



BULLETIN

The Newsletter of the Boston Chapter of the Special Libraries Association

Winter 2002

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

HIGHLIGHTS

IP Management Workshop “**extremely valuable.**” Handouts available (page 3).

Boston Chapter members **Ethel Salonen** and **Buzzy Basch** run for Association offices (pages 4-7).

Student Relations: SLA Student Chapter formed at Simmons (page 9). Essay contest announced – deadline is April 11, 2003 (page 10).

Time to sign-up for **Day on the Job** (page 10-12).

Network! Chat with the SLA President and President-elect (page 6) ... lunch with the PHT Division (page 9) ... host a student (page 10 and 11) ... join the listserv (page 15) ... check and update your contact information (page 15).

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PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Submitted by **Kathy McCabe** – kathymccab@aol.com

Greetings fellow Boston Chapter SLA members! I can’t believe the holiday season is already upon us and that it’s time to publish our *Winter Bulletin*. Our year is off to a great start! We had a wonderful turnout at our Fall Kick-Off Meeting at the beautiful Bay Tower at Sixty State Street. The weather was perfect; the views spectacular; the food and service were outstanding; and the conversations were flowing. I was delighted to see so many members turn out for the event and equally pleased to meet many potential members who joined us for the evening. We are grateful to Factiva for sponsoring the evening. We enjoyed the chance to speak with **Morrissey Perfetti** and the other Factiva representatives. A special thank you to the Logistics Committee, especially **Barbara Mann** and **David Ware**, and to the Vendor Support Committee, especially **Sue Wolfman**, for all of their help in making this event a success!

The first of many programs was held in October and although I could not attend personally, I have heard rave reviews of the Professional Development program, *Your Role in Intellectual Property Management: Contributing to the Best Practices of the Organization*. Many thanks to **Lynda Moulton**, Professional Development Chair, for all her efforts in pulling this meeting together. In these interesting and often challenging economic times, it is important to keep our core competencies up to date and to add skills to our repertoire. Now more than ever, we must challenge ourselves to find new ways to continue to add value to the organizations we work for. I applaud Lynda for organizing a Professional Development meeting that may have helped some of us meet this challenge!

If you’re like me and you were not able to attend the *Intellectual Property Management* workshop, read the article about the session that appears on page 3 of this *Bulletin*. Note the special offer from the Professional Development Committee -- we can obtain handouts and summaries from the meeting thanks to Lynda’s extra effort to maximize access to the information shared at the workshop.

I also encourage all of you to take advantage of the wonderful programs being planned for the remainder of the 2002/2003 SLA year by **Liz Bibby** and the Program Committee.

They are dedicated to planning programs that will help us sharpen our skills and perhaps add some new ones that will help us become even more valuable to our organizations than we already are!

Hopefully most of you are reading this *Bulletin* online. Kudos to **Teresa Frydryk** for her continuing work on publishing a great *Bulletin* and to **Mary Jo Boland** for publishing it on the web and for keeping our web site current. During our recent Board meeting we had a discussion about converting more of our paper notices into e-mail and web only. Some of our fellow Chapters are already using electronic means only for advertising events.

As we all know the cost of postage and printing continues to rise. The Chapter is spending approximately \$400 on postage and printing each meeting notice that we send out in print. On an annual basis we could save approximately \$2,400 by converting to electronic formats. In order for us to implement this plan successfully we would like to encourage all members to join the Chapter listserv. On page 15, you will find instructions on how to join the list.

For those of you interested in reading about the other topics discussed at the Board meeting I encourage you to visit the Boston Chapter's web site at <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cbos/>. **Bob Moore**, Secretary for the Chapter, is doing a great job in capturing our discussions and publishing the minutes of our meeting. I'm sure I speak for the entire Board when I ask you to let us know what we can do to improve the Chapter. Please send your thoughts and ideas to me at kathymccab@aol.com and I will be sure to share them with the Board.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events! Happy Holidays to All!!



Kathy McCabe
President,
Boston Chapter SLA

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A listing of current Board Members can be found at <http://www.sla.org/content/chdiv/chapters/chapter.cfm>.



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YOUR ROLE IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MEETING UPDATE

Submitted by **Lynda Moulton** – lmoulton@lwmtechnology.com

The Boston Chapter was fortunate to have two excellent speakers on intellectual property management as presenters, together with five chapter members who have impressive career track records to lead discussion groups at our October 28 meeting. Evaluations gave high marks to these participants and pronounced the meeting “extremely valuable.”

Beginning with Professor **Nermien A. Al-Ali** of the Franklin Pierce Law Center, who placed intellectual property (IP) in its appropriate context *in the field of knowledge management (KM)*, and following with Mr. **Mark Williams** of Monsanto, who gave a real-world example of why carefully managing IP matters to an institution, the group heard much that relates to their roles as special librarians. It appeared that everyone gained an understanding that intellectual property is not just patents, trademarks and copyright and that it relates to non-profit, academic, consulting, and commercial institutions.

From the concept of what IP is (and is not), we learned that its management is solidly rooted in knowledge management. We also learned that intellectual property is derived from intellectual capital, in other words, “all business intellectual capital resources and assets.”

Once these fundamental definitions were established, a variety of models and scenarios provided examples of where organizations establish value from these resources and assets.

Professional Development Committee thanks

Inmagic, Inc
DIALOG
Invention Machine

for their support of this workshop.

Given that *knowledge relationships, codification, filtering, retrieval, and sharing* were recurrent themes for the rest of the day, it became apparent what competencies special librarians could utilize to participate in KM processes for managing various aspects of IP. Our

afternoon group leaders demonstrated their deep understanding of our profession by guiding roundtable topics to reinforce concepts learned in the morning sessions.

Hats off to **Josephine Cavallo, Ethel Salonen, Jean Scanlon, Ruth Seidman, and Joyce Ward** who summarized the essence of each group’s conclusions at the end of the day.

Special Offer from Professional Development

If you want to have some of the valuable information that was shared at the meeting, the speakers have agreed to share their presentations electronically. We have also captured the Questions and Answers that followed the presentations, and the summaries of the roundtables as presented by the group leaders in a panel discussion.

In addition, we have compiled substantive bibliographies of books and very current articles (many with URLs to public content), and summaries of “best practice” ideas that formed the launching pad for the roundtables. Three vendors with very timely products for researching to support IP and for managing IP provided information on their wares as well.

Packages of all these materials are available from:

Lynda Moulton
LWM Technology Services
308 Old Littleton Road
Harvard, MA 01451-1417.

Please send a check, payable to Boston Chapter, SLA for \$25, together with a clear order form containing your mailing address to a US Postal Service address. This covers the printed materials, electronic content on diskette, and the mailing

Allow two weeks from receipt of check until delivery. Like all of our chapter activities, preparing packages and shipping is a volunteer effort and we would like to process these in batch for our own efficiency.

UPCOMING ASSOCIATION ELECTION

The slate of candidates for the 2002-2003 Special Libraries Association Board of Directors is available at the SLA web site -- <http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/Structure/200203BoardofDirCan.cfm> -- along with short biographies of the candidates. Among the people listed are two Boston Chapter members – **Ethel Salonen** running for President-elect and **Buzzy Basch** running for Treasurer. They each took the time to meet with their respective interviewers –former SLA President **Ruth Seidman** (1990-1991) and Boston Chapter Past President **Margaret Howe-Soper** -- so that their Boston Chapter colleagues could get a sneak preview of their platforms for the Association. Ethel's interview appears below and Buzzy's begins on page 7.

ETHEL SALONEN – YOU'VE GOT QUESTIONS? SHE'S GOT ANSWERS!

A LIBRARIAN ON THE CUSP OF THE ROLLER COASTER

Submitted by **Ruth Seidman** – rks@mit.edu

Ethel, what are the greatest challenge(s) facing today's information professional, and how would you go about addressing this?

Our profession is at the cusp of an amazing roller coaster ride. For years we have always been known for our abilities to acquire, disseminate, and analyze information. Our first challenge was the advent of accessibility to information at everyone's desktop. Academic and military institutions were the early adopters with their CD-ROM networked sources, their gopher interfaces to Internet based content, and their library pages on the network that not only provided access to information, but also marketed their services. When the corporate community began to embrace the Internet, and eventually web based platforms, the value of the information professional, and the information center, became questioned. As information centers closed, many of our professional colleagues were laid off or absorbed into other functions. We had to learn to do more with less and had to explain to our senior management why it was vital to spend the \$20,000 on a news service for its breadth and depth of content and its accuracy of information versus just getting it "free" off the internet. I am sitting in that car, on the cusp of the roller coaster, and envision the following:

- ✦ We can convince management of our value by identifying the key players within the organization and aligning ourselves with them.
- ✦ We can manage expectations by ensuring that the best information tools are available to our clients and that they are the ones that are suited to our clients' needs.
- ✦ We can solve the "free versus fee" argument by proving to management, with real time results, that the "fee" based service identified issues that the company needed to realize before proceeding with a product, and that the "free" based service was not robust enough to identify this information.
- ✦ We can adapt to change around us by evaluating some of our traditional services and tailoring our offerings to meet the needs of our clients.

What is the greatest challenge facing SLA today, and how would you go about addressing this?

We are facing declining membership that translates into declining revenues. In order to effectively serve its clients, SLA delivers services on multiple platforms (web site, virtual seminars, discussion lists, *Information Outlook*, conferences) that result in expenses that are difficult to pay for. The economic recovery has been slow, slower than expected. Our partners and sponsors are affected by the economic conditions so their fiscal contributions to SLA have been pulled back somewhat and they are funding services that are of the most value to them.

Knowing all these factors, I would address our declining membership by working with the Board and the Unit Leadership in identifying what services are crucial for our members and which ones can be scaled back. I recommend that we market the Association to other groups that do not fall within our current population -- information architects,

competitive intelligence professionals, knowledge managers, web masters, portal designers, taxonomy professionals, sales and marketing personnel -- by realigning the focus of the Association to include all these groups. Ruth, when you were president of SLA, you spearheaded our international activities by creating "International Special Librarians Day." This initiative prompted SLA to penetrate the international information community, which resulted in two new chapters -- the Arabian Gulf and the Asian Chapter. If we wish to continue our international focus, then I would work towards identifying how we can tailor our services to meet those needs. Our current partners and sponsors are wonderful and have done a lot to assist the Association in its efforts to grow and sustain membership. I would like to see partnerships develop with more organizations. I would work with SLA headquarters on identifying, and nurturing the relationship with key players who are outside of our traditional partnership arena.

Describe one of your past "jobs" with SLA, and what you think was the special contribution you made?

This is a very difficult question. I have had a wonderful career as a member of SLA. From my leadership activities within the Boston Chapter, to my division assignments, to my leadership on the Board of Directors, and my leadership activities with Association committees, I have grown, matured, and have learned more than I could have ever hoped for. I enjoyed my work on the various conference committees, especially the LA Conference where I led the efforts of a dynamic group of individuals as the Chair. Probably the most important assignment that I was given was Chair of the Partnership Taskforce. Five task forces were formed in 2000. Each of these task forces -- conferences, membership, simplification, branding, and partnership -- were tasked to prepare the roadmap for the future of the Association. The Partnership Taskforce was a natural for me since I had spent 11 exciting years working for two information vendors -- Dialog and Primark. The efforts of our committee resulted in a document that identified who SLA should target for partnership relationships, how these partnerships would align with our mission, vision, and goals, and the values we each would receive. At the moment, the recommended initiatives are on hold until a new Executive Director is hired and until we receive the Branding Taskforce recommendations. I am honored to have been a part of this "roller coaster" ride!



Ethel Salonen
Boston Chapter Member
SLA President-Elect
Candidate, 2003-2004

What major public policy issue(s) will be important in the information field (national and/or international) over the next several years, and how can SLA contribute to positive outcomes?

SLA has had a long history of public policy involvement. There has been an SLA staff member assigned to identify key issues that impact our profession and our Association members. In order to be truly international, we will need to identify those same issues our colleagues outside of the United States face. Copyright is an issue that is always on my mind since I need to ensure that all staff within my organization complies with digital copyright issues. One of our sites is in the United Kingdom where they are governed by another set of copyright legislation. An ideal service would be one where SLA members have access to a web site that identifies public policy issues with an international focus. Other issues include the GPO and NTIS proposed closures. Are there similar events occurring outside the United States? We have had much discussion over the Homeland Security Act and how intelligence senior managers are not tapping into, or are not aware, of the expertise an informational professional has in delving into "intelligence" areas. SLA has already, and should continue, to market our services to the governing agencies in question. This is where the President and the Board of Directors can assist the Executive Director to identify those key areas.

How best can the Association build on its international footprint to become even more relevant to information professionals in light of the globalization of information?

This is more than just a simple question you are asking. It addresses our fundamental vision as an international association. When I say international, I am referring to all members who reside outside of the United States. We have many active chapters in Canada, a robust European Chapter, an Arabian Gulf Chapter, and an Asian Chapter. Outside of Canada, I do not see much activity or information coming from those members. We do not have chapters in Latin America, Australia, or Africa. Why is that? How can the Association be relevant to these communities? We have an

International Relations Committee and numerous international relations representatives within our units, who have given us answers embedded in their various annual reports and taskforce reports. These answers address how we can become “more relevant” in light of the globalization of information. SLA has begun the process by offering virtual seminars that take advantage of telecommunication technologies. We need to investigate virtual annual conference attendance. We also need to boost our support for regional conferences that are held on each of the continents outside of North America. Effective partnering with non-SLA associations in each of these continents is one approach to deliver a high quality, value driven conference experience. The answers are there, we just need to decide how much we are willing to invest in ensuring that we truly are an international association.

Since the Association is working on branding and a possible name change, what are the characteristics that a good name and a tag line should encompass?

We are sitting in that car on the cusp of the roller coaster again. I am proud to call myself a librarian; I even enter that as my occupation on my income tax forms! I acquire information, I distribute it, I ensure its value and accessibility, I work with cross functional teams on identifying ways in which information can effectively be used within various departments, I work to ensure the services are adopted by my clients with proper education tools, I work with our portal team to architect our portal page so that it is easy to navigate and makes sense to my clients. I used to analyze information and presented it to my clients in such a way that the critical assessments were clearly outlined, and I work with my clients to ensure that the right product and service is available to them. I have done all of these functions as a librarian, an information specialist, an account executive, a sales director, and now a content manager. Our name should reflect all of these characteristics and more. We are information professionals who operate in international settings and our name should reflect these qualities. I would like to quote from Marydee Ojala’s column, “The Homepage”, in the November/December 2002 issue of *Online*: ...“keep our traditional values while learning new skills...” This is so true.

I am a good sales person, but not good at creative marketing. I always thought our tag line, “Putting Knowledge to Work”, was ideal until **Peter Drucker** mentioned at the 2002 Los Angeles Conference -- “I don’t know how you put knowledge to work -- information is what makes knowledge”. I still feel “Putting Knowledge to Work” is valuable. Some other concepts: “information strategies”, “we make it happen”, “information at your finger-tips”. We obviously need to decide on our brand name and go from there -- the tag lines will follow

Anything else you would like to say to the members of the Boston Chapter?

I am having a wonderful time on this roller coaster ride and would be thrilled to help steer the cars to their smooth entry into the world of information. I hope you will join me.

PROGRAM UPDATE: COMING IN FEBRUARY 2003

Submitted by **Tom Clark** – Thomas.Clark@sun.com

This is an exciting and yet, perplexing time to be a special librarian: Many of us are gaining more authority and responsibility within our organizations at the same time others among us are losing our jobs. Special librarians are exploring rebranding, dealing with the Patriot Act, changing our bylaws, and generally, staying at the forefront and always in the spotlight of a beehive of activity in the business and academic world.

Wouldn't you like a chance to hear from the leaders of our organization? Even better, wouldn't you love a chance to tell them what you think? You're going to get that chance in February 2003.

Current SLA President, **Bill Fischer** (San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science), and incoming SLA President **Cindy Hill** (Sun Microsystems) will be joining our Chapter via a videoconference. Here's your chance to "chat with the Presidents." Keep an eye on our Chapter list and web site for electronic notices and on your mailbox for a postcard that will detail this exciting opportunity for our Chapter members!

BUZZY BASCH:

ENTREPRENEUR, TEACHER, AUTHOR, NAVY MAN, PLANNER AND DOER
GOOD WITH PEOPLE AND NUMBERS. GROWING WITH THE ASSOCIATION SINCE 1979

Submitted by **Margaret Howe-Soper** – mhowesoper@hbs.edu

N. Bernard (Buzzy) Basch, a member of the Boston Chapter since 1979, is running for Treasurer of SLA.

In a recent interview, **Buzzy Basch** said that he is running “because the Nominating Committee asked me,” because he wants to help, and because he has the skill and experience to do so. He indicated that he doesn’t aspire to be in a leadership position, but likes to be where the action is and to be helpful.

What Buzzy would bring to the Office of Treasurer is a long-time involvement with SLA in various roles and business acumen honed by education and experience. He has served as Northern Outreach Chair of the Boston Chapter, Illinois Chapter Treasurer, Chair of the Library Management and Public Relations Committees as well as a member or officer of other boards and committees.

In private life, Buzzy grew up in Winthrop, MA. He holds degrees (BS in Business Administration and an MBA) from Washington University in St. Louis. Currently he sits on the National Council for the University’s Libraries. He served in the United States Navy for five years as an aviation officer. Interest in libraries came professionally with work at several firms including Faxon and EBSCO.

A stint in Chicago (with EBSCO) coincided with his son’s graduation from college. Freed of college tuition bills, Buzzy decided to branch out into his own business, Basch Subscriptions based in Concord, NH. He also taught computer systems for business at Northeastern University for 15 years and in 1990, co-authored *Buying Serials: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians* (published by Neal-Schuman) with Judy McQueen.

Buzzy attributes his business education as well as roles in the Navy, business, and professional associations (including SLA) as opportunities that helped him to develop the interpersonal skills and the confidence to speak and to ask the hard questions in all kinds of situations. He indicated that these skills would be applied if he is elected to the position of Treasurer.

It is no secret that the SLA Board will have to make some hard financial decisions in the coming years. Last year the Association lost about \$500,000 and the Washington building in which the Association is housed is not really manageable office space. Buzzy feels strongly

that someone has to be willing to ask the right questions and be sure that members of the Board understand the implications of their votes. In the interview, he said that the Board would have to be conservative with expenses and revenue projections. As Treasurer, he would work diligently with the Board and the staff to clarify all financial decisions that have to be made. He feels that part of his role as Treasurer would be to challenge all assumptions.

Among the greatest issues facing the Association at this time is the search for the new Executive Director, decisions around selling or leasing the current headquarters building (an asset worth \$6-7 million), staffing needs balances with services, and especially, the assurance that the membership has good value for their membership dollars. The latter comes about through efficient services, good financial management, and robust programming that will attract new members and keep long-time ones. Finally, Buzzy would like to see more people involved in more committees as a means of networking and providing the opportunities that would help people connecting to enhance their careers.

Buzzy calls himself a workaholic -- he enjoys himself tremendously while he’s going about his business and his work with library associations. He travels to conferences as part of his business, and takes part in local and national SLA meetings because he likes to see old friends. In his “spare” time, he enjoys reading and gardening and he takes pride in his adult son and daughter who sell real estate respectively in the Boston area and California.

In closing, **Buzzy Basch** is running for Treasurer because he wants to help the Association and he feels that his professional experience and financial background would be useful in this time of need.





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INFORMATION TO CHANGE THE WORLD

SLA Boston Chapter & Pharmaceutical and Health Technology Division Networking Lunch

Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc., September 25, 2002

Submitted by **Ethel Salonen** -- salonen@mpi.com

When I started with Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc. in May 2002 as the Manager of External Content, I heard that there used to be a networking group of Cambridge, MA biotechnology and pharmaceutical librarians who met for lunch during the year. The group disbanded a few years back and I decided to form it again. Our first networking lunch was on Wednesday, September 25, 2002 at Millennium Pharmaceuticals. Our network consists of 50 members from the Cambridge, Boston, Route 128, Maine, and New Hampshire, biomedical, biotechnology, biopharmaceutical and medical organizations in Massachusetts. Over 30 arrived and after lunch, we delved into a discussion of our mission and where we wanted to go from here.

We identified topics that we felt were important for the group. These included:

- branding and marketing
- knowledge management
- information services
- sources of information
- intellectual capital
- additional areas

We spent some time discussing the topics and decided that our next meeting, which is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19th, 2002, at Millennium Pharmaceuticals, be devoted to Information Services. Each one of us will bring to the meeting a list of information services we wish to discuss. These discussions will help many of us solidify our content purchase decisions for 2003. And it will be fun to network and find out how everyone has survived 2002!

SLA Student Chapter Formed at Simmons College

Submitted by **Millie Gonzalez** -- vmg569@yahoo.com

As president of the SLA Student Chapter at Simmons College, I am proud to introduce our student organization known as SLA@Simmons. Our goal is to inform students of opportunities in special librarianship, to promote networking, and to forge a relationship with the Boston Chapter of SLA. Students are not required to be members of SLA to attend our meetings but are encouraged to do so. On behalf of our organization, I extend a warm greeting. We hope for a fruitful, long-lasting relationship with the Boston Chapter membership.

To facilitate active participation among our membership, we have devised several vehicles of communication: a listserv, an Intranet, and a website. Announcements will be posted on the student listserv. We will post meeting notes, populate the calendar with librarian related events, and conduct virtual meetings through the Intranet via WebCT. Like other student chapters across the country, we plan to market ourselves virtually with the creation of a website.

We have an ambitious agenda for the upcoming semester. Our goal is to hold a panel discussion composed of special librarians, support the SLA Boston Chapter's Day on the Job event, and create a bibliography on special librarianship for the students. We will encourage the members of SLA's Boston Chapter to recruit our members for internships.

Boston Chapter members – we want to hear from you!

Please send us your thoughts to my email address -- vmg569@yahoo.com
-- and I will share them with the student group.

STUDENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE NOTES

Submitted by Alan Thibeault – athibeault@bostonherald.com

DAY ON THE JOB 2003

The phrase "special librarianship" is difficult for many people to define in a concise manner. This is largely because the work we do varies so greatly from one setting to another. To add to the confusion, special librarians need not work strictly in those venues traditionally thought of as corporate. For this reason, many library science students have a hard time getting a firm grasp on who we are and what we do.

To promote better understanding of special libraries, the Boston Chapter offers its annual *Day on the Job* program. *Day on the Job* affords library and information science students an opportunity to spend all or part of a day with a special librarian. This gives students a practical look at special librarianship.

Day on the Job will take place during the month of March 2003. The Student Relations Committee has been fortunate over the years to have fantastic support from chapter members who volunteer to act as hosts.

For the past two years, student turnout has been somewhat lower than in previous years. As a result, some volunteer hosts have not been utilized. If this has happened to you, please don't be discouraged from volunteering again this year.

In fact, we're anticipating a higher number of students this year due, in part, to support from the newly-reactivated student group at Simmons College. (See page 9 for an intro to the new SLA Student Chapter at Simmons.) Additionally, we're hoping for greater participation from those students enrolled at GSLIS at Mount Holyoke College. Thus, we may need more hosts from the western part of the state.

If you're interested in volunteering to be a host for this worthwhile program, see the additional information and volunteer form located on page 11.

If you are a library science student and would like to participate, see the additional information and student signup form on page 12.

Look for digital versions of the forms on the chapter listserv and web site soon as well as on the Simmons College Library and Information Science Student Association (LISSA) listserv.

STUDENT STIPEND ESSAY CONTEST

Even though the weather is cold, spring is mere months away. With spring comes the end of the school year and the SLA Annual Conference. Each year, the Chapter awards a stipend to a library science student to attend the conference. Last year, **Stephanie White** was awarded a \$1500.00 stipend to attend the conference in Los Angeles.

The amount of this year's award to attend the 2003 conference in New York City has not, as of the date this article was submitted, been determined by the Chapter's executive board. However, students planning to participate in the contest can begin to get ready now.

Essays should be 300-500 words long and discuss the conference's theme, *Putting Knowledge to Work*.

- What does this theme mean to you?
- How does it relate to what you've learned from your studies and experience?
- How might it be applied to your immediate or long-term career goals?
- How does it apply to the way in which special librarians meet the information needs of their clients and companies?

Students **MUST** be members of SLA to participate. The deadline for submissions is April 11, 2003. Look for more information on the contest on the Chapter's listserv as well as the LISSA listserv and in fliers at GSLIS starting in January.

VOLUNTEER HOST SIGN-UP FORM

SLA DAY ON THE JOB 2003

The Student Relations Committee of the Boston Chapter of the Special Libraries Association is planning the annual SLA Day on the Job which will take place during the month of March 2003. In this annual program, we make arrangements for library science students to experience first-hand the typical day of a special librarian. Students can meet one-on-one with host librarians for several hours or the entire day. In past years, hosts tell us that they often gain as much from the visits as the students. We will match each student to a specific type(s) of libraries or to a particular library of interest if possible. We will match students to libraries and notify students and hosts in early March.

Should you decide to host, we will provide you with the name of your student(s) and contact information. You may set the day and time of the visit. The goal is for the visit to be done sometime during the month of March.

If you are interested in hosting, please fill out this form and send it to

Alan Thibeault
Boston Herald Library
One Herald Square
Boston, MA 02106

Or fax the form to 617-542-1314, Attention Alan Thibeault.
You may also email your information to athibeault@bostonherald.com.
(Watch the Chapter's listserv for an electronic version of the form.)
Questions? Please call Alan at 617-619-6679.

Name _____

Email _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Fax _____

Subject area(s) (please circle):

Business/Finance Environment Medical Sci-Tech
Arts/Humanities Law Newspaper
Other _____

Type of workplace (please circle):

Corporate Academic Solo Government Vendor
Other _____

Accessible by public transportation? _____ yes _____ no

How many students can you host (either simultaneously or separately)? _____

Thank you for supporting this program!

STUDENT SIGN UP SHEET

DAY ON THE JOB 2003

HOSTED BY THE BOSTON CHAPTER, SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

Would you like to spend a day in a special library? Think of it as a one-day internship or perhaps as a chance to visit a DIFFERENT type of library, one that you haven't seen before.

The Boston Chapter will once again conduct its annual Day on the Job in March 2003. This program enables you to experience a "typical" day in a special library. During February 2003, we will be match students as closely as possible with a library or libraries in a subject specialty of their choice. Placement preferences will be granted based on the number of courses taken to date and intended date of graduation as well as host library availability. You may request to visit more than one library. We will announce placements at the beginning of March 2003. Your host(s) will then contact you to make arrangements for your visit. Only email addresses and/or telephone numbers will be provided to the host libraries.

If you are interested, print and complete this form, and send to **Alan Thibeault**, Boston Herald Library, One Herald Square, Boston, MA 02106 or fax to 617-542-1314. **Deadline for application is February 24, 2003.**

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____ Fax _____

Expected Date of Graduation (month/year) _____ # of courses taken (including those you are taking this semester) _____

Please rank your areas of interest

(1-6, highest to lowest)

- ___ Arts/Humanities
- ___ Business/Finance
- ___ Environment
- ___ Law
- ___ Medical
- ___ Newspaper
- ___ Sci-Tech
- ___ Other (please specify) _____

Please rank the type of setting you prefer

(1-6, highest to lowest)

- ___ Academic
- ___ Corporate
- ___ Government
- ___ Nontraditional (Vendor, publisher, etc)
- ___ Other (please specify) _____
- ___ Solo
- ___ No Preference

If there are particular libraries you would like to visit, please list your top three and we will try to match you with one. (We first try to place students with all of the hosts who volunteer on their own.)

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

Do you prefer a certain geographic location? Which area? _____

Many host libraries are not easily accessible by public transportation. Please check the statement which best describes your needs.

___ Don't place me in a library unless it is convenient to public transportation.

___ I'd prefer the library to be on public transportation but it is not necessary.

___ No preference.

___ I'd prefer to drive to the suburbs.

Are you a member of SLA? ___ Yes ___ No

Note: SLA membership is not a requirement for participation in the "Day on the Job" program.

Comments: _____

Please send this form to: **Alan Thibeault**, Boston Herald Library, One Herald Square, Boston, MA 02106.

Voice: 617-619-6678. Fax: 617-542-1314. Email: athibeault@bostonherald.com

NEW MEMBERS

Submitted by **Sandra Peters** -- speters@wellesley.edu

Alison E. Adams
Roslindale, MA

Abigail J. Al-Doory
Tufts Music Library
Medford, MA

John W. Boynton
Park Loop LLC
Concord, MA

Nancy L. Byrne
Factiva
Boston, MA

Meighan Cappello
Genzyme
Cambridge, MA

Joshua M. Clarke
J. Robert Scott Research
Boston, MA

Ann Gibson Cullen
Harvard Business School
Boston, MA

Meredith L. Dickens
Nutter, McClennen & Fish LLP
Boston, MA

Brock Edmunds
ITT Technical Institute
Woburn, MA

Tara A. Ellis
Fidelity Investments
Merrimack, NH

David M. Goldman
Skadden Arps
Boston, MA

Melissa Lamont
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute
Woods Hole, MA

Linda B. MacIver
BPL Social Science Department
Boston, MA

Paula Maloney
Boston, MA

Margaret T. McGee
Westminister, MA

Arathi Nath
FIND/SVP
Cambridge, MA

Laurie D. Paszko
MA Trial Court Law Libraries
Lawrence, MA

Harriet T. Randall
GTE Government Systems Corp
Needham, MA

Meredith S. Ritchie
Basch Subscriptions
Concord, NH

Michael J. Saporito
Social Law Library
Boston, MA

Robbin Smith
Newtonville, MA

Joyce A. Ward
LEXIS-NEXIS
New York, NY and Harvard, MA

Reshima M. Wilkinson
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Charla J. Woodbury
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Littleton, MA

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NEWS & NOTES

*The News & Notes column compiled by **Betty Edwards** is temporarily suspended. Look for the column to reappear in 2003. In the mean time, keep Betty informed. Drop her a line at bedwards@seyfarth.com if you have personal news to include in the next issue about job changes, awards, publications, etc.*

MARIAN THE LIBRARIAN (#11)

Do you have questions for Mirian? Send them to the editor, **Teresa Frydryk** at tfrydryk@nfpa.org to forward to Marian.

*** **

Dear Marian,

I work for a small consulting firm in Claremont. Recently, the partners have asked me to cut costs and suggested that I just get rid of all the books, given that we have so much content available electronically. Perhaps I am a bit old-fashioned, but I have a hard time thinking that we will be any good as a library without any books. Can you suggest a way I can approach my boss about this?

Signed, Concerned

Dear Concerned,

This certainly is a challenge. I suppose what is so difficult is to give up the notion that a library is a repository for books. In a corporate setting, this just isn't always the case. Often the real value of a corporate library is on the desktop of the librarian -- the computer; and in the head of the librarian -- the knowledge of where and how to search for the information. If possible, take a look at usage statistics for your books -- are any of the staff actually using them? Are you? Think about whether or not the content is available to you elsewhere. You certainly do not want to be paying twice for the same information. Then approach your boss with a way to eliminate your need for some of the books. Just please be careful. Sometimes looking to eliminate a hard copy collection is really a subtle step towards the elimination of the entire library function. You know, once we get rid of the books, someone will look at the librarians and ask "What do they do if they aren't taking care of books?" Make sure to make clear the value you bring to the organization, with or without books. That should definitely be part of the equation. Also, check with your boss to find out if this new model means eliminating some of the space for the library. Maybe part of the reason is to make that space available for other uses. There are many reasons why an organization would want to look at its book collection critically. Just make sure to show them how valuable you are, so they don't decide that you are redundant as well.

Good luck, Marian

Dear Marian,

I am the librarian at a large engineering firm in Portland. The company wants to start an internal newsletter, and I would love to be part of that. But, of course, I don't want to give up my job as an information professional to do so. Do you think there is a way that I could combine the jobs without slighting either of them?

Signed, Pleased

Dear Pleased,

It is exciting when new opportunities like this present themselves, isn't it! I say that you should absolutely go for it. Obviously, you are already swamped with the work you have now, and how will anyone ever believe you can do both jobs without working 100 hours per week. It is clear to me that you will need to delegate some of the work, no matter what. So, if you have assistants, maybe they can do more of the library work for you, freeing you to work on the newsletter. If you don't have an assistant, this is the perfect opportunity to request one. Don't forget to tout the benefits of having one person do both of these vital functions. As the librarian, you see all parts of the organization in a way that others just can't. And you have access to all sorts of wonderful internal and external information, which will only add to the usefulness of the newsletter. Just remember that no matter what you may think about it, you will be doing two jobs and it will require some juggling on your part. But it is absolutely doable. You go!

Good luck, Marian

BOSTON CHAPTER LISTSERV INFORMATION

Subscription address: lists@lists.sla.org

List address: SLA-CBOS@lists.sla.org

Subscription instructions: <http://www.sla.org/content/interactive/lists/instruction/index.cfm>

All of the SLA Hosted Discussion Lists have been converted to the new Lyris List Management system.

The new web interface can be accessed at <http://lists.sla.org>. The web interface allows subscribers to search, read, and post messages easily to the discussion lists. You should only need your e-mail address to log in, a password should not be required, but can be set if you choose.

The Quick Start Guide which outlines the e-mail commands and features of this new system can be found at <http://www.sla.org/content/interactive/lists/Lyrisquickstart.cfm>.

CHECK YOUR SLA MEMBERSHIP RECORD ONLINE AND UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

By going to the SLA Web Site (<http://www.sla.org>) MEMBERS ONLY section, you can check your profile that is on record with SLA and request or make address changes if necessary.

To access your record, you will need the PIN that appears on your membership card. If you do not have your membership card, please send a message to **Lolita Smith**. Her e-mail address is lolita@sla.org and her telephone is 202-939-3686. Be sure to provide her with your complete postal mailing address.

Once you have logged in with your PIN, click on View/Edit Membership Data, make your changes, and Save the corrections.

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