

## **Social Science Division Member Profiles**

May 16, 2018

### **Sabah Eltareb DSOC Public Policy Chair**

15 July 2014



Sabah Eltareb is joining the DSOC board as our new Public Policy Section Chair. Sabah received her MLIS from San Jose State University. Prior to her graduate work, she received a BS in economics from the University of the Pacific. Currently she serves as an Assistant Director at the [California Research Bureau](#) (CRB), a division of the California State Library, overseeing and managing library services and resources for the past five years. CRB is mandated to provide research and reference services to the Governor, both houses of the state legislature, and other state constitutional officers and their staff. From its Capitol branch office, CRB provides a public service point convenient to its clients and strives to deliver nonpartisan information and resources. The Bureau publishes a weekly current awareness publication of new studies and reports on public policy interest and regularly convenes seminars and presentations by academics and other scholars doing work in public policy areas.

Sabah is currently serving as Chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures Legislative Research Librarians Staff Section and has just wrapped up serving as the 2014 Program Planner for the Special Library Association's Social Science Division. In her role as DSOC program planner Sabah's selected programming in Vancouver were overall highly attended. She did an exceptional job and we are very grateful to have her.

She is looking forward to serve as the DSOC Public Policy Section Chair and is "interested in member suggestions and feedback for the future direction of our section". Please welcome Sabah Eltareb our new Public Policy Section Chair.

### **Mark Johnson, DSOC Geography & Maps Chair**

25 June 2014



Mark Johnson is joining the DSOC board as our new Geography & Maps Chair. Mark is a professional geographer and former Chief of CIA's Map Library. Now in private consulting practice, Mark recently retired from Federal service after a distinguished 34-year career with CIA and the US Army. Mark served as Chief, CIA Map Services Center; Intelligence Partnership Manager; Map Librarian; GIS Project Manager; Foreign Bureau Chief; and Counterterrorism Program Manager. He recently founded Vertex Consulting LLC, providing support in geospatial management, services, analysis, instruction, and intelligence methods.

Mark completed his Master of Information Systems (MIS) at Virginia Tech and his undergraduate Geography studies at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. His research and applied science interests lie in the areas of geospatial sciences, advanced analytic methods, location-based technologies, and multi-disciplinary geospatial methods and services. In recent years, he has focused on cross-discipline partnerships, geographer occupational development, embedded librarian and geographer support services, and advanced analytic methods for intelligence analysis. He has collaborated with the University Consortium for Geographic Information Sciences (UCGIS), National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA), and the US Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF). Mark was a founding member of NGA's Geospatial Standards Working Group (GWG) and is a member of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers (AFIO) and Association of American Geographers (AAG).

Mark co-established and taught "Defense and Intelligence Applications of GIS" at George Mason University. He's delivered lectures to many professional and academic groups including the Naval Postgraduate School, USGIF's annual GEOINT conference, and various sessions at ESRI's Annual International Users Conference.

Mark is a semi-professional photographer, certified recreational sailor, and land navigation instructor. He has traveled and lived in Europe, the Middle East, and East Asia and now resides in Vienna, VA with wife Zara and their daughter. Please join me in welcoming Mark to the DSOC Board.

**Rachel Lewin**

04 April 2014



Rachel Lewin, a new DSOC member in Washington, DC, shares her insights about librarianship and why she joined DSOC.

**Tell us about your current position.**

I am the Librarian at the Urban Institute, a non-profit, non-partisan public policy think tank. The researchers at the Institute focus on specific areas of public policy, such as housing, justice, health care, tax, etc.. As the librarian, I coordinate all of our resources and make sure everyone has access to the information they need to do their research.

**How did you come to become a librarian/information professional? Did you have a “previous life,” or have you always been in the LIS field?**

I’ve always been a librarian; I started right after finishing my BA. My dad worked for the teacher’s union in New York City for 40 years, and my mom was a social worker, so I always knew I would go into some variation of a “helping profession.” I originally planned on pursuing an advanced degree in a psychology/social work context, although I hadn’t pinpointed exactly what. While researching various graduate programs, a mentor suggested library school might be a good fit for me. The idea hadn’t occurred to me, but I explored it and have been very happy with my decision.

**What do you like most about your current position and organization?**

As I mentioned, librarianship is definitely a “helping profession,” although it manifests itself in different ways, depending on the type of institution. The goal at Urban is to foster sound public policy and effective government through evidence-based research. When I help my colleagues obtain the research and data they need, that, in turn, helps them present solutions and suggestions to lawmakers regarding problems that affect us: affordable housing, tax policy, income benefits, and more. So while I’m directly serving a different population than those working in a school or public library, my work is still (hopefully!) creating a positive change.

**What challenges are you currently facing?**

PR for the library is a big challenge, one that I’m sure many librarians can identify with. Helping people to understand why the library and a library professional is still relevant and necessary in this age of Google and the free web. Another challenge is the de-professionalization of librarianship. In my local public library system, a candidate doesn’t need an MLS for a Library I position. If libraries don’t take our degrees seriously, then why should those outside of the profession?

**Why did you join DSOC, and what are looking to gain from your experience in the Division?**

I feel as a Solo Librarian, joining DSOC (plus the Solo division!) was top priority when I started at the Urban Institute. SLA provides a link to keep up with library trends and have a professional network to bounce ideas off of. I see that there dedicated volunteers who are bringing programming to members, and I hope to find a way to a way to contribute as well.

**Is there anything else DSOC members should know about you? Hobbies? Interests?**

I have 3 boys under the age of 10, so I come to work to get some peace and quiet! My 2 school age children are big readers (of course!) while my toddler likes to flip pages and chew on board books. My kids and husband take our backyard vegetable garden pretty seriously, so I experiment with the results. We ate a lot of zucchini cobbler (a dessert!) this past fall.

## **Linda Canada**

23 April 2013



Linda is a new DSOC member located in San Diego, CA.

**1) Tell us about your current position.**

I am the volunteer archivist for the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego. I also curate exhibitions for them. I've volunteered in other capacities for them (including 3 years service as President) since 2004.

**2) How did you come to become a librarian/information professional? Did you have a "previous life" or have you always been in the LIS field?**

Although I come from a "library-oriented family" (mother is former treasurer for the State of Nevada Friends of the Library; sister is a library technician at the Escondido CA public library) I do not have formal library training. I call myself a "recovering lawyer" having spent 20 years practicing law in California. As I was transitioning out of that field, I did volunteer work with the archives at the San Diego History Center, and learned a lot from the professionals there.

**3) What do you like most about your current position and organization?**

We are an all-volunteer organization which has an active exhibition schedule and public outreach programs. We tell the history of people of Japanese descent in San Diego County, which includes the internment years of 1942-

45 when the government incarcerated them in “camps” outside the military restricted zone of coastal Washington, Oregon, and California. I love working with the people who make up our group: We have 700 members scattered across the country who support our organization.

**4) What challenges are you currently facing?**

The same ones everyone has – too little money and not enough time! Also, our collection contains many three-dimensional objects including textiles, so storage and conservation of these items are also challenges.

**6) Why did you join DSOC and what are looking to gain from your experience in the Division?**

As a non-professional, I have relied on many extremely helpful colleagues to answer questions or explain things to help me arrange and catalog our collection. JAHSSD’s mode of operation has been to “play well with others” and one way we do so is to share objects and materials from our collection with other museums and archives for exhibition purposes. I joined DSOC both to make contacts, and to let other institutions know about our collection and our willingness to share.

**7) Is there anything else DSOC members should know about you? Hobbies? Interests?**

I am interested in preserving historically significant architecture, and have personally helped a half dozen people get their homes within the City of San Diego designated as historic resources. Travel is my main hobby, and I have convinced my husband to visit historic sites and libraries around the world!

## **Jeanette Aileen Norris**

11 March 2013

Jeanette Aileen Norris, current MLIS student, provides us with a look into how she found herself on the path to librarianship, student life at Syracuse, and why she joined DSOC.

**1) Tell us about your current position.**

I am currently a cataloging technician at the Syracuse University Library and pursuing the MLIS at Syracuse’s iSchool and expect to finish the Master’s in Dec. 2013. In my cataloging technician position I perform copy and original cataloging for a variety of formats.

**2) How did you come to become a librarian/information professional? Did you have a “previous life” or have you always been in the LIS field?**

I had a number of part-time library jobs starting in college and those jobs instilled interest in and respect for the field. However, before I started to seriously pursue Library and Information Science I spent much of my time teaching and researching. I obtained a Master’s in European Studies from Yale University, where my focus was French and British politics. I also taught English in a French middle school, civics workshops for high school students, and I tutored college students in French and English. What I liked most about these experiences is the exploration of knowledge, and in many ways this is what helped lead me to the library/information profession.

**3) What do you like most about your current position and organization?**

I feel very lucky to have found my way to Syracuse University because my professional and academic colleagues are inspiring and supportive. I enjoy the constant struggle of trying to describe a resource as accurately as possible given the needs of researchers and the constraints necessary in metadata creation and management. I find organizing and describing information to be fascinating.

**4) What challenges are you currently facing?**

The primary challenge is the balance between work and school and how to promote my own professional development without neglecting my current responsibilities, because the path from support staff to professional librarian is not entirely obstacle –free. Another challenge, which is why I am interested in being a part of DSOC, is finding paths to merge my interests in information organization and the social sciences.

**5) Is there anything else DSOC members should know about you? Hobbies? Interests?**

I enjoy learning languages. I studied French and Italian, and I know some Spanish, though I haven't studied it formally. I am fascinated the politics of welfare states and the idea of the nation-state. In my spare time, I enjoy baking- particularly breads and desserts. I also love to explore new cities, whether for a few hours or for a couple of years.

## **Matt Von Hendy**

27 April 2011



Continuing my series of introductions to your 2011 DSOC board members, I'd like to introduce Matt Von Hendy, Chair of the Public Policy Section.

Matt is a Research Librarian at the National Academies of Science in Washington, DC. He has been an SLA member for 5 years and a DSOC member for 3 years.

Although he currently lives in the Washington, DC area, Matt is a native Bostonian. He is also an avid runner, baseball fan, and birder.

Matt will be moderating the Public Policy Section program at SLA 2011 in Philadelphia, "Tracking Public Opinion in the US and Abroad."

Matt says, "I look forward to seeing many of you at the session!"

## **Vanette Schwartz**

25 April 2011





I've already introduced several of our Social Science Division board members. Today I'd like to introduce Vanette Schwartz, chair of our Geography & Map Section. Vanette is the social sciences and maps librarian at Illinois State University.

Vanette joined DSOC when the Geography & Map Division of SLA became a section of DSOC in 2003. She's been an SLA member since 1989. "My predecessor as map librarian at ISU had been a long time member of SLA and encouraged me to join. I found a very welcoming and helpful group of colleagues and friends in the G&M Division and that trend has continued within DSOC," Vanette told me.

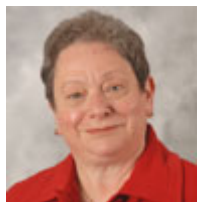
Vanette served in various capacities in the G & M Division including division conference planner in 2002 and division chair.

Vanette has a BA from Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota, an MALS from the University of Michigan, and an MA in history from the University of Illinois. In addition to being maps librarian at ISU, Vanette is also the library liaison for the departments of history, sociology, and social work, as well as the women's and gender studies program.

When I asked her about G&M Section activities for 2011, Vanette said, "I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in Philadelphia for another great SLA conference. Please join your DSOC and G&M colleagues on Wednesday, June 15 for a tour of the cartographic treasures at the Map Collection of the Free Library of Philadelphia." The tour is free, but please register by emailing Vanette.

## **Ann Sweeney**

21 March 2011



Last week, you met our Past Chair, Marilyn Bromley. Today, I'd like to introduce Ann Sweeney, our International Relations Section Chair.

If you've been at an SLA conference or leadership summit recently, you've probably seen and heard Ann. In addition to chairing the DSOC International Relations Section and organizing the always-popular International Reception at the annual conference for more than a decade, she is currently Past Division Cabinet Chair.

Within DSOC, Ann has previously served as Chair, PR Chair, and Global Strategies Task Force Chair. In 2006, she received the SLA Member Achievement Award, and in 2009 she received the DSOC Gale Group Murray Wortzel Award.

At the European Union's European Commission Delegation, Ann has served for 18 years as Librarian, Webmaster, and now Senior Information & Communication Officer: Electronic Publications. Ann's 30+ years' career as a librarian spans positions at the Columbia University Graduate Business Library, the US Defense Intelligence Agency, the Port Authority of NY & NJ, Information for Business, the National Academy of Sciences – Transportation Research Board (TRB), and public libraries.

In addition to all of that, she somehow finds time to volunteer with the [Lubuto Library Project](#) and attended the Lusaka, Zambia, September 2007 opening of the first Lubuto Library for street children.

Ann's undergraduate degree is in Romance Languages and Political Science; her Master of Science in Library Service is from Columbia University.

Ann encourages all SLA 2011 attendees to come to the International Reception sponsored by Dow Jones on Monday evening, June 13. Not only is it THE networking event of the conference, you will see the DSOC Gale Cengage Murray Wortzel Award and the SLA Europe Information Professional 2011 Award bestowed.

## **Marilyn Bromley**

18 March 2011



Over the next couple of weeks, I would like to introduce you to the Social Science Division board and committee members. This blog has already introduced you to me, your 2011 chair, and Brandy King, chair-elect. Next up is our past chair, Marilyn Bromley.

Marilyn is Library Director of the BNA Library. She joined DSOC when the Labor Caucus became a section of DSOC and has been active in the division ever since. She was still a new member in 2008 when Greta Ober called to ask her to accept a nomination for chair-elect, but quickly said "yes."

"As a member of the DC chapter, I knew lots of DSOC members and without exception, they were great people! It was one of the easiest SLA decisions I've ever made," she said.

Marilyn has BA from Randolph-Macon Woman's College (now Randolph College) and a MLS from Catholic University. She's worked at the BNA Library since 1983 and became Library Director in 1994. In addition to managing the Library, she's responsible for our competitive intelligence service, and is involved with other Library staff in copyright and permissions services, the BNA intranet, publishing a directory of federal and state courts for BNA Books, serving as an in-house consultant on the information professional market, and traditional reference and research for employees. She is also active in the SLA Legal Division, and was DC/SLA president in the 1990s.

As past-chair, Marilyn is responsible for fundraising for the Philadelphia conference, nominations for board positions, and is chair of the awards committee, which is currently accepting nominations for the Murray Wortzel award, generously funded by Gale Cengage.

When Marilyn sent me her bio, she closed with the following message to members: "I hope to see many of you in Philadelphia, just a short train ride for many of us. And if I call to ask you to run for DSOC office, say yes – you won't regret it!"