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Calendar Corner

October 13 – Panel Discussion on Open Access, Socorro
November 11 – International Balloon Museum Tour, Albuquerque
December 10 – Holiday Gathering, Location TBA
January 18-21—SLA Leadership Summit, Houston, TX
January 23 – Stephen Abram and “The Coming Collaboration Environment”, Albuquerque

January 27 – Deadline for the next RGC Bulletin!

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President's Perspective

I have met many of you through the various programs I arranged for the chapter last year. Others I have met through my work here at Los Alamos National Laboratory or through the AISTI Mini-conference held in Santa Fe each year. For those of you whom I have not yet met, let me tell you a bit about myself. I came to the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Research Library a little over seven years ago. It was quite a change moving from sea level in Houston to 7500 feet, from 90% humidity to seemingly no humidity and from owning no warm clothing whatsoever to an entire wardrobe of things made of wool and fleece. We won't even mention that snow shovel.

I came to New Mexico from the Technical Library at the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, and have never regretted it a moment. At LANL I spend much of my time

managing digital content for the Research Library and another large chunk of time providing customer support for specific science divisions at the Lab. New Mexico, the place and its people, has been an extraordinary experience for me. The SLA chapter in Texas is very large, but does not compare in spirit to the Rio Grande Chapter. I am very excited and honored to be a member of this chapter and to have the opportunity to hopefully contribute to its continued success.

I expect to meet many more of you through chapter programs and through the various initiatives I have planned for the year. I am always available and willing to listen if you have something on your mind. Please do feel free to contact me with your thoughts and ideas. It takes a team to support a great chapter such as this one!

Carol

Rio Grande Chapter Update

New Webmaster – Alex Feng

Please welcome the chapter's new webmaster Alexander Feng. Alex is currently a library science student, pursuing his MLS part-time through Drexel University (Philadelphia, PA), with certificates in competitive intelligence and web content management. (His expected graduation date is August 2006.) Concurrently, he works full-time with DOE at the Emergency Operations Training Academy (EOTA). At the EOTA, he leads a staff of graphic designers and programmers in creating e-learning for emergency responders and managers. He also deploys this content, which is available to both government and public students on the EOTA web site (<http://eota.doeal.gov/eota>), where an average of one thousand courses are taken per month.

Outside of work, he enjoys spending much of his time with his wife, Laura, and their 18 month old daughter, Hannah (who is soon to be a big sister).

Member News

Elizabeth Luebchow

Elizabeth reports that the Air Force Research laboratory/Kirtland Library has added two new librarians - Maryhelen Jones as Library Manager (in Sept.) and Valerie Valdez as Technical Services Librarian (in June). Welcome Maryhelen and Valerie!

2005-2006 program Lineup

By Heather ODaniel

This year's programming is starting to come together, with a nice variety of topics and venues to make for many "not to be missed" events. In October we start with a new idea of co-hosting a panel presentation on Open Access. Stephanie Wical has been instrumental in pulling this together, so many thanks to her.

The balloon museum has just opened with this year's Fiesta. I know they are looking for volunteers, especially those with library skills. So the November tour is a chance to understand their needs and possibly give back to the community.

In December we'll have our annual Holiday gathering. Then, in January, we are lucky have Stephen Abram who is always most entertaining and informative. If you've never seen him speak, this one is must!

We will be purchasing video tapes from the SLA virtual learning series to be hosted in February and March. Please send topic preferences you may have to me.

Sandy Spurlock gave her talk at the SLA Annual conference this past year and was very well received. She is most kind to give us the opportunity this April to hear it in our own backyard.

Then we will finish with a major celebration in May for the 50th Anniversary, featuring Janice LaChance.

We have some open slots for location of programs. We seek a variety of locations since we serve the Rio Grande Valley. So if you would like to make suggestions please email me. Heather ODaniel - hodaniel@lrri.org. Details follow!

October 13, 2005

Panel Discussion on Open Access

Participants:

Johann van Reenen (UNM) "What is Open Access?"

Brian Borchers (NMT) "Open Access from the Point of View of a Faculty Member"

Daviess Menefee (Elsevier) "Open Access from a Publisher's Perspective"

Location: New Mexico Tech, Socorro, NM

Time: 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm

Location: New Mexico Tech Skeen Library Room 212 (Tripp Room)

For directions to Skeen Library, go to:

<http://www.nmt.edu/about/snaps/tour/map/directions.htm>

12:00-1:30: If you would like to meet other SLA/RGC members and the panelists ahead of time, there will be an informal lunch at the Socorro Springs Brew Pub. For directions:

<http://socrorosprings.com/>

November 11, 2005

Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum Tour

Tour provided by Marilee S. Nason, Collections Curator

<http://www.cabq.gov/balloon/>

December 10, 2005

Holiday gathering

Bring items for donation to local charity (Casa Esperanza).

Location: to be announced

January 23, 2006

Stephen Abram, immediate Past President of the Canadian Library Association and Vice President, Innovation for SirsiDynix Corporation, speaking on The Coming Collaboration Environment.

The coming collaboration environment will be driven by three major trends: technology, multidisciplinary research and teamwork. Stephen will discuss the major trends happening in our field and how we, as special librarians, can respond. Newer technologies such as workflow management tools, online conferencing, e-learning, social networking, folksonomies, IM, VOIP, etc. offer great opportunities for our field to make even greater differences in our impact on

the workplace, learning and research. Libraries and librarianship have a great future as long as we address the key new linkages with our communities, users and funders. Hear these key strategies in Stephen's session.

Location: Petroleum Club (not confirmed)

February, 2006

[SLA Virtual Learning Series](#)

Location: to be announced

March, 2006

[SLA Virtual Learning Series](#)

Location: to be announced

April 14, 2006

Sandy Spurlock

Now in her new career, she will speak on Retirement and Change.

Are You Really Ready for Retirement???

Many of us dream of the day when we don't have to go to work anymore. But for recent retirees the reality often brings emptiness or fear. These feelings are traceable in part to an individual's developmental history and unresolved issues of self efficacy. Learn from a licensed mental health therapist - and one of the RGC's own - about factors to consider as you approach your retirement years. You will take away a checklist to use to discover how ready you really are for retirement.

Location: Petroleum Club (not confirmed)

May 19, 2006

50th Anniversary of the Rio Grande Chapter

Guest speaker: Janice LaChance, Executive Director, SLA

Combined annual business meeting the anniversary celebration will feature a silent auction as a fund raiser.

Location: Bishop's Lodge, Santa Fe, NM

Other Chapter News

Update from the Chapter Board Meeting, July 2005

by Carol Hoover, President, Rio Grande Chapter

The chapter year got off to a rousing start with a meeting of the Board and members at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe. Meeting space at the museum was graciously arranged for us by one of our chapter members, [Mara Yarbrough](#). Our President-Elect, Heather ODaniel, has planned an exciting program slate that you can read more about in this issue of the Bulletin. Especially the January program featuring Stephen Abram is not to be missed.

Membership Survey

I have initiated an ambitious agenda for the upcoming year. There are many issues and challenges affecting the Rio Grande Chapter, as well as other SLA chapters, and I hope to address at least a few of them this year. Most important among these is membership. The Membership Chair, [Donna Cromer](#), and myself will be working on a membership survey to gather information on what is important to chapter members and how we can provide key services.

Information Organization Liaisons

A new initiative for this year will be our work to liason with other information organizations. Members of organizations such as ASIST, ARMA and SCIP do work that is very similar to the work many of us do every day. We can build on our common interests to broaden our scope of knowledge as well as our membership.

[Heather O'Daniel](#) will be leading this effort.

New Chapter Logo

The chapter could use a new logo--one that will inform, excite and inspire. The potential uses for a great logo are enormous for the chapter. An exciting logo could generate funds for the chapter through sales of t-shirts, pencils, mugs, bumper stickers, magnetic signs, (temporary) tattoos, etc. [Eileen Mendell](#) will be leading a small team of folks toward creation of a new logo.

Recommended Practices Document

Last year upon becoming President-Elect of the chapter I discovered that few, if any, of the chapter policies and procedures were documented anywhere. So, I will be writing a Recommended Practices Document for the chapter. This document will then be available for use by future chapter leaders to rely upon as they take the reins.

Archives

[Judith Bernstein](#) has requested chapter archive materials from the past two years. She needs interim reports, news, flyers, etc... If you have these types of materials you can also reach Judith at rosen@unm.edu. She has a new van and will be glad to arrange to pick up materials herself.

A New Webmaster

And we have a new Webmaster. [Alex Feng](#) is a MLS student currently working through his distance learning program. He has already done a great job of updating the RGC web pages with Board and programming information. By the time you read this he will have posted the latest issue of the Bulletin as well. I know you all join me in welcoming Alex to participation in the chapter.

Call for Volunteers!

Progress on these initiatives will not be made without member participation. We have a very good start with leaders for the above mentioned agenda items, but we need more. I would like to encourage anyone who is at all interested in any of the chapter's efforts for this year to contact the appropriate person named above. Even if you only have a few hours to spare here and there, it would be an immense help to the chapter. Hope to be hearing from you soon!

Around the Region & Other News

Materials Engineering Research Week at the New Mexico Tech Skeen Library

By Stephanie H. Wical, New Mexico Tech Skeen Library

The week of September 12-16, 2005 the New Mexico Tech Skeen Library proudly *unveiled Research at the Library: Materials Engineering Week*. This was the first of what will become an ongoing series in which particular research disciplines are featured. The purpose of Research Week is to expose students to resources in a specialized area of study as well as to provide students with the opportunity to learn from and network with faculty and researchers. The Materials and Metallurgical Engineering Department became a co-sponsor of this first research week and this collaboration is what I believe contributed to Materials Engineering Week's success. We plan to continue to closely collaborate with faculty members in other departments to provide students, faculty members and researchers with this unique opportunity to learn more about research in their disciplines.

On Monday Professor David Burleigh of the Materials and Metallurgical Engineering Department of New Mexico Tech gave a lecture entitled "Meteorites and Materials." This lecture attracted students from the Materials Department and library staff. Dr. Burleigh brought samples and passed these around for all participants to enjoy.

On Tuesday Aimee Leverette, Training & Information Specialist of Cambridge Scientific Abstracts came to demonstrate the Materials Research Database. Ms. Leverette, a librarian by training and formal education, delivered a lecture that was a treat for library staff and researchers alike. After Ms. Leverette's demonstration, a Materials and Metallurgical Engineering professor marveled at how far electronic library resources have come, automating many of the functions that had been rather time-consuming to researchers years ago. Having a highly respected researcher, such as one of New Mexico Tech's very own professors, endorse a product is a great way to ensure that it will be used.

On Wednesday I led a specialized tour of Materials Engineering resources. This was a great opportunity to promote resources which may be underutilized. I gave out bookmarks that Gretchen Stahlman of the Skeen Library created which showed the call number ranges for various subjects in Materials Engineering and showed Joan Shedivy's "Resources by Subject" Web pages, including the one she compiled for Materials and Metallurgical Engineering. I was extremely pleased that I could also show the journal display created by Tony Telles, the book display created by Gretchen Stahlman and the Patent and Government Information displays created by Lucinda Whitehorse.

On Thursday the library hosted a panel discussion entitled "How Engineers Seek and Use Information." This event was promoted as "a panel discussion on research-related skills that engineers need to succeed in industry, national labs, and research institutes" on the Materials Engineering Week Web page < http://infohost.nmt.edu/~nmtlib/INFO/research_hwk.html >. Presenters included Mike Weinstein from the Wall Colmonoy Corporation, Jack Massarello from Kirtland Air Force Base, Doctor Christa Hockensmith from Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center (EMRTC), and Professor John McCoy from New Mexico Tech's Materials and Metallurgical Engineering Department. This panel took place on the same floor where the scientific journals are located and was next to the Materials Engineering journals display. Professor McCoy stressed how important the SciSearch database and Endnote software are to his research.

On Friday the NMT Materials Society Student Club put together "Living in a Material World," a series of demonstrations of principles of materials science and chemical reactions. This was where students got to talk about their research

and really shine. This fun event attracted the most library staff and it was great for students to see how interested we are in their research and future success.



Student Timothy Barnes, Professor David Burleigh, Librarian Joan Shedivy and Student Jeremiah Robbins enjoy the superconductor demonstration during "Living in a Material World."

According to Dr. Hockensmith, who had originally suggested that the library conduct a series of research weeks, "The opportunity for individuals to talk about their departments and what they do is always appropriate and useful because students may not know what is happening in other departments....Other departments may have something to offer you even if you are not academically aligned with them." We at the Skeen Library could not agree more.

2005 New Mexico Data Users Conference

The Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) at the University of New Mexico is presenting the 7th annual New Mexico Data Users Conference on November 3rd at the University of New Mexico (UNM) Continuing Education Conference Center in Albuquerque.

In general, the conference will provide attendees with background information about complex socioeconomic databases and a sense of how these data are applied in practical situations. Over the years, the Data Users Conference has become a valued learning experience for businesses, government agencies, service organizations, information providers, and students.

For more information and a registration form go to BBER's web site at www.unm.edu/~bber/conference.htm, or call 277-8300, 277-3038 or 277-3142.

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Remember – January 27 deadline to submit news for the February Bulletin.
Put a reminder in your calendar now!

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