

SLA Chemistry Division E-Newsletter

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Fall 2004

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR
- 2 FROM THE EDITOR'S DESKTOP
- 3 GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR-ELECT
- 4 INTRODUCTION TO RSS
- 6 PH PROPERTY HELP
- 7 BEYOND THE CHEMISTRY WEB ...
- 8 NEW MEMBERS
- 8 CALL FOR POSTERS-TORONTO 2005
- 9 MARION E. SPARKS AWARD
- 10 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY MEETING
- 11 SLA/CHEM & ACS/CINF WEB CONFERENCE IN DECEMBER 2004
- 11 INFORMATION LITERACY COMMITTEE FORMED
- 12 LOOKING AHEAD TO TORONTO
- 13 OFFICERS AND FUNCTIONARIES

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



DAWN FRENCH

Here we are deep into Autumn! In Maryland, we are enjoying apple cider, Fall Foliage tours, Open House tours, concerts, and more. Enough about that, here's the excitement going on in the Chemistry Division:

We are making great progress with the Toronto Conference planning. October 15th was the deadline to submit topics, and we are working hard to recruit speakers/moderators, etc. We are building upon the strengths of past conferences as well as adding new strengths and partnering with the other scientific divisions of SLA. Thank you to those volunteering to be speakers, moderators, and thank you to those people who lend feedback when suggestions are needed. A big thank you to Kathy Whitley, Conference Planner, helping to plan for Toronto while in the midst of Florida's hurricanes.

Thank you to all of those who are volunteering their time and efforts to make the Chemistry Division a success. I encourage others to thank all the volunteers of the Division as well. It's amazing when you stop to think that we as members are relying on volunteers to help us keep up with our professional development. It's really exciting to see so many great people dedicated to our profession and to helping others. I encourage people to get involved with the Division if they have not already done so. The more volunteers, the more we can do. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me.

The Division is currently looking at ways to build on the success of our Web Conference and to do more virtual conferences. Please send us your ideas.

Are the Fall colors stirring creative ideas in your mind? If they are not, you may need to benchmark with other library/information professionals. Here's an idea - get together

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Send Newsletter items to:
Mary Ann Mahoney
SLA Chemistry, Div E-Newsletter Editor
Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Library
100 Hildebrand Hall
Berkeley CA 94720-6000
Email: mmahoney@library.berkeley.edu
Phone: 510. 642-4345
Fax: 510 643-9041

The Editor welcomes readers' contributions. Items wanted include: Articles of interest to the community of chemistry information specialists, book reviews for new reference materials, citations for new journals, accomplishments & accolades for the Members' Corner and website recommendations for "Beyond the Web of Chemistry." If you have something you would like to contribute, please contact the Editor or send it via e-mail as a text file or Word document.

COPY DEADLINES FOR 2004-2005

Fall 2004 – October 5 2004
Winter 2005 – January 5 2005
Spring 2005 – April 5 2005
Summer 2005 – July 5 2005

with Chemistry Division members in your area. Meet at a local restaurant for dinner. It's a great way to network and talk "shop" with fellow chemistry librarians/information professionals. If there are not a lot of Chemistry Division members around your area, get together with other SLA members. Recently, two Division members and I ate together in the Washington, D.C. area and had a good time talking about our libraries/information centers.

Here's another idea - get together with other members and take advantage of the site price for the SLA Virtual Seminars. Share the cost and invite members from other organizations to partake. The Washington, D.C. Chapter finds an organization to "hold" the seminar, they allow members to come for free, and they only charge non-members \$10.00 Hey, you can't beat that bargain!

Thank you to the Washington, D.C. Chapter for the above two ideas. What do you do on a local level that we can share with other members of the Division to inspire them?

By the time you get this newsletter, I will have attended the Open House at the new SLA Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. I will also be attending the Leadership Summit in January in Tampa, Florida. If you have any idea/thoughts you want represented at the Summit please contact me. If you are going to Tampa, please let me know as well. – Dawn ❖

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESKTOP

— MARY ANN MAHONEY

With this issue I am pleased to introduce a new columnist, Linda Shackle, who joins Ben Wagner in writing a regular column for the newsletter. Linda's new column is called "pH Property Help" and will feature a different physical property each issue. With Ben and Linda's contributions, both Clebsch-Gordon coefficients and extinction coefficients were covered in the same issue – a first for any newsletter!

Featured in this issue is an introduction to RSS by Terri Vogel that is so clear that even I understand it. Were you able to attend the ACS meeting in Philadelphia in August? If not, don't worry because Sue Cardinal has kindly covered all the highlights of the meeting for you!

The annual conference in Toronto is fast approaching, and this issue includes an announcement about the Marion E. Sparks Award as well as a call for posters for the conference poster session and an introduction to Toronto by Meghan Lafferty. Even sooner though, is the Division's conference this December. Be sure to read Bill Armstrong's article about the CINF/DCHE web conference coming to your desktop in December.

My special thanks go to the back-room production team of Judith Currano and Marilynn Dunker. The newsletter would never leave this editor's desktop without their assistance. ❖

– Mary Ann

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR-ELECT

- *TED BALDWIN*



With Autumn now in full swing, there comes a time of renewal and starting over. Perhaps some of you are planning for your 2005 information center budget, while others are serving students returning to classes. Whatever may be happening, know that your Chemistry Division officers are hard at work planning annual conferences and other division services that allow you to become engaged professionals.

Denise Callihan and I will be joining Dawn French and Kathy Whitley at the Leadership Summit in January, to begin preparations for the 2006 Annual Conference in Baltimore. I look forward to learning from Dawn and Kathy's experiences as they finalize plans for next year's Annual Conference in Toronto.

Remember that I welcome your emails and phone calls to discuss any Division concerns, including ideas for the 2006 Baltimore conference! To help tap into your collective creativity, here are some questions I would like you to help me answer:

- Where will advances in information technology and librarianship take the chemical information and chemical librarianship professions by 2006?
- What will be the needs and expectations of your employer in 2006?
- What will be the professional development needs of Chemistry Division members in 2006?
- How can the division best prepare its members for the future?

Let me know what you think! – *Ted* ❖

<p>Ted Baldwin Library, College of Applied Science University of Cincinnati 2220 Victory Parkway Cincinnati, OH 45206-2839 513-556-4211 513-556-4217 fax ted.baldwin@uc.edu</p>		<p>Denise Callihan PPG Industries Inc Chemicals Center Library 440 College Park Dr Monroeville, PA 15146-1553 724-325-5221 724-325-5289 fax callihan@ppg.com</p>	
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What are those orange XML boxes, anyway?

—an Introduction to RSS by Teri Vogel

There's been a lot of buzz this year about RSS, which can stand for "Really Simple Syndication" or "Rich Site Summary," but that does not go far in answering what RSS is or how it can be used. I prefer the term "webfeed" instead. It emphasizes the concept over technical jargon that can easily change with new technology.

A webfeed is an XML file on a website. These files are mostly (but not always) found on sites where content is frequently added, like blogs and news websites. As the site is updated with new content, the associated webfeed is updated automatically. While **XML** is the most familiar sign that a webfeed is available, other indicators include terms such as "RSS," "syndicate," "feeds," and "newsfeeds." These can be textual or graphical links, prominently displayed on a homepage or buried within a website. What they all indicate is that the producer or author of the site has provided a webfeed as an alternate way for you to read their content, and to keep up with new content as it is published.

These files are not meant to read unaided; in fact, reading one is a little like reading the HTML of a webpage (both HTML and XML are markup languages). Just like you use an application like Netscape or Internet Explorer to "convert" the HTML into a readable, formatted page, so you would use an application called a reader to do the same with these XML webfeeds. The Weblogs Compendium (<http://www.lights.com/weblogs/rss.html>) offers an excellent list of available desktop and Web-based readers; most are free or cost little. I recommend starting with Bloglines (<http://www.bloglines.com/>) because the Web-based format allows you to manage your feeds from any computer.

This is how it works:

- Once you sign up with Bloglines, select the **My Feeds** tab, and then click **Add** to bring up the subscription page. Paste the URL of the feed you want to track (for example, the feed for the *New York Times* science news, which you found on their site) and click **Subscribe**. The feed has been added

to your list and will remain there until you remove the feed, which is also a simple process.

- A new article is posted to the Science section of the *Times*. The webfeed for this page is automatically updated with information about the new article: title, author, timestamp and a link to the complete article (a feed may also include the first sentence or even all of the article).
- Bloglines monitors all of its users' subscribed feeds once an hour to check for any that have been updated. An updated feed means that content has been added to the corresponding website. The *Times* science feed gets "pinged" and the changes to the feed are noted and passed along to everyone who subscribes to this feed.
- The next time you check your list of feeds in Bloglines, you see **The New York Times (1)**, which alerts you that a new article has been posted since the last time you checked the feed. You click the link to get the information from the feed about the new article: title, author, timestamp and a link to the article on the *Times* website if you want to read it.

Imagine there are 30-40 bookmarked sites you check each morning when you arrive at work. Now imagine that all of these sites have feeds that you could monitor for updates from a single location, instead of regularly checking them one site at a time. You can see immediately which sites have new content, decide what articles or entries you want to read, and add or eliminate feeds from your list without the need to locate or create subscription usernames and passwords. So while organizations like the *New York Times* produce their webfeeds (either RSS or Atom or some future standard) to disseminate their content, we can use the readers to capture those feeds as a way to manage the information we consume everyday.

Introduction to RSS cont'd on page 5

Here are some webfeeds to get you started. The Weblogs Compendium also has a list of feed directories.

Librarian Websites

- ResourceShelf
<http://www.resourceshelf.com/resourceshelf.xml>
- Sci-Tech Library Question
<http://www.stlq.info/index.rdf>

Internet Resource Directories

- PSIGate (Physical Sciences Information Gateway): Chemistry
http://www.psigate.ac.uk/rssnews/psigate_latest_chemistry.xml

Science News

- New York Times: Science
<http://www.nytimes.com/services/xml/rss/nyt/Science.xml>
- BBC: Science/Nature
http://news.bbc.co.uk/rss/newsonline_uk_edition/sci/tech/rss091.xml
- New Scientist
<http://www.newscientist.com/syndication/news.rdf>
- The Scientist
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/news/rss/>
- News @ Nature.com
<http://www.nature.com/news/rss.rdf>
- Nanofocus (American Chemical Society)
<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/nanofocus/xml/topstories.xml>

Aggregated Science Feeds - These sites collect news from thousands of feeds and “repackage” them into topical feeds

- Topix.net: Chemistry
<http://rss.topix.net/rss/tech/chemistry.xml>
- Moreover: Physical Sciences News
<http://p.moreover.com/cgi-local/page?c=Science%3A%20physical%20sciences%20news&o=rss>

Journal Publishers – Several publishers now offer webfeeds as an alternative to e-mail based TOC and article alerts

- Nature Publishing Group
http://npg.nature.com/npg/servlet/Content?data=xml/02_newsfeed.xml&style=xml/02_newsfeed.xml
- Institute of Physics
<http://syndication.iop.org/>
- Biomed Central
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/about/rss>
- International Union of Crystallography
<http://journals.iucr.org/services/rss.html> ❖

pH **property Help:** extinction coefficients

Linda Shackle

What is an extinction coefficient?

In analytical chemistry, the extinction coefficient is a quantitative measure of ultra-violet spectroscopy.

When a substance is exposed to ultra-violet radiation, some of the radiation will be absorbed and some will be transmitted; these numerical values may change however, depending on the concentration of the substance and the length of the path the radiation follows. The extinction coefficient is a way to describe absorbance in relation to a "constant proportion" or "unit".

The extinction coefficient equals the absorbance of the substance divided by the concentration times the path length. This equation ($\epsilon = A/cl$) is a rearrangement of the Beer's Law equation. The extinction coefficient is usually measured at the peak height (uv max or λ max) and helps identify an unknown.

Synonyms: Molar absorptivity, molar absorption coefficient

Units: Most likely $M^{-1}cm^{-1}$, but may vary depending on how concentration and length are measured.

Symbol: ϵ

Field of Search: Data collections for classes of compounds and ultra-violet (UV) spectroscopy

Extinction coefficients are also found in the optics literature and in these cases are relating to the passage of light waves (not just from the ultraviolet portion of the spectrum) through a material, such as a metal. In this case, the extinction coefficient is equal to the absorption coefficient times the length of the wave in the material divided by 4π [$k = \alpha(\lambda/4\pi)$]

Symbol: k

Field of Search: Data collections for types of materials and optical properties.

Some specific resources for extinction coefficients*

Absorption Spectra in the UV and Visible Region
Extinction coefficient must be calculated from given data using Beer's Equation.

American Institute of Physics Handbook
Optics chapter has extinction coefficients for metals.

Combined Chemical Dictionary

CRC Handbook of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Section 12 has extinction coefficients for solids and the elements.

Data for Biochemical Research
Chapters 1-3 have extinction coefficients for amino acids and other types of biochemical substances.

Human Protein Data

Merck Index
Extinction coefficients are found in the "properties" paragraph, primarily just for pharmaceuticals.

Organic Electronic Spectral Data
Volumes are arranged by molecular formula.

Practical Handbook of Spectroscopy (CRC)
The chapter on uv spectroscopy is arranged by the extinction coefficient.

Specifications and Criteria for Biochemical Compounds'

UV Atlas of Organic Compounds

*From the Index to Physical, Chemical and Other Property Data at
<http://www.asu.edu/lib/noble/chem/property.htm> ❖

Beyond the Chemistry Web

A. Ben Wagner

A little bit of everything this time around. Feel free to send recommendations to me at abwagner@buffalo.edu. My thanks to Dawn French of Millennium Chemical and Mary Ann Mahoney of UC Berkeley for their suggestions for this column.

I. More Government Sites

Federal R&D Project Summaries – DOE Office of Scientific & Technical Information et. al.

<http://www.osti.gov/fedrnd/>

Website Notes: Search nearly 500,000 summaries across any or all of six Federal agencies: DOE, EPA, NIH, NSF, SBA, and USDA.

Are you ready? : a guide to citizen preparedness - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

<http://www.fema.gov/areyouready/>

Website Notes: Whether it is earthquakes, hurricanes, volcanoes, or wildland fires, find out what you can do to prepare for natural disasters and national emergencies. Other links on tabs provide statistics and disaster maps (Disaster Fact Sheets tab) and dealing with other hazards including terrorism (Hazards tab).

FireSafety.gov : an information resource for eliminating residential fire deaths - U.S. Fire Administration, et. al.

<http://www.firesafety.gov/>

Website Notes: Subtitle says it all, a comprehensive source of information to help eliminate residential fire deaths including product recalls, news releases, full-text reports and statistics.

Prudent practices in the laboratory: handling and disposal of chemicals

Washington, D.C. : National Academy Press, 1995

<http://www.nap.edu/catalog/4911.html>

Just one of hundreds of books available full-text online at no cost from the NAP. An example of a new release: "Saving Lives, Buying Time: Economics of Malaria Drugs in an Age of Resistance".

II. Potpourri

PSIgate (Physical Sciences Information Gateway)

<http://www.psigate.ac.uk/newsite/>

Tired of using general search engines to locate good web sites? PSIgate provides free access to high quality Internet resources for students, researchers and practitioners in the physical sciences, specifically in: astronomy, chemistry, earth sciences, physics, and science history and policy. What sets this site apart is the detailed subject headings/classified directory.

Need to find web sites covering the inorganic chemistry of Group 6 elements? Try Chemistry: Inorganic Chemistry: Group 6. Each resource in the main PSIgate Catalogue has been selected by information professionals and subject specialists (mainly PSIgate staff and research postgraduates). A description of each resource is provided.

Clebsch-o-Matic (Clebsch-Gordan Coefficient Calculators)

<http://www.gleet.org.uk/cleb/>

O.K., perhaps I am the only science librarian in the world to ever get a question about Clebsch-Gordan coefficients. But in case any one needs to find calculators written in Java, Fortran, or C routines; this is the place to go. It's not an easy site to find.

National Geographic Map Machine

<http://plasma.nationalgeographic.com/mapmachine/>

The National Geographic Society has redesigned its on-line atlas. As their web site says, "Find nearly any place on Earth, and view it by population, climate, and much more. Plus, browse antique maps, find country facts, or plan your next outdoor adventure with our trail maps." ❖

CHEMISTRY DIVISION WELCOMES THESE NEW MEMBERS



IMAGE BY UNIVERSITY OF BATH

New Members

Caroline L. Gilson
Prevo Science Library
DePauw Univ
Terre Haute, IN

Joe Hecht

Noveon, Inc.
Cleveland, OH

Judith Matthews

Biomedical and Physical Sciences Library
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

Mindy Pennington

Bay City, MI

New Sustaining Member

Scope eKnowledge Ctr Pvt Ltd
Chennai Tamilnadu, India

New Student Member

Emily Huston
School of Library and
Information Science
Louisiana State University
New Orleans, LA ❖

CALL FOR POSTERS SLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE – TORONTO 2005

The Chemistry Division will be partnering this year with the Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics (PAM) Division and the Science-Technology Division to present a poster session entitled, “Better Understanding Your Users.” What has been done to learn about library and information users? How and where are they finding and/or using information or technology employed in the search for information? Do they use the library, and if so, how do they perceive the library? What technology are they using? What search engines are our patrons using? When and why? What role does the library play in their studying/teaching/research and daily living?

These are some of the questions we want to address within the scope of the 2005 presentations. If you are engaged in any sort of research involving the aforementioned thematic material, please consider submitting an abstract for possible inclusion in the poster session. If such questions interest you and you are not currently engaged in research on these matters, consider such a project. The poster session will present an ideal opportunity for you to share your findings in an informal manner on a topic that is becoming increasingly important to libraries. Information professionals can neither provide nor properly market services users need if they do not adequately understand their users.

Guidelines for materials and layout of poster presentations are available on the SLA Chemistry Division website at <http://www.sla.org/division/dche/poster.html>.

Please submit your name, institution, fax, email address, poster title, and description (250 words or less) by email, fax, or surface mail to Bill Armstrong at the address given below. The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2005. Any SLA Member is welcome to submit an abstract for consideration. In the event that a greater number of submissions are received than can be accommodated, members of the three sponsoring divisions will be given first preference. All applicants will be notified no later than April 1, 2005 as to whether or not their proposal has been accepted. Contact Bill Armstrong at the address given below if you have any questions about this session.

Bill Armstrong
Chemistry Library
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Ph. (225) 578-2738
Fax: (225) 578-2760
Email: notwwa@lsu.edu

Marion E. Sparks Award

The Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association is sponsoring a student/new member scholarship essay competition in 2005. The award is named to honor Marion E. Sparks, a chemistry librarian at the University of Illinois from 1913 until her death in 1929. Ms. Sparks contributed a great deal to the field of chemical information, her achievements include teaching courses on chemical information, and authoring and publishing what is argued to be the first book to formally address chemical literature and library instruction.

This competition is intended to encourage student members or new members of the Chemistry Division to attend the annual meeting and participate in the activities of the Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association.

AWARD: The winner will receive \$1,500 to attend the 2005 SLA Annual Conference, Toronto, ON, Canada, June 5-8. The winner will also receive a certificate of achievement and will be introduced at the Chemistry Division Business Meeting & Breakfast. This award is intended to reimburse the winner's conference expenses, including: registration, airfare, lodging, food, and/or the continuing education course (registration in "Chemistry for Non-Chemist Librarian, "Chemical Information Sources, Requests, and Reference," or any other continuing education course is recommended but not required).

ELIGIBILITY: All student members of the Chemistry Division and all individuals who became members of the Chemistry Division since January of 2004 are eligible to enter the contest.

TO ENTER: Compose an essay to address the candidate's objectives for professional development and the outcomes if a person were granted the award. Essay should not exceed 400 words or two typed doubled-spaced pages. Please include a resume and the names of two references.

Entries may be submitted by email or regular mail to:

Svetlana Korolev
UWM Libraries
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI 53211
skorolev@uwm.edu

Deadline for submission: March 15, 2005
Essays will be judged by a panel of SLA Chemistry Division members.
The winner will be notified by April 10, 2005.

Highlights of the National American Chemical Society (ACS) Meeting in Philadelphia August 22-26, 2004

– *Susan Cardinal*

ACS conferences provide a special blend of programming, networking and sightseeing given a well-managed schedule. The challenge is fitting everything in and still maintaining a healthy “constitution”. A train took me from the airport almost to my hotel door in downtown Philadelphia, and, as I emerged from underground, I had my first taste of brotherly love as a man kindly assisted me with my luggage. In the bright sunlight, the architecture was astonishing as old was reflected in new. The green spaces were refreshing.

Judith Currano, chemistry librarian at the University of Pennsylvania, graciously gave me a tour of her library. A new roof was being installed and the recent rain had caused havoc. I thoroughly enjoyed talking shop and seeing familiar titles on different shelves.

My trusty CIB (Chemical Information Bulletin) listed a summary of the CINF program including abstracts. The program is also available on the CINF website (<http://www.acscinf.org/cinf/meetings/228nm/228cinfprogram.htm>) Slides from many talks are posted under “Abstracts.” Look for linked titles.

I learned a great deal about the open access movement and open access publishing. They are not the same thing! The open access movement emphasizes making information freely available by posting pre- or post-prints. In addition to access, open access publishing is concerned with who will pay, peer review, and how publishers will thrive. Robert D. Bovenschulte from ACS Publications presented a conservative “wait and see” viewpoint while Stevan Harnard from Universite du Quebec a Montreal vigorously encouraged publishers to allow pre- and post-prints causing at least one publisher to review its policies.

Peer review presentations also presented contrasting perspectives. Wendy Warr, Associate Editor of the ACS’s Journal of Chemical Information and Computer Sciences shared the complexities of the current peer review process in detail. Often it is a challenge to find willing reviewers and to get reviews done on time.

Ulrich Pöschl of the Institute of Hydrochemistry at the Technical University of Munich described a great experiment in interactive peer review involving the journal “Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics,” at <http://www.atmos-chem-phys.org>

As I viewed posters on chemical information instruction, I found examples of outreach using WebEx™, and examples of creative bibliographic instruction via a course or one class period. Bartow Culp of Purdue described how the assignment of a poster presentation gave his class an opportunity to learn more about chemical information outside of the limited class period without becoming overburdened.

The receptions were especially lavish this year. Most notably the CINF Welcoming Reception was sponsored by Thomson Scientific and was held at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. I met many new people and discussed careers, the temperature of beer in Germany, and how to market new products.

At the exhibit hall, I was pleased to learn that Wiley has more flexible licensing agreements than I previously thought. I saw demonstrations of CrossFire Beilstein with reaction grouping and sorting, SpresiWeb with Synthesis Tree Search (STS) which is a way of developing a synthetic method based on search results, and SciFinder Scholar 2004 v. 2 which has a much better scroll bar. ACS Publications announced that “Today’s Chemist at Work” and “Modern Drug Discovery” will cease and a new journal called “Chemical Biology” will start publication in 2006.

The atmosphere at the City Tavern was very inspiring and historic. The National Constitution Center was well worth a look. Did you know that Thomas Jefferson didn’t sign the Constitution?

Thanks to CINF for an excellent program! ❖

Many of the CINF posters will be part of a web conference in December. See Bill Armstrong's article on the next page. – ed.

SLA/CHEM & ACS/CINF Web Conference In December 2004

– Bill Armstrong

The SLA Chemistry Division is happy to announce that it will be co-sponsoring a web conference with the ACS CINF Division to be held during the first full week of December, 2004. The conference, entitled ***Chemical Information Instruction***, will feature five posters originally presented at the ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia in August, 2004, through the coordinating efforts of Erja Kajosalo of MIT. The discussions will take place on the SLA Chemistry Division Web Conference site at <http://forum.lib.lsu.edu/slachem/>, where each poster will not only be linked to the full presentation, but will have its own discussion forum moderated by the author/presenter.

Among the forums that will be offered are the following:

- **Library and database assignments for undergraduate chemistry majors.” Ann D. Bolek**
- **Using poster sessions in a chemical information course.” F. Bartow Culp**
- **Experiments in teaching information skills to chemical & engineering students.” Erja Kajosalo**
- **The Printed Beilstein Handbook: An enduring resource in organic chemistry.” Philip Barnett**
- **Publishing in the Chemical Information Instructor feature of the Journal of Chemical Education.” Andrea Twiss-Brooks**

The web conference will take place from December 6 - 12, 2004. The conference site will be open 24 hours a day and, as discussions are asynchronous, you are welcome to participate at times most convenient to you. Presenters/moderators will be happy to respond to any questions or comments you may have regarding their presentations. Registration is free. We look forward to “seeing” you there! ❖

Chemistry Division Information Literacy Committee Formed

– Cory Craig

The SLA Chemistry Division, Information Literacy Committee was formed at the 2004 SLA Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN. This committee was established with the goal of working with the American Chemical Society, Division of Chemical Information (ACS-CINF) and Association of College and Research Libraries, Science and Technology Section (ACRL-STs) to develop, maintain, and review information literacy competencies for chemistry undergraduates.

The committee’s strategies are to: 1) identify key individuals in ACS-CINF and ACRL-STs to begin a dialogue; 2) gather and review existing information competency standards and proposals; 3) publicize the committee SLA Chemistry Division website; 4) share findings with the newly formed SLA Chemistry Division Web Committee to assist in development of a stand-alone web page.

We are currently establishing liaisons with other groups working on information literacy and forming a plan of action. The committee has established a web site at: <http://www.reed.edu/~madduxl/dcheil/>. For additional information, or to get involved, contact one of the co-chairs, Cory Craig (cjcraig@ucdavis.edu) or Linda Maddux (lhm@reed.edu). ❖

Looking Ahead to Toronto

– Meghan Lafferty

Toronto is one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world. Nearly half of its residents were born in other countries and more than 100 languages and dialects can be heard in the city. Here are a few suggestions for where to find out more about Toronto before the annual conference in June.

Two websites that are good sources of general information on visiting Toronto are the visitor section of Toronto's official website (<http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/visitors/>) and Tourism Toronto (<http://www.torontotourism.com/>). The city of Toronto site includes maps, information on attractions and navigating the city, facts about Toronto, and other news for visitors (such as the fact that public places in Toronto have been smoke-free since the summer of 2004). Tourism Toronto has more extensive information on lodging, attractions, shopping, and restaurants and is more geared toward entertainment than the official city site. You can also find details on what to see and do in the city's neighborhoods and hints on things like expectations for tipping, useful for those traveling from outside of Canada.

There is plenty to do in Toronto. Given the diversity of the city, there is a wide range of restaurants from which to choose. Toronto Life's online guide conveniently categorizes restaurants by type of cuisine, neighborhood, and price range (http://www.torontolife.com/cityguide/category.cfm?category_id=1). As the conference approaches, you can check <http://www.eye.net/>, the online version of *eye*, a local arts and entertainment weekly, for events listings. A Toronto attraction of interest to science types is the Ontario Science Center (<http://www.ontariosciencecentre.ca/>). The Ontario Science Center was the first hands-on science museum in the world, and it celebrated its thirty-fifth birthday in 2004.

U.S. citizens don't need a visa to travel to Canada for a short stay, but they do need to show proof of U.S. citizenship in order to enter Canada. A valid passport or a birth certificate, expired passport, or naturalization certificate along with photo ID will suffice. More details from the U.S. State Department on travel to Canada can be found at <http://travel.state.gov/travel/canada.html>. ❖



SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION
2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
June 4th - 9th • Toronto • Canada
Putting Knowledge to Work

2004-2005 CHEMISTRY DIVISION OFFICERS AND FUNCTIONARIES

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