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ChapterNews NEWS!

Plans are afoot to publish *ChapterNews* on the Internet and via e-mail. Watch your e-mail and SLA-NYC discussion list for upcoming announcements by the Executive Board!

President's Report

Information. Communication.

By Martha Schweitzer

Information. It can make the difference in war, in love, in business, in our personal lives. During the Revolutionary War, a spy ring on Long Island sent information about British plans to George Washington using, among other devices, a petticoat and handkerchiefs on a washline. A little switching of digits in a telephone number can make the difference in whether a call from an admirer can be placed. Uncovering a piece of telling dirt on a company that is party to a deal can save a lot of money. Finding the right doctor and having the right tests in an emergency can direct decisions on treatment to the best outcome. Having the right information matters and understanding how to interpret the information communicated also matters.

Communication. As information professionals, we look for information and then communicate it to the people who need it. How we find the information, the sources we use, the means we employ to send it out are variables and questions we face daily. How well we communicate the information we find — whether we've analyzed and digested it or merely sent a data dump as requested — makes a difference in how easily the information can be acted upon. Increasingly, in my conversations with many of you, the topic now moves to how we receive information beyond that which is written. At a dinner with a colleague last week, she had to bend over toward her drink as the waiter was passing plates of food over her head to a nearby table. She looked up and said, "Excuse me, but I'm currently processing a lot of information." We are constantly taking in information from our environment which tells us how to behave. I had a call from a senior manager who was upset and rising to the defense of someone; at the base of the problem was a set of signals which were mis-communicated. The questions are not new about how we perceive and communicate information and about how we receive information as it comes to us and mixes with the tacit knowledge we all carry around in our brains and emotions. Our efforts to deal with these questions as we seek to manage, develop information products and research effectively lead us to grow professionally. New ways to organize, represent, and communicate information, written and otherwise, are creating new names for information professionals, such as information architects or cybrarians.

Information. Communication. We have a lot to be happy about. We're entering a period often referred to as the Age of Information. I no longer have to explain to my 83-year-old mother, who surfs the Web and sends instant messages to my children, what information professionals do for a living. The role of information in business is recognized and valued. We have opportunities to take

(Continued on page 2)

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

ChapterNews, the bulletin of the New York Chapter of the Special Libraries Association, is published four times a year.

Deadlines for submitting materials:

- Fall issueAugust 15
- Winter issue.....November 15
- Spring issue.....February 15
- Summer issue.....May 15

Submit all material to:

Chris Lowden, Goodrich & Sherwood Associates
521 Fifth Avenue, 19th Floor, NY, NY 10175
Telephone: (212) 697-4131
E-mail: nyrsch@goodrichsherwood.com

Submissions: Articles on topics of general interest to information professionals and the New York Chapter are welcome. Authors can send submissions via email as text file or MS Word for Windows attachments, or with article in the body of the email. Please use single-line spacing, Courier font, with minimal use of boldface and italics. Include a byline with your full name and place of work.

ADVERTISING inquiries should be addressed to:

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CHAPTERNEWS STAFF

Editor Chris Lowden
Advertising Manager Laura Kapnick

(Continued from page one)

our skills and move professionally into new arenas. Granted, there is uncertainty with the changes around us as members of our Chapter in financial services face three mergers of major information centers. Others are caught up in the challenges facing the dot-com enterprises. Overall, however, there is a festive and hopeful air among you, which was expressed at our successful Holiday Party. Leaders on our Chapter's Executive Board, Advisory Council and Groups planned and presented interesting, well-received programs and receptions this Fall — a Chapter meeting on our Chapter's and the Association's new websites; a lively discussion of the death penalty; an entertaining look at the Archives of the Parsons School of Design and a tour of Grand Central Terminal (back by popular demand); an elegant B&F cocktail party, a warm new members reception, a lively library school/professional mixer, a lovely networking luncheon. During the Summer and Fall months, we saw the redesign of our Chapter website, with gratitude to Julie Mae Stanley, who created it with the assistance of Suzan Lee. Our new website will be launched in January. It's a welcome tool to allow us to communicate, send and receive information with other members and the public. Take a look at it. Send us material for it. Propose ideas to further enhance it. Join the creative energy. We're having fun.

Grants Available

The New York Chapter is providing grants to three Chapter members who want to attend the annual SLA Conference but may need financial assistance to do so. Each grant totals \$1,000. The Executive Board will decide on the winners of the grants by March 31, 2001. To apply for a grant, applicants should provide a short letter that includes information on:

- Why attending the Conference is important to the applicant;
- Why attending the Conference is important to information professionals;
- What the applicant hopes to learn by attending the Conference.

Applications should be sent as soon as possible to:

Martha Schweitzer

INFOdot Enterprises LLC
P.O. Box 1760, Port Washington, NY 11050
e-mail: connectdot@hotmail.com

Editor's Note

by Christopher Lowden

Another holiday season will have come and gone by the time you receive this – and I am celebrating my one-year anniversary as *ChapterNews* editor. I'd like to take a moment to thank all those who have helped me out in this role over the past year, and especially those who took time out of their busy schedules to pen an article for this issue: Steve Johnson, Amy Levine, Juliane Schneider, Leigh Hallingby, Martha Schweitzer, and Marcia Sprules.

I'd also like to belatedly thank Yasmin Haug for her help earlier this year, as well as our very helpful and dedicated design and layout person, Kevin Gatta. It's been a pleasure working with you all!

On that same note, I'd love to hear from anyone in the Chapter who is interested in helping out going forward. There are lots of things that need doing for every issue, including writing, editing and proofreading articles, coordinating the production, and working on ideas such as integrating photographs and an "electronic" version of *ChapterNews*. And of course we can always use some more fresh ideas. It's actually a lot of fun, and it doesn't take much time at all!

Here's hoping all the best in 2001, to all of you.



The SLA New York Chapter maintains a web site with links to our calendar of upcoming events and full contact information for Chapter Executive Board members, committee officers, and group chairs. The New York Chapter URL is:

www.sla.org/chapter/cny/

Check it out — it's a great way to keep up-to-date with your Chapter!

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What are you going to do about it?**

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KiplingerForecasts.com

The Chapter's Job Hotline: 212-439-7290

by Shauna Bryson, Employment Chair

The New York Chapter's JOBLINE is a 24-hour phone service featuring regional library and information job openings. This service is free of charge to job-seekers. The JOBLINE welcomes ads from employers needing to fill library and information positions. Each ad costs \$100 (prepaid) and runs for three weeks.

To place an ad, mail your check for \$100 per ad, payable to the Special Libraries Association, New York Chapter, to:

Special Libraries Association

PO Box 181

Hoboken, NJ 07030

Enclose your job ad with your check, or fax it separately in 18-point type to (212) 838-9487. Alternatively, you may email the ad to hmartin@LF.COM. As soon as your check is received, your ad will be processed.

Employers are responsible for reporting errors in the recorded ad by Wednesday of the first week running. Errors should be reported by fax to (212) 838-9487 or by e-mail to hmartin@LF.COM

SLA-NY's 10th Annual Career Day Planned

by Lois Weinstein, The Medical Library Center of NY

One of the New York Chapter's most significant events will celebrate its 10th year in 2001. Be a part of it even if you cannot attend any meetings, or be there on the Saturday of Career Day — there are many ways in which you can be a part of this exciting and practical event. This year, for the first time, the event will be a joint effort with the law librarians of LLAGNY.

DATE: Saturday, May 5, 2001

WHEN: Noon until 4 p.m.

WHERE: Lighthouse International, 111 East 59th St.

What you can do:

1. Send me a copy of the resume that you used to apply for your current job (names, address information, references i.e. anything of a personal nature will be blocked out). According to last year's survey, attendees wanted to know what a successful resume looked like.
2. Join the Career Day Committee. To do so contact me: Lois Weinstein, Chair, 117 Louisiana Avenue, Bay Shore, NY 11706, phone: (212) 427-1630 or (631) 666-5699; e-mail: loisweinstein@hotmail.com
3. Offer to serve as a host/ess at the Career Café on Saturday — a very successful venture that was launched in 2000. Hosts and hostesses at the Café agree to speak one on one with attendees who want more information about a specific type of special library, (ex. medical, banking, museum, financial, etc.)
4. Offer to be a panelist and explain what convinced you to become a librarian/information professional and what your job is like.
5. Help the committee publicize the event in newspapers, radio, TV, the Internet etc. We can use your advertising expertise.
6. Design a new event for Career Day. We currently have panelists discussing their information careers and what one can do with an MLS, a job fair where vendors from placement companies chat with the attendees and offer advice, the Career Café, demonstrations of electronic databases, representatives from Library Schools, and refreshments.
7. Volunteer to be there that day to help set up, greet the attendees and help make the event a success.

This event draws about 200-250 attendees each year and is essential in promoting the information profession. It is one way that our chapter provides outreach in the metropolitan area. In fact, our Chapter and profession benefit from this event as a number of attendees have gone on to attend and graduate from library schools and join our profession.

A Word of Thanks

Editor's Note: I recently received the following from Barbara Miles in Brooklyn:

I want to thank the NYC SLA Chapter for the very helpful consultation service you provide to business libraries.

Last Tuesday Ellen Miller met with me and some information tech people at a city nonprofit organization, Women's World Banking. She was most gracious in giving us an afternoon of help, and all of us came away from the meeting feeling a step further along the process of organizing the materials in their soon-to-be library.

As a retired school librarian, I would like to think we school librarians would extend the same kind of help to librarians in other fields. Hats off to SLA.

(From Ellen Miller: Women's World Banking is an organization funded out of the Netherlands that provides loans to woman-owned small businesses in developing countries. They are based in Manhattan and have about 50 people working here. They have a small library (about 1,000 items) and were looking for some ideas regarding cataloging their collection and integrating it with internally generated documents and reports. Barbara Miles, who sent you the letter, got involved because her daughter is a banker who recently joined WWB. Barbara is going to continue on with the project, but wanted some guidance from a librarian with business library experience before she got too far into the project.)

Hats off to Ellen! For more info on Women's World Banking, visit their website at www.swwb.org.

Executive Director Search Update

SLA has announced the formation of a search committee, who will be soliciting candidates, and interviewing for the position of Executive Director of the association. After 21 years with the international not-for-profit organization, which represents some 14,000 information professionals, Dr. David Bender will be retiring in 2001. Anyone who has a recommendation to suggest, or is just interested in the process, can visit the SLA website for additional information:

www.sla.org/content/SLA/slaires/index.cfm

New Website Previewed at Fall Program

by Steve Johnson, *Wildlife Conservation Society*

On November 8th, Julie Mae Stanley and Suzan Lee presented the fall Chapter program, an introduction to the Chapter's redesigned web site. SLA webmaster Kevin Vrieze and New York Chapter member Connie Kaplan commented on the new web site and kicked off a discussion with the audience of Chapter members. Launch of the new site is planned for early 2001, at the existing address, <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cny>.

Factiva, a Dow Jones and Reuters company, sponsored the evening meeting, held at Lighthouse International, 111 East 59th Street. The Factiva website is: www.factiva.com.

Julie Mae Stanley and Suzan Lee began redesign of the website in the summer of 2000. Others involved in the effort included Discussion List and Chapter Website Coordinator Vandana Ranjan, Mary Ann Sekely, Christina Jennerich and Jennifer Kellerman. Vandana Ranjan credits Julie Mae Stanley with leading redesign of the website.

In their presentation, Julie Mae Stanley and Suzan Lee gave a guided tour of the new website, using a digital multimedia projector to display individual pages. Following contemporary web design standards, each page will be divided in three parts. The left side of each page will display the site's major categories and function as a menu. Content will be displayed on the right side of the page. The top of the page will display the Chapter name and SLA logo.

The menu categories, subject to change, are listed here in outline format (see sidebar). Sub-categories, indented in the outline, are revealed as one passes a mouse pointer over an individual menu item.

The Chapter's Executive Board expects the redesigned website to play a new role in the operation of the New York/New Jersey regional Job Line and an increasing role in the Chapter newsletter. At present the Job Line, operated in cooperation with the New Jersey, Fairfield County and Hudson Valley chapters, uses a telephone answering machine to respond to queries. A web-mounted Job Line database, in the planning stages, will permit searching by subject. The Job Line database will complement listings distributed by SLA-CNY, the Chapter's e-mail discussion list.

In recent years, *ChapterNews* has been distributed in print and via the Chapter website. Many chapter members seem enthusiastic about the potential to move *ChapterNews* to a wholly electronic format. Other members prefer to retain a paper edition.

Location of the Chapter website on the national SLA server means that the Chapter's webmasters can potentially use features of the new national SLA website, managed by guest commentator Kevin Vrieze. The national site permits members who enter a username and personal ID to access restricted functions of the website, such as a searchable online edition of Who's Who in Special Libraries. SLA members may also use the website to update their individual Who's Who entries, providing new employers, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses or website information.

Chapter specific "member's only" functionality may provide greater flexibility in relations with corporate sponsors and Chapter members alike. For example, corporate sponsors could underwrite the Chapter by paying for website-based distribution — to "Chapter members only" — of short term passwords to corporate databases or information portals. Chapter members would learn about proprietary information resources. Corporate sponsors would obtain access to New York Chapter members to demonstrate their products.

As a member of the committee which developed the existing Chapter's website, launched in the fall of 1997, I was struck by the changes in web design in three years. On the original site, pages could be created using HTML and a simple text editor, such as Microsoft's Notepad. Tables were probably the most advanced feature on the original site. Creating the new website required knowledge of DreamWeaver page creation and management software, frames, and even a specialized tool to create sub-menus.

The new Chapter website provides an opportunity for members to grow professionally by getting involved with advanced tools for information management and by contributing content. The designers of the new site have also invited Chapter members to contribute their comments and suggestions for the new site.

Menu categories, redesigned New York Chapter website:

Home

About Us

<i>What's New</i>	<i>Membership</i>	<i>Board & Committees</i>
	<i>Discussion List</i>	<i>Members Only</i>
	<i>Chapter By-Laws</i>	

<i>Students</i>	<i>Internships</i>	<i>Scholarships</i>
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<i>Resources</i>	<i>Links to web resources</i>
	<i>(multiple categories not shown here)</i>

<i>Development</i>	<i>Seminars</i>	<i>Workshops</i>
	<i>Networking</i>	<i>Grants & Awards</i>
	<i>Free Passwords</i>	

Job Line

Site Map

Link to National SLA website



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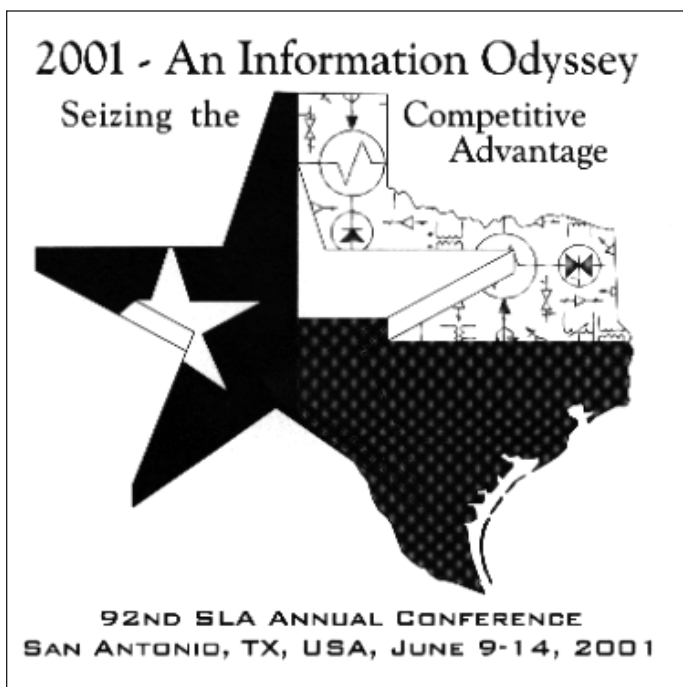
SLA/NY Chapter Awards Q & A

Q: How do deserving SLA/NY Chapter members win awards?

A: They are nominated by other SLA/NY Chapter members.

Both the Special Libraries Association and the New York Chapter of SLA recognize members for their achievements. The NY Chapter presents a Distinguished Service award at the Annual Meeting. This award is given to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the New York Chapter or to its Groups. The Awards Committee looks forward to receiving as many nominations as possible from members. Please phone or send nominations to Martha Schweitzer at (516) 944-9738 or connectdot@hotmail.com and she will pass them on to the Committee.

Additionally, at the national level, The Diversity Leadership Development Award is awarded to active member(s) of the Association from multi-cultural backgrounds who display excellent leadership abilities in the profession and demonstrate a willingness to develop and strive for leadership opportunities within the Association. Cash Award — \$1,000 stipend for Annual Conference and or Continuing Education. (The deadline for this award was: January 8, 2001. See the Awards and Honors section of the SLA website (under Member programs and services) for more information and applications.



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Call for Chapter Nominations

by *Nettie Seaberry*,
Minority Business Information Center, NMSDC

The Nominating Committee for SLA's 2001 board needs your help in locating willing candidates to lead the New York Chapter through the beginning of the next millennium.

Your help is very important to this process and we will be turning to you from time to time throughout the year. Give serious thought to the qualities and experiences you'd like to see in your representatives, look among your peers, seek them out and share them with the committee. Please let us know which of your colleagues are ready and willing to serve in any one of the following capacities: President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, or Director of Publications.

Please include the nominee's name, affiliation, address, phone number and the position the nominee is interested in. A member of the committee will contact the nominee. Thank you.

Nettie Seaberry (*Nominating Committee Chair*)
Director, Minority Business Information Center
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New York, NY 10018
Tel: 212-730-6390 Fax:212-730-6391
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Report from Brighton: Global 2000 Conference

by Leigh Hallingby, Open Society Institute

From Tuesday, October 16th through Thursday, October 18th, I had the pleasure and privilege of attending SLA's Worldwide Conference on Special Librarianship, officially titled: "The Information Age: Challenges and Opportunities," in Brighton, England. I was able to attend thanks to the sponsorship of my employer, the Soros Foundations/Open Society Institute.

Some of the themes of the conference, as summarized by Lucy Lettis from the New York chapter, who was one of the organizers, were:

- Global commonalties in librarianship despite major differences in access to resources
- Marketing information services
- Higher performance expectations demanded in today's workplace
- New ways to add value to information services
- Enhancing the image of information professionals

The keynote speakers in the general sessions included Dame Stephanie Shirley, who is a pioneer among British women as the founder and Life President of an information technology company. She founded F.I. Group on her dining room table as a way to combine intellectually-challenging, part-time work with motherhood. Her life's themes are first, empowerment of individuals, especially women, and second, partnership, which she feels enhances creativity. Another keynoter was Yves-Michel Marti, founder and president of a leading business intelligence company in Europe, who emphasized that librarians are not selling information, but are selling gateways to networks and to experts.

One of the most interesting contributed papers sessions that I attended was "The Impact of News in a Changing Global Climate." Chris Hamilton from the Freedom Forum News Library in St. Petersburg, Russia, spoke of his work to create a news research culture among journalists and students of journalism in Russia, where there is not a tradition of fact-based reporting. Many Russian newspapers do not even have Internet access except at the Freedom Forum Library. Another issue in Russia is that the level of corruption creates a dangerous situation for journalists who might try to expose the corruption.

(Continued on next page)

Michaela Danga of the Freedom Forum Journalism Library in Bucharest, Romania, spoke about the traditionally unclear distinction between news and opinion in the media in her country before 1989, the rapid changes that the media have been undergoing since then, and the need for laws protecting the access of the public to information.

Another enlightening session focused on knowledge management. Laurie Stackpole from the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC, gave a paper entitled "Full-Text Searching of Digital Journals and Reports for Integrated Access to Information Researchers Need." I was dazzled by how her team has been able to create one gateway for searching a wide variety of internal and external full-text documents of interest to her clientele of scientists. These include articles from 220 journals from three publishers, technical reports, articles by her agency's own scientists, and press releases, with articles from another journal publisher and from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) about to be added. This presentation gave me a strong sense of the challenge and complexity of merging information from many databases – with many formats, delivery mechanisms, and search engines – into a seamless whole which provides the researchers with "one stop shopping." Because all the information is loaded on the agency's own server, there is the additional advantage of no Internet slowdown.

One of the most appealing aspects of Global 2000 was the presence of about 25 "Fellows" from developing countries who were sponsored by various chapters of SLA, including the New York Chapter. Because the total number of people at the conference was in the hundreds, and there were receptions every evening, the Fellows were quite accessible and afforded those of us from the developed world the opportunity to learn more about library services in countries such as China, Croatia, Indonesia, and Jamaica.

I found Brighton to be a terrific location for the conference, although apparently my high opinion of the choice of venue was not universally shared. But to me Brighton was perfect, as it is a relatively small city (ca. 135,000 people) which is more manageable and less expensive than London. Brighton is easy to get to, as it is the exact same distance south of Gatwick Airport as London is north of Gatwick. It is also easily reached from London by train. There are not so many tourist attractions in Brighton that they are a constant distraction and potential pull-away from the meeting the way the vast number of offerings of cities such as London and Paris can be, but Brighton is nonetheless well worth seeing. I thoroughly enjoyed the half-day walking tour of the city that SLA offered the day before the conference (albeit in the

rain) which gave an opportunity to see the famous Indian-style Royal Pavilion of King George IV and to walk about the well-known lanes and the piers. The location of Brighton right on the English Channel, with a wonderfully long promenade along the water, adds to the appeal of the city. The architecture from the pre-Victorian Regency Period, which is right out of Jane Austen, is being restored everywhere.

Leigh Hallingby is head librarian at the Open Society Institute and can be reached at lhallingby@sorosny.org

Social Sciences Group Fall Meeting Held

*by Marcia Sprules,
Council on Foreign Relations Library*

The Social Science group held its fall meeting on Tuesday November 14 at the Rockefeller Foundation. The topic was "Capital Punishment: Views on the Death Penalty." The program was generously sponsored by Wontawk Associates.

The two speakers were Dr. Julia Vitullo-Martin of the Vera Institute of Justice and Prof. Evan Mandery of John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Dr. Vitullo-Martin spoke about her work with the jury reform project of the New York court system. Currently when a capital case is tried, jurors are screened for their willingness to impose a capital sentence; scrupled jurors (those who oppose the death penalty for any reason) are virtually never seated. Therefore, if convicted, the person is likely to receive a capital sentence. Yet, despite the exclusion of scrupled jurors, popular support for the death penalty has been declining for several decades (according to public opinion surveys), especially when a sentence of life without possibility of parole is available as an alternative.

Prof. Mandery spoke about a capital sentence appeal which he is currently working on for a convict in Alabama. Although the man was duly convicted for his actions, the appeal of his sentence is based on the competence of his counsel at trial and on several failures of the presiding judge to recuse himself from consideration of later filings.

Since both speakers are opposed to the death penalty, for differing reasons, the program was not a debate on the merits of capital punishment, but a discussion of flaws in the current system of justice.

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Featured Special Library: SIECUS

by Amy Levine, SIECUS

Founded in 1964, SIECUS, the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States, is a national nonprofit organization whose mission affirms that sexuality is a natural and healthy part of life. SIECUS develops, collects, and disseminates information, promotes comprehensive education about sexuality, and advocates the right of individuals to make responsible sexual choices.

For 36 years, SIECUS has been a leading voice for sexuality education. In 1979, an affiliation with New York University's Department of Health Education of the School of Education, Health, Nursing and Arts Professions made it possible for SIECUS to formalize its extensive library collection into the SIECUS Resource Center. In honor of its co-founder and first executive director, Mary S. Calderone, SIECUS renamed its resource center the Mary S. Calderone Library in 1984.

The Mary S. Calderone Library offers users an in-house database that now consists of over 20,000 citations related to human sexuality, including:

- Books and reports published in the field
- Articles indexed from a vast number of core periodicals
- Sexuality and HIV/AIDS education curricula for use with children, adolescents, adults, parents, professionals, and diverse populations
- Newsletters from organizations in related fields
- An extensive vertical file

SIECUS is a leading source for the most accurate information on topics including:

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- Sex in America: What we do, with whom, and how often
- The latest research on sexuality education — what works, what doesn't
- Current statistics on teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)
- Ongoing controversies on sexuality related issues including sexuality education, reproductive rights, sexual orientation, and censorship

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 - Public policy updates
 - Key links to additional resources and related organizations
- The bimonthly SIECUS Report, the nation's leading journal on sexuality
- Our publications catalog which includes fact sheets, bibliographies, and booklets in full-text

The Mary S. Calderone Library at SIECUS is open to the public by appointment, Monday-Friday, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (EST). Library staff is also accessible over the telephone, by mail, or by e-mail correspondence. Database searches are available at \$10.00/per topic. The library is located at 130 W. 42nd Street, Suite 350, New York, NY 10036. SIECUS Web site: <http://www.siecus.org>.

To request library information and/or a database search, or to schedule an appointment, please contact The Mary S. Calderone Library staff at (212) 819-9770. The SIECUS Librarian is Amy Levine, M.A. at x303 or alevine@siecus.org; Library Assistant, Darlene Torres at x328 or dtorres@siecus.org.

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Product Evaluation: US Insurance XP

By Juliane Schneider, The College of Insurance

US Insurance XP is a web-based product from Thomson Financial Insurance Solutions, who have been kind enough to give me a trial. This is a one-stop shop for all kinds of insurance-related information. The information is divided into two separate interfaces for life/health and for property/casualty, but the format for both sections is the same. The strong point of the product is the amount of information you get from one place, as well as the range of formats in which the information is presented.

For starters, there is a full-text publication on the site called "Daily Insurance Journal" that reports company news. A list of headlines down the left side of the page lead to full-text articles. You may also access archives of this journal.

The first major tool on this site is the Company Profiler. It allows you to search for a company profile by name or by NAICS code. The information returned includes news and several different types of reports. These include reports on the company's finances and IRIS ratios, annual and quarterly reports, scanned management reports, and a company analysis done in Excel. Some of the reports go back to 1998.

The Public Company database allows you to choose from a list of companies. You can access the company website, current news, SEC filings (including historical ones), and a Thomson Investor's tip sheet. The tip sheet tracks the pricing and performance of the company on both a daily and a 12-month basis.

WebAnalytics is a spreadsheet application that takes financial information and produces a beautiful report, with charts, graphs, and a glossary that explains terms like combined ratio and operating margin.

The final tool on this website is INSCite. It is the electronic and updated version of *The Insurance Industry: An Information Sourcebook*, covering "publications, trade organizations, rating services, stock analysts and web sites related to the insurance industry." It has lots of useful information, including a section on insurance industry databases but also contains a list of discontinued ones.

U.S. Insurance XP is a great product from Thomson — it combines news, financials, SEC filings and sophisticated Excel reports in one package. It is easy to navigate, because there are always links or pull-down menus to get you from the Life/Health to Property/Casualty and vice versa, as well as to any other portion of the product.

For more information, go to <http://www.sheshunoff.com/products/insurance/insurance.html>.

SLA-CNY: The New Discussion List of SLA/NY

by Vandana Ranjan, Brooklyn Public Library,
SLA/NY Discussion List Coordinator

Sorry for the inconvenience caused by the irregularity of mail delivery in the recent past. Our discussion list was previously hosted by METRO. As you all are aware, their server has been undergoing changes for the past several months, and unfortunately it had a negative impact on our Discussion List.

You should be glad to know that our list is now hosted by SLA. We moved our entire list of subscribers to SLA-CNY, so you do not have to re-subscribe to this list. Our new list address is SLA-CNY@lists.sla.org.

For posting messages on the discussion list, please send email to SLA-CNY@lists.sla.org. For other commands please send email to lists@lists.sla.org.

The discussion list should be used for legitimate business purposes. Examples include:

- Announcements of upcoming chapter-related events and business
- Reference, cataloging and library procedure questions
- Product queries and evaluations
- Exchange offerings of books, journals, equipment, etc.
- Opinions and views about library-related issues.
- Announcements from SLA and other information organizations
- Announcements of training workshops
- Job postings (Note the chapter also maintains a telephone hotline for job postings. Organizations wishing to place telephone notices or joint list/telephone notices should call the Jobline at (212) 439-7290)

The Following Types of Messages Should Not be Posted to This List:

- Commercial product or service offerings (unless brought up in the context of a general discussion)
- Resumes
- Chain letters
- Copyrighted materials should not be posted on the discussion list without the permission of the copyright holder(s)
- “Flame” messages (those that criticize another member of the list). Also, please do not send or respond to a “flaming” message
- Refrain from sending large files to the discussion list. Large files consume system resources and may cause your message to be undeliverable.

Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in removal from the list.

Common List Management Comands

To do the action at left, send the message at right to lists@lists.sla.org:

▲ <i>Join SLA-CNY:</i>	☛ <i>subscribe email_address firstname lastname</i>
▲ <i>Leave SLA-CNY:</i>	☛ <i>unsubscribe SLA-CNY- mail_address</i>
▲ <i>Suspend SLA-CNY mail:</i>	☛ <i>set SLA-CNY mail post- pone</i>
▲ <i>Resume mail from SLA-CNY:</i>	☛ <i>set SLA-CNY mail</i>
▲ <i>Change to digest format:</i>	☛ <i>set SLA-CNY mail digest</i>
▲ <i>Obtain listproc help file:</i>	☛ <i>help</i>
▲ <i>To Post a Message,</i>	☛ <i>send the message to SLA-CNY@lists.sla.org.</i>

NOTE: Some systems allow you to set an automatic response to any message you receive. **DO NOT** use this feature when you go on vacation (or in fact at any other time), since your response will be duplicated over and over to the entire list anytime you receive a message from the list.

MAHG Sponsors Tour of the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Archives, Parsons School of Design

by Martha Schweitzer

Aside from being leading fashion designers, what do Perry Ellis, Oscar De la Renta, Claire McCardell, Marc Jacobs, Ralph Lauren, and Donna Karan have in common? Those of us who visited the Archives of Parsons School of Design on November 30th learned that each of these designers either graduated from Parsons or has taught at the school. In fact, many of the leading lights in the arts and design arena have affiliations with the school.

Parsons began in New York City in 1896 as the Chase School, named after its founder, the noted American Impressionist painter, William Merritt Chase. Parsons has seen many changes over the years, from its origins as a school of fine art, to its shift to a design emphasis, to its merger with New School University.


The Kellen Archives collects materials relating to the history of art and design as well as to the careers of the school's faculty, alumni, administrators, and other associ-

ates. It focuses on those subject areas for which Parsons has departments — architecture and environmental design, communication design, fashion design, fine arts, illustration, interior design, lighting design, photography, product design. The holdings of the Kellen Archives take such forms as manuscripts, photographs, sketches, watercolors, prints, ephemera, posters, clippings, scrapbooks, cassette tapes, videotapes, and film.

Dr. X. Theodore Barber was hired in 1994 to establish the archives at Parsons in preparation for the school's centennial in 1996. In the tour, Dr. Barber spoke entertainingly about the challenges of founding an archives and presented many of the treasures of the collection. He gave a colorful history of the institution, touching on everything from the Chase School's baseball team (notorious for its violent behavior), to Madonna's work as a nude model in more recent times. The tour attendees were regaled with photographs and sketches pertaining to 19th century fashion, Coco Chanel, 1950's interiors, and the Parsons table, among other subjects. Another highlight was sketches of "Vegetable Vamps Circa 1910" — imagine a dress design inspired by an eggplant or an ear of corn!

The tour was organized by Christina Gjertsen, Chair of the Museums, Arts and Humanities Group of the New York Chapter. We thank her and Dr. Barber and his excellent staff for an enlightening and fascinating evening.

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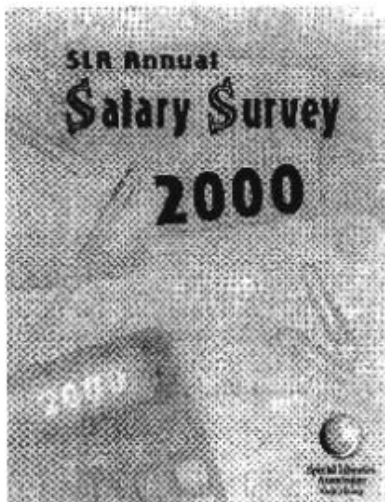


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