
Volume 20, Number 1

Spring 2005

ISSN: 0888-6563

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. 2517. 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 either of the Co-Editors: Caroline Gilson, Prevo Science Library, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN 47122-1399. © Copyright American Library Association 2005. STS Signal is published twice annually in May and November. Editorial deadlines: May 15 and November 15.

From the Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Julia Gelfand

I am now seeing the end in sight of making committee appointments and can still fit in some late-comers to the party that want to be included. I am humbled by the number of new persons who have expressed interest in getting involved and the number of previously active members who are coming back to STS and again want to be engaged in our agenda. The next year is revving up as the first meeting of the 2006 Program Committee took place and the consensus was that the program and agenda needed to be interactive, fun, educational, relevant, participative, substantial, and you get the drift, something that we can pull off. We are optimistic that we won't disappoint many in this celebratory 45th anniversary year ahead. Stay tuned, there is room for much input and many ideas. I look forward to hearing from you and connecting with you in coming months.

*Julia Gelfand
Applied Sciences & Engineering Librarian
University of California at Irvine*

Hot Topics Survey 2004:

Collaborative Continuing Education Survey

librarians at work today.

Twenty-one Likert-like scale preselected topics were offered. Next, open-ended questions asked respondents to volunteer their three topics of greatest interest. Finally, membership information and conference attendance plans were solicited. The Likert-like scale results were analyzed overall and by attendance plans to ALA, ACRL, ASEE, and SLA conferences.

Open access journals, collaboration with faculty on research or teaching, and marketing and outreach were the three topics of greatest interest overall, according to the open-ended data well responses. STS members' highest Likert-scale interests included the first two, plus:

- >Science blogs, listservs, other ways of keeping current;
- >Usage statistics for collection development;
- >Find free, high-quality online data;
- >Development of a digital institutional repository;
- >Assessment and user surveys;
- >Efforts to establish a national of keepiy iwh

a bookmark to be included with the STS brochure; they will be distributed at STS events and sent to instructors of sci/tech related courses at library schools. The committee will also send periodic reminders of the program to STS-L. Welcome letters and follow-up letters will be sent periodically to participants.

Next the committee decided on additions, deletions, and other changes to its Professional Continuing Education on the Web page and considered whether to change the organization of the page so that the links would be grouped by subject rather than by provider.

Results of the 2004 Hot Topics Survey were summarized. The group made preliminary decisions on the kinds of questions to include in the 2005 biennial survey, which will again be a collaborative effort between STS Continuing Education, SLA's Sci Tech Division, and ASEE's Engineering Libraries Division. News that ALA is considering the purchase of virtual meeting software was welcomed as that would greatly facilitate collaborative work of this kind.

Submitted by Christina Desai

Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science Materials Committee

The committee's current project will be a survey, resulting in an article, with the working title of:

Successes and failures of subject and bibliographic access to ETDS via the OPAC vs. Institutional Repositories: British and American perspectives

We are defining institutional repositories as digital repositories that include Electronic Theses & Dissertations (ETDs), bachelor's-level papers, pre-prints, grey literature, and working papers. The project builds upon the panel the Committee sponsored at Annual in Orlando concentrating upon subject access to EDTs. We are working closely with Simon Bevan, Information Systems Manager at Cranfield University in the U.K.

Submitted by Bryna Coonin and Sophie Bogdanski

Membership and Recruitment Committee

The STS Membership & Recruitment Committee met on Sunday January 16. The

Updated information on the NIH proposal can be found at <<http://www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/>>.

The PowerPoint slides from Michael Leach's Open Access discussion at Midwinter are available from the STS web site. The direct url is: <<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/sciencetech/stsconferences/LeachOpenAccess.ppt>>.

There were a number of interesting questions. One participant asked what SLIS programs should do to prepare new graduates for the opportunities and challenges presented by Open Access. Michael replied that, in his opinion, core library skills need to be taught as well as new technologies. He added that technologies can be taught in job related situations but students need core skills and experiences in order to be effective information technologists. Issues around accreditation and consortial relations related to open access journals were raised. A question was raised concerning the results of the study by Phil Davis of Cornell and whether institutions could and/or should mandate that researchers pay for the cost of open publishing out of their grants. There was a tangential discussion about whether the author pay process will eventually drive authors back to the free publishers, such as Elsevier. Jane noted at the end of the discussion that the NIH proposal is currently directed towards text materials but that articles containing multimedia will need to be considered. A participant added that the institutional repository software at his organization allows for multimedia. Jane added that standards and means to maintain the multimedia over time will still be challenges.

*Submitted by Beth-Thomsett-Scott,
for Angi Faiks, Sue O'Dell and Ibrionke O. Lawal*

Research Committee

At the Boston Midwinter meeting, the STS Research Committee reviewed several different paper proposals for presentation at the upcoming Forum for Science & Technology at ALA Annual in Chicago. Two papers were selected for presentation:

"Proteomics: Measuring the Emergence of a New Scientific Discipline by Bibliographic Means"

Frederick W. Stoss, Science and Engineering Library and **Rosemarie Maldonado**, Department of Library & Information Studies (graduate student), School of Infor-

STS Field Trip

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
(times are approximate)

Join us for a guided tour of Fermilab. Fermilab is a national laboratory operated by the U.S. Department of Energy which conducts research into particle physics.

Registration is required and more information is forthcoming. (Sponsored by Thomson ISI)

matics, University at Buffalo, State University of New York

"Electronic Usage Statistics and Citation Analysis"

John McDonald, Acquisitions Librarian, California Institute of Technology

The Committee also reviewed poster session proposals to be presented at the STS Reception following the STS Program at ALA Annual. The following eight posters have been invited to present their activities and research in Chicago:

"Science Librarians as Consultants: Partnerships for Knowledge" by **Scott Warren**, North Carolina State University Libraries

"Librarians as Teachers: An Information Literacy Collaboration in the Life Sciences" by **Betsy Spackman**, Brigham Young University

"What Are Our Customers Reading? Analyzing Circulation Data to Identify Popular Subjects in a Book Collection" by **Harriet Hassler**, National Institute of Standards and Technology

"The Chymistry of Isaac Newton: New Technologies and Old Science" by **John A. Walsh**, Indiana University

"Enhanced Data Driven Model in Collection Development by Information Technology during Spending Reduction at the University of Arizona Library" by **Elizabeth Kline and Nathalie Zhou**, University of Arizona

SCHEDULE

ACRL Science & Technology Section * 2005 Annual Meeting * Chicago, IL

Day/Date/Time	Committee	Day/Date/Time	Committee
Friday, June 24			
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.	STS Council I	Sunday, June 26	
		8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Nominating Committee (closed)
		8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Government Information & Legislation Committee
Saturday, June 25			
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	New Members Orientation	9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Continuing Education Committee
8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Oberley Award Committee (closed)	9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	General Discussion Group
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Assessment Committee	11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Issues in Sci/Tech Library Management Discussion Group
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Subject & Bibliographic Access Committee	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	College Science Librarians Discussion Group
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Publisher/Vendor Relations	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Publications Committee
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	2005 Program Planning Committee	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Membership & Recruitment
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	2006 Program Planning Committee	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Research Forum
Noon - 1:30 p.m.	Organization & Planning Committee	Monday, June 27	
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	New Chairs Orientation	8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Conference Program
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Sci/Tech Information Discussion Group	11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Poster Session & Reception
		4:30 - 6:00 p.m.	Executive Committee
		8:00 - 10:00 p.m.	STS Council II

“Building the Virtual Collaboratory” by **Karen Wenk and Martin Kesselman**, Rutgers University Libraries

“Creating a BUZZ: Attracting SCI/TECH Students To The Library!” by **Crystal Renfro et al**, Georgia Institute of Technology

“Cited Reference Searching: New Avenues for Librarian Faculty Collaboration” by **Marcia Henry**, California State University, Northridge

Submitted by Karen Grigg and Maliaca Strom-Oxnam

Kris Alpi, NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene, has a recently published article: "Expert Searching in Public Health" *Journal of the Medical Library Association*. 2005 Jan; 93 (1) : 97-103.

, University at Buffalo SUNY, has several upcoming publications, including “World Data Centers,” to be published in the next online version of the and “Building Lead-Free Communities,” which will be appearing in the Summer 2005 issue of RUSA s

Southern Illinois University Carbondale traveled to Malaysia last year and gave a presentation titled, "Current Trends in American Libraries: A Focus on Chat Reference." at the Biennial Meeting of the Librarians Association of Malaysia, Sarawak Chapter, Sarawak State Library.

Two recent publications from Northern Illinois University: "Literature of Disasters from the Human Factors Point of View: A Descriptive Analysis" , Vol. 23, No 2, p. 64-72, 2004; and "Engineering Education in Europe and the USA: An Analysis of Two Journals" , 23,(1),49-70, 2002. (published in 2004)

MEMBER NEWS:

Dr. Anne Prestamo is now the Associate Dean for Collection and Technology Services at Oklahoma State University.

Brian Mathews is now the Distance Learning Services Coordinator and Subject Specialist for Mechanical Engineering at Georgia Tech.

Cathy Outten is now the Science and Mathematics Librarian at California State University Long Beach.

