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Observations of the American Society for Information Science Los Angeles Chapter

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Spring 1998

LACASIS Announces

the 1998 Margaret McKinley Memorial Student Scholarship Essay Competition

The Los Angeles Chapter of the American Society for Information Science is sponsoring The Seventh Annual Student Scholarship Essay Competition. This competition, first established in 1992, and renamed in memory of the late Margaret McKinley in 1993, is intended to encourage students in Library and Information Science Programs to consider the benefits of participation in the activities of professional societies.

AWARD The winner will receive reimbursement funding up to US \$1,000 for registration, airfare and hotel expenses to attend the ASIS 1998 Annual Meeting - Information Access in the Global Information Economy - October 25-29, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and a one-year membership in ASIS. Two runners-up will receive one-year memberships in ASIS.

ELIGIBILITY All students enrolled in Library and Information Science Programs, including those graduating in Spring 1998, at universities within the areas represented by the Los Angeles Chapter of ASIS (Hawaii, California and Australia) are eligible to enter. Current membership in the American Society for Information Science is not required to enter the Competition.

TO ENTER Compose an essay that addresses the following question: "What, in your opinion, are the most important issues in relation to the theme of the 1998 ASIS Annual Meeting 'Information Access in the Global Information Economy'?" Include in your essay reasons why the issues you choose are important and how these issues might be incorporated into your career in the information profession. Essays should not exceed 500 words or two typed, doubled-spaced pages. Do not identify yourself or your school in the essay. Submit the essay with a separate cover sheet listing your name, address, email address, telephone number, and school by the deadline of May 15, 1998 to: Mary Sellen, Chapman University 666 N. Glassell, Orange, CA 92866, sellen@chapman.edu, fax (714) 744-7063.

Essays may be submitted by regular mail, email or fax. Essays will be judged by a panel of LACASIS members.

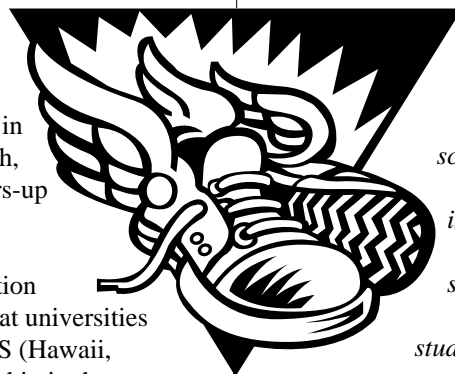
Winners will be notified by July 15, 1998.

Especially for Students

Each spring LACASIS focuses its attention on students in information science and librarianship programs, offering programs on

career preparation and sponsoring the annual student scholarship essay contest. This issue of OASIS highlights several items of interest to students: In addition to this year's

scholarship announcement there's information on a coming program at Fullerton, p. 8, a report on a recent UCLA workshop, p. 9, and words from faculty on recommended web sites, p. 3.



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All communications, including manuscripts, comments, and letters to the editor, should be addressed to:

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Submissions for the Summer issue should be received by July 15, 1998.

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What do You Recommend?

Digital Resources Suggested by Faculty and Staff

For this issue, OASIS besieged faculty and staff at graduate schools of library & information science, with the question: What digital resource would you recommend to a colleague? Here are some answers.

Professional Writing Supersite

<http://www.bookdoctor.com/supersite.html>

As a professor in the library and information science program at the University of Hawaii (and faculty advisor for the student chapter of ASIS there), Diane spends much professional time on either her own writing or working with student papers. So her current favorite web site is this one associated with the annual Maui Writers Conference. Maintained by a professional writer and editor, it has several hundred links to resources helpful to writers, ranging from lists of publishers to reviews of books on the craft. (Budding authors can also check out the Maui Writers Conference at <http://www.maui.net/~writers/>)

DIANE NAHL

*Assistant Professor
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INFO CONNECT

<http://www.users.dircon.co.uk/~kush/Page1.htm>

This site subtitled itself “The Librarian’s No. 1 Directory in Cyberspace.” Its primary developer, London-based information scientist Godfrey Oswald, aims to provide the fastest route to Internet resources of particular interest to librarians and information scientists. Vivian (who taught last quarter’s course, Information Retrieval Systems, in the library & information science program at UCLA in addition to her work at the Getty) reports the site has been useful to her, and is updated regularly. Its roots in the United Kingdom also promote an international scope.

VIVIAN HAY

*Systems Project Manager
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San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science

<http://witloof.sjsu.edu/>

SJSU professor Judy says that, even at the risk of sounding boring, this site really is her most frequent starting point for Internet use. She particularly recommends the Professional Organizations section of the site, with its links to “everything

from ANSI to Applied Linguistics, vendors, the Hong Kong Library Association, ACM...” (And OASIS notes that just six mouse clicks takes the user from this site to the LACASIS home page, where the most recent OASIS may be viewed. How could that be boring!?)

JUDY WEEDMAN

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D-Lib Magazine

<http://www.dlib.org/>

The Digital Libraries Initiative, funded by the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies, has created a community of researchers and digital library users. D-Lib Magazine is a voice of that community, available monthly at this site. Access is free to all web users at the moment, but Greg points out the fast-changing nature of networked information: Several other sites he uses, such as the Association for Computing Machinery digital library (<http://www.acm.org/dl/>), were “tauntingly free at one time”, only to eventually begin charging for access.

GREGORY H. LEAZER

*Assistant Professor
UCLA
gleazer@ucla.edu*

TUCOWS

<http://www.tucows.com/>

Also known as: The Ultimate Collection of Winsock Software. In addition to cute graphics of pairs of bovines, the site has a wealth of Internet-related software available to download as shareware or freeware. Sally explains the value of the site this way: “I get constant questions from broke graduate students about free or inexpensive software. It also allows us to try different Internet applications (e.g., telnet and ftp) on the variety of platforms we support.”

SALLY MCCOY

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Members in the News

Marcia Bates and **Shaojun Lu** published "An Exploratory Profile of Personal Home Pages: Content, Design, Metaphors" in the December 1997 Online & CD Rom Review.

Paula Berinstein wrote "Visual Information: How to Manage an Image Collection" for the February 1998 issue of Searcher, and "A New Identifier for Digital Content," for the January issue. **Mairead Browne** has been appointed Dean, University Graduate School, University of Technology, Sydney.

Patricia Earnest has been appointed California Library Services Act Program Coordinator for the California State Library. **Zorana Ercegovac's** paper "Minimal Level Cataloging: What Does It Mean for Maps in the Contexts of Card Catalogs, Online Catalogs, and Digital Libraries?" will appear in JASIS. **Marjorie Hlava** and Jay Ven Eman will be presenting the CEU course, "Languages on the Internet: The Fundamentals of Evolving Knowledge Architectures" at the National Online Meeting & IOS '98, May 15, 1998. **Ling Hwey Jeng** is a candidate for a position on the Council of the American Library Association. **Maureen Henninger's** book, Don't Just Surf: Strategies for the Net, was published by NSW Press in 1997.

W. Boyd Rayward has been offered the position of George A Miller Visiting Professor in the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He recently published Developing a Profession of Librarianship in Australia: Traveldiaries and Other Papers of John Wallace Metcalfe. (Canberra: Australian Library Information Association, 1997.) **John Shipp** is currently president of the Australian Library Information Association.

Connie Wilson has taken the position of Visiting Professor in the College of Information Science and Technology at Drexel University. She will present "Defining Subject Collections for Infometric Analyses: The Effect of Varying the Subject Aboutness Level" at the Sixth International Conference of the International Society for Scientometrics.



Have you been in the news yourself? Or spotted a LACASIS colleague's name in print? Please submit information for this section of OASIS by sending it to Jason Binford. Contact information appears on p.2 of this issue.

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Europe	Engineering	1000	£10.00	eu@opamp.com
Japan	Engineering	1000	¥1000	jp@opamp.com
Asia	Engineering	1000	\$10.00	asia@opamp.com
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NEW: TEACH YOURSELF WEB PUBLISHING WITH HTML IN 2 IN A WEEK, 3rd Ed.
Author: Lenway, Laura
Year: 1996 ISBN: 1-57521-102-0 Price: \$29.99

From the Chair's Desktop

Thoughts on our careers, skills, and opportunities: by Dudee Chiang

In February, LACASIS and the ASIS Student Chapter at UCLA sponsored a resume workshop for students from both UCLA and the Cal State San Jose Program at Fullerton. In April, there will be another career program at Fullerton with panels of new graduates and employers discussing skills and experience employers look for in hiring information professionals. The topics of careers and the future for information professionals always draw attention from most people, whether they are students, new graduates, or seasoned professionals.

To the pessimistic among us, there is certainly disturbing news. The schools where many of us received our degrees are dropping the word "library" from their titles and course descriptions. More and more job advertisements list the M.L.S. degree as desired, but not necessarily required. And "outsourcing" is a very hot topic among library administrators and managers. Isn't there anyone who can appreciate what we do?

But the picture may not be that bad. Recently I went to a whole-day workshop on knowledge management (KM), where I heard the terms "library science" and "librarians" mentioned several times, all in a very positive context. Library science is credited as one of the disciplines contributing to the field of KM, and librarians have been recognized as playing an important role in implementing KM projects. Here are some of the functions that have been mentioned in KM projects, and I thought I would translate them into library jargon:

- Identify the real question or problem for establishing a KM project > reference interview

- Map who has what resources and expertise within the organization > reference service
- Construct metadata for documents > descriptive cataloging
- Create categorization schemes > classification
- Conduct content reviews > index and abstract

Roy Tenant's column "Digital Libraries" in the February 1998 issue of *Library Journal* is on "Hiring Staff for the New Millennium." In the article he did not identify any particular skills or experience required for staff, but listed several desirable traits, including:

- Ability to learn constantly
- Public service perspective
- Flexibility
- Risk-taking
- Abilities to be a team member, team leader, and work independently depending on the situation.

I could not agree more.

LACASIS has members with different background who work in diverse environments. What unites us in this organization is our common belief that we are all information professionals. Our meetings and programs are good opportunities to meet others and to learn from each other. If you have ideas for future meeting topics or speakers, please don't hesitate to let myself or any of the board members know. We are glad to put together programs for our members.

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LACASIS Programs

April 26

Exploring the Library and Information Job Market

Date: Sunday, April 26, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Topic: "Exploring the Library and Information Job Market."
Place: California State University, Fullerton.
(Please see full announcement on page 8)

June 10

Dinner Program and Annual Business Meeting

Joyce Adams, Web Site Operations Manager for Experian will speak on tips and tools that will help make designing and maintaining your Web Site easier. This practical session will include discussion of topics ranging from HTML to Java, including design considerations for planning your Web Site.

Date: Wednesday, June 10, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Topic: "Maintaining Your Web Site: Tips and Tools."
Place: Olympic Collection, West Los Angeles.

September 18 Annual Fall Workshop

Date: Friday, September 18, all day.
Topic: "Who's In The Driver's Seat, You Or Technology???"
Place: Industry Sheraton, City of Industry.

For details on these and other upcoming LACASIS programs, keep an eye on your mailbox for flyers or check the LACASIS website: <http://www.usc.edu/Library/LACASIS/>



Meet the Board

LACASIS Board meetings are open to any member who wishes to attend. We usually meet on the first Saturday morning of each month. The location varies, so contact Duede Chiang, the current chair, for details and directions if you would like to join us. Contact information is on page 2.

ASIS Mid Year Program

May 16-20

ASIS Mid Year Program

Highlights from the ASIS-L listserv. For more information, see the ASIS Web site: <http://www.asis.org/>

Collaboration Across Boundaries:
Theories, Strategies, and Technology
May 16-20, 1998, Orlando, FL

Featured Speakers

Michael Schrage

A Merrill Lynch Forum Innovation Fellow, Michael Schrage writes and consults widely on the design and deployment of digital innovations. He is executive director of Merrill Lynch's Innovation Grant Competition and executive producer of IDG's Spotlight conference on interactive media. He explores technology design issues as a research associate with MIT's Media Lab. He is author of the critically acclaimed *Shared Minds: The New Technologies of Collaboration* (Random House 1990) - the first book to explore both the tools and dynamics of successful collaboration in business, science and the arts. The Japanese edition was published as *Mind Networks* (President 1992).

Jeffrey D. Smith

Jeff Smith is a researcher at Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT), currently at the NTT Multimedia Communications Laboratories in Palo Alto, CA USA. His research interests include CSCW, organizational theory, organizational design, and classical rhetoric. One current project is EColabor, a collaborative requirements analysis system. Part of his work with EColabor is designing a distributed media server and control protocols.

Headquarters Hotel
Holiday Inn International Drive Resort
6515 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819
(407) 351-3500

Room rates: \$75 (single or double)
Reservations must identify the ASIS meeting to receive these preferred rates and must be made by April 24, 1998.

Early Registration Discounts:

To qualify for registration discounts, your registration and payment information must be received by ASIS by April 24, 1998. Late rates apply to registrations received after this date. This deadline will be strictly adhered to.

OCLC Institute

“Understanding and Using Metadata”

The OCLC Institute invites you to participate in an intensive 2 1/2-day theoretical and practical exploration of metadata and its applications.

After participating in this seminar you will be able to:

- Understand the foundations of resource description and its application to the Internet
- Understand emerging Web standards such as XML, RDF, and the Dublin Core and their application in resource description systems
- Evaluate your information management needs and determine the appropriateness of metadata for a variety of applications
- Use Dublin Core metadata in a real-world application

This seminar consists of lectures, structured lab exercises, and group discussions. First, you will receive an overview of Web-based resource description systems and detailed instruction in the Dublin Core metadata. Then, as a member of a small project team, you will design and implement a MARC- or webserver-based resource description system using metadata records for a real-world collection. Finally, you will evaluate the resource

description system in terms of design and functionality, including data input, storage, retrieval, and display.

How You Will Benefit

- You will understand the current state of metadata and learn about expected long-term developments.
- You will gain hands-on experience creating and working with several metadata systems.
- You will be able to compare and evaluate the results of alternative approaches.
- You will be able to plan, implement, or extend your use of metadata in your own environment.

This seminar is designed especially for:

- Internet/metadata catalogers
- Systems librarians
- Intranet managers
- Knowledge managers
- Anyone managing an information resource on an intranet or the Internet

Dates and Location

- June 15 - 17
- August 31 - September 2
- September 9 - 11
- September 21 - 23
- November 2 - 4
- November 9 - 11
- December 7 - 9

On the OCLC Campus, Dublin, Ohio

For complete details, and to register online, visit the OCLC Institute home page at: <http://purl.org/oclc/institute>, or contact Erik Jul at jul@oclc.org, (614) 764-4364, or (614) 718-7132 Fax.



How do you get reliable software at reasonable cost? The answer is to reuse software that works. We have pre-written components to create, clean, deduplicate and convert MARC and non-MARC records. These are reliable and time-tested routines that can be incorporated into custom software to meet your needs. That way you get what you need without the bugs and high cost!

Examples of programs made from these components:

- BDF3 Bibliographic Data File System: creates MARC or text records on PCs, including validation, spell checking and vocabulary control.
- MITT (MARC-To-Text) converts MARC records to other formats.

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Exploring the Library & Information Job Market

Are employers in the field of library and information science looking for you? LACASIS will be hosting a program for LIS students that looks at what type of entry level positions are out there, what skills and experiences are of interest to employers, and what types of possibilities exist once you are hired. There will be two panels of speakers. The first will consist of recent graduates of SJSU SLIS and UCLA GEIS programs that are now working as librarians and information scientists in a variety of areas. The second panel will be made up of information professionals that do the hiring within their respective organizations. This workshop is open to all that are interested.

For Additional Information Contact: Amy Buse, Librarian
The Libraries of the Claremont Colleges, 800 N. Dartmouth
Claremont, CA 91711, (909) 607-7957
amybuse@rocky.claremont.edu

Date: April 26, 1998
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Place: California State University Fullerton Library,
Room# 130

Menu: Coffee, soft drinks, and snacks will be served

Cost: There is no cost for this program.

RSVP: No registration is required, but if you are planning to attend please e-mail amybuse@rocky.claremont.edu

Parking: There is no charge for parking in any of the California State University Fullerton lots on Sundays.

Directions: Please see the Visitors Page on California State University Fullerton website for directions and a map of the campus <http://www.fullerton.edu/root/visitors/csufVisitors.html>

Students: Call For Papers

Katharine Sharp Review

GSLIS, University of Illinois ISSN 1083-5261

(This information can also be found at <http://edfu.lis.uiuc.edu/review>)

This is the first call for submissions to the Summer 1998 issue of the Katharine Sharp Review, the peer-reviewed e-journal devoted to student scholarship and research within library and information science. Articles can be on any topic that is relevant to LIS—from children's literature to electronic database manipulation to library marketing. Please take a look at previous issues for a sample of what is possible—but do not let that be your only guide! If you care passionately about some facet of LIS or have produced a research paper of which you are proud, consider submitting it to KSR.

All submissions should be received by Monday, May 11, 1998.

Although it is not required for submission, we would appreciate an abstract (of 150-200 words) or indication of intention to submit. Submitted articles must be accompanied by an abstract of no more than 200 words.

For more information, including instructions for authors, please see the KSR webpage at either <http://edfu.lis.uiuc.edu/review/call.html> or <http://mirrored.ukoln.ac.uk/lis-journals/review/review/> or you can email us at sharp-review@edfu.lis.uiuc.edu.

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Resume Workshop at UCLA

by Louisa Toot

The 3rd Annual LACASIS Resume Workshop, held on Friday, February 20th, was attended by 12 local information professionals and 17 participants. The program started with a welcome by Geoffrey Jost and Louisa Toot and presentations by representatives of Advanced Information Management (AIM) and Library Management Systems (LMS) who imparted expert advice on interviewing and resumes. The presentations were followed by a panel discussion on the interviewing process after which participants paired with reviewers to have their resumes critiqued.

Kathleen Smith from AIM talked about the ins and outs of interviewing. Along with the usual interviewing tips of be on time, dress professionally and send a thank-you note, Kathleen's presentation included some very good practical advice that you don't hear often:

When arranging for the interview: Get the name of the person who will be interviewing you. This is so that when you walk into the institution you will have a name that you can refer to upon greeting a secretary or staff. Also, get directions to the place of the interview including cross streets and parking to ensure that you will not get lost.

During the interview: Take notes during the interview, including people's names, what they looked like and what you discussed with specific people. These notes will be invaluable later when you write your thank-you letter or if you have a follow-up interview. Don't let your guard down even at times when you are "not on the interview" such as a lunch, break, or dinner. Even though the institution may say that lunch, dinner, or break is not part of the interview, your actions are noted and opinions are formulated. If part of the interview process does include going out to lunch or dinner do not drink alcohol even if it is offered or others are ordering. You may end up saying something you didn't intend to say had you not been under the influence of the drink. During the actual interview it is best not to accept any beverage if offered since this greatly increases your chances of spilling or having some other mishap, especially if you are nervous.

Other things to remember when interviewing: It is okay to be a little nervous, this is expected, but don't let your nerves get the best of you. Remember that the interviewer may be as nervous as you are; be lively and dynamic but don't try to intimidate the interviewer. Being offered the position is as much a fit of personality as of job experience and skills.

Karen Shulman from LMS presented on good and bad resumes. A good resume will use action oriented words to describe job experiences, will have a clear layout so that job titles, dates and duties can be easily read by prospective interviewers and will be

printed on white or ivory bond paper. Resume don'ts include listing personal information or hobbies on your resume, attaching your photo to your resume and using bright, obnoxious colors such as hot pink or lime green.

In between the presentations there was a short panel discussion about the interview process at different types of libraries. Information professionals in academic, special and public libraries answered questions about the interviewing process at their institutions. Since the process can vary from institution to institution it was enlightening to hear about the differences in how long the interview takes, the average length of time until a position is filled and where jobs are posted. A good tip that came out of the panel discussion was to look on libraries' web pages for job postings. Also, in the academic and public worlds don't be dismayed if institutions take 3 months or longer from the time you are interviewed until the time the position is filled.

After the presentations and panel discussion, participants paired off with reviewers of their choice to discuss how to make their resumes better.

Here is what a few of the participants had to say about the workshop:

"I loved the workshop and got some really good feedback about how to update my resume and where to apply for jobs."

NANCY SAUL

"I think the main things I gained, besides getting my resume tuned up, was a chance to interface with some people I otherwise wouldn't necessarily have heard about, and get a better sense of what the whole job search process is like."

GEOFFREY JOST

"This was a fantastic chance to refine and customize my resume for the career field I'm interested in. Formatting, organization and dos/don'ts were all extremely helpful."

KENNA PAYNE

THANKS

LACASIS and workshop organizer Louisa Toot would like to thank the following information professionals for volunteering their time to be reviewers at the program:

Marianne Afifi
Luci Barry
Charlotte Brown
Dudee Chiang
Carrie Coolbaugh
Debbie Henderson

Kathy Johnson
Barbara Nye
Karen Shulman
Kathleen Smith
Alice Witkowski
Emily Woolery

Calendar

Decisions, decisions ... What to attend in person, what to peruse on the web?

April 18-23 CHI-98: Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. "Making the Impossible Possible." Los Angeles Convention Center. Sponsored by ACM SIGCHI (Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction). Contact: CHI 98 Office, (410) 263-5382. <http://www.acm.org/sigchi/chi98/>

April 19-25 National Library Week. <http://www.ala.org/>

April 21 Digital Libraries Initiative - Phase 2: West Coast Public Briefing. UCLA, Los Angeles. 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. <http://www.nsf.gov/home/crssprgm/dli/start.htm>
<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/1998/nsf9863/nsf9863.htm>

April 22-24 IEEE Advances in Digital Libraries (ADL '98). Fess Parker's Doubletree Resort, Santa Barbara. Contact: IEEE, (202) 371-1013. <http://www.alexandria.ucsb.edu/conferences/ADL98/>

April 26 LACASIS Program: "Exploring the Library and Information Job Market." California State University Fullerton. 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Contact: Amy Buse, (909) 607-7957, amybuse@rocky.claremont.edu
<http://www.usc.edu/Library/LACASIS/>

April 29 SCOUG (Southern California Online Users Group) Spring Workshop. "Rethinking Reference and Research." Industry Hills Sheraton, City of Industry. Contact: FYI/County of Los Angeles Public Library, (800) 582-1093. <http://www.scougweb.org/>

May 12-14 19th National Online Meeting & IOLS (Integrated Online Library Systems) '98. New York, NY. <http://www.infotoday.com/>

May 13-16 American Society of Indexers 30th Annual Conference. Seattle, WA. "New Frontiers in Indexing." <http://www.well.com/user/asi/>

May 15 Submission deadline for the LACASIS Student Scholarship Essay Competition. (\$1,000 travel award!) See announcement in this issue for more information. <http://www.usc.edu/Library/LACASIS/>

May 16-20 ASIS 1998 Mid-Year Meeting. "Collaboration across Boundaries: Theories, Strategies and Technology." Orlando, FL. Contact: Conference Registrar, Voice: (301) 495-0900, Fax: (301) 495-0810. <http://www.asis.org/>

May 22-27 Medical Library Association Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA. "Visions of the Future Reflections on the Past." Contact: MLA, (312) 419-9094 <http://www.mlanet.org/>

June 3-5 Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Information Science. "Information Science at the Dawn of the Millennium." Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Contact: Elaine Toms, Voice: (902) 494-2452, Fax: (902) 494-2451, Email: etoms@is.dal.ca. <http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis/cais98/>

June 6-11 Special Libraries Association Annual Conference. Indianapolis, IN. <http://www.sla.org/>

June 10 LACASIS dinner program and business meeting. "Maintaining Your Web Site: Tips and Tools." Olympic Collection, Los Angeles. <http://www.usc.edu/Library/LACASIS/>

June 23-26 Digital Libraries '98 - The Third ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) Conference on Digital Libraries. Pittsburgh, PA. <http://www.ks.com/DL98/>

June 26-30 American Library Association Annual Conference. Washington, DC <http://www.ala.org/>

July 11-16 American Association of Law Libraries 91st Annual Meeting. "New Horizons". Anaheim, CA. <http://www.aallnet.org/>

July 25 Indexing Workshop. "Facing the Text." Santa Barbara, CA. A day-long workshop presented by Do Mi Stauber, sponsored by the Southern California Chapter of the American Society of Indexers. Contact: Bonny McLaughlin, Voice: (909) 607-3904, Email: Bonny.McLaughlin@cgu.edu After 5/1/98: <http://www.well.com/user/asi/chapters.htm#southcalif>

August 24-28 SIGIR '98 - 21st International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Information Retrieval). Melbourne, Australia. <http://www.cs.mu.oz.au/sigir98/>

August 25-29 ISKO 5 (Fifth International Conference of the International Society for Knowledge Organization). "Structures and Relations in Knowledge Organization." Lille, France. Contact: isko.conf@univ-lille3.fr

September 11-12 Sixth Annual CARL Conference (California Academic & Research Libraries). "Collaborative Adventures, Collaborative Efforts: Academic Libraries in Partnerships." Newport Beach. <http://www.carl-acrl.org/>

September 18 LACASIS Fall Workshop. "Who's in the Driver's Seat, You or Technology?" Industry Hills Sheraton, City of Industry. (Watch for more news in coming months. <http://www.usc.edu/Library/LACASIS/>)

September 23-26 PKDD'98 — 2nd European Symposium on Principles of Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery. Nantes, France. <http://www.sciences.univ-nantes.fr/pkdd98>

October 12-14 Online World 20th Annual Conference & Expo. Washington, DC <http://www.onlineinc.com/>

October 13-16 Educom'98. "Making the Connections." Orlando, FL. <http://www.educom.edu/conf/98/>

October 23-25 Conference on the History and Heritage of Science Information Systems. Pittsburgh, PA. Sponsored by ASIS, the ASIS Special Interest Group/History and Foundations of Information Science (SIG/HFIS), and the Chemical Heritage Foundation (immediately prior to the annual meeting of ASIS). Contact: Robert V. Williams, Phone: 803-777-2324, Fax: 803-777-7938, Email: bobwill@sc.edu <http://www.asis.org/>

October 25-29 ASIS 1998 Annual Meeting. "Information Access in the Global Information Economy". Pittsburgh, PA. <http://www.asis.org/>

November 3-5 Internet Librarian. Monterey. <http://www.infotoday.com/>

December 15 Annual Joint LACASIS/SLA Holiday Dinner. Caltech Athenaeum, Pasadena.

January 5-8, 1999 Hawaii International Conference on Systems Sciences. Wailea Maui, HI. <http://www.cba.hawaii.edu/hicss/>

January 19-21, 1999 Information Online & On Disc 99. Sydney, Australia. Contact: ACMS - Conventions & Exhibitions Pty Ltd, Voice: +61 2 9332 4622, Fax: +61 2 9332 4066, Email: online99@acms.com.au <http://www.csu.edu.au/special/online99/>

Spring Internet World

by Dorothy Fue Wong

Spring Internet World 98 was held at the Los Angeles Convention Center from March 9th to 13th.

Exhibits

Unlike past Internet World shows, where end users' search engines were well-represented, this event focused on the business community's use of the Internet. The business community is very interested in customized search engines. The first reason for this is the phenomenal growth in intranet and extranet networks (a pace that is faster than that of the Internet). These systems demand accurate classification and retrieval of electronic documents in order for an organization to function effectively. The second is the need for certain businesses to maintain complex databases on the Web that have sophisticated search capabilities in order to conduct a high volume of business transactions. Examples are the projects designed for Amazon.com and Best Western Hotels.

For the information professionals, exhibits included new filters and push technologies. For example, some services and products on exhibit can configure servers to deliver updated and filtered information to targeted desktops. Information is from the Internet, channel sources, and the company's intranet. BackWeb, a new San Jose company, is able to provide this service with an imaginative graphic interface with multiple panels, called an infocenter. InMagic, collaborating with Lycos, offers a product that can search the Internet based on certain criteria and incorporate this information in its flat file database.

Possibly the most active booth at the convention was the one sponsored by Microsoft because of the wide-spread impact that it can have on developers, the business community, and also information professionals. A preview of Windows 98 was presented that displayed a remarkable integration of the Internet with the hard drive and the various application software, allowing one to enter the Internet through multiple locations rather than the single standard icon. For example, one can access the Internet on the same window displaying a Word, Excel, or PowerPoint document through a special task bar. Also, the Internet can be accessed by clicking on a website or channel icon that has been positioned on the desktop.

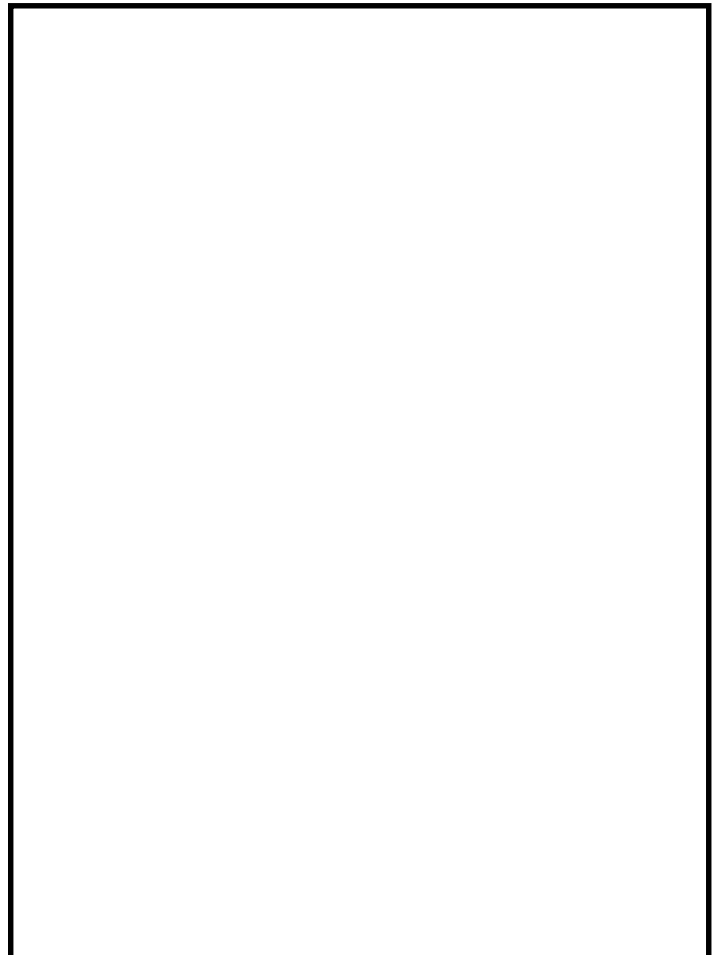
The Windows 98 software for the hard drive has on-line capability that can download updated information and software to the system itself. The software can also download automatically the system software for new accessories that can be connected to the computer, like a scanner.

Another new feature of Windows 98 is the ability of the system to receive TV programs by means of the computer. An added feature is the on-line daily guide of programs with search capabilities. Available also are interactive enhanced pages which can display a program or website with e-mail and chat capabilities on the same screen. Prototypes of the enhanced pages demonstrated learning and information centers for a particular subject. Windows 98 is scheduled to be released in June.

Keynote Presentation by Jerry Yang

On March 12th Jerry Yang, co-founder of Yahoo, gave a keynote presentation on how the Internet has evolved to what it is today and the challenges facing the Internet community. Three years ago when Yahoo began, the number of users were 20 million with 95% of them male. This year it is 100 million with participants equally divided between men and women.

Continued on page 14



Impressions from Internet Librarian '97

by Marianne Afifi

The first ever Internet Librarian conference took place last November 17th to 19th in Monterey, California in the Monterey Conference Center and Doubletree Hotel. Many other area hotels served as overflow accommodations due to the popularity of the conference.

The conference, which was sponsored by Computers in Libraries, Information Today, Multimedia, Searcher, and Link-Up in cooperation with the Special Libraries Association, brought together Internet professionals from diverse areas. Library-related conferences often focus on the type of library (e.g., academic or special) or on the type of job (e.g., music librarian). This conference's sole focus was the Internet and how it affects information professionals across boundaries. I thought this was a fresh idea and it afforded me the opportunity to hear about issues in different types of organizations. I learned that many problems or questions are different depending on your clientele, but equally many are of concern to all. I also enjoyed being able to talk to colleagues from a variety of information organizations and learn from them.

The conference was organized into roughly three tracks per day. The tracks brought together related topics and attendees were encouraged to stick to a track. Tracks included such broad themes as "Managing Organizational Knowledge", "Virtualizing Service", and "New Technologies and New Roles." I pretty much followed the track idea and I think it worked very well because the individual presentations related to each other and to the overall track topic. Most presentations were either in PowerPoint or web-based, and the presentation facilities and Internet connections were very good, reasonably fast, and worked most of the time. Many of the popular sessions were packed to capacity, but the facilities provided ample space for most of the programs.

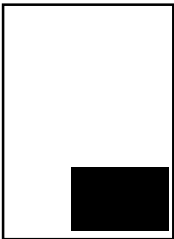
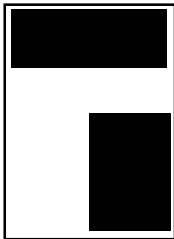
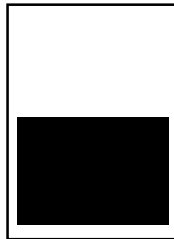
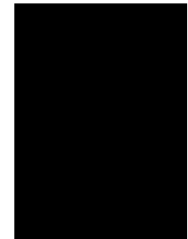
Sessions

Following is a summary of the more interesting sessions I attended. In the "Tools and Techniques" track I attended two sessions in which representatives from various web search engines talked about their products. They were then queried about specific features of the products by a panel of librarians and the audience who also gave their input about the pros and cons for each of the products. In the afternoon I learned more about filtering tools being used for different purposes. One was to limit access through products that are called "blockware" or "censorware", such as NetNanny. The other was to use push technology tools to provide new forms of SDI, such as customized news within an organization. Another fascinating session on new applications described the constructions of the website www.totalsports.net which brings real-time coverage of sports and real-time statistics to its users.

On the track "Net & Web Management" I attended two sessions dealing with intellectual property issues which opened many attendees' eyes to what might be going on behind the scenes at any website. The issues discussed were the protection of personal information, the tradeoffs between freedom of information and privacy, and protection of intellectual property using encryption techniques and invisible digital watermarking.

One of the most useful sessions to me was on the track "Captured by the Web: Library Systems". The presentation about Z39.50 implementation on the web was an easy to understand, well-organized overview of this often misunderstood standard. Overall, the sessions were of high quality and there was a good mix of technical and practical topics.

Continued on page 14

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INTERNET WORLD *from page 13*

The major constituents on the Internet are: the users, the content developers and programming community; and the business interests in marketing and electronic commerce.

Yang stated that the most profound change he has seen during the last three years has been how the Internet, as a social force, is shaping the lifestyles of people on a global level. He gave examples of how it is helping people make critical decisions in their lives, and also how electronic information is now becoming closely integrated with the users' every day life.

Currently, the most popular areas of Internet use are in financial information and sports with a growing interest in local information. However, Yang points out that the most dramatic current shift in user behavior is from simple information transactions to the creation of interactive virtual communities. These communities are developed in three ways: the driving need to know what is current, hobbies and personal interests, and through purchases (such as travel and education). Thus, the major challenge for developers on the Internet is to design strategies and content that will fit seamlessly and ubiquitously in people's lives so they will want to use it.

In terms of electronic commerce, Yang pointed out that in 1996 the Internet generated 270 million dollars of sales to presently over one billion dollars to a projected several billion dollars annually by the year 2000. Two years ago, 80% of the commerce dealt with technological enterprises, but now other industries predominate, such as financial services, health, pharmaceuticals, toys, and apparel. Marketing on the Internet is thus becoming more sophisticated as consumers are looking for wide choices that will give good value. Those in advertising will need to move beyond banners and address fundamental marketing problems, which will include more sophisticated techniques in accountability and measurement.

Yang also addressed major problems facing the Internet. These include privacy and security. As for bandwidth, the challenge is whether the consumer will pay to develop and maintain this particular technology. Yang concluded that the Internet will be viable to the extent that participants give back to the Internet community more than what they take from it.

INTERNET LIBRARIAN *from page 13*

Exhibits and Perks

The vendor exhibits were excellent, there was a wide variety of exhibitors, and the hall was well organized and laid out. Internet access to attendees was insufficient. The number of computers was not enough and the access to the hall where the equipment

was located was restricted. There was usually a long line of people and there were no restrictions on time spent - there actually were quite a few people who did not feel uncomfortable being stared down by a line of 15 people after they already had spent an unreasonably long time checking their e-mail and typing back answers at a snail's pace. Because of the commercial sponsorship of this conference, food and drink were provided generously during the day and at the receptions.

For more information about the conference, check the IL '97 website containing most of the presentations at <http://www.infotoday.com/il97/internet.htm>.

Next Year

Judging from the quality of this year's conference, the next one is certainly a must on my calendar. Mark your calendars for next year's conference which again will take place in Monterey from Nov. 3-5, 1998. And here is a tip: if you have never been to the Monterey Aquarium, plan to spend a half day there. More information about the conference can be found at the Information Today website at <http://www.infotoday.com>.

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Contributions to Information Science Award, Nominations Sought

Each year LACASIS presents its Contributions to Information Science Award to one or more people who have made significant contributions to information science and related fields.

Former award recipients include:

- 1997 Dr. Christine Borgman, UCLA
- 1996 Barbara Quint, editor, Searcher magazine
- 1995 Dr. Marcia Bates, UCLA
- 1994 Dr. Clifford Lynch, University of California
- 1993 Dr. Donald Lamberton, Australian National University
- 1992 Dr. William Paisley, Founder, Knowledge Access
- 1991 Dr. Carlos Cuadra, Cuadra & Associates
- 1990 Dr. Robert Maron, UC Berkeley
- 1989 Dr. Harold Borko and Dr. Robert Hayes, UCLA

The 1998 Award Committee solicits your input for the 10th annual award.

Please send us the name of an individual you believe has made an exceptional contribution to our field, on the form below. The committee will make a final selection from all submissions. The awardee will present an acceptance speech at the October 1998 LACASIS program.

Thank you,

The 1998 Award Committee: Sandra Tung, Linda Adams, Nancy Zachariasen

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Submit your nomination by mail or email by May 29 1998 to:

Sandra Tung 4017 Canyon Dell Drive Altadena, CA 91001 sandra.tung@boeing.com

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