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**Volume 23, Number 2**

**Fall 2008**

**ISSN: 0888-6563**

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**From the Chair, Virginia (Ginny) Baldwin**

This year's STS program in Anaheim, along with another Presentation "The Science of chocolate" (complete with Samples) that I attended at a conference a few years ago. I was very pleased to see the program and the posters are available from the STS Web site ([www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/sciencetech/sts.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/sciencetech/sts.cfm)). Special thanks also go to our many sponsors who helped to fund the program and the other successful activities at Anaheim.

We should also thank our Past Chair, Barbara MacAlpine, for the extraordinarily successful conference.

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Let's start with our committees and member

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NEWS FROM ANAHEIM  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE UPDATES  
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### Information Literacy Committee

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During the ALA Annual Meeting, the STS Information Literacy Committee continued our work on the ACRL STS Wiki. Our goal is to create a meaningful set of resources for science librarians teaching information literacy, as well as an interactive space for communication and feedback. Currently, the Science Information Literacy Wiki includes a literature review, teaching tips tied to the Information Literacy Standards for Science and Engineering/Technology, assessment resources, links to tutorials and an open forum. We plan to add and review content through the end of 2008, with a goal of announcing the wiki and soliciting contributions in early 2009. We are excited about the site and hope that librarians will find it helpful as they teach information literacy classes.

In addition, the committee is exploring options for collaborating with the ACRL Instruction Section's Information Across the Disciplines Committee and the Information Competencies Subcommittee of the Engineering Libraries Division of the American Society for Engineering Education.

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### Government Information Committee

We're on Facebook! The Government Information Committee has established a group on Facebook. Just search "ACRL" and you will see the Instruction Section and the STS Government Information Committee as the two first possibilities in your search (more may be added by the time you read this). It certainly would be nice to have more group members! Look for us if you have a Facebook account. The committee agreed that a group on Facebook would be an easy way to reach out to other STS members and to publicize government information related to science and technology. If you have suggestions, don't hesitate to contact one of the group co-chairs (we're on Facebook, too).

We have also begun a page of the ACRL STS Wiki for updating the list of top government information web sites for

science and technology. That project has not progressed beyond the initial first paragraph, but we hope to make good progress before the midwinter meeting. The current list of those top web sites is still on the ALA web site, linked from the committee page in [www.ala.org/acrl/sts](http://www.ala.org/acrl/sts).

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### Membership & Recruitment Committee

Committee member, Kimberly Chapman represented STS at the ACRL 101 session held in Anaheim. Her report indicated that one of the main benefits of the session is participant attendance as she was able to talk to several people who seemed to be very interested in our section. Some of the drawbacks she noted was that the room was poorly designed for networking and attendees only had a half-hour to meet with Section representatives.

During the Committee's meeting at annual, Peter Larson provided a membership update: from 7/07-4/08, STS acquired 186 new members and lost 351.

One of the Committee's ongoing projects includes a postcard invitation for New Members' Breakfast. Unfortunately, logistics made the project unwieldy. Instead, an email invitation was sent to new members attending Annual. The Committee has discussed the possibility of sending a follow-up email to attendees. We are also exploring the idea of a library school liaison program.

The Committee has abandoned a project related to "the potential polling" of STS members due to problems with methodology.

The Committee is considering asking other sci/tech professional organizations about the responses on their exit surveys to develop ideas about why people might be leaving our organization.

There was also a discussion about taking some time to analyze past STS membership patterns. However, it is unclear how much data is available. We explored the idea of hosting any available data on ALA wikis; as "committee history" seems to get lost with committee turnover. The group believed that official ALA/ACRL wiki mechanisms and support would lend credibility to this type of project and make future transitions smoother.

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participants felt discussion was worthwhile while 73% felt it was relevant to their work.

Suggestions to improve the 10<sup>2</sup> discussions included allowing each table to pick topics, incorporating active learning, providing fewer topics, incorporating time at the end to report out, improving the breakfast/discussion evaluation form and providing handouts listing STS committee information.

Our Committee plans to incorporate some of these suggestions as we plan for the 2009 All Members

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if you have something you'd like feedback on. Time and place TBD. Many thanks to Pali Kuruppu and Daria Carle for their service to the committee.



## 2009 Program Planning Committee

The ACRL Science & Technology Section 2009 Program Planning Committee has begun planning for the program in 2009 in Chicago. The working title of the program is "*Big Science, Little Science, E-Science: The Science Librarian's Role in the Conversation*."

The Committee has identified three outcomes for the program:

1. Raising awareness of data projects of a size librarians can manage and be involved in
2. Raising comfort level of subject librarians with these issues
3. Empowering science librarians to approach faculty members about the issues of data and data curation

Speakers for this panel program include:

- Dr. Chris Greer, National Science Foundation Office of Cyberinfrastructure
- Dr. George Djorgovski, Professor of Astronomy, Caltech
- Laura Smart, Metadata Services Manager, Caltech Libraries
- John Saylor, Cornell University Libraries
- Melissa Cragin, Coordinator of the Data Curation Program, Graduate School of Library & Information Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

The program is co-sponsored by the ALA Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS).



## Publications Committee

The Publications committee had a full agenda during our Annual meeting. There are 1241 subscribers to STS-L. There has been a steady increase in subscribers over the last six months. ISTL has 4,443 subscribers. Individuals involved with the STS poster session at Annual 2008 were encouraged to submit an article to our journal.

A message was sent to STS-L asking for feedback on format preferences (print vs. electronic) of Signal. The majority of the 39 respondents indicated they were fine with electronic only access. The committee recommended that Signal go electronic-only in a PDF format. We will try it for a year and then reassess.

John Meier and the STS Web Site Task Force have been working hard to redesign and update our site. A progress report was submitted at Annual 2008 and the final report will be ready for Midwinter 2009. The task force will be recommending that STS have a separate Web Committee that would liaise with the Publications Committee.

Two focus groups were convened at the University of Minnesota to get feedback and ideas on the design, content and marketing of the Science Librarian Recruitment video. The next steps will be to identify a production team and coordinate the video production.

The Committee agreed to recommend the agenda for BDC 0 -1.182

nd technical reports. Linda Musser talked about indexes addressing scientific literature in the 19th century and earlier. John Napp explained podcasting basics.

For Educating the Whole Engineer - Building Life Skills, Kate Thomes and her colleagues from the University of Pittsburgh spoke about the undergraduate writing "conference" required for Pitt engineering students. Amy

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## SCHEDULE

### ACRL Science & Technology Section \* 2009 Midwinter Meeting \* Denver

#### Date/Time      Committee

#### **Friday, January 23**

2:00 - 4:00pm      *ACRL Leadership Council*  
4:30 - 5:30pm      *Sections Council*  
6:00-7:00pm      *STS Executive Committee Dinner*  
7:30-9:30pm      *STS Council I*

#### **Saturday, January 24**

9:00-10:00am      *ACRL Conference Program Planning 2009*  
9:00-10:00am      *ACRL Conference Program Planning 2010*  
10:30-12:00pm      *All STS Committee Meetings for Continuing Education, Government Information, Information Literacy, Liaison, Library Assessment, Membership & Recruitment, Organization & Planning, Publications, Subject & Bibliographic Access, Discussion Group Chairs*  
10:30-12:00pm      *Research Committee (closed)*  
1:30-3:30pm      *Hot Topics Discussion Group*  
4:00-5:00pm      *ACRL/SPARC Scholarly Communication Forum*

#### Date/Time      Committee

#### **Sunday, January 25**

8:00-10:00am      *Open Access Task Force Meeting*  
8:00-10:00am      *STS 50th Anniversary Task Force Meeting*  
8:00-10:00am      *Oberly Award Committee (closed)*  
10:30-12:00pm      *Publisher/Vendor Relations Discussion Group*  
1:30-3:30pm      *2009 Program Planning Committee*  
1:30-3:30pm      *2010 Program Planning Committee*  
1:30-3:30pm      *Nominating 2010 (closed)*  
4:00-5:30pm      *ACRL Scholarly Communication Discussion Group*  
6:00pm -      *STS Dinner - off-site*

#### **Monday, January 26**

8:00-10:00am      *STS Council II*  
10:00-11:00am      *Executive Council Wrap Up*

EDITOR'S NOTE: some times are tentative as of press time...

locations.

## Member News & Announcements

**New Additions:** STS Web Site Editor, John Meier and his wife Mary, welcomed their first child, Henry Ellis, into the world in April, 2008. Congratulations John!

#### **Seeking a Mentor?**

If you would like the opportunity to work with a mentor to help with a library-related issue, large or small, we

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**Special Feature:  
Nurturing the Health Sciences Librarian**

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