



Michigan Bulletin

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P resident's Letter

Dear Colleagues,

Well, here we are in 2007 and there are many things happening with the SLA organization as a whole and also with the Michigan chapter. I would like to take a few moments and update the chapter members on all the latest developments:

Welcome to New Officers

In December, the Michigan Chapter welcomed new officers and committee chairs:

- President- Elect Paula Storm
- Director- Leslie Burke
- Archivist- Nancy Yee
- Diversity Chair- Sophia Guevara
- Membership Chair- Karen Kuhn
- Public Relations- Maria Catalfo

Program Committee: Victoria Bellon, Peng Xu, Kerri Otto, Alicia Biggers and Diane Johnson

SLA changed its fiscal and organizational year from July to June to a calendar year, so for

the first time new officers are assuming their positions in January and everyone is hard at work learning their positions.

Chapter Merge

In late December, the membership of the Michigan chapter voted to approve the merger of the chapter with the Western Michigan and UP chapter. At the Leadership Summit in January, the SLA Board of Directors approved the merger. Now, the work formally begins to merge the members and the assets of the two chapters. I would like to extend my personal welcome to the members of the Western Michigan and UP chapter. I believe having one statewide chapter will actually give SLA a stronger presence in the Michigan library community.

Programming

The Michigan chapter welcomed Mary Ellen Bates on February 1st. Bates' presentation, "Creating Groupies or Showing the Information - Hungry

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President's Letter (continued)

People Within Your Organization That They Desperately Need You" is an annual conference favorite and it is a great treat for the chapter to be able to bring it to Michigan. Special thanks to our sponsors for this event, Wall Street Journal Online and the National Archive Publishing Company.

The programming committee is hard at work developing programs for the rest of the 2007 calendar. If you have any ideas of potential program topics for the chapter, please contact Paula Storm. She and the committee would love to hear them!

SLA Leadership Summit

I attended the annual Leadership Summit in Reno, Nevada from January 24-26th. Headquarters is working on a number of initiatives that are going to benefit the membership greatly.

- ◆ The organization will be implementing a new computer management system that will provide greater chapter access to membership information. The organization as a whole is going to be working with chapters to help them identify lapsed members and encourage those individuals to rejoin SLA.
- ◆ Headquarters is also going to be investing in Web-Ex technology which will enable chapters to be able host virtual programs. Many SLA chapters cover a broad geographic distance (sometimes more than one state or province). This virtual programming capability will enable chapters to involve more of their membership in their programs.
- ◆ Click University continues to grow and flourish. A Competitive Intelligence Certificate Program is now being offered. Additionally, Gary Price, a Wayne State University MLIS graduate and information guru, will be offering quarterly updates on Click University. Look for his first update on February 13th!
- ◆ The SLA Board of Directors has begun a strategic realignment process to study how SLA should position itself in the 21st century information climate. Look for more details on this initiative in upcoming SLA publications.

Lastly, plans are well under way for the annual conference in Denver this June. Keynote speakers will be former Vice-President Al Gore and Scott Adams, creator of Dilbert. Many members tell me that the greatest strength of SLA is its programs and in my opinion, the annual conference always offers a great opportunity to attend some truly exceptional programs.

As you can see, there is a lot happening with SLA - with both the chapter and at the headquarters level. 2007 promises to be an exciting year for all of us!

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Mancini,
President, Michigan Chapter

SLA 2007 Annual Conference in Denver

SLA is holding its Annual Conference **June 3 - 6, 2007** at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado. Keynote Speakers are Al Gore, former Vice President of the United States and Scott Adams, creator of the Dilbert cartoons.

Professional and Student stipends are available through the SLA Business and Finance Division. Visit [http://www.slaf.org/division awards_desc.html](http://www.slaf.org/division_awards_desc.html) for more information. For additional information about the annual conference and to register online, visit <http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2007/index.cfm>.

Milestone Anniversaries for SLA Members

The following members of the Michigan Chapter of the Special Libraries Association are celebrating milestone membership anniversaries. Congratulations!

30 Years

Eve Brown

20 Years

Heidi Mercado

Robert Sweet

Patricia Wolfgram

15 Years

Wendy Carter

Timothy Murphy

Gale Oren

Kathleen Presnail

Michele Puckett

Barry Puckett

10 Years

Jody Eastland

John Forster

Jennifer Gannod

Kathy Irwin

Sara Rowe Koch

Shelly Lavey

Joel Scheuher

Victoria Turk

5 Years

Penelope Damore

Kate King

Barbara Morrow

Paul Vander Meer

Linda Strand

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Chapter members plan retirement

Two members of the Michigan Chapter are getting ready for retirement. Paulette Groen, retiring from Visteon Corporation, has been active in SLA for more than 25 years. She has served two separate terms as president of the Michigan Chapter. Dottie Riemenschneider, another member who has given much of her time to the Michigan Chapter, is retiring from her position as librarian at the University of Michigan Science Library. Congratulations to both of these dedicated librarians and best wishes for a healthy and happy retirement.

Research Group Innovations: The Library of the Future is Here

By Pamela Repp

With all of the advancements in technology, there is often discussion about the library of the future. Will there be libraries without books? Has the Internet and the plethora of other virtual resources replaced the bricks-and-mortar library? One corporate giant has answered those questions with a resounding ‘yes!’ by creating a corporate research function without walls. The company’s employees have learned to trust and depend upon the information professionals who work in this virtual world.

Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) is the world’s third largest IT provider. Their mission is to provide the solution to client business problems through the use of information technology. With 78,000 employees around the globe working in a quickly changing IT industry, there is an urgent need for timely, accurate and relevant information. Within CSC, there is a group with an amazingly simple mission statement: “Provide focused strategic market and technical research, helping CSC win business, achieve its goals and effectively compete in our industry.”

Sue Cronizer is the director of this group which is called CSC’s ResearchNetwork. She leads a team of information professionals — located on two continents — to provide relevant information in the areas of strategic planning, technology trends, marketing planning, client engagement, business development, executive profiles, and more. The requests for information come into Sue’s department at an amazing rate. Last year, Sue and her team responded to 4,000 requests logging in 15,000 research hours.

Working virtually has its challenges but the members of the ResearchNetwork have learned to overcome the barrier of not being located in the same office building. They are in continuous contact with one another via e-mail, instant messaging, telephone and the entire team meets twice a week via a conference call and simultaneous web conference. Occasionally the team members will see one another at professional or industry conferences and once a year the entire team comes together in a CSC office for several days to discuss a variety of topics, do some brainstorming, connect with key stakeholders and just spend some quality time with each other.

CSC’s ResearchNetwork has a variety of internal and external resources they rely upon to get the right information to the right people at the right time. Along with the resources that we are all familiar with — Factiva, Alacra, Datamonitor, Gartner and other analyst firms — the team also has a global network of internal resources and subject matter experts that can be tapped in order to bring the whole picture to their clients. At any point during the course of the day, a researcher might: Talk to an analyst at IDC, have a conversation with a CSC subject matter expert, search a variety of internal and external web sites and spend time writing up their findings — all for a single research request. This highly collaborative team also has several team databases and intranet sites that help them track their work, see what others are working on, and share information, ideas and helpful hints.

The area of expertise each member of the team has is astonishingly varied and extensive. Some are savvy in business development; others have extensive experience in sales. Many of the researchers have library science degrees, some have computer science degrees and some have MBAs. Their skills, education and experience complement each other and provide the extensive knowledge base needed to respond to diverse reference requests.

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Library of the Future (continued)

Another unique aspect of the CSC ResearchNetwork is their marketing and communications function. Working side-by-side with the researchers is a communications manager. This role is charged with creating and implementing a marketing and communications strategy each year for the ResearchNetwork. The communications manager is responsible for “getting the word out” about the ResearchNetwork and the wildly varied work they do every day. This role is responsible for the group’s intranet sites, newsletters, presentations and other marketing collateral. It must be working: The first year with this role saw a 13 percent increase in the number of research requests; the second year saw a 22 percent increase. And, this year is on track for yet another increase in clients and requests fulfilled.

When asked about challenges this special library faces, Cronizer replied, “Staying ahead of the curve. It is a challenge to identify what changes are coming. Change is constant and we need to understand the direction of the corporation as well as CSC’s competitors so that we can meet those unique information needs.” CSC’s ResearchNetwork is facing head-on the challenges that change brings by staying flexible, trying new things and encouraging each other – and the rest of the company – to think about what the next innovation in research and information services might be.



Job Postings on SLA Website

The headlines in the news would lead one to believe that there are few jobs to be found in Michigan. But libraries are hiring! There are currently several jobs posted on the Michigan Chapter web site. Here are two of the most recent jobs posted. More complete information is available on the web site.

Catalog Librarian at ProQuest Information and Learning in Ann Arbor

Job Description

Produce original MARC catalog records in accordance with AACR2, DCRB and Library & Archives of Canada standards for English and foreign language publications included in research collections for uploading to OCLC and sale to customers. Special emphasis on French language and Canadian government document materials for Canadian Research Index (CRI) cataloging.

Proof catalog records; formulate name authority records and perform other tasks related to authority work for catalog records. Update catalog records in Exodus database. Writing short abstracts in French or English as needed.

Circulation Team Library at Thomas M. Cooley Law Library in Rochester

Job Description

Assist students in the academic law library at Oakland University. Includes weekend and evening hours. Must be service-oriented with good communication and organizational skills.

Visit the Michigan Chapter website for more information about these and other jobs at <http://units.sla.org/chapter/cmi/jobs.html>. Be sure to check back often to view new jobs.

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Past-President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to thank everyone, from all the people that pitched in and assisted with the programs to all the people that attended the programs, for their support throughout the June 2005 – December 2006 term that I was President of the Michigan Chapter. I also, want to thank all the sponsors that contributed their support toward the Michigan Chapter so we were able to have such a successful year.

We had a very ambitious agenda and there was a great variety in the programs, beginning with the September 2005 meeting at the Gerald Ford Library on the University of Michigan campus, extending to the September 2006 Great Lakes Conference in Indianapolis, IN and ending with the relaxing December 2006 tea room annual business and holiday meeting in Birmingham, MI.

One of the highlights of the Presidency is being able to award information and library science students a scholarship. During the December meeting the Michigan Chapter UM scholarship award was presented to Molly Kleinman a second year student and President of the SLA UM student chapter. The WSU scholarship is presented in the spring.

The books donated at the December meeting book drive were given to the Detroit Children's Hospital. Erin O'Mara, accepted the donations and spoke on the hospital's mission, especially of its literacy efforts related to the national "Reach Out and Read" initiative.

The Western Michigan and Upper Peninsula and Michigan Chapter merge is progressing smoothly. After the Michigan Chapter vote in December a petition was submitted to Anne Caputo, the Chapter Chair. Anne has submitted the petition to the board of directors and it will be discussed at the Leadership Summit in January. If everything is to their satisfaction, a final vote to merge will be held at the June Annual Conference in Denver, CO. When that vote is passed, it will be official that the whole of Michigan including the Upper and Lower peninsulas, part of Ontario and the northern part of Ohio will fall under Michigan Chapter umbrella as one Chapter.

Once again, I truly appreciate and am grateful for all the support through the ups and downs of the past year. I learned a lot and established friendships along the way. There are many great people in our Chapter!!! Good luck to the upcoming Board. And I wish a wonderful New Year to all.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Stachnik,
Past President, Michigan Chapter

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Thank you to this issue's contributors.

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SLA- Michigan Web site:
www.sla.org/chapter/cmi/

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