

**Volume 23, Number 1 Spring 2008**

**From the Chair, Barbara MacAlpine**

Have you sometimes lost sight of the forest through the trees? Recently I had a conversation with a library school student who was really excited about going to her first ALA conference this summer, in Anaheim. It made me realize that I've been so intent on nailing down details for the program, arranging meeting rooms, and fundraising that I'd forgotten how much fun it is to attend Annual. Anaheim—the magical destination—offers all kinds of great experiences for STS members, and I'm not just talking Disney

If you're coming to Annual, plan on starting off the conference with mingling and munching at the STS welcoming reception Friday at 6:00 p.m. Saturday morning we'll host and toast (pun intended) the new members at an 8 a.m. light breakfast and orientation. Sunday morning brings the All Members Breakfast, and Sunday night it's the STS Dinner at the Tangerine Grill. Moving beyond those basic human needs for social contact and sustenance, we'll have food for thought at two discussion group programs as well as the research forum on Sunday afternoon. On Monday morning please join us for the STS Conference Program:

**One Part Inspiration: Creative Trends that Further Science Learning**

Felice Frankel, a senior research fellow at Harvard and outstanding science photographer, will dazzle you with her images while addressing the visual component in teaching science. After the program she will be signing her book *On the Surface of Things: Images of the Extraordinary in Science*, which is being published this spring in paperback by Harvard University Press. We'll also be "exposed" to *Bioactive*

## From the STS Vice-Chair

What an exciting fifteen months we have ahead! STS Officers and members are finalizing plans for the conference in Anaheim and the planning committee's intriguing program, "One part inspiration: Creative trends that further science learning." Your 2009 Chicago conference planners are designing around a very exciting theme of E-science, in response to the new ARL Initiative "Library Support for E-Science" found at <http://www.arl.org/rtl/escience/index.shtml>. Challenges for science and technology librarians reach new heights as we prepare for more intensive open-access online publication of research data and the development of the cyber infrastructure to support its access and use. The program goal is to give attendees insight into the librarian's role in the conversation.

Thanks to all the volunteers for STS committees and discussion groups. In between work on my sabbatical project I am communicating and considering appointments, to be concluded by March 31. There may still be an opening or two. Please contact my Gmail address if you want to know about openings, or if your request did not get filled. For those of you who are newly appointed, I highly encourage you to get a head start on committee work by reading committee news in this and past issues of *STS Signal*. Doing so will make your entry into committee work more knowledgeable and productive. The STS Website at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/sciencetech/sts.cfm> has a link to committees that gives the charge for each committee and the names of the co-chairs, with a contact link to them to use if you would like additional information.

New committee members and those who are considering volunteering for next year may find it valuable to attend committee meetings in Anaheim as a guest. Most committees meet in the same venue on Saturday morning.

Whether committee membership is in your past, present, future, or not in your plans, STS membership and conference attendance provides a wealth of opportunities to obtain insight and guidance for our profession. I look forward to joining you in Anaheim.

*Submitted by Ginny Baldwin, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, vbaldwin2@unl.edu*

## Assessment Committee

We had a busy and productive meeting at mid-winter. Our new charge is: "To provide assessment assistance to STS committees via liaison collaboration, accumulate and provide access to information on assessment pertaining to science and technology libraries, provide continuing education dealing with assessment, and fulfill duties described in the STS strategic plan." Rachel Borchardt has agreed to help with co-chair duties.

To date:

Brian Lym and Beth Blanton-Kent are helping the Publications Committee plan a focus group in preparation for developing and marketing a videocast on science librarianship. Rachel, Amelia Brunskill and Carolyn Hart are helping the Organization and Planning Committee with an assessment of the STS strategic plan. Amelia and Pali Kuruppu will help the Research committee assess the STS research forum when they are ready. Melanee Vicedo, Allison Level and Annie Zeidman-Karpinski are working with the Information Literacy group on short term and long term projects. Helen Smith and Beth are in touch with the Liaison Committee about helping with the assessment component of proposal they are submitting. Helen and Norma Kobzina will develop a web site and repository for materials we've gathered and what we develop as a result of our ongoing collaborations. We're coordinating with John Meier's efforts on the STS site.

If you want help with assessment, let us know! If you are a committee chair and we ask for your participation please get back to us!

*Submitted by Annie Zeidman-Karpinski*

### **Continuing Education Committee**

The Continuing Education Committee conducted the biennial survey of the continuing education interests of science librarians during the month of November 2007. The survey was posted to the following lists STS-L, SLA-DST-L (SLA

post-Annual 2007, inviting them to the New Members Breakfast. This idea was generated during our Annual 2007 meeting to increase attendance of new members at the Breakfast.

Discussion of the proposed project to identify the cohort of science librarians and determine if they belong to at least one science librarianship

- Empowering science librarians to approach faculty members about the issues of data, data curation

Speakers for the panel are still under discussion, but it is expected that one will be from the National Science Foundation Office of Cyberstructure, an academic science faculty  
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**Hannah Rempel, Oregon State University Libraries.**

*“Google Earth Opens the Door,”* by **Carrie Miyoshi Macfarlane, Kathryn E. Clagett, and Christopher M. Rodgers, Armstrong Library, Middlebury College.**

*“An Undergraduate Science Information Literacy Tutorial in a Web. 2.0 World,”* by **Jeanine Scaramozzino and Cathy Palmer, Science Library, University of California, Irvine.**

*“Science Experiments: Reaching Out to Our Users,”* by **Laura Barrett, Maureen Nolan, Matthew Parsons, Lori Tschirhart, Linda Whang, and Stephanie Wright, University of Washington Libraries.**

*“Instant Help: Creative Approaches to Chat Reference,”* by **John J. Meier, Physical and Mathematical Sciences Library, Penn State University.**

*“Science Info on the Go: Enhancing Traditional Sci-Tech Library Services with Mobile Devices,”* by **Joe Murphy, Kline Science Library, Yale University.**

*“Web 2.0, Library 2.0, Science Learning 2.0 –*

create web-based research guides that appeal to the aesthetic sensibilities of our patrons and lead them to the scholarly resources they need. "Research Guides Remixed" is the topic of the discussion group at ALA Annual. We will talk about these research guide management systems and explore best practices for their use in science libraries.

This session will feature two presentations from

1:30 pm -3:30 pm STS Nominations 2009  
Committee (Closed Meeting)

1:30 pm -3:30 pm New & Continuing Chairs'  
Orientation (All continuing and new co-chairs to  
attend; coordinated by Vice-Chair).

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm STS Program Planning  
Committee 2008

**Sunday June 29**

8:00 am -10:00 am All STS Meeting & Breakfast

10:30 am -12:30 pm Hot Topics Discussion  
Group

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm College Science Librarians  
Discussion Group

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm STS Research Forum

6:30 pm STS Dinner - Tangerine Grill and Patio  
- RSVP REQUIRED

**Monday June 30**

8:30 am -11:00 am STS Program: "One Part  
Inspiration: Creative Trends that Further Science  
Learning"

11:00 am - 12:30 pm STS Program Poster  
Session & Reception

1:30 pm -5:30 pm ACRL President's Program

7:30 pm -9:30 pm Council II

**Tuesday July 1**

8:00 am - 1:00 pm STS Field Trip to JPL

**STS Electronic Communications Update**

STS-L Listse(h)cm318.06r.m11:00 ags Updaa5P3P3P3P3P3P3P3P3/8 0.481 01.48 0.48 refQ4 0 0refQ 1 0 0 Tf0 Tc 4.263e