes termed "virtual organizations". By providing scalable, secure, high-performance mechanisms for discovering and negotiating access to remote resources, grid technologies

promise to make it possible for scientific collaborations to share resources on an unprecedented scale, and for geographically distributed groups to work together in ways that were previously impossible. Similar technologies are being adopted within industry, where they serve as important building blocks for emerging service provider infrastructures. Even though the advantages of this technology for classes of applications have been acknowledged, research in a variety of disciplines, including not only multiple domains of computer science (networking, middleware, programming, algorithms) but also application disciplines themselves, as well as such areas as sociology and economics, is needed to broaden the applicability and scope of the current body of knowledge.

Journal of Tree Fruit Production. 1055-1387. Editor: W.R. Autio. Haworth Information Press. v.1, 2000. 2/year. $95.00.
http://www.haworthpressinc.com/store/product.asp?sku=J072

The *Journal of Tree Fruit Production* makes available the results of practical research on growing tree fruit. Covering training, growth regulation, pest management, sustainable production, harvesting, handling, storage, and marketing, the journal aids those in the fruit growing industry to keep up to date with current research. As a result, the journal helps the industry in its ability to change more rapidly, enhancing its profitability and environmental consciousness. The journal disseminates results of current research that are immediately applicable to researchers, educators, consultants, and growers in a useful, legitimate, scientific format. The journal focuses on new and innovative approaches and technologies

related to the management and handling of apples, pears, peaches, plums, cherries, and other tree fruit. International in scope, the Journal of Tree Fruit Production presents findings on original research, practical topics in the culture of fruit, and lengthier review articles in a professional journal style and format.

Knowledge Management Research and Practice. 1477-8238. Editor: J.S. Edwards. Palgrave Macmillan. v.1, 2003. 2/year. $163.00.
http://www.palgrave-journals.com/kmrp/index.html

KMRP includes peer-reviewed articles on all aspects of managing knowledge, organizational learning, intellectual capital and knowledge economics. This will include not just focus on the organizational level, but all levels from that of the individual to that of the nation or profession. This will include both theoretical and practical aspects, and especially the relationship between the two. There will be a particular emphasis on cross-disciplinary approaches, and on the mixing of "hard" (e.g. technological) and "soft" (e.g. cultural or motivational) issues. KMRP is the official publication of the OR Society, which has members in 53 countries and which provides training, conferences, publications and information to those working in operations research.

Plant Biotechnology Journal. 1467-7644. Editor: K. Edwards. Blackwell Publishing. v.1, 2003. 6/year. $488.00.
http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journal.asp?ref=1467-7644.

Published in association with the Society for Experimental Biology and the Association of Applied Biologists, the aim of the new *Plant*

New Journals Continued

Biotechnology Journal is to publish substantial, world-class primary research articles in applied plant science, involving applications of plant biotechnology and plant biology across all industrial sectors. Applications include agriculture, horticulture, food and food processing, paper, pulp and timber, pharmaceuticals, medical, phytoremediation, marine applications, non-food uses of plants and industrial crops. With the rapid developments in genomic sequencing and analysis, and availability of new technologies to analyze functional genomics and proteomics, the combined powers of genetics, biochemistry and cell biology are leading to the very rapid production of new information. The journal will not publish improvements to technologies such as transformation efficiencies of particular cultivars and species.

Sleep and Biological Rhythms. 1446-9235. 3/year.
http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/journal.asp?ref=1446-9235

Sleep and Biological Rhythms is the official English language journal of the Japanese Society of Sleep Research, and publishes original research articles dealing with sleep and wakefulness, including biological rhythm. Papers in basic science, medicine and social science relating to sleep and/or biological rhythm are included.

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