The New ASIS&T Unveiled

The wait is over – ASIS&T is now the Association for Information Science and Technology! Following the membership balloting in 2012 in which nearly 90% of all ballots cast approved the name change, the various legal requirements involved in such action have now been met.

While the ASIS&T acronym stays the same, the name change recognizes the growing influence of ASIS&T in the international arena. The opportunities and challenges with respect to the science and technology of information are increasingly international in focus and scope. ASIS&T supports members around the globe in addressing these opportunities and challenges.

In 2012, then-ASIS&T president Diane H. Sonnenwald, working with her immediate past president Linda C. Smith and then-president-elect Andrew Dillon, called for a membership vote on the name change issue, explaining, “The word American in our name often makes it difficult for individuals outside the United States to receive recognition for belonging to and participating in ASIS&T. It also fails to recognize the important contributions members outside the United States make to our association and to our discipline.”

In addition, Sonnenwald noted that increasing international participation in ASIS&T will provide additional opportunities for all members to learn from and share expertise and knowledge with colleagues who have different expertise and knowledge.

Coincidentally, but reflective of the growing international nature of ASIS&T and its members and interests, the 2013 ASIS&T Annual Meeting will be held in Montreal, Canada, in November.

The new name reflects the commitment of our members to international cooperation and global efforts to increase the influence of information science in education, research and applications to ensure the best access, management and use of information in an increasingly interconnected world.

ASIS&T History Fund Seeks Entries for Research and Publication Awards

In 2000, the ASIS&T Board of Directors established the history fund to support and encourage research and publication in the history of information science and technology. Supported by donations from ASIS&T members and others, the fund’s advisory board has established two competitive awards to achieve the board’s goal of recognizing the historical study of information science and technology.

ASIS&T History Fund Research Award

All topics relevant to the history of information science and technology are eligible for this award. Proposals should include the central topic or question to be researched and an extended abstract, qualifications of the researcher (brief vita should be included), a budget and how the funds will be expended. All funds must be expended by June 30, 2014. The award for the best research proposal considered will be for a maximum of $1000. Proposals are due May 15, 2013.

ASIS&T History Fund Best Paper Award

All topics relevant to the history of information science and technology are eligible for this award. Submitted papers must not have been previously published or submitted to a journal. Papers should not exceed 30 pages double-spaced, including notes and references, using the APA Style Manual. The award for the best paper will be for a maximum of $500. Papers are due by May 15, 2013.

History Fund Advisory Board

Members of the ASIS&T History Fund Advisory Board are Sarah Buchanan, chair; Lai Ma, chair-elect; Michael Buckland, Samantha Hastings and Trudi Bellardo Hahn.

For more information on this year’s history fund competitions, visit www.asis.org/awards/history_fund_awards.html or contact Lai Ma at malai0008 <at>gmail.com.
News about ASIS&T Members

**Don Kraft**, former ASIS&T president, longtime editor of the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, winner of the prestigious ASIS&T Award of Merit and retired member of the Louisiana State University computer science department, has been elected as a 2013 Fuzzy Fellow of the International Fuzzy Systems Association (IFSA). The IFSA Fuzzy Fellow award bestows honor and recognition on people who have made outstanding contributions to the field of fuzzy sets and the related disciplines. Criteria for selection are based upon outstanding technical contributions, pioneering applications and support and development of the infrastructure of the fuzzy community.

**Diane Kelly**, associate professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s School of Information and Library Science (SILS), earned the prestigious 2012 Karen Spärck-Jones Award from the information retrieval specialist group of the British Computer Society. The annual award honors and commemorates Karen Spärck-Jones, a champion of bringing women into the world of computing and the 2002 recipient of the ASIS&T Award of Merit. In honoring Diane Kelly for this award, the panel recognized Diane’s important contributions to the analysis of information-seeking behaviors and to the development of new experimental methods and systems to support information seeking and analysis.

**Blaise Cronin**, Rudy Professor of Information Science at Indiana University, will receive the 2013 Derek de Solla Price Award and medal. This award, conferred by the journal *Scientometrics*, honors scholars who have made outstanding contributions to the fields of quantitative studies of science. Cronin is the editor of the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* and former editor of the *Annual Review of Information Science and Technology* and a recipient of the ASIS&T Award of Merit.

Goodyear Professor of Knowledge Management **Denise Bedford** and professor **Marcia Zeng**, both at Kent State University, were among the co-organizers of a NKOS/CENDI Workshop, *Magnet for the Needle in a Search Haystack*. Bedford also delivered a presentation titled “The 11 Views of Semantic Search.” Kent State professor **Marcia Zeng**, presented a webinar on linked open data for libraries, archives and museums (LAM), one of six webinars organized and offered by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations through the division of Agricultural Information Management Standards (AIMS). The series of free webinars introduces the concept of linked open data to the agricultural information management community and are offered in the seven UN languages. Zeng delivered her webinar in Chinese language to more than 50 participants from the United States and China.

The School of Information and Library Science (SILS) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is one of the most recent organizations to join the Open Planets Foundation (OPF), an organization established to provide practical solutions and expertise in digital preservation, building on the research and development outputs of the Planets project (see www.planets-project.eu/).

OPF addresses core digital preservation challenges by engaging with its members and the community to support the development of practical and sustainable tools and services to ensure long-term access to digital content. Its mission is to ensure that its members around the world are able to meet their digital preservation challenges with a solution that is widely adopted and actively being practiced by national heritage organizations and beyond. The international foundation includes members from around the world and hosts a variety of conferences and events including webinars and hackathons. SILS is the first iSchool to join OPF.

News about ASIS&T Chapters

The **New England Chapter of the Association for Information Science & Technology (NEASIST)** offered a timely workshop in March entitled *So You Want to Publish an Ebook? Tools, Standards and Metadata for Creation and Innovation!* The half-day event featured presentations on an exciting project on open-source
online textbook creation, a discussion about the latest EPUB standard which supports wildly innovative e-publishing capabilities and a demonstration of open-source publishing tools you can use to publish your own creative content.

**Inside ASIS&T**

**SIG/III Active on Two Award Fronts**

**13th International Paper Competition**

Special Interest Group/International Information Issues (SIG/III) is accepting submissions for its 13th International Paper Competition, which will culminate with winning authors presenting their papers at the 2013 Annual Meeting, November 1-6, 2013, in Montreal.

Building on the overall conference theme, the theme for this year’s paper contest is *Beyond the Cloud: Rethinking Information Boundaries*. Papers could discuss issues, policies and case studies on specific aspects of the theme from a global and/or international perspective. Up to three winners will be selected by a panel of judges: Maqsood Shaheen, IRC, US Embassy Islamabad; Alma Rivera, Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México; and Fatih Oguz, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Papers are judged on their originality; relevance to the contest theme; and quality of argument, presentation and organization.

**Eligibility:** Only papers by a principal author who is a citizen of and resides in a developing country are eligible. Winners of the last four competitions (2009-2012) are not eligible. The papers should be original, unpublished and submitted in English.

**Award:** Each winner will be awarded a two-year individual membership in ASIS&T. In the case of multiple authors, the principal author will be awarded the ASIS&T membership. In addition, depending on SIG/III fundraising for this competition, the first place winner will be awarded a minimum of $1,000 toward travel, conference registration and accommodations while attending the ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Montreal, Quebec, November 1-6, 2013.

**Deadline:** Authors must submit manuscripts, not to exceed 5,000 words, by May 31, 2013, to Maqsood Shaheen at ShaheenMA<at>gmail.com, preferably as Microsoft Word or PDF attachments. Full contest information is available at www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/.

**2013 InfoShare Awards**

Through the SIG/III InfoShare program, information professionals from developing countries, where the cost of ASIS&T membership would be a burden, are eligible to receive one year of membership. SIG/III officers vote on a roster of candidates nominated by ASIS&T colleagues or others. The 2013 memberships are funded by monies raised at the International Reception during the 2012 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Baltimore. InfoShare awards go to Yared Mammo, Ethiopia; Teklemichael T. Woldofa, Ethiopia; Janakiram, India; Mahmoud Khosowjerd, Iran; Maryam Zakerhamidi, Iran; Ibrahim Ramjaun, Mauritius; Fatima Zahra, Pakistan.

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**In Memoriam**

**Charles David Batty**

On February 11, 2013, at home in Silver Spring, Maryland, after an eight-year long battle with cancer, Charles David Batty – known to ASIS&T members as David – passed away in his sleep. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Gayle Batty; children Philip (Lina), Miles and Sarah; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 818 University Blvd. West, Silver Spring, MD, in his name.

**Glynn Harmon**

Glynn Harmon, long-serving professor at the University of Texas at Austin School of Information, died quietly at his home in Austin in mid-February. He was 79 years of age.

Following his first appointment and four years teaching as assistant professor of library and information science at the University of Denver, Glynn enjoyed a 43-year career as a professor at the University of Texas. Beginning with his 1970 appointment as associate professor and continuing with promotion to professor five years later, he served as acting dean in 1990, as well as interim dean for the school from 1997 to 1999. Glynn was much loved by generations of students, and received a variety of teaching honors over his career. Glynn’s research centered on fundamental questions of the nature of information and human reasoning, with specific applications of information science to medical informatics, information economics, intelligent systems and education.

“Glynn was a pioneer,” said iSchool Dean Andrew Dillon. “He envisioned a scientific discipline of information before the first iSchool was ever imagined and deserves to be recognized as a founding father of the field. He was also a true gentleman and friend who will be missed by generations of graduates and colleagues, many of whom he continued to assist, long after they had left Texas.”

He is survived by his wife, Kitty.