Balloting for New ASIS&T Officers and Directors Underway

It’s election season again for the American Society for Information Science and Technology. Electronic balloting is now underway for the election of a president-elect and two directors-at-large. Voting ends August 24, 2011, with newly elected officers and directors taking their seats on the Board of Directors at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

Candidates for president-elect for 2012 and succession to the presidency in 2013 are Barbara Kwasnik and Andrew Dillon. Candidates for two director-at-large slots for three-year terms – 2012-2014 – are Sandra Hirsh, Jens-Erik Mai, Diane Neal and John Unsworth.

Candidates for President-Elect

Barbara Kwasnik is a professor at the Information School at Syracuse University, where she has taught in the areas of knowledge organization and research methods for the past 20-plus years and has served as director of the MSLIS and PhD programs. She has an MLS from Queens College, CUNY, and a PhD from the School of Communication, Information and Library Studies at Rutgers University. Her current research includes the issues of adapting classifications and the use of genre information for enhancing information retrieval.

She has served ASIS&T on the Board of Directors, various program committees, panels, and juries, including the most weighty of all, SIG/CON chair. Honors include the dissertation award and the ASIS&T Outstanding Information Science Teacher Award. The heart of her involvement, however, has been as one of the founding organizers in 1990 of the award-winning series of SIG/CR Workshops on Classification Research, now going on their 21st year.

Andrew Dillon is the dean and Louis T. Yule Professor of information science at the School of Information, University of Texas at Austin, where he also holds appointments in psychology and information risk & operations management. Formerly serving on the faculty of Indiana University and as research fellow of Loughborough University UK, he earned his PhD in 1991 from Loughborough and a master of arts (first class) from University College Cork in 1987. He has been a member of ASIS&T since 1995 and has served as director-at-large, as editorial board member of JASIST, as program chair for both the ASIS&T Annual Meeting and the IA Summit and as member of the Publications Task Force. He also wrote a regular IA column for the Bulletin. His research and teaching interests are in human-computer interaction, reading and writing, design and creativity.

Candidates for Directors-at-large

Sandra Hirsh brings 25 years of professional and academic excellence, coupled with significant corporate experience and research accomplishment, to her candidacy as an ASIS&T director-at-large. Hirsh is professor and director of the School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University, where she guides the school’s fully online graduate programs that serve 2,400 students in 45 states and 17 countries. Hirsh leveraged her knowledge as an information professional to pursue career opportunities with leading global companies. As a senior user experience manager at Microsoft’s Silicon Valley Campus in California, she developed products to meet user’s information-seeking needs, and as director of the Information Research Program at HP Labs, she investigated how Hewlett Packard researchers use and integrate information into their work. Her research focuses on information-seeking behavior and understanding the information needs of a broad spectrum of users, including children, historians, and engineers. She is the recipient of a National Science Foundation grant, and she holds five U.S. patents for...
her innovative design concepts for consumer web products. She holds a PhD from UCLA and a master of library and information science from the University of Michigan.

Hirsh has served ASIS&T in many capacities since joining in 1994, including conference organizing committees and program planning committees, and as an industry track chair, practitioners track chair, posters chair and a frequent conference presenter.

**Jens-Erik Mai** is associate professor in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto, where he previously served as vice dean and acting dean. Jens-Erik was formerly on the faculty at the Information School of the University of Washington where he also co-directed the Center for Human-Information Interaction; prior to that he was a faculty member at the Royal School of Library and Information Science, Denmark. He earned his PhD in library and information science from the University of Texas at Austin as a Fulbright Scholar and his master and bachelor degrees from the Royal School of Library and Information Science, Denmark. His research interests lie in the broad area of representation and organization of information; his current scholarship questions the conceptual foundation of classification and it seeks to establish an epistemological foundation that accepts the plurality of interpretations across communities. He teaches courses on representation of information, classification, design of controlled vocabularies and the theoretical foundation of information studies.

Jens-Erik is past chair of SIG/Classification Research. He has chaired the Best Information Science Book Award jury twice and been a member of the SIG Cabinet Steering Committee. He has served the International Society for Knowledge Organization as executive board member and is currently consulting editor of the Knowledge Organization journal.

**Diane Neal** is an assistant professor in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at the University of Western Ontario and holds the permanent title of visiting scholar at the University of Sydney in Sydney, Australia. Since earning information science degrees (MS, PhD) from the University of North Texas, Diane has also held academic appointments at North Carolina Central University and Texas Woman’s University. Additionally, she has been a systems librarian and a corporate information technology professional.

ASIS&T has been central to Diane’s career since 2001. Currently, she is the 2011 Annual Meeting’s Knowledge Organization Track Chair, Webinar Task Force Chair, Information Science Education Committee co-chair, a Chapter Assembly Advisor, a *Bulletin* Advisory Board Member, and a New Leaders Award Mentor. She has presented at or moderated over 10 sessions at Annual Meetings and was 2008’s posters co-chair.

She has multiple publications in the *Bulletin* and *JASIST*. Her ASIS&T commitment has been recognized with accolades and elected roles. In 2009, the Bulletin Special Section she guest edited won the Special Interest Group (SIG) Publication of the Year Award. She has actively chaired two SIGs: Classification Research and Visualization, Images, & Sound. Also, she was a founding officer of the Carolinas Chapter and chaired the North Texas Student Chapter.

**John Unsworth** is dean and professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; he also holds appointments as professor in the English department and on the library faculty. In 2008, John Unsworth was named interim director of the Illinois Informatics Institute. He chaired the national commission that produced *Our Cultural Commonwealth*, the 2006 report on cyberinfrastructure for humanities and social science, on behalf of the American Council of Learned Societies, and he co-edited the Blackwell *Companion to Digital Humanities*. He served as the first director of the Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities and a faculty member in the English department at the University of Virginia. While at Virginia, he also organized, incorporated and chaired the Text Encoding Initiative Consortium, guided the Modern Language Association’s Committee on Scholarly...
Editions through a revision of its guidelines in light of electronic scholarly editions, co-edited an MLA volume on *Electronic Textual Editing* and served as president of the Association for Computers and the Humanities. His first faculty appointment was in the English department at North Carolina State University where, in 1990, he co-founded the first peer-reviewed electronic journal in the humanities, *Postmodern Culture*. His PhD is in English, with a focus on American postmodern literature and scholarly communication, from the University of Virginia (1988).

**Additional Candidate Information**

For more information about the candidates and to review their position statements defining their campaigns, please visit the ASIS&T website. All current ASIS&T members are eligible to vote for officers and directors. Full information on the electronic balloting process is available at the ASIS&T website at www.asis.org/elections/.

**More ASIS&T Webinars Free to Members**

The new webinar concept that ASIS&T introduced to its members and the broader information community earlier this year has caught on with its audience. Webinars on web analytics, domain driven design, taxonomy and linked data, among other topics, proved the value of these live seminars.

With the early success of its live webinars, ASIS&T conducted three more sessions in July on a variety of hot topics. Each of the following webinars was offered free to ASIS&T members.

*Why Information Architecture on SharePoint*, presented by Joe Shepley, explored ways that information architecture can help improve the effectiveness of the SharePoint environment by allowing for better organized content.

*Transforming Our e-Learning “Worst Practices” into Excellent Teaching*, sponsored by SIG/ED and presented by Michelle Kazmer, provided a forum for the interaction of practitioners, educators and others in the field of information science education to exchange ideas and engage in activities to advance their online teaching careers.

*Crash Course in Institutional Repositories*, presented by Marisa Ramírez, offered an overview of institutional repositories; the software, staff and expertise involved in running them; and how metadata, preservation and other related issues are relevant to repositories.

Your participation in ASIS&T webinars can connect you with experts and global thought leaders in information science, management and business on relevant professional issues. When you register for a live webinar, you have the opportunity to submit questions to the presenter. Once the webinar is broadcast, registered participants continue to have unlimited access to the material for 30 days. Afterwards, all webinars are available online.

Visit www.asis.org/Conferences/webinars/ to register for future webinars or to access previous presentations.

**Bridging the Gulf: Communication and Information in Society, Technology and Work**

*October 9-12, 2011, New Orleans, Louisiana*

The ASIS&T Annual Meeting heads to New Orleans this year, building on the ASIS&T 2.0 conference format initiated last year in Pittsburgh. Program planners for *Bridging the Gulf: Communication and Information in Society, Technology and Work* have used six reviewing tracks to ensure that the traditional ASIS&T high standards for content and quality are met. The results of their careful deliberations will be on view at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans in early October.

Plan now to participate in this innovative conference centered on advances in the information sciences and related applications of information technology. Check your mailbox for a printed version of the preliminary program, or go online for an electronic version to be posted soon. Registration forms are available in both formats. Make your plans now!
Nicholas Belkin, former ASIS&T president and professor whose students rave of his skill, is the recipient of the Contributions to Information Science and Technology Award presented by LACASIST, the Los Angeles Chapter of ASIS&T. The annual award is presented to one or more individuals who are recognized by their colleagues as exceptional leaders whose dedication, commitment and vision inspire others or whose singular contribution to the field of information science has been particularly significant. The award was presented at the 50th Anniversary program of the Los Angeles Chapter. Pictured here at the ceremony are, from left, Belkin, Christine L. Borgman, Judith Wangler, Carlos Cuadra and Bob Hayes, founder of the chapter in 1961.