

bulletin of the
**INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
DIVISION of SLA**



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ITE Chair
Karalyn Kavanaugh

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Special Libraries Association

ITE Chair's Letter

[Karalyn Kavanaugh](#)

Dear ITE Members,

With this issue we will begin to publish [b/ITE](#) 6 times a year, instead of 4 times. There is a demand for ITE information in smaller "bites" so we are complying with your wishes, thanks to the great efforts of [S. Michael Kim](#), our fearless *b/ITE* editor.

The ITE Board has had a change for 2003-04. The very capable [Ty Webb](#) has agreed to step in as Chair-elect now that [Cindi Trainor](#) is expecting a baby in June, just about the time of the NYC Conference. We will let **Cindi** off the hook--this time. **Cindi** hopes to stay involved with ITE as the little one grows up. We hope so; **Cindi** is one of the most creative information technology experts I know. She's done a tremendous job of creating an ITE Brochure, which can be found on our website, and collected lots of sponsors for the upcoming Conference in NYC. Thanks for all of your work during your time on the ITE Board, **Cindi**.

Keeping up with technology and its capabilities at work has taken most of my time this winter. That's true of the Information Technology Division, too. We are working on making technology work for us by way of a Hall of Fame for the ITE website, with the help of [Hope Tillman](#). Watch for that. We are also working on more programs and events to bring members and information technology together during the SLA conference and throughout the year.

One of the most active Sections of ITE, the Digital Content Section, chaired by

[Craig Haggit](#) has a very active website. Check it out.

Awards are being prepared for deserving members in the student, member and chapter arenas. [Stacey Greenwell](#) is hotly pursuing them. You'll be able to read some of the best student papers in future issues of [b/ITE](#); one winning article and 5 honorable mention articles. We thought you'd like to read some of the things that are being written in library school. There are some interesting students and topics out there.

The Great Lakes Regional Conference will benefit from the \$1,000 ITE Division program sponsorship; plans are still being finalized.

[Barbie Keiser](#) is working on getting a student from a non-North American library school to come to the NYC Conference as the guest of ITE. Plans are in the works.

Our program chair extraordinaire, [Georgia Higley](#) is finalizing ITE program plans for NYC. You'll be entertained, educated and elated with all of the programs and events.

Since we've been sending postcards to ITE members announcing upcoming events, we've had more activity and response. We hope the Announce List that's being prepared will increase activity even more.

Thanks to all of you who have been active members of ITE. We would love to hear from more of you. Please contact us to get involved and join in the fun. You could win **\$25 book coupon** for your efforts.



Sincerely,

[Karalyn Kavanaugh](#), ITE Chair

Editor's Byte

[S. Michael Kim](#)

Spring has sprung finally and I can hear birds are singing in the early morning.

Since this is planned to be a pre-conference issue, our hard-working NYC Conference program chair, [Georgia Higley](#), prepared a sneak preview of programs organized/supported by the ITE division. Check it out!

A special, titled "Hidden Gems in NYC," is planned for this issue and the next one, which features less known yet wonderful places to visit in NYC during the SLA conference in June. [Rita Ormsby](#), a NY chapter member of SLA, submitted a fabulous article covering outside the Manhattan area. In next issue, [Sharon L. Mosenkis](#)'s article, which covers the Manhattan area, will be printed. I am grateful to both of them for agreeing to write NYC guides for fellow SLA members!

As [Karalyn Kavanaugh](#) mentioned it, there is an announcement of a winner and 5 honorable mentions of the 2003 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award in this issue. The student papers will be printed in this issue and the future issues of b/ITE. Congratulations, future information professionals!

I hope you make 'snappy new days' until we meet with the next [b/ITE](#) issue of a 'smaller bite' size!

[S. Michael Kim](#),
b/ITE editor



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-NYC Conference Programs

Looking forward to DITE in New York City

[Georgia Higley](#)

DITE NYC Conference Program Planner

Although there are still a couple of months to go before the SLA's Annual Conference, plans for DITE activities in New York City have been in the works for quite a while. The logistics of the conference make it unique for SLA. We will be spread over three hotels in the heart of the city—the Hilton, Sheraton, and Marriott Marquis. **Bring your walking shoes!**



Headquarter staff have been busy assigning room space for all of our activities. Although we can't say the specific rooms for sure since changes are possible, we do have some general guidelines about where activities will take place. General sessions will be in the Hilton, programs in the Marriott and Hilton, and receptions in the Sheraton. The chart below will give you an idea of the variety of activities and their anticipated locations. See other articles in this issue for specifics on our events.



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Latest Schedule of DITE Events in New York City
(event locations are tentative)

■ =Open House ■ =CE Course ■ =Meeting ■ =Field Trip □ =Program

Sat, 6/7	CE Course Give Me Strength... E-journals 8:30am- 12:30pm Ticket Number #145, \$199.00 MBR/ \$249.00 NMBR , Sheraton
	Live From New York...It's Saturday Night! 9:00pm -midnight Sheraton
Sun, 6/7	CE Course Newsletter Production... 8:00am - 12:00pm Ticket Number #230, \$199.00 MBR, \$249.00 NMBR, Sheraton
	CE Course TechStorm 8:30am- 12:30pm Ticket Number #290, \$199 MBR/ \$249 NMBR, Sheraton
	Mystery Night with DITE 9:00PM - 12:00AM Sheraton
Mon, 6/9	Digital from Birth: Information Architecture... 11:30am - 1:00pm
	Metadata Standards 1:30PM - 3:00PM Marriott
	Managing Technology Centers 3:30 - 5:00pm Marriott
	Discover the Information Technology Division 9:00pm-midnight Sheraton
Tues, 6/10	DITE Diversity and Mentoring Breakfast 7:30-9:00am Marriott, Ticket Number #530 \$10
	Web Accessibility 11:30AM - 1:00PM Marriott
	Wearable Technology, Mobile Technology 1:30-3:00pm Marriott
	DITE Business and Awards Tea 3:30-5:00pm Marriott Ticket Number #620 \$15.00
	The Future Is Just Out Of Reach--A Science Fiction Evening 7:30PM-midnight Sheraton
Wed., 6/11	Government Information: Access... 12:00-1:30pm, Hilton
	Distance Services... 2:00-3:30pm, Hilton
	Gender & the Information Technology... 4:00-5:30pm, Hilton
Thurs, 6/12	FieldTrip: Liberty Science Center Ticket Number #800 \$40, 8:30AM - 1:00PM

-NYC Conference Programs

Build your skills with DITE's CE Courses

Georgia Higley



DITE is offering three half-day classes on Saturday and Sunday. We're pleased to be co-sponsoring a class on E-journal management with the Engineering Division, reprising last year's TechStorm class, and offering a new course on newsletter production. These courses are designed to inform, inspire, and provide solutions that can be readily applied to your professional activities.

DITE's first CE course is offered **Saturday morning**. **Leslie Burke** and **Holly Bussey** provide a thorough overview of the rewards and problems of managing electronic journals. This practical workshop will assist all who are involved in selecting, negotiating, and maintaining the e-journal collections of their library. The dynamics of e-serial publishing—economics, publisher considerations, acquisition dilemmas, and publisher and librarian expectations—will be discussed so that participants will be familiar with viewpoints of all involved in the e-journal equation. Participants will leave the workshop with the tools and techniques needed to successfully negotiate the sometimes muddy waters of e-journal purchase and maintenance. Register today for CE #145 **Give Me Strength: the Hows and Whys of E-journals**, offered Saturday, June 7, 2003 8:30am - 12:30pm.

Plan to spend **Sunday morning** with **Chris Olson** in a lively, informative workshop devoted to newsletter production. Crammed with information, examples, tips, insights, and pointers, the workshop will be presented in an informal environment where questions and comments are invited. A behind-the-scenes peek at the material Chris is preparing for the workshop reveals topics covering....



- Is a newsletter the right marketing device for your resources and target market?
- Paper? HTML? plain text? PDF? all of the above? Format issues and implications.
- Overcoming MS Word limitations and frustrations. The benefits of PageMaker.
- Differences in color based on the output/viewing environments
- Writing articles, assigning stories... the life and times of a newsletter editor
- Newsletter resources on the web...production, list management, graphics...

This workshop promises to be a great combination of fun and information. Sign up for CE 230, **Newsletter Production: Getting the Word Out**, Sunday, June 8th 8:00am- 12:00pm.



For those of you contemplating technology change in your workplace, **Jane Dysart** and **Steve Abram** will help you determine the questions, resources, and range of choices available. This course received rave reviews when it was offered in Los Angeles, and the topic is a timely one. Jane and Steve will address key issues involved in implementing technology change:

- How can we find the new technologies?

- How do we choose the ones appropriate to our situation?
- Can current services be improved? What news services can we offer?
- How will our technology choices affect staff and clients?

Expect thought-provoking presentations and lively discussions. Facilitators will stretch the thinking of participants. CE 290, **TechStorm: Technology Brainstorm & Environmental Scan – A Strategic Planning Facilitated Workshop** is offered Sunday, June 8th, 8:30 am-12:30 pm.



-NYC Conference Programs

Eat, Drink and Be Merry with DITE!

[Georgia Higley](#)

**hotel locations subject to change; accurate at press time*



A special breakfast meeting is planned on Tuesday. [Erma Dell'Aquila](#) will moderate **DITE Diversity and Mentoring Breakfast on Tuesday, June 10, 7:30-9:00am** in the Marriott.

This continental breakfast meeting is an opportunity to become part of the "mentoring moments" knowledge base, to get connected and share experiences. Speakers will highlight opportunities in non-traditional occupations and give tips on how to survive in today's economy.

Many thanks to [Dialog](#) for generously supporting this meeting. Tickets are \$10 each (a conference bargain!). **Sign up for event #530.**

Our **annual business and awards meeting is a tea at the Marriott, Tuesday afternoon, June 10, 3:30-5 pm.** We will announce our member of the year, and we will discover who is this year's student award winner. Our sponsors for this meeting are [ISI](#) and [Basch Subscriptions](#). Due to their generosity we have a **reasonable ticket price (\$15!) and some very special prizes. The DITE Business and Awards Tea is Ticketed Event #620.**

We are again offering our themed open houses. **Our open houses run Saturday thru Tuesday**—no night is alike so be sure to drop in! All are scheduled in the Sheraton.

DITE welcomes you to NYC on Saturday with **Live From New York...It's Saturday Night!** beginning at 9 pm. Plans are not yet finalized, so if you have ideas we'd love to hear from you! Got a question? Ask Swami! Never been to an DITE open house? This is the one to start with—we'll be mixing and mingling and getting acquainted.



Sunday night's open house is a reprise of last year's **Mystery Night**. Mystery writer **Jane Kelly** will host the evening. Last year we searched for Oscar, this year who knows what will be on the mystery menu?

Monday night is a chance to find out **more about DITE**—what are all those sections really about? Who's involved in the division? How do your interests match with the various DITE areas? Drop in and **discover DITE.**



The final open house of the conference is a special one. For the first time DITE will host a **science fiction evening**, complete with authors, discussion, and book signing. To date two authors are scheduled to discuss their book and their views on technology. For more information, see the article about this open house in this issue.



The Future is Just Out of Reach—A Science Fiction Evening

Georgia Higley

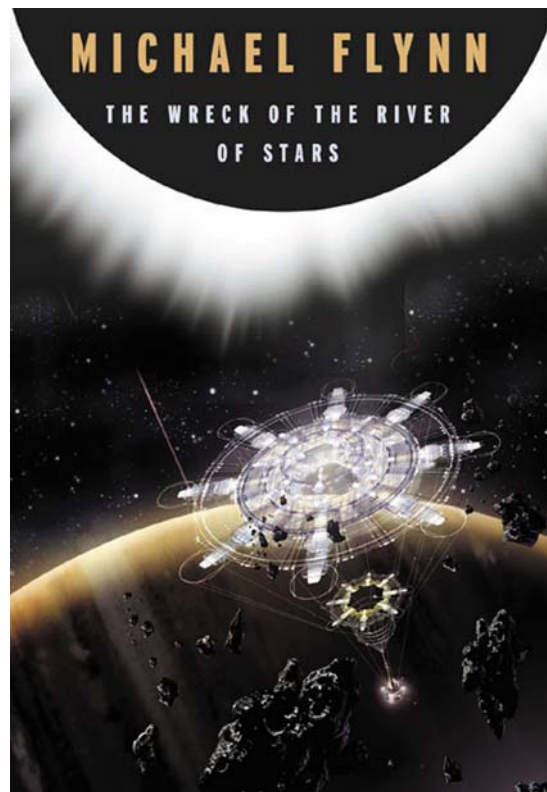
Tuesday night's open house is a special one. We are co-sponsoring with **the Science and Technology Division** and **the Information Futurist Caucus**. The evening will begin a bit earlier than usual, **7:30 pm**, to give speakers and audience plenty of time to discuss science fiction and technology in a relaxed atmosphere.

Two science fiction authors will discuss how they use technology in their works and how they see technology developing in our society. Authors Paul Levinson and Michael Flynn are ideally suited for this kind of discussion; technology has a major role in all their works and both authors have written on the subject in fiction and non-fiction works.



Paul Levinson, a past president of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, is very much a Renaissance man. He holds a Ph.D. in Media Theory, began teaching about the

internet in 1985. He has published extensively on the history and philosophy of communication and technology, including his latest non-fiction work *Digital McLuhan: A Guide to the Information Millennium*. His science fiction writing is far ranging as well. He won the Locus Award for Best First Novel in 1999 for *The Silk Code*, a novel about NYPD forensic detective Dr. Phil D'Amato that was called "a rare thriller that actually achieves its goals as a detective tale and a work of boldly speculative sf." His latest novel is the well-received *The Consciousness Plague*.



Michael Flynn has an equally illustrious career in science fiction. He too is a winner of the Locus Award for Best First Novel; he won in 1991 for *In the Country of the Blind*, a speculative novel and thriller. He writes science fiction in the tradition of Robert A. Heinlein, and one reviewer called him "better than Heinlein.". His major work is the Firestar sequence, a four-book future history. "As Robert A. Heinlein did and all too few have done since, Michael Flynn writes about the near future as if he'd been there and was bringing back reports of what he'd seen," said Harry Turtledove. His most recent work is *The Wreck of the River of Stars*, an epic capturing the reality and romance of space flight.

The authors will spend part of the evening discussing their works, and there will be plenty of time to mingle with them informally. Books will be available for purchase signing as well.

Join us for an evening of great conversation and speculation.

-NYC Conference Programs

Field Trip to Liberty Science Center

-Ticketed Event # 800, \$40

Join DITE in an exploration of New Jersey's **Liberty Science Center**, home to more than 250 hands-on exhibits. See the Bug Zoo, Touch Tunnel, and Invention Floor. Learn about the science of ice cream and the structure of atoms. The trip includes round trip transportation,

access to all exhibits, and a ticket to the movie "Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees" in the nation's largest IMAX Dome Theater. We will leave at 8:30am and return around 1 pm.

-NYC Conference Programs

FOCUS ON ITE SECTIONS — To Which Section of ITE do you belong?

Communications?

Digital Content?

Government Information?

Information Systems?

Technical Services?

Virtual?

Webmaster?

*See [ITE website](http://www.sla.org/division/dite/) for descriptions of each Section -<http://www.sla.org/division/dite/>

Do you belong to a Section? Why? Why not?

How would you describe or represent your Section?

What drew you to the Section?

What has your Section done?

What would you like your Section(s) to do for you?

Give us your ideas!

Monday night, June 9, the ITE Open House theme will be "**Discover ITE Night**".

Let me know your interests ahead of time so we have a core group focus on each Section. We'll have tables set up for each Section where members can talk about what they like, dislike, wish, about the Section(s). Could be fun.

[Karalyn Kavanaugh](#), Chair, ITE
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**FUTURISTS NAB
NARA
FOR NYC**



[Katherine Bertolucci](#)
SLA Information Futurists Caucus
Convener

Dr. Kenneth Thibodeau, one of the major players in electronic records preservation, will speak at SLA's 2003 Conference in New York City, co-sponsored by the Information Futurists Caucus (KINF) and the Library Management Division. Dr. Thibodeau directs the Electronic Records Archives (ERA) of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). He will address SLA during the Future Directions track on **Tuesday, June 10 at 3:30 pm.**

An internationally recognized expert in electronic records, Ken Thibodeau taught at the University of Notre Dame and led records management programs for both the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense. At NARA since 1988, he now heads NARA's effort to build "the archives of the future," preserving our nation's electronic records, from NASA photographs to White House email. Ken Thibodeau is a key player in the development of effective new methods for preserving electronic records through generations of information technology.

Digital preservation is becoming an important topic for SLA. First introduced to us by **Stewart Brand** in Minneapolis/1999, the Information Futurists and LMD followed up at San Antonio/2001 with **Jeff Rothenberg** of the Rand Corporation and his highly entertaining talk on preservation basics, "Digital Information Lasts Forever - Or Five Years, Whichever Comes First." The September 2002 Information Outlook featured an article on the digital preservation efforts at the Library of Congress, "Digital Preservation Looks Forward," by Amy Friedlander of the Council on Library and Information Resources.

The momentum continues for New York City. **Stewart Brand** will again address SLA, this time as keynote for Tuesday's

Future Directions track at 9:30 am. In an interview for the February 2003 Information Outlook, Brand stated that one of his themes will be digital preservation. Dr. Kenneth Thibodeau follows in the afternoon with a program about the very exciting preservation projects at NARA/ERA. Be sure to attend both these important programs for the latest in digital preservation. You just might find the solution for your own preservation efforts.

Plan to join the Information Futurists for two more great conference events. Get an early start on the Future Directions track by attending the always lively KINF business and networking meeting on Monday at 5:30 pm. You'll also enjoy a program on wearable and mobile technology with members of the MIT Media Laboratory. KINF is co-sponsoring this program with the Information Technology Division at 1:30 during Tuesday's Future Directions track. Be sure to attend all the Information Futurists' events for an exciting look at the emerging technological world.



-NYC Conference

hidden Gems in NYC

[Rita Ormsby*](#)



So, you're coming to New York for the SLA conference in June and wondering what are some "gems" that you shouldn't miss in the "outer boroughs," that is, not in Manhattan? I moved to Brooklyn 10 years ago after I finished my M.L.S. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Although New York can be expensive, it need not be, and I've tried to be as budget-minded as possible. In addition to the daily papers, [the Village Voice](#) (free) and [Time Out New York](#) will list June events. Here's a brief tour of ideas for places to visit.

The Bronx

The Bronx Zoo is an ideal place for everyone to visit.

The zoo, part of the Wildlife Conservation Society, helps you:

http://bronxzoo.com/bz-plan_your_visit

Steve Johnson, librarian and archivist, told me at a recent SLA meeting that, in addition to all their wonderful exhibits, there's a new baby gorilla, Zola, and a new, rare, baby rhino to see. Nearby, **The New York**

Botanical Garden, one of the country's foremost public gardens as well as a National Historic Landmark, will be celebrate Rose Week. June 7-15 with tours, classes, storytelling and other events in the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden. Detailed information is found at www.nybg.org. Although **Little Italy in**

Manhattan is priced for tourists, not far from the gardens and the zoo is the Belmont Avenue/Arthur Avenue area, considered by



many to be a true New York secret. For more information about the Italian neighborhood restaurants, shops, delis, bakeries, and the Arthur Avenue Market visit www.arthuravenuebronx.com. For detailed directions, please see the website.

The famous Bronx Bombers will be hosting Houston, June 10-12, and St. Louis, June 13-16. It's very easy to take the subway (the "train") to the stadium by either the #4 or B or D. Even if you aren't a Yankees fan, being in the historic stadium is a thrill. Ticket and tour details are found at: <http://newyork.yankees.mlb.com>.

Staten Island

The Staten Island

Ferry, free, is easily reached by the 1 or 9 subway train to South Ferry (the last stop at the tip of Manhattan and adjacent to Battery Park), or the nearby N or R subway train to Whitehall, or the 6 subway train to Bowling Green. The ferry's schedule can be found at: <http://www.siferry.com/>. You'll have a great view of the Statue of Liberty and New York harbor while on your way to Staten Island. From the ferry, take the S40 bus from Ramp D to visit the 83-acre Snug Harbor Cultural Center with 26 historic buildings of Greek Revival, Beaux Arts, Italianite and Victorian style architecture and parkland. Detailed information can be found at <http://www.snug-habor.org/main2.html>.



The New York Chinese Scholars Garden, with eight pavilions, and **the Staten Island Botanical Garden**, www.sibg.org, 718-273-8200, are nearby.

Queens

If you want to catch a **Mets game** while you're in town, it will be best to come early as after a three-game home stay against Seattle, June 6-8, the Mets will be on the road. Tickets and other information are available at <http://newyork.mets.mlb.com>. It's easy to get to Shea by the #7 subway.



You may only think of Manhattan when you hear that New York referred to as "the cultural city of the world." In doing so, one would miss the great museums of Queens. On the weekends, you can get there for free on the **Queens Artlink**, a shuttle service from Manhattan to seven Queens museums. Details are found at: <http://www.moma.org/gal/>, or 212-708-9750. While the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) expands its Manhattan location, a small number of masterworks from the permanent collection are at **MOMA QNS**, in a renovated factory at 33 St. at Queens Blvd., Long Island City, 212-708-9400, www.moma.org. The museum is open on Mondays and closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays but call or check the website for detailed information. On Fridays, after 5 p.m., you can "pay what you wish." It's fine to pay \$1. (It's a really New York thing to do.)

Briefly, the other Artlink museums are: the nearby P. S. 1 **Contemporary Art Center**, a MOMA affiliate, a leading museum for contemporary art at 22-25 Jackson Ave. at 46 Ave., 718-784-2084, www.ps1.org. The suggested donation for an adult is \$5.

Maya Lin, who designed the Viet Nam War Memorial in D.C., renovated a trolley repair shop for **the SculptureCenter**, which opened last fall. The Center exhibits contemporary sculpture by artists

from around the world. It is located at 44-19 Purves St. at Jackson Ave. For details, call 718-361-1750, or www.sculpture-center.org.

The Socrates Sculpture Park is the only public space in the New York metro area that is devoted to the creation and exhibition of large-scale outdoor sculpture and multimedia installations. It's a great place for children of all ages and it's free. There's a great view of the Manhattan skyline too. The park is at Broadway at Vernon Blvd. For details, call 718-956-1819 or see www.socratessculpturepark.org.

One friend visits **the Noguchi Museum**, which is devoted to sculptor Isamu Noguchi (1904-1988), about twice a month. The temporary exhibition space is at 36-01 43rd Ave. at 36 Street. Through July the features exhibit is Noguchi: The Bollingen Years, Prints and Drawings, 1949-1965. Suggested contribution is \$5. For details, call 718-204-7088, or www.noguchi.org.

One of my favorites is **the American Museum of the Moving Image**, 35 Ave. at 36th Street, Astoria, 718-784-0077, www.ammi.org. Adult admission is \$10 for the exhibits "Behind the Scenes" and "<ALT> DigitalMedia," and admission to the movie that is being screened. There are more than a thousand film and television artifacts, and computer-based interactive experiences. If you have ever wondered, "How did they do that?" when watching a movie, you may learn how in Behind the Scenes. <ALT> DigitalMedia will let you interact with the latest in real-time digital moving images.



Some of the creations at the American Museum of the Moving Image

The Museum for African Art, <http://www.africanart.org>, 36-01 43 Ave. at 36 St., 718-784-7700, moved to Long Island City, Queens last fall. It is the only independent U.S. institution dedicated to African art and culture and its diverse traditions. During June the exhibit will be Material Differences: Art and Identity in African Art.

Since Queens is the most ethnically diverse county in the country, it's a great place for reasonably priced neighborhood restaurants. A variety of restaurants are suggested on the Queens Artlink brochure. You can always ask someone in a museum for recommendations.

Brooklyn

I've saved my home for last. Like the other boroughs, there is just too much to do.

For a great look at Brownstone Brooklyn, I would recommend you take a tour offered by Norman Oder, one of the first friends I made in Brooklyn (through a book group.) Details of his tours are found at: <http://www.nylikeanative.com/>.

If you have never done it, walking across **the Brooklyn Bridge**



shouldn't be missed. In Manhattan, take the trains to the Brooklyn Bridge stop. Once you get to Brooklyn, there's a lot to

do and see. You will be in historic area of **Brooklyn Heights**, and the staff at **the**

Brooklyn Business Library, 280 Cadman Plaza West, can help you if you need any directions. A few blocks down Montague Street, a street full of ethnic restaurants, all of which I would recommend (I used to work in the neighborhood), you will come to **the Brooklyn Promenade**, which offers a great view of lower Manhattan. Here's a brief listing of possible activities:



Sunset from Brooklyn Bridge

Barge Music, <http://www.bargemusic.org/index.htm>, located at the Fulton Ferry Landing, in the "D.U.M.B.O" area, offers great chamber music concerts.

Brooklyn Brewery, <http://www.brooklynbrewery.com/home.html>, 79 N. 11 Street in the trendy Williamsburgh, Brooklyn, 718-486-7422, opens their Tasting Room Friday nights 6-10 p.m. with \$3 pints and live music. On Saturday, June 7, there will be a party of food from 15 Brooklyn restaurants and beer from the brewery from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$40; \$50 at the door.

On the first Saturday of each month, **the Brooklyn Museum of Art**, the country's second largest museum, offers a free evening of entertainment. This is a great way to see art, a movie and listen to music and dance for free. Details of the evening will be posted at

<http://www.brooklynart.org/>. **The Botanic Garden of Brooklyn**, <http://www.brooklynart.org/>, is next to the Museum. It is free until noon on Saturdays and on Tuesdays.

An entrance to **Prospect Park**, Brooklyn's answer to Central Park (the saying is the architects avoided mistakes they made previously in Central Park), is near the Museum and the Botanic Garden at **Grand Army Plaza**. The Plaza is across from the Central Brooklyn Public Library. There's a new Audubon Center at the Park, a Children's Zoo, and walking, running and bike riding paths. Details are found at: <http://www.prospectpark.org/>

New York's parks host a variety of concerts during the summer. **Prospect Park's Celebrate Brooklyn! concerts** will begin June 12. The suggested donation is \$3 to see popular groups. The F train to 7th Avenue is the closest to the 9th Street entrance for concerts. You can check the schedule at: Celebrate Brooklyn <http://www.brooklynx.org/celebrate/schedule.asp>.

Weekends during June **the Brooklyn Working Artists Coalition** will be hosting a show at Pier 11 in Red Hook, in warehouses built before the Civil War. For details, see <http://www.bwac.org/>. The sun light in **Red Hook** is very dramatic and you will have a wonderful view of the Statue of Liberty.



Where to eat in Brooklyn? **Atlantic Avenue** offers a variety of Mideastern restaurants, **Smith Street** (take the F train to Bergen Street) is New York's new restaurant row. **Junior's** on Flatbush Avenue, across from the DeKalb subway stop, is famous for cheesecake. I live in Park Slope with a wide variety of

restaurants on 5th Ave and 7th Ave. (E-mail me if you have a particular request.) The **BAMcafe** at 30 Lafayette Avenue, offers dinner, drinks and live music with no cover.

You shouldn't leave Brooklyn without going to **Coney Island** and eating a hot dog at **Nathan's** (after riding the 75-year-old **Cyclone Roller Coaster**.) Whatever you do, enjoy yourself in New York. We'll happy you're here. See you at the conference.



Brooklyn skyline from the ferry

** Rita Ormsby is an information services librarian at The William and Anita Newman Library, part of the City University of New York. A SLA-NY member, she moved to New York 10 years ago to join the Brighton Beach Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library after an interview at the SLA conference in San Francisco. She later worked at the BPL Business Library. On her previous trips to New York she had never ventured to the other boroughs, which she regrets. To enjoy New York, she thinks you need a METRO card for transportation, a pair of comfortable shoes, friends, and a sense of direction and adventure.*



We thank for Rita's valuable information and photos. Rita can be reached by e-mail: rjormsby@earthlink.net

Susan Salomone from Metropolitan New York Library Council also suggested an informative resource, "New York City Secrets," available on WNYC website.

http://www.wnyc.org/membership/excerpt_melville.html

Thanks, Susan!

-editor



Manhattan at night



ITE Announces Joe Ann Clifton Student Award Winners

[Stacey Greenwell](#)
ITE Membership Chair

The Information Technology Division of SLA is pleased to announce that **Christine Wysocki** is the recipient of



the 2003 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award. Her award-winning paper, published in this issue of [b/ITE](#), is titled, **"Creating Opportunities for Growth in Technology."**

Ms. Wysocki is a first-year library and information science student at the University of Kentucky. She completed her B.A. in English at Western Kentucky University in 1999 and her M.A. in English at DePaul University in 2001. Ms. Wysocki hopes to combine her interests in digital technology and archives at a research library in the near future.

In addition to including one year of student membership in SLA, the award covers expenses (limited to \$1500 with certain restrictions) to attend the SLA Annual Conference in New York. Ms. Wysocki will give a brief presentation of her paper at the ITE Business Meeting and Awards Tea at the Annual Conference.

ITE would also like to recognize with honorable mention five student papers submitted for the Joe Ann Clifton Student Award. Each honorable mention paper will be published in [b/ITE](#). Students receiving the honorable mention will have the opportunity to receive free conference registration for the Annual Conference in New York. Honorable mention students in attendance at the conference will be recognized at the ITE Business Meeting and Awards Tea.

In alphabetical order, the five honorable mentions are:



[Serena Brooks](#), C.W. Post's Palmer School. **"Annotated Webliography on the Topic of Authenticating Web Sites."** Ms. Brooks was awarded a B.S. in Mathematics Emphasis Computer Science from S.U.N.Y. New Paltz in 1986. She subsequently worked in the computer field

for thirteen years before deciding to become a librarian. She is currently working as a Librarian Trainee at the Smithtown Public Library on Long Island, while working towards an M.L.I.S. at C.W. Post's Palmer School.



[Angelica Cortez](#), Texas Woman's University. **"The Deep Web."** Ms. Cortez is currently working toward an MLS from Texas Woman's University and will graduate in May 2004. She received a B.S. in Mass Communications in August 2002 from Texas Woman's University. Ms. Cortez hopes to become a news librarian and will be interning at the Dallas Morning News Library this summer.



[Eli Edwards](#), San Jose State University. **"Partial Reflections: The Issue of Incomplete Digital Archives on Fee-Based Subscription Databanks."** Mr. Edwards is currently an MLS student at San Jose State University, with a B.A. in Political Science and an eye towards news librarianship.



[Gabriel Peterson](#), University of Missouri. **"An Examination of Term Evolution upon Natural Language as a Query Formation Tool for Retrieving E-Health Information on Medline."** Mr. Peterson is a NLM pre-doctoral fellow at the University of Missouri. Originally trained as a molecular biologist, his primary research interests now lie at the intersection of medical informatics and information science.



[Rick Storer](#), Dominican University. **"Late Night Librarians: Online Chat Reference between 2003 and 2008."** Mr. Storer is currently pursuing a MLS degree at Dominican University in River Forest, IL. He is

currently employed by a small archives and museum on the north side of Chicago.

Applicants for **the Joe Ann Clifton Student Award** were required to submit a paper pertaining to the use of information technology. ITE received many applications for the award this year, and the decision was a difficult one. For all the students who applied, we congratulate them for their hard work and desire to become involved in [SLA](#) and the information profession.



*This issue of b/ITE will feature Joe Ann Clifton Student Award Winner **Christine Wysocki's** "Creating Opportunities for Growth in Technology." 5 Honorable Mention papers will be printed in following b/ITE issues. - editor*

-Joe Ann Clifton Student Award Winner

Creating Opportunities for Growth in Technology

[Christine Wysocki](#)
University of Kentucky

Significant areas of gender inequity in Library and Information Sciences (LIS) persist: male faculty publish more than their female counterparts, male librarians

tend to migrate to higher paying, higher status jobs within the field, and skills female librarians previously dominated are being deskilled by library automation (Harris, 1999). Racial and ethnic underrepresentation in LIS also continue to be a serious issue across all areas of librarianship. One way to help garner equity for female librarians and to encourage involvement of minorities in LIS is to help them embrace technology, becoming programmers, technicians, or information specialists, increasing their chances for promotion.

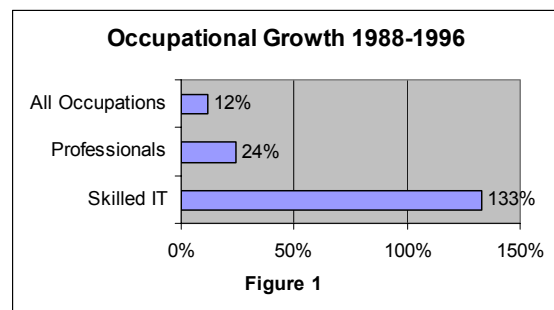
But why are more women and minorities not involved in technology already? Representing an obviously growing field, with higher pay and higher status than most careers women and women of color traditionally work, women and minorities show an underdeveloped presence in technology careers today. If the cultural context of the computer and its software is addressed, a pattern of female and minority un-involvement becomes clear. Because of their increasingly technological role, libraries are the perfect forum to help implement changes that will promote gender equity in technology.

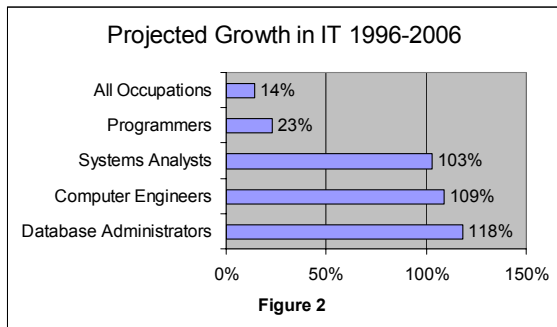
People of diverse ethnicities are often inappropriately referred to as minorities, even though in many regions some groups are outgrowing their minority status. Even so, this paper will continue to refer to non-white people as minorities for lack of a more convenient term. The goal of this paper is not a semantic debate over appropriate terminology, and it would be distracting to engage in one. Women are also sometimes inaccurately referred to as minorities, but they are actually the majority, globally. And, even though the issues facing diverse ethnic groups often fail to resemble one another and are hardly identical to every woman's issues, in this context, technology development, women and minorities do face many of the

same concerns. For that reason, these disparate groups are being treated as one in order to address the sources and solutions to the problem of technology under-involvement.

An understanding of women and minorities' traditional career paths informs the issue. Women are typically found in jobs that are classified as semi-skilled or unskilled, whereas men's careers are more likely to be classified as skilled. Over 50% of women workers are relegated to careers that are either women's only or where men comprise an insignificant portion of the workforce. These careers include clerical work, nursing, child care, cooking and cleaning, and librarianship, whereas men work in a variety of occupations and perform a variety of tasks (U.S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau [Women's Bureau], 1996). One in five employed women work as teachers (excluding post-secondary), secretaries, managers and administrators, and cashiers (Women's Bureau, 2000, March). Minority women are cornered in the very lowest paying of women's careers. Hispanic and African-American women are more likely than white women to work in service occupations and as machine operators, fabricators, and laborers (Women's Bureau, 2000, April). Women also continue to consistently earn less than men. On average, women as a whole earn \$0.72 for every \$1.00 earned by men, but African-American women earn \$0.63, or 63% of what men earn, and Hispanic women trail even further, barely making more than half at \$0.57, 57% (Women's Bureau, 1998). "Equal Pay: A Thirty-five Year Perspective" (Women's Bureau, 1998) tries to explain the reasons for the wage gap by providing a historical context. Male employers perceived working women as dependents of men; they were either working wives or working daughters, and, as such, their incomes were supplemental to the man's

primary salary. The second income was presumed to go toward assisting the family, or even for vanity, but it was assumed that no woman's income was utterly essential to her or her family's survival. However, in 1998, "women maintained 13 million (18 percent) of the 71 million families in the U.S." (Women's Bureau, 2000, March), meaning that of the total number of families in the U.S., 18 percent are maintained by one woman with no spouse. An even further breakdown shows that women head 14% of white families, 47% of African-American families, and 24% of Hispanic families (Women's Bureau, 2000, March). Of the total number of single parent families, 80.9% are maintained by women. (Women's Bureau, 1998) The basis for wage discrimination on supplemental income is unfounded today, and if such statistics exist, they would probably reflect that women supported households in the past as well. It should hardly be surprising to learn that 27% of families maintained by women were below the poverty level in 1998 (Women's Bureau, March 2000). Segregation into sex-typed careers only continues the wage gap between men and women, because women cannot compare their earnings to men's in order to demonstrate the discrepancy (Women's Bureau, 1996). Women and minorities' careers also tend to represent rather low-tech manual labor, which also helps to perpetuate the technology gap between men and women, white and non-white.

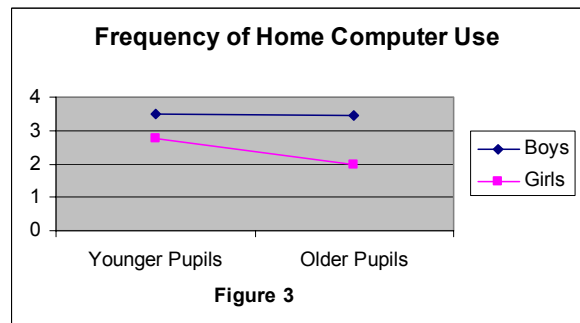


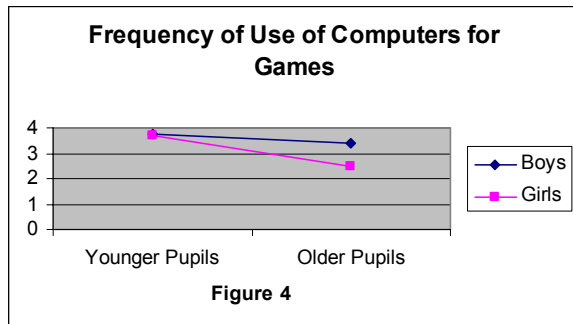


The importance of Information Technology has already become apparent in the field of Library and Information Sciences, but it is also influencing the workforce in a much broader context as well. Many careers are incorporating IT as they realize how much productivity and efficiency can be improved. Skilled IT careers are growing all over the market, as we can see in Figure 1, Occupational Growth 1988-1996 (McClelland, 2001). In this chart, career growth from 1988 to 1996 is shown to have been highest in IT professions, with 133% growth. This trend is expected to continue well into the future, as can be seen in Figure 2, Projected Growth in IT 1996-2006 (McClelland, 2001). McClelland predicts shortages of skilled IT workers in all fields because of this incredible growth, and we can see that new employees will be needed in all IT fields to support this trend. Historically, women and minorities have been considerably underrepresented in technology fields, and this area presents an excellent opportunity for minorities and women to gain employment in IT careers, hopefully lowering the wage gap and improving their status. McClelland reports that although women comprise nearly half of all highly skilled IT workers, they account for less than 30% of systems analysts, and barely more than 30% of computer programmers. Taking a huge step down from women's participation in IT, African-Americans account for less than 12% of all highly skilled IT

occupations, less than 8% of systems analysts, and less than 6% of computer programmers. Hispanics, on a level similar to African-Americans, comprise less than 10% of the highly skilled IT work force, less than 4% of systems analysts, and less than 6% of computer programmers.

There must be some social force at work that segregates women and minorities out of technology, because it is impossible that the technology itself is inherently racist or sexist. If the number of minority home computer owners is compared to the number of IT workers, a correlation emerges. In 1997, families that had computers at home were 44.3% white, 29.0% Black, and in 1993, 12.9% were Hispanic (McClelland, 2001). In schools that served primarily homogeneous ethnic populations, 62.7% of predominantly white schools provided access to computers for students age 3-17, 50.9% of schools with predominantly Black students provided access, and 52.7% of Hispanic schools provided access (McClelland, 2001). Ethnicity not only effects technology access at home, but also at school, where minorities are again seen to have less access. The lack of early exposure to computers at home and at school leads to less comfort with technology, which needs to be encouraged in children if they are going to continue to develop relationships with technology in their adult lives.





Comber, Colley, Hargreaves, and Dorn (1997) report in "The Effects of Age, Gender and Computer Experience upon Computer Attitudes," that they found younger girls used computers at home more frequently than their older counterparts, and overall less than boys their same ages. For the next few graphics, younger pupils are age 10 to 11 and older pupils are age 14 to 15; 1 is "never," 2 is "once or twice a year," 3 is "every one or two months," and 4 is "at least once a week." Figure 3 (Comber et al., 1997) shows the frequency of home computer use of girls and boys, where both sexes are at a fairly high level, somewhere between a few times a month and a few times a week, but as they age, both groups drop off in use. By the time they are older, girls are using computers once or twice a year, as opposed to a few times a week for boys. If we can accept that using computers recreationally for games indicates a level of comfort with computers, then another chart shows additional concerns for older girls. Figure 4 (Comber et al., 1997), Frequency of use of computers for games, also shows boys' and girls' use of computers declining as they age. Again, however, the girls' use is declining much more significantly than boys', to only a few times a year. Unfortunately, this decline is also reflected in girls' feelings about computers. Figure 5 (Comber et al., 1997), Feelings about "liking" computers, shows girls and boys

liking computers less as they grow older, where 4 is liking computers a lot and 1 is very little, but again girls are liking computers significantly less than boys. Girls and boys begin at equally high levels in all of these areas, using computers at home, using computers for games, and even liking computers, but by the time they grow, girls are not using or liking computers as much as they did before.

Comber et al. (1997) and Agosto (2001) identify some of the reasons girls may be using computers less as they grow. Girls tend not to be competitive about their educations and focus on collaboration, whereas boys are more competitive. Our educational system generally encourages and rewards competition, especially for limited resources. If there aren't enough computers for the whole class, girls will most likely not compete with boys for access, resulting in unequal access. There is also a lack of materials marketed to youths, particularly to girls. Games are frequently competitive and feature male protagonists, or female protagonists that are geared to a male desire. Generally, software tends not to include features that girls find desirable. The Comber et al. (1997) study also addresses the role gender intensification plays in girls' feelings about computers. Like computer relationships, gender is a learned sociological role. As girls enter puberty, they tend to embrace gender roles as part of their identity, shunning anything now perceived as too masculine that they may have previously enjoyed while emulating feminine stereotypes. Since computer use and software are of a more competitive nature, girls are wary that actual computers might be masculine too. However, the girls who participated in this study felt that they had every right to use computers if they wanted to, they just chose not to, on an individual level.

If interfaces and software are going to be used by women and girls, their interests need to be reflected. Agosto (2001) addresses ways that software can incorporate girls' views in "Propelling Young Women into the Cyber Age: Gender Considerations in the Evaluation of Web-Based Information." A grant was used to develop a research team that worked with focus groups of girls, and was directed by a committee. The intersection of their comments and feedback generated a list of criteria that software should include to reach out to girls. Most school assignments are based on competition against classmates, but girls would rather work together to solve problems, valuing collaboration. However, if girls are paired with boys at computers, they will probably let the boy do the "driving." Women value computers for their ability to connect them to other people, emphasizing social connectivity, whereas men see computers as tools or as technological power. Girls value flexibility and motility; they want to be capable of spontaneous movement through software regardless of a series of goals. Girls don't like that computers seem to have only one right way of doing things and that progression occurs in sequences where one level or task has to be absolutely completed before the next can be accessed. Girls want to be able to take multiple paths through an environment, moving backward and forward at their will. Young women prefer contextuality to their school assignments, where a narrative format encourages contemplation. Personal identification was also strongly suggested by the girls in this study's focus group. They wanted to see aspects of themselves reflected in the technology, particularly a character who is the same age as her, or someone from her same geographical region. They were particularly interested in seeing people they actually know, but this would be impossible in a broad software application. Graphic and multimedia concentration cannot be overemphasized for girls. All

children place an extremely high value on graphic and multimedia content, when they encounter text-based websites, they hardly stop to find out what they are missing, moving on to look for something with more images and audio. Girls are highly evaluative of a sites multimedia functions, and will be extremely disappointed with media-poor information.

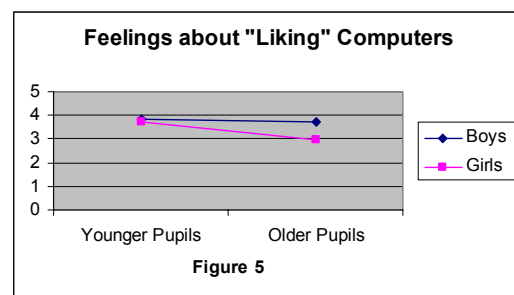


Figure 5

Agosto (2001) and her committee also identified prescriptive measures that the focus group of girls did not indicate, but that the project coordinators felt were equally important. The issue of inclusion was foremost, indicating the necessity that there are as many images of women as there are of men, and that men, women, and diverse ethnicities are shown performing varieties of tasks and jobs. It was also noticed that girls and women were put off by technology that assumes users are already experts at a particular task. Software should encourage girls to learn and build their self-confidence about technology through the skills they perform, the ultimate goal of which is to raise their comfort level with technology.

As much as these criteria will help girls gain comfort and experience with technology, minority comfort with technology also needs to be addressed. McClelland (2001) generates a prescriptive list of methods for minority inclusion in "Closing the IT Gap for Race and Gender." There are so few female and minority role models, that it is important to find and promote awareness

of the few who are already succeeding in technology careers. Darconte (2001) describes a number of successful female and minority female technology career-women in "A Fast-Paced Career: There Are More Women Engineers on Hardware and Software Career Tracks than Ever." Access is one of the biggest concerns facing minority children and adults, and they consequently need greater access at libraries if they have reduced access at home and school. Improved access is vital to helping minorities develop the comfort-level and skills they need to pursue a career in technology. It is also difficult for minority children to face the challenges of improving relationships with technology when they receive no encouragement, which also ties into the perceived value of technology. Children can't be discouraged from their new experiences by feeling that technology is impractical for minorities, or something that "other" people do. Technology is not just for whites, and if they are encouraged and shown its value, minority children will feel this way too. Minorities also need skills that whites may take for granted. Even if they are trained in technology skills, if they cannot speak with ease in esoteric IT jargon during an interview, no matter their technical skill level, they will probably not get the job.

Libraries can be places where all of the technology inequity issues can be addressed. School media centers and public libraries are the two most obvious areas where librarians can reach out to help underrepresented groups, but academic libraries can play an active role in promoting technology for minorities and women too. Ensure equal access for adults and children by making sure there are enough computers for everyone. Preferably, a separate section of children's computers with the appropriate sizes of chairs and heights of tables would be made available, but if there is no room or budget for such accommodations, at least

one work station could be adjusted to accommodate smaller people's needs. In school libraries, it is very important to make sure that boys aren't dominating computer use. It is possible to create a boys only time and a girls only time for computer use, or have separate computer areas for girls only and another for boys only, but these might seem to only promote gender segregation. Other suggestions from actual grade school teachers or media specialists would be very helpful here. Using the criteria generated by researchers to select software, interfaces, and materials could be very beneficial to children and women. Identifying educational materials that fit young girls' standards for evaluation will encourage them significantly to want to learn more about technology and to continue to be involved with it. Evaluating web sites and providing access to those deemed appropriate will also help stimulate internet activity. Using the standards compiled by McClelland (2001) to help minorities could be very beneficial to encourage minority involvement too.

Focusing on adult women's technology education needs, if a library can afford to, women's only computer educational courses could be a welcome addition to community programs. It is important to have classes that assume absolutely no knowledge of computers or previous experience, but also to accommodate more advanced learners that maybe need additional training or training on new applications. If a library cannot afford to create classes on their own, maybe a consortium of local libraries could work together toward the common goal. A local community college could be encouraged to offer women's only courses, larger regional libraries, or even adult learning centers that already offer similar programs. Whichever route is adopted, the library must promote the courses and encourage enrollment. Microsoft and other software companies already offer

certification for software applications, and even systems expertise. Chances are, a lot of women probably already use Microsoft Word, Excel, or even Access at their clerical jobs, and it would be beneficial to their careers to obtain certification in these applications. Encourage women to complete the courses necessary for certification, even if they do not have work experience in software applications, and show them how their resumes are improved by the new experience. Hopefully, once women see how easy it is to get certified in one application, they will continue to be interested in others, which may in turn lead to a greater interest in technology. The end result of all this training is a better career with better pay and better status.

The recent rapid growth in Information Technology careers is leaving a huge gap in qualified workers that women and minorities can fill with the right combinations of encouragement and training. Librarians are already seeing the profound effects that technology can have on their own careers, and rather than getting left behind, librarians need to help themselves succeed with technology, and use their unique position in society to help others develop new skills. As long as occupations continue to be segregated by gender, there will never be pay equity. Equity can only be accomplished with parity, which cannot be achieved when there is no standard for comparison. Separate has never been equal, as has already been proven by the U.S.'s attempt at racial segregation, but the field of Information Technology's need has the potential to be women and minorities' gain.

* **Christine Wysocki** is a first-year LIS student at the University of Kentucky. She completed her B.A. in English at Western Kentucky University in 1999 and her M.A. in English at DePaul University in 2001. Ms. Wysocki hopes to combine her interests in digital technology and archives at a research library in the near future.

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"The best way to predict the future is to invent it. Really smart people with reasonable funding can do just about anything that doesn't violate too many of Newton's Laws!"

- Alan Kay, Inventor of Smalltalk;
Computer visionary (from
<http://www.smalltalk.org/alankay.html>)

"Information professionals must learn to change and change now. And whatever changes you make, whatever new skills you acquire or old ones you adapt, the process of change will not end or even slow down [...]"

Whatever you learn today, you will have to re-learn tomorrow. Whatever skills you adapt today, you may have to discard tomorrow and acquire completely new ones. No rest for the wicked and no rest for the service-oriented in the New Information World Order."

- Barbara Quint, editor of *Searcher Magazine* (*The Quintessential Searcher: The Wit & Wisdom of Barbara Quint*, Information Today, 2001)

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She's working to create a standard for labeling and cataloging information online - including all 2.7 billion web pages - a virtual Dewey Decimal system, if you will. So you can spend less time looking for, and more time using, the information you need. Shhh. You're on the Internet."

- HP's 2001 "Invent" ad campaign
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