The 75th anniversary ASIS&T Annual Meeting to Reflect the Past; Plan the Future

When the ASIS&T leadership, membership and colleagues in information disciplines from around the world gather for the 75th anniversary Annual Meeting, they will celebrate the many milestones that have helped to build the information age, and they will begin to chart potential pathways for the future. The ASIS&T Annual Meeting, operating within the theme *Information, Interaction, Innovation*, will be October 26-30 in Baltimore, Maryland.

The ASIS&T Annual Meeting is the main venue for disseminating research centered on advances in the information sciences and related applications of information technology. Building on the successes of recent conference structures, ASIS&T 2012 offers an integrated program achieved through three reviewing tracks, each supported by a team of co-chairs and respected reviewers to ensure high standards and quality. Reviewers, as experts in their fields, will assist with a rigorous peer-review process.

**Conference Tracks**

The tracks and their chairs:

**Track 1: Information** – metadata; information organization, retrieval and management; classification; information architecture; copyright; bibliometrics and infometrics; information policy; and more

*Chairs:* Michael Olsson, University of Technology, Sydney; Sanna Talja, Uppsala Universitet, Institutionen for ABM

**Track 2: Interaction** – information behavior and sharing; human-computer interaction; collaboration; gaming; visualization; social informatics and social media; and more

*Chairs:* Sandra Erdelez, University of Missouri; Catherine Johnson, University of Western Ontario; Chirag Shah, Rutgers University

**Track 3: Innovation** – emerging technologies; Web 3.0; new practices, methodologies, applications and/or services in digital libraries; emergency response; e-Research and other contexts; cloud computing; new theories and paradigms in information science; and more

*Chairs:* HT Pu, National Taiwan Normal University; Luz Marina Quiroga, University of Hawaii; Gerry Benoit, Simmons University

**Student Activities Committee**

As a service to doctoral students, the Student Activities Committee encourages those who wish to become involved in ASIS&T to contact a member of the committee for guidance and mentoring at the Annual Meeting. Committee members are John Carlo Bertot, University of Maryland College Park iSchool; Ingrid Hsieh-Yee, Catholic University of America; Barbara Wildemuth, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Howard Rosenbaum, Indiana University.

**Conference Structure**

The 75th anniversary ASIS&T Annual Meeting will include research papers; panels on topics that illustrate cutting-edge research and design, analyses of emerging trends, opinions on controversial issues, contrasting viewpoints and other topics that promote lively interaction; an interactive showcase for face-to-face presentations using traditional posters, short videos or live demonstrations; and workshops and tutorials.

**Conference Chairs**

Overseeing the efforts of the track chairs and their reviewing committees are three conference chairs: Shanjun L. Chang, National Taiwan University; Crystal Fulton, University College Dublin; and Julia Hersberger, University of North Carolina. They can be contacted at infoASIST2012<at>asis.org. For local arrangements and logistics information, contact Richard Hill at rhill<at>asis.org.
Bylaws Changes Approved for SIG and Chapter Leaders

ASIS&T members who voted in a recent email ballot approved recommended changes in the terms of service for SIG and chapter leaders.

In accepting the changes, members amended the bylaws to make the election of the directors of the Chapter Assembly and SIG Cabinet three-year terms that begin as deputy director and phase into director and immediate past director. Currently, the director and deputy director positions in both bodies are elected for two-year terms with no automatic succession from deputy to director.

The change provides greater continuity in the leadership of the SIGs and chapters and provides institutional memory from year-to-year. It also brings the terms of service into line with other elected executive positions in ASIS&T, including standard terms for chairs of SIGs and for the Society’s elected president.

Nominations Sought for 2012 ASIS&T Awards

The prestigious ASIS&T Annual Awards are among the most honored and respected within the information profession. All ASIS&T members, as well as non-members in many cases, are invited to submit nominations for the awards. Selections of award recipients are made after thoughtful and thorough consideration by appropriate juries or official bodies of the Society.

Though some nominating periods have already ended for 2012, most remain open and await nominations. For full information about the awards and the nomination/submission processes, please visit www.asis.org/awards/awardnominationsadlines.html.

European Chapter to Celebrate 75th
Library and Information Science in Europe: Regional Perspectives

In commemoration of the ASIS&T 75th anniversary, the European Chapter is holding a one-day workshop within the LIDA conference in Zadar, Croatia, June 22. Under the overall theme of Library & Information Science (LIS) in Europe: Regional Perspectives, information science scholars and practitioners from throughout Europe will participate in panels and presentations on the history of LIS in Europe and on challenges the field faces in its movement forward.

Diane Sonnenwald, current ASIS&T president, will be the guest of honor at the opening ceremony of the official European celebration of the organization’s 75th anniversary. She will be joined by dozens of others who will participate in a PhD Forum; a panel on ASIS&T in Europe; and paper sessions focused on Information Science in Europe.

More program details for the European Chapter celebration of the ASIS&T 75th anniversary at the 2012 LIDA conference are available at www.asis.org/Chapters/europe/ and http://ozk.unizd.hr/lida/program/.
ASIS&T Continues Successful Webinar Series

ASIS&T webinars have become an important element in the continuing education of information professionals throughout the world. These online live and on-demand seminars 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 members and non-members will have unlimited access for 30 days. Afterwards, webinars will be available online. Most are free to ASIS&T members by signing in to our website.

Nearly two dozen previously broadcast ASIS&T webinars are currently available at the ASIS&T website. Two new webinars, both presented by Bill Wisser, will be broadcast in June and July.

Delivery and Assessment of a Blended/Hybrid Learning Course

Thursday, June 21, 2–3 p.m. EDT | Free to ASIS&T Members; non-members $20

Just as the design of a blended course differs from that of a face-to-face course, the delivery of a blended course entails the consideration of factors that are new to most classroom teachers. This webinar will build on the concepts discussed in the previously broadcast course design presentation and introduce participants to major issues related to the prosecution of a blended course. The webinar will also include a discussion of the evaluative metrics that are available to assess the quality of a blended course. Participants will encounter strategies to help them develop an online presence and facilitate a blended course.

Tools for Presentation, Collaboration and Communication in a Blended Course

Tuesday, July 17, 2012, 2–3 p.m. EDT | Free to ASIS&T Members; non-members $20

The array of instructional technologies that are available to faculty when blending a course can be overwhelming. Too often, faculty lead with the tools without considering the outcomes that will be met with the tool. This presentation will introduce participants to the decisions that need to be made regarding the utility of a tool for teaching a blended course. Participants will also be introduced to several popular tools within the categories of presentation, collaboration and communication.

Presenter: Bill Wisser is associate director for development and training in the Department of Simmons Online and Academic Technology Services at Simmons College in Boston. He holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and continues to teach as an adjunct in the Boston area in both face-to-face and online classrooms. Bill led the Blended Learning Initiative at Simmons, which was a Sloan Foundation funded project to explore the advantages and application of teaching in the blended modality. He is currently leading the efforts at Simmons to create structured faculty development programming for LIS faculty new to online teaching.
INSIDE ASIS&T

News about ASIS&T Chapters

The New England Chapter of ASIS&T (NEASIS&T) has been busy these last couple of months. In April, the chapter took on the challenge of Going Mobile: Library Websites, Services and Apps on Mobile Devices with a half-day workshop on the challenges of designing library services for a mobile web experience. The panel of practitioners who described their experiences setting up library mobile sites included Dave Brethauer, University of Connecticut Libraries; Amy Deschenes, Simmons College Library; Bobbi Fox, Harvard Library; Remlee Green, MIT Libraries; Edward Iglesias, Burritt Library, CCSU; Maura Keating, Bryant University Library; and Carli Spina, Harvard Law School Library.

In May, the chapter held its Annual Awards Banquet, featuring ASIS&T president-elect Andrew Dillon, dean and Louis T. Yule Professor of Information Science at the School of Information, University of Texas at Austin, speaking on Beyond the Traditional: Preparing for Transitions in the Library & Information Profession.

Finally, NEASIS&T completed its Student Travel Award contest, honoring Brandi Loveday, SUNY, University at Albany, with up to $1000 to help defray costs of attending the ASIS&T 2012 Annual Meeting.

The Los Angeles Chapter of ASIS&T (LACASIS&T) and the San Jose State University (SJSU) ASIS&T Student Chapter teamed up to present a spring webinar to which everyone was welcome. The Night at the Museum featured Richard P. Hulser, chief librarian of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, speaking on NHM Library Next: Warp Speed to the Cloud? The presentation described a special library in a museum including updating of services from a totally manual operation to one incorporating electronic tools in addition to maintaining an extensive print collection.

The Northern Ohio ASIS&T Chapter planned a show-and-tell session for late April that would feature information science students, researchers and practitioners describing information-related activities in which they were involved.

Total-Impact relates to Priem’s wider research in altmetrics, or alternative metrics that measure things other than journal citations or other academic measures. He has published papers on the topic, has presented at several invited talks and is co-leading the first workshop and first journal special collection (with PLoS ONE).

Carol Tenopir, professor and director of the Center for Information and Communication Studies, is the recipient of one of the first Faculty Achievement Awards granted by the Southeastern Conference (SEC). The new SEC award program was created to honor professors from the SEC with outstanding records in teaching and scholarship. The SEC is the only Division I conference within the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to recognize university faculty for their achievements outside of the athletic realm. Honorees from each university receive a $5,000 honorarium and become their university’s nominee for the SEC Professor of the Year Award, to be presented at the annual SEC Spring Banquet in May.

Bonnie Mak, assistant professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) at the University of Illinois, was recently named a Faculty Fellow in the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities. Faculty Fellows are released from one semester of teaching, with the approval of their departments and college, and receive a research allocation. They are also asked to teach one course, during the award year or immediately following, on a subject related to their fellowship. Bonnie’s research will focus on “Implications of a Digital Revolution.”

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In Memoriam

Harold (Hal) Borko

Harold (Hal) Borko, ASIS&T information science pioneer and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) emeritus professor of information studies, died on April 7 at the age of 90.

Borko was born in New York City on February 4, 1922. He earned his bachelor’s degree in psychology from UCLA in 1948 and went on to achieve his master’s degree in psychometrics in 1949 and doctorate in psychology in 1952 from the University of Southern California. Prior to his academic career, Borko served as a captain and psychologist in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps from 1952 to 1956. In addition, he worked as a social scientist at the RAND Corporation throughout the mid-1950s.

Borko joined the UCLA faculty in 1968, playing an important role in bringing the emerging field of information science to the School of Library Science at UCLA. Among the courses that he created and taught were “Principles of Information Systems Analysis and Design,” “Information Retrieval Systems” and “Data Processing in the Library.”

When the American Documentation Institute changed its name to the American Society for Information Science in 1968, Borko wrote an essay titled, “Information Science: What is It?,” attempting to define the new and developing field of information science. According to Gregory Leazer, chair of the Department of Information Studies at UCLA, Borko’s essay was “foundational and is still widely read.”

“Information science is a discipline that investigates the properties and behavior of information, the forces governing the flow of information and the means of processing information for optimum accessibility and usability,” wrote Borko. “It is concerned with that body of knowledge relating to the origination, collection, organization, storage, retrieval, interpretation, transmission, transformation and utilization of information.”


Borko was president of the American Documentation Institute/American Society for Information Science in 1966. He also served on the board of directors for the American Federation of Information Processing Societies, the American Society for Indexers and the U.S. National Committee for the International Federation for Documentation, National Academy of Sciences. In addition, he was a member of the California Library Association, the Research Society of America, Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Gamma Mu and Sigma Xi.

Among his many awards and honors, Borko received both the Award of Merit and the Best Information Science Teacher Award from ASIS&T.

Borko, who recently resided in Santa Monica, is survived by his daughter Hilda Borko, son Marty Borko, granddaughter Lacy Borko and grandson Graham James Borko Livesay.