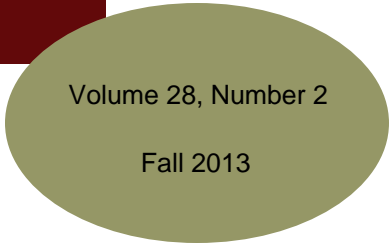


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Science and Technology Section
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We were ushered into Chicago among screaming hordes of Chicago Blackhawks hockey fans as they celebrated the winning of Lord Stanley's cup. Even the lions that graced the entrance to the Art Institute of Chicago had donned their helmets! It was an unforgettable start to an exciting ALA Annual Conference. If you missed this one, perhaps my description will be enough to prevent you from ever missing another conference.

Our discussion groups are always an interesting contrast in style. The Publisher/Vendor Relations Discussion Group delved into the e-book landscape with a panel of speakers composed of e-book publishers. The speakers were followed with a question and answer period. We seemed to cover everything from aggregators to usage rights, but expect that discussion to continue in Philadelphia because we simply ran out of time. The Hot Topics Discussion Group divided the room into roundtables for ten people – each table dealt with a different topic on the theme of "Working Collaboratively with Faculty, Researchers, and Administrators." The College Science Librarians Discussion Group (always my favorite) simply had everyone in attendance discussing "Fostering Innovation and Creativity Among Staff."

Intriguing research at the forum included Bonnie Fong's study of research instruction for graduate students in chemistry. She was followed by Megan Bresnahan and Andrew Johnson who presented "Reskilling for new areas of research data and scholarly communication support." Ruth Vondracek then spoke on her experience with a user needs assessment of Oregon Explorer (a natural resources digital library). The forum closed with a presentation of "The Perceived Intrinsic Value of Leisure Reading & Leisure Among Undergraduates as a Predictor of Their Academic Achievement" by Edward Gonzalez and a group of his students at IUPUI.

Monday morning brought our main conference program "There's An App for That: The Use of Mobile Devices, Apps and Resources for Health and Sci-Tech Librarians and Their Users." With a badly needed backdrop of breakfast snacks, coffee and tea, our panel of speakers delved into the use of mobile device apps and how libraries were coping with this new realm. This was cosponsored by our friends in the Health Sciences Interest Group and had a strong tie to medical libraries.

We held our [STS Poster Sessions](#) right after the main conference program. The room was definitely abuzz with conversation about 17 posters on the h-index, evaluating information evaluation abilities of students, chemistry information literacy, and many others.

One particular poster by Jane Nichols of Oregon State University Libraries and Jennifer Gilley of Penn State New Kensington entitled *Connecting*

underway is the Oberly Award Task Force. The Oberly Award is described on the ALA web site:

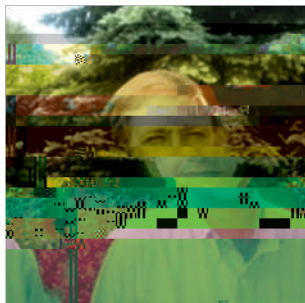
The Oberly Award was established in 1923 in memory of Eunice Rockwood Oberly, librarian of the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture from 1908 to 1921. She was the Bureau of Plant Industry's representative to the Congressional Joint Commission on Reclassification of Government Employees and was instrumental in gaining a fairer recognition of library activities. This biennial award is given in odd-numbered years for the best English-language bibliography in the field of agriculture or a related science.

In recent years, the award has expanded to include all of natural sciences and the definition of 'bibliography' has been broadened to include more modern forms of bibliographies. You may recognize the recent survey that the task force sent out to the membership. ALA has asked that we determine what to do with this award since its endowment is around \$25,000 and needs to be a minimum of \$50,000 by their new standards. ALA gave STS some options and the Oberly Award Task Force will share their recommendation with us at Midwinter in Philadelphia.

Our third task force also will involve an award. We have recently learned that the sponsor of the STS Innovation Award has backed away from their support. So, the Innovation Award Task Force will be looking at re-envisioning the award and making suggestions for its future. As the calls for task force participation come out, please consider chipping in some volunteer time.

I'll close with thanking you again for this opportunity to serve as your STS Chair. The lifeblood of STS is in its membership. Your attendance at and participation in STS events is the core to our strength. Our committees and task forces will keep that foremost in our minds. I hope to see many of you in Philadelphia in January of 2014 or perhaps Las Vegas in June.

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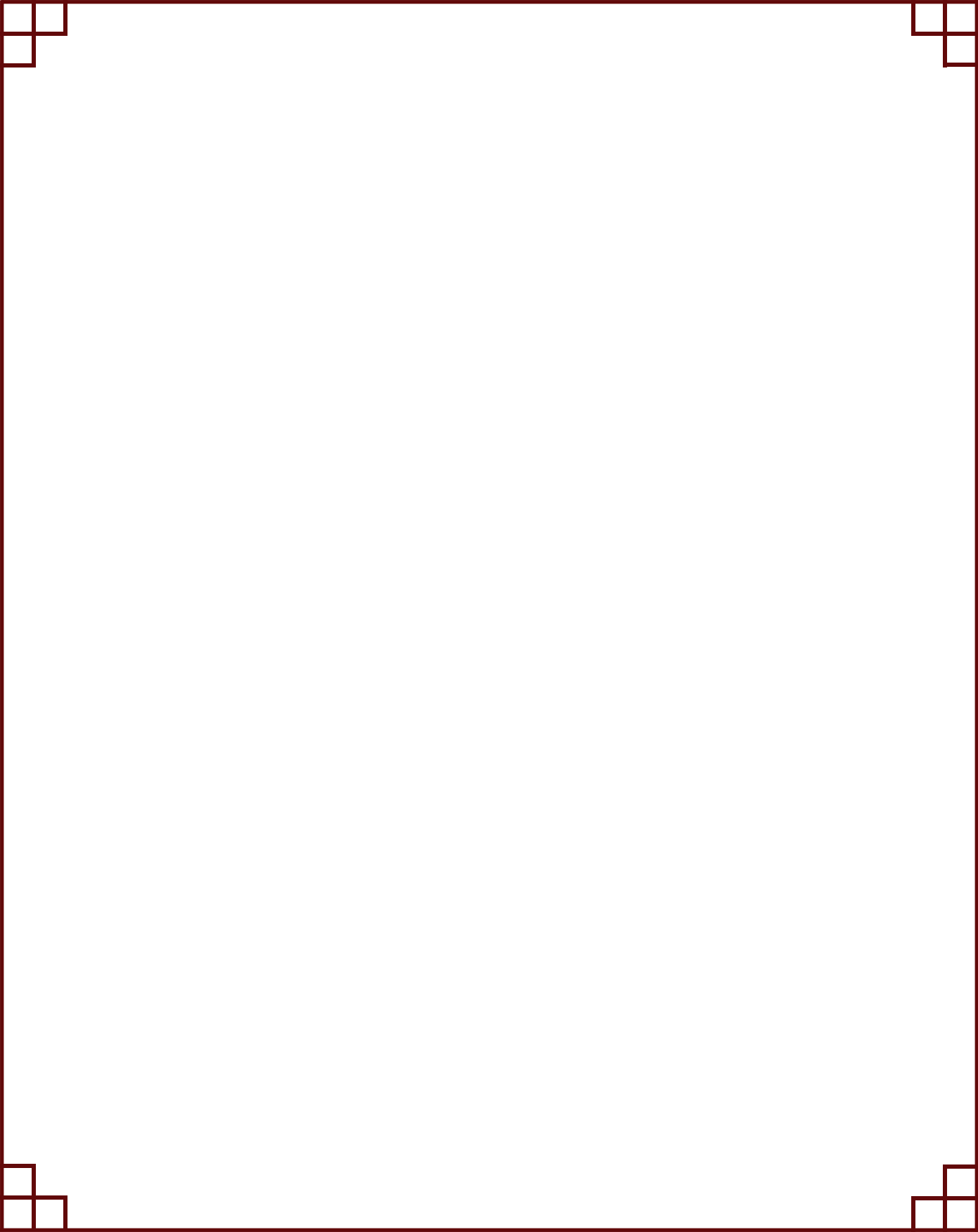
The STS Dinner at Midwinter is sponsored through the generosity of [IOP Publishing](#).

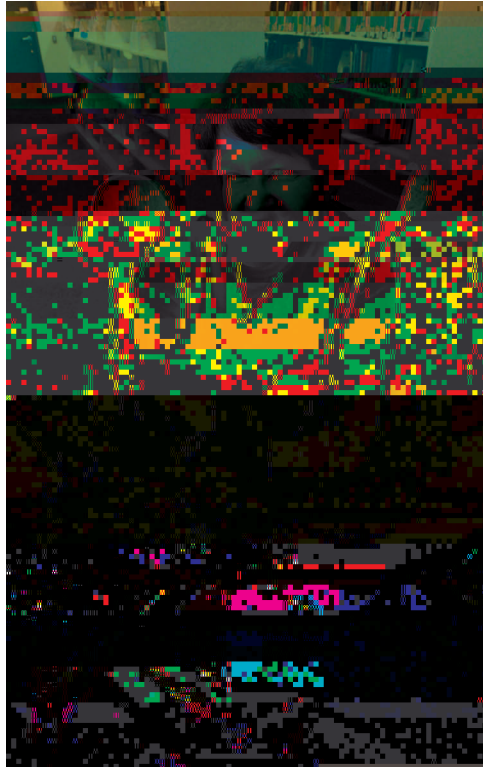
The Dinner will take place at Molly Malloy's in the Reading Terminal Market on Sunday January 26th from 7pm until 10pm (with food served around 7:30pm)

Registration will be announced in late October on the STS-I listserv.

For more information, please contact [Kathy Szigeti](#).







Photograph by Peg Skorpinski

STS has lost Norma Kobzina, a loved and valued colleague, leader, and friend this year.

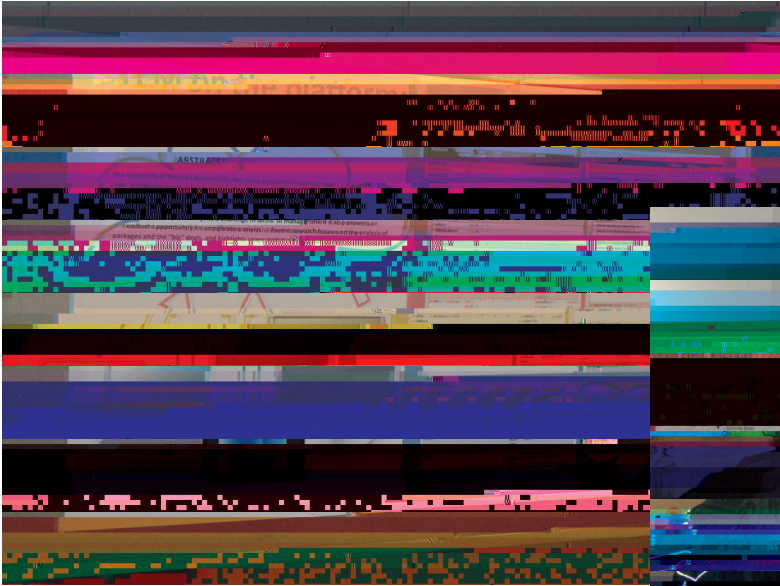
Norma Kobzina worked at the University of California at Berkeley for over thirty years as the library liaison to the College of Natural Resources, building strong ties to faculty and programs across the campus. She was a born teacher, a generous mentor and the Ultimate Librarian. Norma managed to combine breadth and depth of expertise with generosity, openness of mind and curiosity about the world. Her joyous sense of life permeated everything she did, and the smile that was always on her face radiated happiness and good will. She has left a lasting legacy for students, faculty, researchers and colleagues, both on campus and across the country.

The Library has set up the Norma Kobzina Fund to help support the natural sciences collections and services that Norma loved and to which she devoted her professional life. Donations to the Norma Kobzina Fund can be given at <http://givetocal.berkeley.edu/> by searching for Norma Kobzina. Until December 1, 2013, your donation will be doubled, thanks to a challenge gift. For every dollar raised, the anonymous donor will contribute two dollars meaning that a \$100 gift will become \$300. The challenge applies to a total of up to \$20,000 in gifts (the donor will contribute a maximum of \$40,000). If the total fund reaches \$50,000, it will become an endowment fund.

Photos of Norma and brief memorials from her friends and colleagues can be viewed at <http://lib.berkeley.edu/LAUC/remembrances/kobzina>

Are you a member of the American Chemical Society (), the American Society for Information Science & Technology (), National Science Digital Library (), the Medical Library Association (), or another sci/tech organization?

Do you normally attend the conference of one of these organizations?
Would you like to be more involved in STS, or would if you "had the time?"





Photographs by [Edward Kownslar](#)

ALA & ACRL News

\$3,000 and a plaque

Sponsored by YBP Library Services

\$5,000 and a plaque

Sponsored by YBP Library Services

Information for many other award opportunities may be obtained on the ACRL Web site:

<http://www.ala.org/acrl/awards>

or by contacting Chase Ollis at (312) 280-2521 or collis@ala.org

ACRL is currently accepting applications for the Information Literacy Immersion '14 Program ([Teacher](#) and [Program](#) tracks) to be held July 20-25, 2014 at Champlain College in Burlington, VT. [Immersion '14](#) provides four-and-a-half days of intensive information literacy training and education for academic librarians. Immersion allows you to embrace your educational role by embarking on a path of teacher development and pedagogical inquiry in a community of practice for academic librarians devoted to collaborative learning, individual renewal, and instructional effectiveness.

Acceptance to Immersion '14 is competitive to ensure an environment that fosters group interaction and active participation. Complete program and track details, along with application materials, are [available online](#). The application deadline is _____ and notifications will be issued in February 2014. Questions concerning the program or application process should be directed to Margot Conahan at (312) 280-2522 or e-mail mconahan@ala.org.

STS SIGNAL is a biannual publication of the Science and Technology Section of the Association of College & Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; 800-545-2433 ext. 2523. It is designed as a communication vehicle to the members of the Section and other interested parties. Electronic transmission of materials is preferred, and instructions for transmission are available on request. Inquiries should be made to Co-Editor (Fall) [Amy Prendergast](#), Marx Library, University of South Alabama, 5901 USA Drive North, Mobile, AL 36688, Phone: (251) 460-7025 or to Co-Editor (Spring): [Tyler DzuCarlson](#) Science & Engineering Library, University of Rochester, 160 Trustee Rd., Rochester, NY 14627, Phone: (585) 273-5321