



FROM THE CHAIR, Ginny Baldwin

Chicago!!! This fabulous centrally located city will provide this year's backdrop for our annual migration to sharpen our skills, discuss breakthroughs with our colleagues, and reach for heightened levels of expertise. Even in "these trying times" our sponsors are coming through for STS. Save your appetites! Thanks to skilled mastermind fundraiser, Mel DeSart, we have sponsors for our two catered breakfasts, during Saturday's New Member and Sunday's All Member sessions, and for the Friday evening reception. Saturday morning is an opportunity for those of you investigating support of STS through committee participation to sit in on the meeting of the committee(s) of your choice for insight into their functions. Be sure to read up on their important work elsewhere in this issue of Signal. STS programs fill the day on Sunday and the Monday morning program, "Big Science, Little Science, E-Science: the Science librarian's Role in the Conversation" promises to enlighten and equip us for this important undertaking. Our Chicago experience will be punctuated with an STS Sunday dinner and a Tuesday morning trip to the Adler Planetarium.

A bit of a "State of the Section" speech seems appropriate here. Based on the extensive committee work reported at Midwinter and the ongoing support of our leaders, STS continues to be productive, creative, and healthy. Your leaders are remarkable. From committee co-chairs, to your elected officers, and including the first responder, Denise Bennet, who has grasped her role in the newly created Member-at-Large position and taken off with it. All of your leaders, including our past and future chairs, deserve a giant thank you for their competence and insightful contributions. Support from the membership

is abundant, from committee work, to STS-L contributions, and through your participation in conference discussions. Two task forces are active. One is planning STS 50th anniversary celebrations for ALA Annual 2011. The other is tackling the important work of supporting science and technology related open access. Thanks to all of you for your ongoing service. What a thrill and a pleasure it has been to be a part of it all!

Midwinter Denver deserves an added note or two. Each council member briefly related a cowboy-type experience during introductions. Some required a bit of a stretch of the imagination, intriguing nonetheless. At Council II judge and past-chair Barbara MacAlpine announced first and second place winners of the Cowboy Hat Awards:

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STS Signal is made available to all section members at no additional charge. Additionally, it is available on the STS Web site at

Most Western: George Porter, Jenna Ryan
Most Original:
Peter Larsen, Rachel Borchardt
Most Colorful: Annie
Zeidman Karpinski, Maliaca Oxnam

One more note of appreciation is in order. Our thanks go to Institute of Physics Publishing for their very generous sponsorship of our STS dinner at Midwinter Denver. Fun reps, fun evening.

See you in Chicago!

Gimmy Baldwin, STS Chair

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, DISCUSSION GROUPS AND TASK FORCES

Assessment Committee

Brian Lym and Beth Blanton-Kent continue to work with the Publications Committee on the recruiting video. Helen Smith and Amelia Brunskill are going to work with the Research Committee to get feedback on how to improve attendance and submissions. Allison Level and Melanee Vicedo meet regularly with the Information Literacy Committee to ensure that communication between the two groups continues to be strong. Norma Kobzina and Amelia Brunskill have high hopes for working with the Continuing Education Committee. Carolyn Hart, Melanee Vicedo and Rachel Borchardt are working on the assessment components for the two STS sponsored ACRL programs in Seattle. Annie

According to the feedback received in Anaheim, June 2008, the participants wished to pick the topic for each table. The Committee decided to compile a list of five topics and offer each table either to select from the list, or pick their own topic. At the end each group of participants will be asked to complete an assessment survey.

The Continuing Education Committee will continue working with the Assessment Committee on the improvement of the current assessment survey for the All Member Breakfast and Discussion. The intention is to develop a more functional assessment instrument.

A new Continuing Education committee member, Kimberly Chapman offered help with the preparation of the list of new members. This list will be used

Submissions for the Summer 2009 “all topics” issue are due July 15. Webmaster John Meier submitted the report of the STS website taskforce, which recommends forming a new STS Web Committee, with a liaison to the Publications Committee.

Linda Eells initiated a discussion of the Science Librarian recruitment video project, submitting a recommendation to produce a series (3-5) of very short videos each focused on different types of science librarians, e.g. biomedical, engineering. A rough cut will be distributed to Publications, Assessment liaisons, and the STS Council at ALA Annual. John Meier is still working with the publication chair of ASEE-ELD to create an engineering version of the science librarian recruiting brochure. STS Signal co-editor Yelena Pancheshnikov reported the Signal is now published only in electronic format, in response to overwhelming support from STS members. Jennifer McKinnell edited her last Signal with the Fall 2008 issue – thank you, Jennifer, for all of your hard work!

Linda Eells(Chair)

Research Committee

The Research Committee reviewed paper proposals for presentation at the Research Forum for Science & Technology Library Research, which will be held on Sunday, July 12, 2009, from 3:30 to 5:30 pm at ALA Annual in Chicago, IL. Julia Gelfand, editor of Science & Technology Libraries, will serve as the guest commentator and offer critiques of each of the following papers:

Featured Paper: “Assumptions of Originality: Plagiarism, Patchwriting, and the Engineering Master’s Thesis,” by Edward Eckel, University Libraries, Western Michigan University.

Short Papers (10 minutes each):

“One Person, Many Responsibilities: An Analysis of Science and Technology Library Job Descriptions,” by John Meier, Physical and Mathematical Sciences Library, Pennsylvania State University.

“Rocket Science Can Be Understood: Librarians as STEM Faculty Outreach Partners,” by Melanie Sellar, Instruction Librarian, Marymount College.

“The Case for a Scientific Institutional Repository: A View from the Laboratory,” by Cecelia Brown and June Abbas, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Oklahoma, Norman.

The Committee also reviewed poster session proposals to be presented at the STS Reception following the STS Program at Annual on Monday, July 13, 2009. The following eight posters were selected:

“Science Libraries Communicating Through E-science Distribution,” by Gloria Hicks and Allaina Wallace, National Snow and Ice Data Center.

“Expanding the Scope of Digital Libraries: PER-Central’s Role in Meeting Users Information Curation Needs Before, During, and After a Scientific Conference,” by Jenny Rempel, Lyle Barbato, Bruce Mason, and Cecelia Brown, University of Oklahoma, Norman.

“Data Services in the Library? Challenges and Successes in the Present and Future,” by Andrew Sallans, Beth Blanton-Kent, Sherry Lake, Kirsten Miles, and Rebecca Pappert, Charles L. Brown Science and Engineering Library, University of Virginia.

“e-Science @ UMass,” by Rebecca Reznik-Zellen, Center for Hierarchical Manufacturing, University of Massachusetts Amherst, and Maxine G. Schmidt, Integrated Sciences and Engineering Library, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

“An Astronomy Librarian’s Role in the Preservation of an Astronomical Photographic Plate Archive,” by Lee Robbins, University of Toronto Libraries.

“E-Science Archiving at the University of Chicago Library,” by Barbara Kern, Charles Blair, and Dean Armstrong, University of Chicago Library.

“Web Harvesting in Support of Faculty Research and Environmental Science Digital Library Development,” by Nathan Hall, University of North Texas Libraries.

“The Role of Academic Libr

California Digital Library, John Kunze, California Digital Library, Suzie Allard, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and Carol Tenopir, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

In addition, the Research Committee met with Helen Smith of the Assessment Committee to develop a plan for assessing the new format of the Research Forum and for increasing attendance.

Janice Jaguszewski and Mindy Thuna (Co-Chairs)

Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science

Materials Committee

The Committee conducted an extensive survey on electronic dissertations and theses in both the UK and the US. They have presented the work “*Subject and Bibliographic Access to Electronic Theses and Dissertations in the Sciences and Technology: Perspectives of U.S. and U.K. Science Librarians*” at the ETD 2008 conference, *Spreading the light, 11th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations*, Aberdeen, Scotland, June 6, 2008, and the STS Research Forum at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, CA on June 29, 2008. Sophie Bogdanski, Anne Christie and other collaborators are continuing work on US data for possible publication.

The Committee is now working on compiling an annotated bibliography on data curation and e-science. Jin Ma and Kathy Wheeler distributed a preliminary bibliography. The Committee agreed that articles should not be technically involved, but touch on issues of interest to and impact on libraries and librarians. The Committee members are adding new findings to the preliminary bibliography and planning to complete the draft before the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The members are working on the project via the SBASM wiki at <http://stssbasm.pbwiki.com/>.

Jin Ma and Kathy Wheeler (Co-Chairs)

College Science Librarians Discussion Group

We met informally to discuss ideas for the 2009 college science librarian’s discussion group at ALA Annual. We

Publisher/Vendor Relations Discussion Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STS FIELD TRIP at ALA Annual , Chicago, IL

Adler Planetarium, July 14, 2009 9:30 am

The tour will last about two hours. Further details will be forthcoming on STS-L. Please plan to join!

STS MEETING SCHEDULE

ALA Annual: Chicago, IL: July 10 - July 14, 2009

Friday July 10, 2009

11:30 am - 12:30 pm STS Executive Committee

12:30 pm -4:00 pm ACRL Leader Development & Strategic Planning

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm Communities of Practice Assembly

6:00 pm - 7:15 STS Welcoming Event - all members welcome!

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm Council I

Saturday July 11, 2009

8:00 am - 10:00 am New Members' Orientation & Welcome

10:00 am -11:00 am ACRL Conference Program Planning

10:30 am - 12:00 pm All Committees Meeting - (includes STS Conference): Program Planning Committee 2010, Continuing Education, Government Information, Information Literacy, Liaisons, Library Assessment, Membership & Recruitment, Organization & Planning, Publications, Subject & Bibliographic Access)

10:30 am - 12:00 pm STS Oberly Award Committee (Closed Meeting)

1:30 pm -3:00 pm STS Nominations 2010 Committee (Closed Meeting)

1:30 pm -3:00 pm New & Continuing Chairs' Orientation (All continuing and new co-chairs to attend; coordinated by Vice-Chair).

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm STS Conference Program Planning Committee 2009

3:30 pm - 5:30 pm STS 50th Anniversary Task Force

Patent Session:

Intellectual Property for Diverse Library Customers

Saturday July 11 1:30-3:00pm

Sponsors:

Patent and Trademark Depository Library Association