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From the Chair

By Rachel Clemens

LACASIS Enthusiasts

You've probably noticed I frequently use the term "enthusiasts" as a greeting to LACASIS folks. That may be a carry-over from associations with "car enthusiasts" – those that spend unconscionable amounts of money on wheels, tires and boost gauges, can rattle off torque lb-ft, 0-60 time and suspension of any reputable sports car and wait at the mailbox for the next issue of Car & Driver. However LACASIS members are well-deserving of this title. As defined by the OED, an enthusiast is "one full of enthusiasm" (Enthusiasm = Rapturous intensity of feeling in favor of a person, principle, cause, etc.; passionate eagerness in any pursuit, proceeding from an intense conviction of the worthiness of the object).

Clearly we share an interest in information science and technology and recognize the worthiness of the discipline. This passion is evident through involvement in a professional organization such as LACASIS. In writing the annual report, reading previous years' reports and reflecting on our activities this past year I am convinced the Los Angeles Chapter of ASIS&T is a very special group of information professionals. We have an extensive history dating back to at least the 1970's. We are fortunate to live in such an information-rich and tech-savvy region. Our membership is geographically and culturally diverse. But it really boils down to the efforts, devotion and involvement of

Inside This Issue

ASIST Executive Board meeting in Montreal

Mind's Eye Program in Berkeley

Vietnamese Americans: Cultural & Personal Information Archiving

Personal Knowledge Management: Managing Information Overload

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individuals. And in that area, LACASIS is particularly strong. Programs, workshops, scholarships, and fund-raising don't happen on their own. Our Board members, Advisory Council officers and members commit personal time and effort to make things happen. And for that I am extremely proud to be a part of this chapter.

We look forward to working with the new and returning leaders in our chapter beginning in October. Christina Salazar who comes from an academic background and now works at the Getty will take the reins as Chair. She has several years of experience in LACASIS serving as secretary and workshop co-chair. We are in the unusual position of a Chair-Elect vacancy. This vital role is responsible for program coordination and is the stepping-stone to the Chair position. If you are interested in jumping

into the thick of things, please let me know.

The annual fall workshop is taking shape under the guidance of Aura Lippincott, Dominique Turnbow and Christina Salazar. So mark your calendar now for Friday, September 30 at Chapman University in Old Town Orange near the 57 and 22 freeways. The working title of the workshop is "Search Forward" and will focus on cutting edge webs searching, multimedia retrieval, recommender systems and getting scholarly content out to be indexed by search engines.

Lastly, I would encourage everyone to attend the next in-person board meeting on Saturday morning, August 6. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Pannini Café & Coffee in Marina Del Rey. Come meet like-minded colleagues and share your input into our Chapter's activities.

LACASIS Board 2004-2005

<i>Archives</i>	Claude Zachary	<i>Nominations</i>	Linda Heichman
<i>Awards</i>	Amy Wallace	<i>OASIS Editor</i>	Louisa Verma
<i>Chair-Elect</i>	Margaret Hogarth	<i>OASIS Layout</i>	David Walker
<i>Hospitality</i>	Belinda Beardt	<i>Publicity</i>	Su Hui Ho
<i>Marketing Database</i>	Barbara Busch	<i>Student Chapters</i>	Aura Lippincott
<i>Membership Database</i>	Linda Rudell-Betts	<i>Website</i>	Marla Gunasegaram

ASIST Executive Board meeting in Montreal, March 4 2005

Beata Panagopoulos

The ASIST Executive Board met in Montreal, March 4, the day before the IA Summit began. Montreal (and the hotel, Le Reine Elisabeth) was a fabulous location. The IA Summit very successful. I highly recommend you go next year if it fits your interests and pocketbook. It was a very stimulating environment, with back-to-back programs over 3 days.

My Brief Report on the State of the Chapters

This past quarter since the Annual Meeting, we have updated the chapters page on the ASIST website with the current leaders and also updated the Chapters-L subscription list.

I am very grateful and happy to announce that we currently have 5 Chapter Advisors who have touched base (or attempted to do so) with all of their chapters. For contact information please see your print ASIST Member Directory or the ASIS&T Chapters website: <http://www.asis.org/AboutASIS/asist-chapters.html>

Marija Dalbello: Pacific Northwest, Potomac Valley, New Jersey, and Delaware Valley chapters); Barbara Dunham: Northern Ohio, Central Ohio, Southern Ohio, and Pittsburgh

Pat Flanagan: New England, Metro New York, Florida, and Indiana; Deb Helman: Arizona, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Chicago, and Michigan; Linda McCann: Los Angeles, East Tennessee, Taipei, and Europe.

Out of 21 chapters, there are 7 that are not thriving. They are: Chicago, Delaware, East Tennessee, Metro New York, Minnesota, Pittsburgh, and perhaps Taiwan.

Some chapter leaders from these struggling chapters express the need for new ideas on how to get their chapters revitalized.

- We should share ideas for programs and speakers on Chapters-L
- We need a mechanism for sharing information about speakers who are traveling in the area or ASIST leaders in the vicinity, so that chapters can take advantage of them.

Other News from the Board Meeting

One of President Nick Belkin's priorities will be the recruitment of and benefits for students, with particular emphasis on undergraduates.

A taskforce will be set up to study the feasibility

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of taking continuing education workshops on the road for both the undergraduate community and chapters. Perhaps we could do webcasts? A pilot distance learning program has already been done: the program called "Strategies for E-Learning and Distance Education Educators" co-produced by NEASIST and LACASIS in December 2002. See Dec/Jan 2004 Bulletin Article on this program at: <http://www.asis.org/Bulletin/Dec-03/virtual.html>

Progress on the ASIST website redesign has slowed down. Hopefully, chapter leaders will have access to the online membership database by June.

Chapter Membership Chairs should ask Vanessa Foss (vfoss@asis.org) for membership update reports and rosters. They are not sent to chapters automatically. You should specify what information you would like in the report. The data should be relatively accurate. If you see problems with the data, please report this to Vanessa.

When the new website is up

There will be templates available for chapter web pages.

Blogs and wikis will be attached to the system. These should enhance communication between chapters.

There will be a document repository. So, for example, we can have an archive of chapter events posted to the website as a resource for chapters.

The suggestion was made to have an ASIST speakers bureau that could be tapped by chapters.

You will be hearing from me again shortly; we have many great ideas to work on that came out of our Breakfast Planning Meeting in Providence in November. So, stay tuned.

If you have any questions, issues or problems, please do not hesitate to take them either to your chapter advisor, or to me or Amy Wallace, Deputy Chapter Assembly Director

Mind's Eye Program in Berkeley, April 22, 2005

By Linda McCann

LACASIS sponsored their first program in Northern California on April 22, "The Mind's Eye: Theory and Practice of Digital Imaging in Cultural Heritage Institutions". The program

was well attended with participants from all over California, including professionals from academic libraries, archives, museums, visual arts organizations, consultants, and internet businesses.

Linda McCann is a Librarian and Researcher.

I introduced the program, providing background about how it began at a lunch discussion between Layna White, Amy Wallace and me at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology in Providence, RI, 2004. During the winter Layna and I were joined by Mary O'Connor in meetings where we filled out the details of the program.

In addition to LACASIS sponsorship, I was fortunate to be able to thank the University of California Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive and The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art for their support. An added feature was that the Museum store ordered copies of Brian O'Connor's book, *Photo Provocations: Thinking In, With, and about Photographs* that he signed, including one I purchased.

The morning session presented three excellent speakers who brought special expertise to the theoretical questions and practical implications of capture and use of digital images in cultural heritage institutions.

Brian O'Connor started us off with his PowerPoint presentation, "Photo Provocations: Access to Images, Axes to Grind," in which he showed images and discussed issues that make categorization, description, and retrieval of digital images challenging. Brian is Professor and Coordinator for the Interdisciplinary Information Science Doctoral Program, School of Library & Information Science, University of North Texas. He holds an MA in documentary production and produced documentaries before he received his Ph.D. from the School of Library & Information Studies at Berkeley. Brian's presentation generated a lively discussion that continued into the afternoon.

The second speaker was Nancy Goldman, Head of the Pacific Film Archive Library & Film Study Center at the UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, who focused on an important PFA film document digital image database, CineFiles. She discussed imaging standards and workflow issues as well as PFA's IMLS-funded project to study innovative approaches to working with copyright-protected materials in a digital environment.

The third presentation of the morning was by Mary O'Connor, Visiting Digital Imaging Specialist at UC Berkeley Museum of Art. Mary, who has a background in film production, talked about suggested standards for capturing digital images beyond the limitations of the flatbed scanner.

The lunch break with presenters was an enjoyable networking opportunity and the afternoon breakout studio demonstrations in the Museum were extremely informative.

After lunch, the program continued with afternoon breakout sessions. Attendees were divided into four groups that took turns touring studios that are not normally available to the public. Mary and Nancy did double duty that day as they guided groups through their studios for wonderful behind-the-scenes tours.

Nancy conducted a tour of the Pacific Film Archive Library & Film Study Center, highlighting the process for creating the Cinefiles database.

Mary conducted the tour of the studio where she works with Ben Blackwell, who is Principal Photographer at UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive and a contract photographer for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

Ben and Mary provided an overview of their work.

Our other two sessions were conducted by Layna White and Eric Saxby. Layna is Head of Collections Information and Access at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, a department that is responsible for managing a collections management system, producing and managing images and handling intellectual property issues, primarily related to use of images. Layna took groups on a tour of the museum's galleries to explore sharing images of modern and contemporary works of art on the Web, highlight issues of copyright and using steps taken by SFMOMA as points of departure for discussion. In addition, Layna provided a wonderful tour of SFMOMA on Saturday that

I attended.

Eric, a Computer Resource Specialist at the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive specializing in technology related to the Museum's use of digital media and use of media shared on the Web, provided a great tour of the Museum's 'digital basement' and an introduction to a digital asset management tool developed by the Berkeley Art Museum.

I found the entire program very valuable and participants I spoke with did also. Layna White worked especially hard on this program for LACASIS and because of her efforts, it was a successful program that was well attended by professionals from around the state.

Vietnamese Americans: Cultural & Personal Information Archiving (Part 1)

By Margaret Hogarth

The LACASIS program, Vietnamese Americans: Cultural & Personal Information Archiving, held Monday, March 21, 2005 at Dat Lat Bistro in Fountain Valley was a warm success. After many fabulous courses of seafood and vegetarian specialties, Dr. Jeff Brody of the CSU Fullerton Communications Department described a project that captured a permanent record of the life of Vietnamese

Americans in 2000. Students from Union High School in Irvine, Rancho Santiago College, Westminster High School, Cal State Fullerton and University of California, Irvine were given disposable cameras and asked to document what was important in their lives. The result was more than 8,000 photographs looking at the Vietnamese American community from an insider's point of view. Goals for the project

Margaret Hogarth is Electronic Resources Coordinator at UC Riverside Libraries

were very specific: What would your great grandchildren like to know about America?

Over 8000 photographs were collected. 5000 were culled for technical quality and repetition, then the last 500+ were hung on the wall in categories. Of these, the final 125 were chosen. Releases were procured from participants. Images of each of the slides are stored in several sizes.

While technical quality may be inconsistent, the intimate look into the culture is insightful and fascinating. Students took photographs of workers, such as an emergency room technician, fire fighter, waitress, recording industry technician, writers, retail workers, and entertainers.

Photographs in the daily life category reflect a sense of pride in accomplishments. The successful and some celebrities are shown in elegant homes. Students of all ages study ESL. Girls play tennis, color, help with chores, shop for a rice cooker. There is a Cub Scout troop, and a marshal arts class. A Vietnamese boy celebrates Halloween in a Pikachu costume. Fresh produce, an important part of Vietnamese cuisine, is sold on a sidewalk. In another shot it is being sorted in the traditional style, on newspapers on the kitchen floor. Families relax, eating durian fruit or playing checkers. There are pictures of multicultural young couples and bookstores selling novels in English and French.

Local schools that taught English have switched to teaching Vietnamese culture, language and dance. Among photographs in the culture section is one showing the traditional healing technique of cupping, in

which heated cups are placed along the back to help bronchial problems. A spiritualist speaks to dead ancestors.

The first Buddhist temples in the county were in people's homes. There are several photographs showing celebrations at temples. While Protestantism is not significant in Vietnam, there is a baptismal ceremony and a picture of priests at the Catholic Center in Santa Ana. Of 8,000 photographs, over 300 were of funerals. Colored headbands signify the generational relationship to the deceased.

Social issues include gambling and homelessness. In one slide, students are shown feeding the homeless. There were many photographs submitted of the protests at the video store whose owner put up a poster of Ho Chi Minh and the Vietnamese flag.

There are many celebrations in Vietnamese culture. One family celebrates the one-year anniversary of a father's passing, with a video of the funeral service playing in the background. Veterans from all branches of service march in a parade. A successful suburban man barbecues in a suit and tie. A bride throws her bouquet to males attending the wedding. The elderly coat their teeth with black in order to prevent tooth decay.

There will be an exhibit in April at the Cal State Fullerton Library of over 800 pictures. This is a traveling show that is available for display at other institutions. You can contact Dr. Jeff Brody at jbrody@fullerton.edu .

In the second half of the program, Anne Frank spoke about the Southeast Asian Archives at UC Irvine. 2005 is the 30th anniversary of the arrival of the first refugees who came to

the U.S. from Vietnam. Since 1975 over 1.25 million refugee immigrants have come from Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam. Over 40% of the Vietnamese have settled in California. The original government policy was to scatter refugees all over the country so that ethnic enclaves wouldn't form. Even so, large populations can be found in San Jose and Westminster in California, in Texas, Boston, Virginia, Kansas and in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In the 1990s all refugees had to go through a screening process. If they were economic refugees they were sent back to their home country. If they were political refugees they were allowed to stay. There is some confusion over the difference between refugees and immigrants. Refugees leave because they have to, immigrants leave because they want to. Refugees tend to look backward.

The Southeast Asian Archives were established in 1987, not due to the curriculum or to faculty research interests, but due to Dr. Pham Cao Duong, who teaches at UCI and UCLA on the Vietnamese American Experience and Vietnamese history. He approached the Program of Comparative Culture with the archive proposal. At that time Anne Frank was in the reference department charged with collecting materials related to Orange County in areas not covered by the bibliographers. At first, it was viewed as a local history collection documenting refugee experience in Orange County. When the collection started they had no funding, materials were donated from the Vietnamese community and from those who work with the refugees, particularly the Orange County Refugee Corps. This group was instrumental in teaching Ms. Frank how the refugee system works. At first

the collection was limited to Orange County, but, since networks often span counties and states, coverage expanded to include other parts of the country and the world. The Vietnamese are best represented in the collection, but there is also a substantial amount of material on the Hmong, Laos, Cambodian and smaller ethnic groups. They also collect materials relating to the refugee experience, boat people and refugee camps, as well as, some material on the history and culture of the home country.

The collection has both circulating and non-circulating materials. Among the circulating items, there are 600+ dissertations and theses and reports from social services agencies. Among the non-circulating items are vertical file materials, newspaper clippings, fliers, brochures, posters, and menus. In 1996 the Asian American Studies department was established. They have been very supportive of the collection and work closely with the archives, especially Dr. Linda Vo. Her classes collect materials and have contributed interesting items including documentation of Cambodian weddings and Vietnamese language schools. There is strong community involvement in the archive. Half of the board is from the community, the other half from UCI and CSUF.

The archive has received several grants. A recent NEH grant funded continued processing of the collection and the building of a Web portal on Southeast Asian Americans. This project is being done in conjunction with the California Digital Library (CDL). Dr. Vo has written the text for the portal. Digital materials are linked to finding aids in the online archive of California. Text items will have a MARC record. There are 1500 visual items and 4000 pages of text. Not books or

journal articles, these are materials that don't have copyright issues, such as government reports, photographs and ephemeral items. A very few newspaper articles are included. Writing to obtain copyright permission was a very laborious process.

The portal is intended for Asian American study for faculty and students. Material is categorized by ethnic group and topics such as refugees and immigrants, cultural practices,

social aspects, economic conditions, political issues and educational conditions. Maps, charts and bibliographies are also included. Twelve formats of materials are available. The focus of the collection is post 1975. About 20% of the collection will be online. The Web site will be available in the fall of 2005. There will be an exhibit July 1 in the UCI library. You can contact Anne Frank at afrank@uci.edu, (949) 824-4968.

Vietnamese Americans: Cultural & Personal Information Archiving (Part 2)

By Erica L. Lansdown

On March 21, a multi-course Vietnamese dinner enjoyed by LACASIS members and guests was the perfect segue to the program, Vietnamese Americans: Cultural & Personal Information Archiving. The event, held at Da Lat Bistro in Fountain Valley, began with a slide show by Dr. Jeff Brody, Communications Professor at Cal State University Fullerton. The photos, taken by CSU Fullerton, UC Irvine, and local high school students are meant to capture an insider's view of the Vietnamese community in southern California. Of the over 8,000 photos taken by the students, 110 will be on display at CSUF Pollak Library in April, part of the 30 year anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War.

Rachel Clemens then introduced Anne Frank, head of the Southeast Asian Archives at the University of California, Irvine, who spoke on SEAAdoc: Documenting the Southeast Asian American Experience, the web portal that is being created by the UCI Libraries which will contain digitized items from the collection. The archive was established in 1987 to document the experiences of refugees and immigrants from Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam who have resettled in the United States since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975. As Ms. Frank pointed out, according to the 2000 U.S. census, over 700,000, or approximately 40% of the Southeast Asian American population of the United States, lives in California. Orange

Erica L. Lansdown is a graduate student at San Jose State University's School of Library & Information Science at Fullerton

County has the largest Vietnamese population outside of Vietnam, and Long Beach has the largest overseas Cambodian population. UCI seemed the logical choice as a location to document and preserve these materials.

The collection includes paintings and drawings, many with political themes, created by Vietnamese boat people in refugee camps in Hong Kong, artifacts, books, correspondence, ephemera, films and videos, photographs, posters, and more. Though referred to as an archive, there are circulating and non-circulating materials, non-circulating consisting of the archival collections (which have finding aids in the Online Archive of California). The circulating collection also includes over 600 dissertations and theses. Students in UC Irvine's Asian American Studies program have collected items for the collection, and strong community involvement has yielded a large number of donations as well. The archive is open to the public but a UC library card is

required to check out circulating materials. Circulating materials also are available by Interlibrary Loan.

The digitization process has been made possible by an NEH grant. Only certain materials have been selected for digitization, however, because of copyright limitations. Furthermore, some material is presently restricted because of its personal nature so as not to endanger those refugees who have been forcibly repatriated to Vietnam. To date, about 1,500 visual items and 4,000 pages of text have been digitized. The site is meant to be a teaching tool and should be up and accessible by September. Visitors to the site will be able to search by topic, keyword, etc. and there will be bibliographies at the end of each section. Ms. Frank accompanied her talk with slides of materials that have been digitized.

The evening was a veritable feast for the eyes and imagination as well as for the stomach!

Personal Knowledge Management: Managing Information Overload – June 16, 2003

By Louisa Verma

The LACASIS Professional Development Workshop & Business Meeting was held on Thursday, June 16th at the Empress Pavilion Restaurant in the heart of Chinatown in downtown Los Angeles. Aura Lippincott from UCLA's Rosenfeld Management Library spoke

on the topic of "PKM." Ms. Lippincott started out explaining that the workshop was originally developed by Dr. Jason Frand and herself as information management training for incoming MBA students as an aid to putting information into a laptop and/or palm pilot.

Louisa Verma is Reference Librarian at the Specialty Coffee Association of America in Long Beach.

PKM is essentially a system designed by you for your individual use that will help to facilitate your own knowledge acquisition and manage any information overload you may have. Why do PKM? By facilitating your “intellectual capital” you build your value to your organization and expand your personal knowledge.

The first activity we were tasked with was to “Identify Your Roles”. This got us thinking about what knowledge we possess and the information we work with in the specific roles that we (or our organization) give ourselves. Roles are not limited to professional job descriptions but also those responsibilities we take on willingly as a volunteer either because we derive pleasure from them or otherwise deem them important.

Once roles were identified, we then broke each role into its various functions and commitments. Commitments are defined as those things that you volunteer to do but that the role does not necessarily require you to do. A function on the other hand is the required responsibility that comes with a particular role. These two groupings are not mutually exclusive but sometimes overlap when a function is something that you also would do even if not required. When thinking about roles don’t limit yourself to your present roles but think also of any “future roles” of who you would like to be.

Once you have defined your roles, set up file folders on your hard drive with the name of each role. Subfolders under each role will

include your functions, commitments or other ways of organizing the information that you find useful (such as chronologically). Then, set up parallel folders on all of your computers, recreate the structure everywhere you encounter information. As you transition into the new system, put all of your old files into one file and as you access the old files move them into the new file system.

The workshop continued with an overview of what is knowledge, types of knowledge (tacit and explicit) and how knowledge is transferred or acquired - the knowledge spiral. The knowledge spiral explains how knowledge is transferred from tacit to explicit and back again through Dialogue, Linking Explicit Knowledge to existing constructs, Learning by Doing and Field Building.

Our second task was to start creating our own PKM map, which segments each role into current and future strategies according to the 5 learning behaviors:

1. Acquiring/Creating
2. Storing/Filing
3. Evaluating/Assessing
4. Sharing/Collaborating
5. Disseminating

The next part of the presentation dealt with coping with information overload. For me, and perhaps for most participants, this part of the workshop was the most cathartic of the activities, as we have all experienced information overload as one of the “occupational

hazards” of our profession. Our activity sheet listed several coping mechanisms:

1. Ceasing – stop working with information before objective is reached
2. Convenience – processing information readily at hand
3. Filtering – looking at information at a higher level; putting items into categories prior to working with the information itself
4. Generalizing – drawing broad conclusions from minimal information; categorizing inputs and responses with less precision
5. Procrastinating – thinking about it, but putting it off

Our third and final task of the workshop was to evaluate each coping mechanism and

come up with a positive strategy for how it can be used. This was an invaluable exercise because it makes you focus on how you cope with information overload and realize that your coping mechanisms are purposeful when you can find ways to make them work for you instead of against you. For example, the “ceasing” coping mechanism can be used in a positive way when you put a time or source limit on a particular project. The “procrastinating” mechanism can be used as time given to formulate a plan that will allow you to gain the energy you need to carry out a project or to do a project more efficiently. These were a few of the ideas that workshop attendees offered up.

The workshop concluded with a wonderful seven-course, Chinese dinner in which everyone did their best to cope with “culinary overload”!