



President's Letter Greetings from Mangala Krishnamurthy

Wish you all a very happy Year 2007!

I would like to thank the SLA-AL Chapter members for giving me the opportunity to serve as the chapter's president. I look forward to working with you to move our chapter in the right direction as we begin the chapter activities for year 2007.

As you know, this past year, the chapter had the opportunity to invite SLA president elect (at the time), now the president of SLA, Ms. Vargha to visit the state. Those of us who attended the fall workshop knows that it was a great success. On behalf of SLA-AL Chapter, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tatum Preston for her

leadership, dedication and commitment to make it all happen! She has worked very hard for giving us a year filled with activities in 2006. Thank you Tatum!

Thanks also to all of you who have taken leadership roles and/or who have agreed to serve this year. I would like to encourage others to actively participate in upcoming Chapter activities. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of one of the officers if you have a sug-



gestion/comment. Your participation and feedback is very important to steer the chapter in the right direction. Let us have a year filled with educational and networking events.

Thank you again. Please encourage your co-workers to join the association/ chapter if they are new or have not had the opportunity to join the association. I look forward to working with you. I am willing to listen to your comments and recommendations. Please feel free to contact me at mkrishna@bama.ua.edu or 205-348-2109

Coming together is a beginning, staying together is a process, and working together is a success. – Henry Ford

Air University Hosted the 50th Military Librarians Workshop



Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery hosted the 50th Military Librarians Workshop, sponsored by the Military Librarians Division of SLA. The workshop was held in San Antonio, and the theme was "Golden Reflections and Directions". Between 150-

200 military librarians attended and speakers included Dr. Fred Heath, Vice Provost of the University of Texas Libraries; Mr. Robert B. Lane, Director Emeritus of the Air University Library; and Dr. Missy Cummings, Boeing Assistant Professor in the Aeronautics & Astronaut-

ics Department at MIT, and one of the first Navy female fighter pilots. Since Air University hosted the 1st, 25th and now the 50th MLW, they are setting the stage for the 75th Anniversary Workshop in the year 2031!

-Dr. Shirley Brooks Laseter

Don't forget to renew your membership with SLA and be sure to mark that you want to be part of the Alabama Chapter!



A New Book by Kim Dority

Rethinking Information Work: A Career Guide for Librarians and Other Information Professionals

This book will help students as well as current professionals explore different careers of library science— traditional, nontraditional and independent.

Letter from Tatum Preston, Past President

Hello SLA Alabama Chapter members!

On October 20, the chapter hosted its annual Fall Professional Development Conference at Troy State Montgomery. Around 20 members and guests were in attendance, and I think everyone enjoyed the day's programs and fellowship. Thanks to all who attended and to our speakers!

We continue to focus on the student chapter at the University of Alabama's School of Library and Information Studies, and have gained several new members through this group. Welcome, student members! I know your SLA

membership will provide great networking opportunities and learning tools.

As always, thank you to everyone who works to support and promote our SLA chapter.

Finally, as I hand over the office of chapter president to Mangala Krishnamurthy, I'd like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as chapter president. It has been a



pleasure serving you, and I look forward to watching our chapter continue to grow under Mangala's leadership.

Tatum Preston
President

tpreston@artsbma.org

205-254-2982

2007 Programs to be hosted by the Chapter Tentative Dates/Programs

March 23, 2007

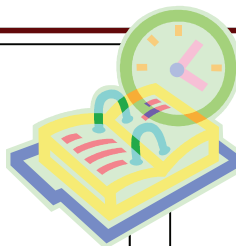
**Knowledge Management
Workshop at UA campus,
Tuscaloosa**

(Topic and presenters details
TBA)

April 19, 2007

**Special Libraries
and Librarianship
in Alabama: A
Panel Discussion**

ALLA Annual Conference,



October 2007

**Alabama Chapter of
SLA's Fall Workshop**

(Topic/Venue/date to be
decided)

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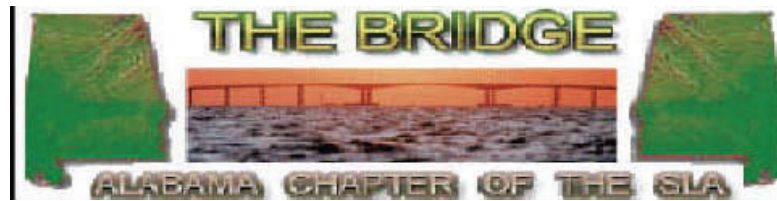
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ALABAMA CHAPTER OF SLA

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A big Welcome to
 our new members!

**SLA ANNUAL
 CONFERENCE**

SLA will hold its Annual Conference in Denver, CO, 3-6 June 2007 at the Colorado Convention Center. The conference will create an environment for networking, communication, learning and other developmental opportunities for information professionals.

[Online registration for SLA 2007 will open around the middle of January 2007](#)

We're on the web!

<http://www.sla.org/chapter/cal/>



Student Spotlight: Piper Cumbo and Virginia Allison

Piper Cumbo and Virginia Allison, student members of our chapter, are completing MLIS degrees at the University of Alabama's School of Library and Information Studies. We asked them what got them interested in special librarianship, and what they have learned as SLIS students.

Piper: Every librarian and library student I meet is fascinating, multi-talented, and intelligent, with unique abilities and knowledge. Special libraries allow librarians to truly flex this uniqueness. While attending SLIS, I have been employed at a Birmingham law firm as their librarian. I did not grow up thinking I wanted to be a librarian, but with my background as a paralegal and a degree in English, this is the perfect career for me. Being a special librarian has shown me how diverse librarianship is. Every day I have the ability to learn and help at the same time. UA SLIS has taught me how to apply professional skills to benefit myself, my employers, and library patrons. Equally important is networking with colleagues. I can't imagine getting through my career without the support systems I've found. Special libraries nourish both librarians and patrons on their information journeys. I feel so lucky to have found this profession, these fellow students, and the special libraries community.

Virginia: I first became interested in special libraries while teaching art at a small private Montessori school in Birmingham, AL. One of my student's parents mentioned that her sister worked at a special library in an art museum and really enjoyed her work. She put me in contact with this librarian who assured me that a career in special librarianship is both attainable and enjoyable. I enrolled in the SLIS program in 2005, one year ago to date and am now slated to graduate this December. During my time as a SLIS student, I have had many fantastic opportunities to gain skills and experience beyond the classroom through involvement in groups like the student chapter of SLA. Being a student at SLIS has given me the opportunity to work, network, and intern in multiple capacities so that I might find and develop my professional interests. I have determined that I would like to work with marketing and outreach activities that provide community education and generate interest in the holdings and strengths of a repository. I am looking forward to joining the community of library professionals and appreciate those who have taken the time to mentor our student SLA group.