

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

**Cherie Feenker**

### Excellent News!

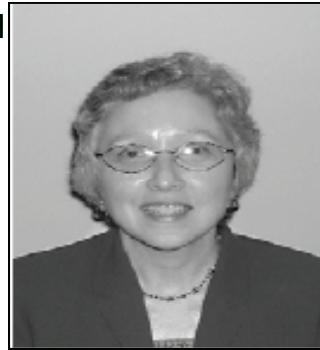
Congratulations to the Chapter in its participation in developing an outline for our near future. We now have an approved 2006 Budget and we have elected a slate of excellent officers.

During the May 6, 2005 meeting we visited with each other, toured the Vulcan Park and Museum, enjoyed lunch, and handled Chapter business. Earlier you were able to review the board suggested proposals for our transition which were communicated by email. During the meeting we used those ideas as a launching point for further discussion.

In a nutshell we have arranged for the transition

to a chapter-year based on the calendar year. Our officer terms will be staggered as we move toward that schedule. Some of the terms are designed to accommodate individual officers. Our 2006 budget approves financial backing for some of the concepts discussed in the proposals. During the meeting we were able to improve on some of the details.

We have an opportunity to design our chapter functions to benefit our unique needs. We need to continue to communicate what those needs are. We have members with experience with other SLA chapters and in other professional organizations. We have members who have a his-



tory of leadership in these organizations including years of involvement in this chapter. It is probably safe to say that we all have very busy lives. Collectively we are strong. If we speak up so we know what needs, hopes and schedules to meet and we all participate we can get a lot done. Please get involved. You are valued people and valuable resources.

This newsletter is the first published under Beata Walton's leadership. We

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## THE ART OF SPECIALIZATION: A FOCUS ON OUR DIVERSITY OF INTEREST

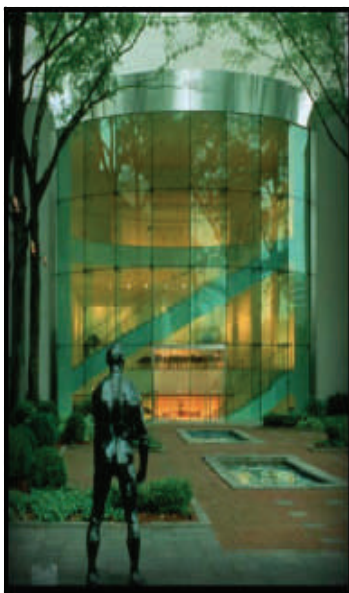
On October 14, 2004 the Fall Continuing Education Seminar was held at the Birmingham Museum of Art. It was a wonderful program that was hosted by Tatum Taylor-Preston. Tatum is a solo librarian of the Clarence B. Hanson Jr. Library, which is housed in the Birmingham Museum of Art.

The keynote speaker was Oliver Pesch from EBSCO Information Services. He is the chief strategist for E-Resources and he oversees the technical direction for EBSCO's Electronic Journals Services (EJS) and A-to-Z products. He gave an informative speech about how you can search for full text in all your databases by using a link resolver. *(Continued on page 2)*

### Check this Out...



- SLA's Career Articles and Resources: <http://www.sla.org/content/jobs/careerportal/index.cfm>
- SLA's 2005 Annual Conference: <http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2005/geninfo/index.cfm>
- University of Alabama's Library School Association: <http://www.slis.ua.edu/lsa>
- SLIS News: <http://www.slis.ua.edu/news.html>



Birmingham Museum of Art (Photo courtesy of BMA)

## THE ART OF SPECIALIZATION *(continued from page 1)*

Barbara Burton from Fac-tiva Inc., gave a presentation on “Creating your Elevator Talk.” She said that when developing your elevator talk, to focus on the benefits of your library, not the features. There were two breakout sessions, which included, “Converting MARC and EAD Records into Dublin Core” by Jason Kneip and “Public Health Information: Transmission of Disease from Animals to Human”

by Cindy Mitchell.

Ahmad Ward and Wayne Coleman gave a presentation on the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute's oral history project. They have done interviews with prominent figures from the Civil Rights era and created a searchable database of these interviews to be preserved for history to future historians.

Content DM and Olive Software sent representa-

tives to present their products on digital collection management.

Attendees were given a back scenes tour of the museum. They got to see how the museum stores their items, how they preserve their collection, and how they manage shows.

After the day's events, several attendees enjoyed a casual dinner and coffee at the Bombay Café.

## HISTORY BUFFS



Clarence B. Hanson, Jr. Library at the Birmingham Museum of Art (Photo courtesy of BMA)

If you are interested in reading or purchasing historical literature (fiction or non-fiction) you might want to review the Langum award winners. The Langum foundation is a private foundation that has a historical literature project (<http://www.langumtrust.org/histlit.htm>).

The goal is to reward and encourage the writing of historically accurate and readable books.

David Langum, the founder, is a professor at Cumberland School of Law. The annual awards are made at a reception co-sponsored by Birmingham Public Library, its Friends group, and the Langum Project. The winning authors are generally present and speak about their books.

## SLIS SOCIALS



SLIS (School of Library Studies, College of Communication and Information Sciences, The University of Alabama), has scheduled three informal social meetings this summer. Post card announcements were mailed to alumni and friends. If the School does not have your current address you can send it to Cherry Quinn ([cquinn@slis.ua.edu](mailto:cquinn@slis.ua.edu)). The Mobile meeting was held May 19. If interested contact Evelyn Smykla ([evelyn\\_smykla@cal1.uscourts.gov](mailto:evelyn_smykla@cal1.uscourts.gov)).

The Montgomery meeting will be held June 16. If interested contact Donna Schremser ([donnas@hpl.lib.al.us](mailto:donnas@hpl.lib.al.us)).

The Birmingham meeting will be held July 21. If interested contact Tatum Preston ([tpreston@artsbma.org](mailto:tpreston@artsbma.org)).

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *(continued from page 1)*

all thank her for stepping in and taking responsibility.

Hooray for Beata!

Special thanks to Robyn Tolle and Barbara Hedges who will represent the Chapter in Toronto at the Chapter Cabinet.

Likewise, thanks to all who have agreed and will agree to serve as officers and on committees. If you are interested in working on the program committee we need your help for our

next continuing education meeting. We have traditionally, at least recently, held this meeting in the Fall. This might shift as we develop our Chapter year. Opportunities exist to organize regional meeting and to work with our scholarship.

Thanks for your feedback and participation. Please get involved. I look forward to working with you.



Ron Dial has reported two new reference librarians at the Air University Library in Montgomery, AL: Susan Lipscomb and Kathie Blackmon. We would like to extend our warmest welcome to these two.



## IN MEMORY

### Helen Bush Cavers

Alabama has lost an educator and librarian. Helen Bush Cavers died April 22, 2005 in a traffic accident. In 1998 she retired from Jacksonville State University where she served as associate professor and librarian for over 25 years. One of her specialties was children's literature. Following her retirement she accepted a position at Savery Library, Talladega College.

<http://www.dailyhome.com/news/2005/as-anniston-0424-bwarren-5d23v2530.htm>

<http://digest.jsu.edu/#Caver> (look under "Recent Announcements")

## VIRTUAL LEARNING SERIES

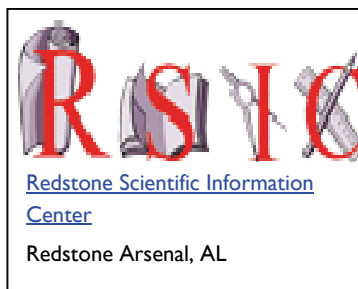
Martha Knott, the North-east Representative of the Alabama Chapter, has held five virtual learning seminars sponsored by SLA at her organization, Redstone Scientific Information Center. A virtual learning seminar is an interactive Web based presentation.

Since the meetings were

held close to lunch time, Martha used this opportunity to have people from her organization and people from outside her organization to network and learn at the same time.

The presenters included Stephen Abram, Howard McQueen, and Sue Henczel. The topics ranged from

elearning, to content management, to identifying users needs. To learn more about virtual leaning seminars and to see upcoming presentations go to: <http://www.sla.org/content/learn/learnmore/distance/2005virtsem/index.cfm>.





**Bulletin from the Alabama Chapter**

The Bridge is published twice a year: May & November. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month of publication. Contributors should submit materials to the managing editor.

**Editor, The Bridge**

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**2006 Proposed Budget (approved 5/6/05)**

Income/Expense	\$	Notes
<u>Income</u>		
	1125	Allotment
	1050	Reserves
<b>Total</b>	<b>2175</b>	
<u>Expense</u>	750	(Programming – 5 regional groups at \$150. This assumes that the CE meeting pays for itself/breaks even.)
	200	Scholarship
	150	Bank – currently \$10/month. Recently purchased checks.
	75	Operating and miscellaneous
	500	President support (meeting expense)
	250	President-Elect (meeting support)
	250	CE program
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2175</b>	

**OFFICERS AND THEIR TERMS**

Office	Person	Term ends	Comments
<b>President</b>	Cherie Feenker	2005	This extends term to end on the year.
	Tatum Preston	2006	
<b>President-Elect</b>	Ginny Allen	May 6	
	Tatum Preston	2005	Willing to help take the short term as President-Elect. She would serve as President during 2006.
	Mangala Krishnamurthy	2006	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Laura Khachadorian	September 2005	
	Sherie Mattox	2006	August/September 2005 through 2006
<b>Past President</b>	Ron Dial	2005	
	Cherie Feenker	2006	
<b>Secretary</b>	Helen Walker	2006	Willing and able to serve the two terms.
<b>Web master and news-letter editor</b>	Beata Walton	2006	Willing and able to serve through 2006.