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LACASIS Executive Board for 2007-2008

	Name	Position
Current Issue:	Aura Lippincott	Chair
	Sharon Shafer	Chair-Elect/Programs
	Amy Wallace	Treasurer
	Lisa McAulay	Secretary
	Christina Salazar	Nominations/Past Chair
Past Issues:	Rob Assmus	Publicity Coordinator
	Andrea Lynch	Student Chapter Coordinator
	Claude Zachary	Archives
	Kristen LaBonte	Program Recorder
	Zorana Ercegovac	Awards Chair
	Rachael Clemens	Chapter Assembly Representative
	Bo-Gay Salvador	Hospitality Coordinator
	Grace Lau	OASIS Coordinator Editor
	Louisa Verma	OASIS Coordinator Editor
	Dominique Turnbow	Website Coordinator
	Shahla Bahavar	LACASIS-L Administrator
	Linda McCann	Special Projects
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	Linda Rudell-Betts	Membership Database
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Chair's Column

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Greetings LACASIS members and friends!

Mid-October marked the start of the new LACASIS business year. At our last board meeting of the 2006/2007 year held in October, outgoing co-chairs Christina Salazar and I conveyed our thanks to the outgoing board members and congratulated them on a job well done. And we aren't the only ones who think LACASIS did an excellent job! At the **2007 ASIST annual conference, the chapter was honored with four awards:**

- Chapter of the Year (Co-winner)
 - Chapter Event of the Year for "Working with Wikis" program
 - Chapter Publication of the Year for the OASIS Newsletter
 - Chapter Innovation (Co-winner) for conversion of the OASIS Newsletter to a wiki.
- [Fall 2003](#)

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Editor:

[Grace Lau](#) ↗

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Congratulations to all on these well-deserved honors! I would also like to extend a special "congratulations" to Louisa Verma for her contributions to many of these award winning activities! You can read more about the awards at the ASIST website http://asist.org/awards/awards_2007.html ↗.

In other award news.... in September, LACASIS announced the results of the 2007 Margaret McKinley Memorial Student Scholarship Essay Competition. First place was awarded to John Khuu, Department of Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles. Madaleine J. Laird, University of California, Los Angeles and Regina Koury, University of Pittsburgh (distance education program) were selected as runners-up. Visit the LACASIS website to read John's bio and learn more about the competition http://www.lacasist.org/announce/mckinley_07_winner.htm ↗. Congratulations to all of our McKinley winners!

I am also delighted to welcome the **2007-2008 LACASIS executive and advisory board members**, a very enthusiastic and energetic group of information professionals. I am looking forward to working with all of you this year!

Speaking of work...we have lots of interesting activities planned for the

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year. We'll end 2007 with our traditional SLA/LACASIS joint holiday party on December 13th. Our speaker will be Russ Parson, food columnist and author. Next, we'll kick off the New Year with our annual CISTA program and later in the winter, we will host a full day program on Social Tagging and Traditional Classification. Look out for announcements about these and other exciting programs!

Finally, I invite you....

To get involved! If you are new to the area, looking to extend your SoCal professional network, changed jobs or responsibilities, started an LIS program, or if you are just curious about LACASIS, pay us a visit at one of our programs, events, or monthly board meetings. We always welcome new faces!

Aura Lippincott, 2007-2008 LACASIS Chair

Upcoming LACASIS Board Meetings

LACASIS board meetings are held monthly from 9:30 to 11:30 on the first Saturday of each month (with the exception of holidays) and are open to all members.

Date	Location	Time
Dec 8, 2007	Virtual	9:30-11:30
Jan 5, 2008	Virtual	9:30-11:30

Save the Date!

The Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society for Information Science & Technology AND the Special Libraries Association Southern California Chapter Invite You to our annual joint holiday party featuring

An Evening with Russ Parsons, Los Angeles Times Food Columnist & Author

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Time:

6:30-7:00 pm - Registration / Networking

7:00-8:00 pm - Dinner

8:00-9:30 pm - Program & Book signing -- **Bring your own book OR Books available for purchase at 20% discount (off list price) - purchase books when registering**

Where: **Proud Bird Restaurant, Le May Room, 11022 Aviation Boulevard, Los Angeles 90045 - (310) 670-3093 - <http://www.theproudbird.com/> - Free parking**

Register at http://www.lacasis.org/events/lacasis_sla_12_13_07.htm For the program flyer go to http://www.sla-scc.org/web_pages/events_section/flyers/lacasis_121307.pdf Choose from the following entrées: **Prime Rib, Almond Crusted Chicken, or Pasta Primavera - and dinner entrées include salad, vegetable, potato, dessert, & coffee/tea. Cash bar will be available.**

Reg. fees (*does not include price of books*): **\$50.00 (SLA / LACASIS Members) - \$60.00 (Non-members) - \$40.00 (Students, Retirees, and those between jobs)**

Registration deadline is Friday, December 7th, 2007. **All payments must be received by the registration date indicated. Full refunds will be given for any cancellations prior to that date. LACASIS reserves the right to invoice registered individuals who do not cancel within the specified time period.**

LACASIS Recent Event Reviews

June 2007 LACASIS Event: USC Special Collections and Dr. Michael Buckland's Modern Day Information Investigation

Contributed by Kristen LaBonte, CSU Channel Islands

Our visit to USC Special Collections was informative and fun and offered a variety of talks to hold the interest of the participants. It started with the Digital Archive Repository overview that Zahid Rafique showcased. The repository is among the top 10% of academic repositories based on approximately 300,000 objects and over 3 Terabytes of data. Software, metadata, hardware, back end issues, work flow, public access and future platform and collection development issues were all covered in the overview discussion. After the discussion, participants were given a tour of the Cinema-Television Library and were able to see many archival items like film scripts, posters, and even an Academy Award!

Dr. Michael Buckland, Emeritus Prof. at the School of Information at UC Berkeley and Co Director of the Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative then spoke to us about his fascinating research process which he wrote

about in his recent book, *Emanuel Goldberg and his Knowledge Machine: Information, Invention, and Political Forces*. Goldberg was a chemist and inventor of imaging technology who was forced to leave Nazi occupied Germany and his name was erased as a founding CEO of Zeiss Ikon. Researching someone who did not speak much of his successes to relatives and had much of his work destroyed was a great challenge and Dr. Buckland told of his information seeking quest with great wit and humor.

Michael Buckland's Presentation on Emanuel Goldberg and His Knowledge Machine

Contributed by Regina Koury

Information science scholar Michael Buckland spoke about his new book *Emanuel Goldberg and His Knowledge Machine: Information, Invention and Political Force* (<http://lu.com/showbook.cfm?isbn=9780313313325>)  at the June 13 2007 Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society for Information Science (LACASIS) Business Meeting. The meeting was held on the University of Southern California campus and attracted an impressive group of information professionals, with standing room available only.

Dr. Michael Buckland is a Co-Director of the Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative and Professor Emeritus at the School of Library & Information Studies, University of California (UC) Berkley. He is a past recipient (2000) of Contributions to Information Science & Technology Award and one of the highly cited authors in library literature 1994-2004, according to the 2007 College and Research Libraries

Who is E. Goldberg

Dr. Buckland's presentation began with a short history of how he stumbled upon the obscure records mentioning Emanuel Goldberg and how the process of collecting the information unfolded after that. It all started with the short essay by Robert Fairthorne, a researcher who was active in development of information retrieval in the 1940s. The essay mentioned that Vannevar Bush's rapid selector had been predicted by "E. Goldberg of the Zeiss Company." Who was that mysterious man and why no one heard of him before? Uncovering clue after clue, Dr. Buckland went from searching archives at UC Berkeley to hunting documents in Germany and Israel, while creating an incredible story of how the life of an invention and inventor can be transformed by political changes in the society.

Emanuel Goldberg was born in Russia in 1881 in an upper-middle class Jewish family. He graduated from Moscow University and moved to

Germany, where he pursued his studies and received his doctorate. By the age of forty he had published nearly a hundred scientific and technical papers. According to Dr. Buckland, Goldberg's talent, determination and hard work made him a very successful researcher, professor and industrialist. Goldberg became a head of the largest camera company in the business at that time, Zeiss Ikon. He contributed greatly to the microdot technology, the early hand-held Kinamo movie camera and early television technology. In Germany he created a "Statistical Machine" which combined photocell, circuitry, and microfilm for document retrieval" that was the first electronic document retrieval machine. While it was patented it was never developed into a commercial product, which explains why the device faded into obscurity. At the Eighth International Congress in photography in 1931 Goldberg had a lecture in which, Dr. Buckland said, "he demonstrated how the vibrations from the needle playing a phonograph recording of the Egmont Overture could be converted into an electric current which produced patterns on an oscillograph and also fluctuations in a rotating glow-lamp which were then converted, by means of a photoelectric cell, from light back to electric current and fed into a loudspeaker to produce the music recorded on the phonograph record." In his presentation and his book, Dr. Buckland masterfully proved that Emanuel Goldberg "a chemist, inventor, and industrialist" and not Vannevar Bush was the inventor of the document retrieval machine.

Unfortunately, Goldberg was born in the wrong time: being a Russian and a Jew in Nazi Germany was the deadliest combination possible. After a bizarre kidnapping by Nazis, followed by a forced resignation from Zeiss, he left for Paris and then Tel Aviv. There, according to Dr. Buckland, he "set up a precision instruments workshop, now a major Israeli firm, El-Op, and there he died in 1970. Emanuel Goldberg was a brilliant scientist whose fate was to be forgotten and his name never to be mentioned again. Until Dr. Buckland's brilliant and determined uncovering of the truth.

Conclusion

In his presentation, Dr. Buckland revealed that the writing of this book was a remarkable and complex process, since most of the Goldberg's colleagues and friends were dead and most of his papers destroyed by Nazis and Communists or burned by Goldberg himself. One of the problems Dr. Buckland had to face was the finding time and funds to travel from United States to Germany and Israel to research the material for this book. Michael Buckland is great at weaving a story of a talented person who wasn't interested in politics, but who lived through the most political times in the twentieth century. This powerful true story was orally presented by Dr Buckland with the same passion that he presented it in his book. Anyone interested in library and

information science development as well as history itself would benefit from reading this fantastic book. And if you'll ever have a chance to listen to Dr. Buckland's presentations, you won't be disappointed: they are filled with passion, interest in the topic of information retrieval and a wicked sense of humor.

Regina Koury is an Electronic Resources Assistant at the University of Southern California (USC) and a MLIS student at the University of Pittsburgh.

Charting the Future of Libraries

Contributed by Anahit Petrosyan, SJSU MLIS student

Are you among library professionals concerned about what the future holds for libraries? Then you must be aware of the perspective that present-day library leaders, among them 2008 SLA President Stephen Abram, shared on this issue during a library professional development event - "Charting the Future of Libraries" – held at the University of Southern California on October 24th, 2007.

Jointly organized by three diverse entities in contemporary library and information industry, - Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, Southern California Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, and the USC Libraries – this program took on the challenge of defining the path that libraries and their marshals, the librarians, ought to pursue to retain an indispensable role in the fledgling entrepreneurially-oriented IT-based twenty-first century global society.

Throughout the program the attendees received a number of opportunities to observe and participate in discussions on the evolution of libraries during the latter part of the twentieth century and the possibilities that lie ahead for libraries as key cultural hubs in future human society. The first part of the event consisted of a panel discussion where a number of distinct information professionals presented their point of view on the issues that libraries face in today's high-tech global economy and how librarians can respond to them effectively. Among the participants on the panel were USC University Archivist Claude Zachary, Marketing Information & Knowledge Manager for Paul Hastings Amy Wegener, and 2008 Special Libraries Association President Stephen Abram. USC Libraries' Science and Engineering Team Leader Sara Thompson moderated the discussion.

During more than an hour of dialogue, this panel explored a vast array of issues concerning libraries as they find themselves at yet another crossroads of dealing with change. Among the key issues that emerged at the forefront of this scholarly exchange was the distinction between the futures of libraries versus that of library professionals. Stephen

Abram pointed out that the findings of studies on these issues reveal that in the mind of today's information users libraries have a firm place in the future, albeit in forms different from those in which they have existed during most of the twentieth century. On the other hand, Stephen Abram indicated, users have a difficult time imagining what purpose librarians would serve in future libraries, if any. In connection with this issue, the panel's speakers proposed ways for librarians to raise the value of their profession in the public's perception. Amy Wegener suggested that librarians actively seek out innovative ways to promote the versatile skills that they can offer to patrons in accessing needed information by outperforming the options Google provides. Amy Wegener also advised librarians to continually expand and develop their database-management skills, inter-personal communication and marketing skills, and human resources and budget management skills to enhance their professional utility to various sectors in society's economy.

Both Stephen Abram and Claude Zachary recommended current library students to keep up with the emerging information and communication technologies as key tools for librarians to use in assuming the role of information brokers in the digital age. Stephen Abram emphasized that the way for librarianship to overcome the challenges it faces in this age is to be user-centered, experience-oriented and "transformational not transactional." Claude Zachary encouraged librarians to remain "open-minded" and to retain a "youthful inquiring spirit" conducive for resolving librarianship's challenges in a creative way beneficial for all stakeholders in society. Among other issues addressed in this setting included those concerning changes in library instruction, reference service, knowledge preservation, and specific information technologies for librarians to master.

In the second phase of the program, USC Libraries' Leavey Library Director Karen Howell and USC Libraries' Leavey Library Reference Coordinator Shahla Bahavar conducted a tour of USC's two main libraries, - Edward L. Doheny Jr. Memorial Library and Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Library, - to demonstrate the course of development that these academic libraries have been pursuing to maintain an important role in the lives of students, scholars and the community at large. The tour featured a visit to USC Libraries' Special Collections in the Doheny Library which is celebrating its 75th anniversary of service to USC's community this year. The highlight of the tour in the Leavey Library, which operates almost on a 24/7 schedule, included visits to the library's *Multimedia Commons*, - that provided academic patrons with free timed access to audio and visual equipment for educational projects, - and *Information Commons*, - that provides free unlimited access to computers and vast range of productivity applications for USC students to complete their computer-based course projects.

In the final and culminating phase of the program, 2008 SLA president Stephen Abram shared his findings on what the library profession should concentrate in charting its further course of development. Stephen Abram informed librarians to expect on-going, frequent changes to occur in the resources and the technology used to propagate information in society. In this context, he presented a range of directions in which technology will evolve to affect people's means for receiving and accessing information. Stephen Abram encouraged libraries to experiment with and become aware about emerging technologies, - such as podcasts, wikis, blogs, YouTube, Facebook, Conference Twitter, Skype, computers with AI features, Internet accessible on a credit card sized computer, and others, - and to consider employing these in making their information skills current and deliverable via the leading means of communication used by the majority of the public. He emphasized the importance of paying attention to changes in patrons' information service needs as cultural diversity and an interdisciplinary approach to resolving issues increasingly become dominant in American society. Finally, Stephen Abram noted that while "democracy, stewardship, service, intellectual freedom and privacy" are among librarianship's core principles, librarians' core skill is not about delivering merely information but a story. Ultimately, Stephen Abram argued that the future of libraries and librarianship will be what librarians make of it. So, rather than waiting for the future to happen, he called all libraries to take action in shaping the outcome of their profession's future starting now.

Other Event Reviews

Working Digital Assets Symposium at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Contributed by Linda McCann

SFMOMA hosted an all day symposium focusing on digital assets on September 24 2007. The response for this no-registration program was extremely high and close to 200 attendees filled the auditorium for most of the day. The museum provided early morning refreshments, an extensive list of local restaurants for lunch-on-your-own, a reception at the end of the day, and free museum passes for the day. The program was organized by LACASIS member Layna White, Head of Collections Information and Access, SFMOMA, with assistance of numerous staff members.

The innovative format consisted of a series of four moderated panel discussions that included audience participation throughout the program. Layna moderated the first session – "Motivations and Strategies" – for the morning panelists: Joseph Busch, Founder and

Principal, Taxonomy Strategies LLC; Patricia Cruse, Director, Digital Preservation Program, California Digital Library; Hannah Frost, Media Preservation Librarian, Stanford University; Wendy Levy, Director of Creative Programming, Bay Area Video Coalition; and Clifford Lynch, Executive Director, Coalition for Networked Information.

Layna noted that issues regarding motivations and strategies for managing, sharing and preserving digital assets are largely about ongoing change management. ASIS&T past president Clifford Lynch stressed issues surrounding museum digital surrogates and some of the ways in which access to surrogates has changed research and contributed to the preservation of objects, stating that good stewardship of objects includes creating and sharing digital surrogates. Patricia Cruse and Hannah Frost contributed their expertise in working with digital assets in the academic environment, commenting on issues of long-term access to digital information in support of research, teaching and learning goals. A major theme for such institutions is to remain relevant and responsible keepers of materials by creating metadata and images for distribution on the Web. Joseph Busch, also past president of ASIS&T, drew on his expertise in the field of information science, including metadata, taxonomy, indexing, classification research, information retrieval, and content management to pick up on the theme of the transformative nature of technology and the deep roots of documentation in a broad sense. Wendy Levy noted that while the Bay Area Video Coalition is not a collecting institution, it serves the needs of filmmakers, artists, and holders of artifacts, noting in particular the concerns of constituencies around the inherent tensions between access and rights management.

Other topics covered were costs and sources of funding as well as scalability. The second morning session – “The Thing Itself and Influences” – was moderated by Barbara Rominski, Head Librarian, SFMOMA, and included all of the speakers from the first session. Panelists discussed the appropriateness of attaching attributes such as ‘quality,’ ‘useful,’ and/or ‘trustworthy’ to digital assets. Topics covered included the relative importance of documentation and the complexities around identifying single authorities for surrogates, standards, and vocabularies; the latter launched a discussion around the use of folksonomies to describe collections and projects such as the art museum social tagging project <<http://www.steve.museum/>>. Points made were that documentation has a temporal (historical) dimension and that for images recent enough to be part of current memory, embedding cultural memory can add to the value of the digital archive. Distributed versus centralized models for management and preservation and the changing roles of traditional gatekeepers and the public’s role in preservation were touched upon.

The afternoon panels presented new slates of speakers, bringing the total panel participants to nineteen, including moderators. The first afternoon panel – “Rights: exclusive, non-exclusive, underlying, etc.” – included moderator Chad Coerver, Director of Publications, Graphic Design, and Web, SFMOMA; Brewster Kahle, Digital Librarian, Director and Co-Founder, Internet Archive; John Slafsky, Partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati; and David Sturtevant, Manager, Imaging and Visual Resources, Harvard University Art Museums. Presentation of legal issues regarding rights management and associated risks can sometimes seem complex when presented to a large diverse audience in a short period of time. This session was extremely interesting and accessible, with much participation from artists in the audience as well as those who manage collections. Brewster Kahle summed up the session nicely by issuing what might be described as a call to action for those in positions of managing collections that have yet to be digitized, which was to stress the urgency of doing it now before it is too late, echoing some themes from the morning.

The final panel – “Tools and Independence / Dependence” – was made up of a large number of speakers who work with aspects of technology and design: Kurt Bollacker, Digital Research Director, The Long Now Foundation; Gary Fong, Principal, Genesis, Photo Agency; Sue Grinols, Director of Photo Services and Imaging, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; Angelo Sacerdote, Senior Preservation Specialist and Manager of Technology, Innovation and Media Arts, Bay Area Video Coalition; Howard Simkins, Professor, Sheridan Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning; Francine Snyder, Manager of Library and Archives, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum; David Sturtevant, Manager, Imaging and Visual Resources, Harvard University Art Museums; and moderator Mary Elings, Archivist for Digital Collections, The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley. Some themes emphasized were the importance of the architecture of system design, choosing the right tools, developing the right skill sets, and the importance of recognizing that data will always need to be migrated, making open, non-proprietary standards important. Technical issues regarding digital photography and video arts as well as publishing on demand (or, meeting increased demands for assets) require planning and implementing standards for interoperability and preservation. The difference between content management and data management systems was stressed, as was a need for metadata to be captured at the point of asset creation.

I was able to take advantage before the museum closed to see new work by Danish artist, Olafur Eliasson, which transformed a BMW H2R hydrogen-powered race car with a new steel skin and layers of ice. The museum provided blankets for visitors to enter the room-size freezer exhibition space. The topics of the day surrounding the transformative nature of technology, meanings of digital surrogates, and challenges of

managing, sharing, and preserving collections of digital assets took on a very real form. This symposium was a wonderful forum for presenting important issues of digital asset management and highlighted a need for continued discussion.

ASIS&T Insider

Summary: ASIST Business Meeting (Tuesday October 23, 2007)

by Amy Wallace

The business meeting opened with a report from outgoing President, Edie Rasmussen. She reported that the society's membership has begun to stabilize, which she primarily attributed to the work of the membership committee. This year the committee hosted a well received New Members' Brunch and has begun to send periodic email messages to members promoting services and events. She also discussed how much of the society's work this year revolved around publications. Wiley and Blackwell merged and JASIST was moved to the Blackwell side, which seems to be a good fit for the journal. The society is also currently engaged in a publisher selection process for JASIST since the contract ends in 2010. An RFP has been distributed and proposals are due shortly. The JASIST editor is retiring, and a task force was created to talk about selection process, and policy for service. The task force is now in the process of creating a job description and selection criteria. She talked about the formation and work of the International Relations Committee. In the past year, ASIST has co-sponsored international conferences and the committee produced a comprehensive recommendation to the Board on steps that could be taken towards globalization. Last, she mentioned that a new initiatives fund has been created, and proposals with financial impacts can be proposed to the ASIST Board. The board has begun to discuss the creation of a Friends of ASIST endowment.

June Lester gave the ASIST Treasurer's Report. She reported that the society is fiscally sound due to a well-attended annual meeting in Austin, a number of successful summit meetings, and strong continuing education offerings. The society continues to diversify its meeting portfolio. She also noted that membership appears to have stabilized, which has contributed to the society's fiscal health.

Dick Hill, ASIST Executive Director, gave a short report. The society moved to electronic voting this year, and the percent of members who voted went up. Only five members requested paper ballots. This year the *ASIST Bulletin* was converted to an electronic format. The new

version was assessed by University of Toronto students, and has already resulted in some positive changes. ASIST HQ recently set up a volunteer webpage and has already got about a dozen volunteers to serve in various capacities. ASIST HQ has pre-registered ASIST meetings with the State Department, and posted information on obtaining international visas on the ASIST website for people who want to travel to the United States for the annual meeting. There are 650 attendees at the annual meeting in Milwaukee, which means that the meeting made budget.

Nancy Roderer, the incoming ASIST President, made her inaugural address. Her address focused on the theme "The Information Professions". She asked members to consider the ways in which the society's diverse membership intersects, and why we have bound together. She believes that the society needs to strengthen the visibility and rigor of the information professions. To do so, she believes we must acknowledge, celebrate, and promote the information professions. In addition, the society should advocate for educational opportunities that are relevant to and encompass all information professions.

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Want to stay current with LACASIS activities and receive our quarterly newsletter "OASIS"? Join our mailing list, LACASIS-L. Send email to listproc@usc.edu, no subject, first line of text: **subscribe lacasis-l firstname lastname (leave your signature file off the message).**

Members in the News

Please send us your news! Have you (or another LACASIS member you know) recently been promoted, changed jobs, won an award or acknowledgment? We'd like to hear about it and publicize your successes! Email the OASIS newsletter editor Grace Lau lauggh@gmail.com.

Want to Write for OASIS?

We are currently looking for content providers for the OASIS newsletter wiki! Do you have an idea for a column (it can be a one time article, ongoing or occasional column)? Do you want to write a short summary on a recent LACASIS event that you attended? Do you want to be an OASIS photographer? We are looking for all of the above and more! Want to write but don't have an idea of what to do, here are some new column ideas that might grab you:

- ASIST Insider: News from HQ - **browse the ASIST website for news and tidbits from HQ, other Chapters or SIGS**

- **Student Chapter News - must be a student and involved with the UCLA or SJSU Student chapters; report on what your chapters are doing - events, gatherings, internships wanted, etc.**
- **Library/Technology humor - (ongoing or occasional column) - find humorous anecdotes about our profession and report on them**
- **OASIS Photographer** - (must have a digital camera) take digital photos of LACASIS events and get permission from the people photographed to publish them in the newsletter**

If you are interested, please email OASIS Editor, Grace Lau

laugh@gmail.com ↗


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2007 ASIS&T Award Winners

The prestigious ASIS&T Annual Awards will be presented at the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 23.

Award of Merit

Donald H. Kraft, recipient of the 2007 ASIS&T Award of Merit, has played a pivotal role in both the field of information science and technology and our society as editor of the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (JASIST)* over the past 22 years. Every field that has any association with information technology has undergone many dramatic changes in these decades. More than any other individual, Dr. Kraft has successfully negotiated these changes and shaped and advanced the field of information science and technology through his skilled and visionary leadership of the Journal.

Successive waves of information technologies have swept through information science: (pre-Internet) online databases, online library catalogs, the Internet, the World Wide Web, digital libraries, digital archives and the list goes on. Concurrently, successive waves of methodological practice, including dramatic swings from quantitative to qualitative research methods, as well as a series of hot topics such as user-centered design, information visualization, interaction design and information architecture have swept the field.

That *JASIST* continues to reign as a top-ranked journal in quantitative and qualitative assessments is a tribute to Dr. Kraft's leadership. He has steered the journal into electronic publication and more than doubled the number of issues and quadrupled the number of pages published each year. Dr. Kraft's editorship has been characterized by expanded international reach and receptivity to new approaches and areas of research.

Throughout his editorship, Dr. Kraft has had the vision to recognize these trends and encourage a very wide range of authors from many fields to publish in the *Journal*. He has thus promoted the formation, clarification and extension of the field of information science as we move through times of rapid and profound social and technological transformation. As a consequence of his leadership and considerable people skills, the *Journal* has grown substantially under his direction, bringing a wider understanding of the field to the discipline of information science.

His pioneering research has applied mathematics and logic to the very real problems of library management and information retrieval. Dr. Kraft has been in the forefront of defining and prodding the evolution of information retrieval through his own work and has championed information science in general through his enthusiastic voice and support for scholarly publication in the field.

It is our pleasure and honor to present the American Society for Information Science and Technology 2007 Award of Merit to Donald H. Kraft.

Research in Information Science Award

Ophir Frieder, recipient of the 2007 ASIS&T Research Award, exemplifies the very ideals that this award celebrates. Working jointly with scientists at the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Frieder addressed the key information technology issue of the genome project – namely the creation of efficient sequencing tools. He developed parallel systems for retrieving similar sequences and for aligning multiple sequences. Both systems significantly reduced the computation time needed for analysis.

In addition, with support from NCR, he was the first to efficiently map all key information retrieval primitives to relational scripts without introducing

2007 Awards

- [Award of Merit](#)
- [Best JASIST Paper](#)
- [Proquest Doctoral Dissertation](#)
- [Research Award](#)
- [Citation Analysis Grant](#)
- [Doctoral Dissertation Scholarship](#)
- [Outstanding Teacher](#)
- [Watson Davis Award](#)
- [Chapter of the Year](#)
- [Chapter Member of the Year](#)
- [Best Chapter Publication](#)
- [Chapter Innovation Award](#)
- [Best Chapter Event](#)
- [Student Chapter of the Year](#)
- [SIG of the Year](#)

ProQuest/ASIS&T Dissertation Award

W. John MacMullen, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, is the recipient of the 2007 ProQuest/ASIS&T Doctoral Dissertation Award for *Contextual Analysis of Variation and Quality in Human-curated Gene Ontology Annotations*.

The dissertation addresses a novel topic with respect to the increasingly important area of biotechnology enterprise, while addressing the fundamental information science issue of adding value to research literature. The jury was impressed with the attention to detail demonstrated both in the methodology and analysis. The methodology is carefully constructed and makes use of a mixed approach that combines both quantitative and qualitative techniques to assess research literature annotations that link experimental data to research literature for the gene ontology community.

This research contributes to our understanding of annotation behavior within a specific community and has practical implications for practitioners who can use this work to assess their annotation practices.

Chapters of the Year Award

The **Los Angeles Chapter** was selected 2007 Chapter of the Year due to its stellar performance in all of the assessment criteria. With 25 active local members, LACASIS provides its membership with myriad educational and networking opportunities in the Los Angeles area. The five events organized by LACASIS were on topics which ranged from the practical "Working with Wikis" to the theoretical "Toward Multimedia Surrogation," each incorporating time for socializing and networking. With one board member responsible for member recruitment and retention, LACASIS has an impressive array of activities geared towards attracting members from many different professional and geographic areas and keeping them hooked on the Society. The chapter sponsors two awards: The Margaret McKinley Memorial Student Scholarship which provides reimbursement funding up to \$1000 for one student to attend ASIS&T Annual, and The Contribution to Information Science and Technology Award honoring individuals who have made significant contributions to the field. It also co-sponsors the UCLA GSE&IS Lazerow Lecture. Additionally, LACASIS recognizes the extraordinary service of its active members with a LACASIS Member Award.

This year the chapter moved their award-winning quarterly newsletter, OASIS, from a traditional print/pdf format to a wiki format, enabling registered users to contribute content to it. And finally, by watching expenses and juggling priorities, LACASIS maintains its fiscal health while continuing to offer its members rich local programming and services.

Our second winner, the **New England Chapter**, was equally outstanding in all Chapter of the Year assessment criteria. The Chapter sponsored four successful programs with an average attendance of 85. The diversity of the program topics ("The Dawn of the Embedded Library", "Geographic Information Made Accessible," "Designing Usable Interfaces", and "Visualizing Wikipedia") reflects the understanding that not all of its 200 members work in libraries. In support of the Society's goal to increase membership, NEASIS&T has begun offering discounted ASIS&T memberships to nonmembers who join ASIST at the same time they register for a NEASIST program. The chapter has also shifted the pricing structure of its programs to provide deeper discounts to ASIS&T members, thus encouraging membership. By convincing speakers to waive fees and securing free meeting space, the major programs net profits that enable the Chapter to offer free programs as well. At an annual awards banquet, the Chapter honors the Student Member of the Year, as well as the Chapter Member of the Year. NEASIST sponsors a Student Travel Award competition: up to two winners receive \$750 to cover travel expenses to attend the ASIS&T Annual Meeting. The Chapter also supports the International Calendar of Information Science. With these initiatives which nurture and support the information science and technology community in New England and internationally, the chapter exemplifies the old adage: "Think Globally, Act Locally."

A hearty congratulations to both Los Angeles and New England for winning the Chapter of the Year Award - with your dedication to your local membership you promote ASIST's core values from coast to coast.

Chapter Publication of the Year

The Chapter Publication of the Year Award goes to the **Los Angeles**

Chapter's Observation of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (OASIS) Newsletter. The Los Angeles Chapter has been publishing the OASIS Newsletter for over 40 years. As the times have changed so too has the format. The chapter migrated from print to electronic in 2004. Electronic delivery over the years has included access to a PDF version, a database driven newsletter, and the current wiki format. The OASIS Editor is Louisa Verma, and a sample can be found at <http://oasisnewsletter.wikispaces.com/winter2007>

The awards committee noted that the Los Angeles continues to lead the way in publication innovation. The format is easy to use, and allows for up-to-the-minute content. The publication also illustrates the great potential for the use wikis to produce publications, record important information, and conduct business.

Chapter Members of the Year

The Chapter Member of the Year Award goes to **Caryn Anderson** (New England Chapter) and **Dawn Pointer McCleskey** (Potomac Valley Chapter).

Caryn Anderson's many contributions to the chapter have significantly increased the visibility of NEASIST within the region. She has introduced students and others to ASIST through events and programs, developed connections with sister associations, and instilled a strong sense of camaraderie among chapter officers and members. Within the past year, NEASIST has put on four very successful events, including The Dawn of the Embedded Library program at Tufts University. Caryn implemented strategies to bolster and demonstrate the value of ASIST membership, such as increasing the member discount for event registration, and establishing a process to register new members register on-site at NEASIST events at a subsidized rate. Caryn also cultivated strong ties with Simmons College's student chapter, and with O'Reilly Media, which has allowed NEASIST to provide event participants with free copies of O'Reilly books, magazines, and other materials. Caryn is unselfish in sharing her time and enthusiasm, and is willing to take on any task to ensure that NEASIST chapter is successful. Her strong commitment to ASIST as an organization shines through, whether she's updating members about events via email, greeting them at the registration table, introducing speakers at programs, or responding to questions about the chapter.

Dawn Pointer McCleskey was asked to consider chairing the Potomac Valley Chapter (PVC) in July, 2006. She agreed to serve almost immediately, and as a result became the chair of the largest ASIS&T chapter and one which had recently experienced a lull in programming. While there is a large group of very helpful advisors, what was needed was leadership, and Dawn agreed to provide that and then followed through on it beautifully. Over the 2006/2007 year, the chapter had five highly successful programs, attracting a diverse group of local ASIS&T members. Program topics included federated searching, disaster planning, internet policy, and women in information networks. Dawn's approach to leadership was highly collaborative, taking full advantage of the many former local and national ASIS&T officers willing to help as well as of the local student chapter members. With a clear eye towards rebuilding a strong chapter that would continue on past her tenure, Dawn worked skillfully to involve as many people as possible at many levels and to make them an active contributor to the chapter. As this nomination is submitted, a strong program of activities is being planned for next year. It is especially remarkable that these significant contributions were made by a brand new member of ASIS&T - Dawn joined after agreeing to serve as chair.

Chapter Innovations of the Year

The Chapter Innovation of the Year Award goes to two chapters, **Indiana** and **Los Angeles**.

The Indiana Chapter has been making innovative use of videoconferencing technologies since 2004 for a variety of chapter functions and programs. The technology has allowed the chapter to overcome geographic distances and a dispersed membership to engage and reach out to ASIS&T members throughout the state. The Los Angeles Chapter has converted their newsletter, OASIS: Observations of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, to a wiki format. The wiki format has encouraged greater participation in the newsletter, and the collaborative nature of the wiki

format means that any author can edit the site at any time, rather than relying on a single gatekeeper or adherence to a strict publication schedule.

The two innovations not only received identical scores, but also similar comments from the judges. The judges felt that both chapters have been able to effectively use existing technologies to overcome challenges and enhance services to their membership. The innovations also show both chapters' strong commitment to reaching out to their membership in order to get more individuals actively involved. These successful projects will no doubt serve as models for other chapters, special interest groups, and committees within ASIS&T.

Chapter Event of the Year

The Chapter Event of the Year Award goes to the **Los Angeles Chapter's 2006 Fall Workshop, "Working with Wikis"**. Wikis have become a ubiquitous publishing medium in many libraries, universities, and business information centers. This workshop was intended as an introduction to the format, including potential implementations, pitfalls, maintenance concerns, different platforms, and evaluation methods. The featured speaker, Louisa Verma, Librarian for the Specialty Coffee Association of America, has created and maintained several wikis, including the Los Angeles Chapter's OASIS Newsletter and the one created specifically for this workshop that allowed attendees to get some hands-on experience using wikis.

The awards committee was impressed by the chapter's ability to provide a high quality program with food at such a low cost, attract a speaker that appealed to its diverse membership, and pack so much information into such a short time. More importantly, the program content was not only practical and immediately useful to attendees, it allowed attendees to gain hands-on experience using the technology as well as a space to continue discussion following the program. One committee member pondered what the attendance might have been had the program not been limited to 30 attendees.

Student Chapters of the Year

The Student Chapter of the Year Award has two winners this year! The Award will be shared between the student chapters at **Simmons College** and **UCLA**. A hearty congratulations to both chapters!

The Student Chapter of the Year Award Committee would like to recognize the many accomplishments of all Chapters that submitted reports for the award.

Everyone should be very proud of their many accomplishments. The committee was very impressed with all report submissions.

UCLA student chapter

The UCLA student chapter engaged in a significant number of activities for its first re-active year. It was very impressive. The chapter is also noteworthy for its use of new media for communications, online presence, and workshop/activity topics. Their relationship with LACASIS bodes well for the health of ASIS&T because it provides a clear link through which students will continue to be involved after they graduate. This chapter demonstrated a plan for retention of members, in addition to recruiting new members. They had many excellent programs and interaction with other groups.

Current membership is 37, a great increase from the 6 members at the beginning of the years. So, they were able to recruit 21 new members.

The number of events and workshops from both chapter was outstanding: UCLA held 27 events, and had 8 meetings with cooperative ventures. Some of these events and workshops included a six-part career development series called Career Fest 2007 in which they introduced a variety of information professions, a NetVibes Mini-Workshop in which they introduced students to the NetVibes technology for creating virtual reference portals. They also had movie nights, topic panels, and journal groups.

A great many thanks goes to:

Jean-François Blanchette, Faculty Advisor **Gregory H. Leazer**, Faculty Advisor **Andrea Lynch**, LACASIS Student Chapter Advisor **Grace Lau**, Chair **Monique Escamilla**, Vice-Chair **Lua Gregory**, Secretary-Treasurer **Jill Detrick**, Programs Lead **Ashley Burdick**, Social Chair **John Khuu**,

Social Chair and Webmaster **Tommy Keswick**, Assembly Representative
Matthew Wittmer, Alternate Representative **Shilpa Rele**, Webmaster

Simmons College student chapter

One committee member remarked that the Simmons chapter "has found a way to its members' minds -- through their stomachs!" The Simmons chapter has also done a good job retaining membership numbers. Their chapter activities take wonderful advantage of the resources available to Simmons because of its geography and academic connections (within and outside Simmons). Their chapter activities are offered consistently and reflect current interests of students and practitioners. the Simmons chapter maintains consistent communications and uses current media for communications. The chapter gave and received awards during the 2006-7 reporting year.

Simmons held a total of 71 meetings, events and workshops—this included 8 meetings, 16 events, 47 workshops over the Fall and Spring semesters. Emerging Technologies Workshops covered topics such as XHTML & CSS, Wikis, User interface design, Podcasting and Internet Radio, Setting up an RSS Aggregator, etc. Members assisted students in holding an Advising Day for incoming GSLIS students, and Speed Geeking II, in which five panelists spoke to small groups of 3 or 4 about technology related jobs. Current membership is 39, a slight decrease from the 44 previous, however they recruited 28 new members, and retained 11.

A great many thanks goes to:

Chair: **Jennifer Lege** and **Alison Cody**

Vice-Chair: Alison Cody, **Ellen Wilson**, and **Jennifer Langley**

Secretary/Treasurer: **Michael Klein**, **Ben Florin** Newsletter

Editor/Publications Chair/(Web Manager): **Joanna Weston**

Faculty Advisor: **Candy Schwartz**, **Sheila Denn**

Mt. Holyoke Coordinator: **Adam Novitt**

NEASIS&T Liaison: **Sally LeGore**

SIG of the Year

The SIG of the Year goes to two exemplary ASIS&T SIGs, **SIG International Information Issues (III)** and **SIG Digital Libraries (DL)**.

Congratulations on the service and involvement that each of your SIGs provides your membership, and know that you are worthy examples of thriving, active, engaged SIG communities with ASIS&T.

SIG International Information Issues continues to set the bar for everything that an ASIS&T SIG can and should be: deep involvement and participation with the membership, extensive outreach beyond the annual meeting, the annual InfoShare project which opens the world of ASIS&T to LIS researchers globally, and many more very excellent activities. Every SIG should be this connected to its membership! SIG III's outreach to the Society's international members, particularly in developing countries is very impressive. Their use of emerging technologies to extend ASIST to members virtually and to tease out potential topics for its annual Global Information Village Plaza Symposiums not only demonstrates creativity but a strong commitment to international scholarship and perspectives.

SIG Digital Libraries demonstrated an exciting scope of innovative initiatives over the past year befitting such a tech-saavy SIG such as theirs: they used a wiki for both SIG and 2007 program planning; their communication with the membership is also superior, conducted a usability study on their website in collaboration with students at SUNY Buffalo, have been leaders in exploring open access models of scholarship within our field, have consistently been very strong contributors to the Annual Meeting technical program, and demonstrated excellent planning for activities between annual meetings.

Congratulations to both of your SIGs, who have both demonstrated a year of activities very deserving of the 2007 SIG of the Year Award. Both of you should be seen as models to emulate for all ASIS&T SIGs.

Joint LACASIS/SCC-SLA Holiday Party

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society for Information Science & Technology AND
 Special Libraries Association Southern California Chapter
 Invite You to our annual joint holiday party

An Evening with Russ Parsons, Food Columnist & Author



Proud Bird Restaurant, Le May Room, 11022 Aviation Boulevard, Los Angeles 90045
 (310) 670-3093 - <http://www.theproudbird.com/> - Free parking

6:30-7:00 pm-Registration/Networking | 7:00-8:00 pm-Dinner | 8:00- 9:30 pm-Program & Book signing*

* Bring your own book OR Books available for purchase at 20% discount (off list price). See below to purchase in advance. A limited number of copies will be available at the program (pay by check only).

Please choose an entrée: Prime Rib Almond Crusted Chicken Pasta Primavera
 Dinner entrées include salad, vegetable, potato, dessert, & coffee/tea. Cash bar will be available.

_____ \$50.00 (SLA / LACASIS Members)
 _____ \$60.00 (Non-members)
 _____ \$40.00 (Students, Retirees, and those between jobs)
 _____ x @\$21.60 per copy= _____ *How to Pick a Peach* (Hardcover only)
 _____ x @\$20.00 per copy= _____ *How to Read a French Fry* (Hardcover)
 _____ x @\$11.20 per copy= _____ *How to Read a French Fry* (Paperback)

\$_____ Total enclosed – checks made payable to LACASIS

Name: _____
 Employer: _____
 E-mail address: _____

Registration deadline is Friday, December 7th, 2007. Please send form & check(s) to: Bo-Gay Salvador, P.O. Box 13102 Marina Del Rey, CA 90295 | Questions? Contact Bo-Gay Salvador lacasis@gmail.com or 310-339-0337.

All payments must be received by the registration date indicated. Full refunds will be given for any cancellations prior to that date. LACASIS reserves the right to invoice registered individuals who do not cancel within the specified time period. Please submit one form per person attending.