Welcome from the 2004-2005 Chapter Chair

The year 2003-2004 has been a great success for the ASIS&T New Jersey Chapter. Under the leadership of Dr. Marija Dalbello, the immediate past chair of the chapter, NJ-ASIS&T accomplished a great deal: the chapter continued to be a venue for learning and sharing knowledge among our members through a series of programs, including the distinguished lecturership program, and a remarkable oral history project that gives a live description of the chapter’s history and serves as an evidence for the development of the information profession in New Jersey. We are proud of what we have achieved in the past year.

This year features the 30th anniversary of the New Jersey Chapter of ASIS&T. Now having the past 30 years’ history recorded and accessible, we look forward to the future of the chapter. We will have a 30th anniversary celebration to mark this milestone in the history of the chapter. In addition, the chapter will continue to provide various programs for the members and interested public in general to learn and share knowledge in today’s rapidly changing information environment. I am very excited to be able to serve as the chapter chair for this year. As this year’s chair, I look forward to the continuation of the chapter’s 30 year tradition of serving our members, and I hope more and more members will get involved in the chapter’s activities, participating in the chapter’s programs, and giving feedback to us, so that we can run programs that reflect our members’ needs.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our programs and working with you for the future of our chapter. I am sure that the Executive Board will dedicate itself to make this year yet another success.

Sincerely,

Xiangmin Zhang
2004-2005 NJ-ASIS&T Chair
NJ-ASIS&T
Thirty and Thriving

We are hard at work preparing a suitable 30th anniversary celebration for NJ-ASIS&T this fall. Below is the roster of distinguished professionals who have served our chapter so well since its inception in 1975. We hope to welcome back and honor as many of these chapter Chairs as can join us.

1975-1976 – Dr. Donald R. King
1976-1977 – Maryann (Mislavitz) Grady
1978-1979 – Dr. Mitchell J. Friedman
1979-1980 – Roger Grant Smith
1981-1982 – Claire McDonnell
1982-1983 – David Johnson
1983-1984 – Dale Lewis
1985-1986 – Lorene (Lingelbach) Connolly
1986-1987 – Dr. Louis Torre
1987-1988 – Anne Buck (deceased)
1988-1989 – Lynette Schneider
1989-1990 – Asha Capoor
1990-1991 – Maurica Fedors
1991-1992 – Kathleen Millington
1992-1993 – Irene Gyori
1993-1994 – Pam Richards (deceased)
1994-1995 – Deborah Juterbock
1995-1996 – Mark Thompson
1996-1997 – Tim Fortin
1997-1998 – Jana Volavka
1999-2000 – no chair
2000-2001 – Lauren Harrison, Ph.D.
2001-2002 – Colleen Cool, Ph.D.
2002-2003 – Pam Savage-Kneepshield, Ph.D.
2003-2004 – Marija Dalbello, Ph.D.
2004-2005 – Xiangmin Zhang, Ph.D.
Are you feeling lucky?
Google Scholar and the traditional avenues of information retrieval
By Kristen Fitzpatrick, Rutgers MLIS Student

With its launch of Google Scholar, the Internet's largest search engine has created a more vertical, focused search service. How was Google Scholar created and will it replace traditional information discovery sources?

On March 4, more than 45 people attended a program at IEEE, arranged by NJ-ASIS&T Program Chair Gerry Grenier, featuring speakers who assessed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of Google Scholar.

Starting the program was Craig Van Dyck, Vice President, John Wiley & Sons, and Chair of the CrossRef Search Committee that, with Google, developed Cross Ref Search. Cross Ref Search is a subset of the Google search that targets the content of 35 specialty publishers.

He began his presentation with a short video, a futurist satire of the “Googlization” of the information world where, among other changes, “the New York Times becomes little more than a print-only newsletter for the elite and the elderly.” He went on to address the work that publishers are doing both with Google Scholar and Cross Ref Search, and how the two services differ in their access, indexing and discrimination.

Erica Mobley, Account Executive INSPEC, spoke next. She is INSPEC’s primary contact with the corporate, scientific and academic communities in the Americas. She compared Google Scholar’s results with those of powerful comprehensive subject indexes such as INSPEC, a full-text database providing a digitized archive of material dating back to 1898.

Connie Wu, Engineering Resource Librarian, Rutgers University Library of Science and Medicine, offered a librarian's view of the information seeking habits of students and researchers. She demonstrated how Google Scholar may change those habits, challenge the traditional library, and force innovation in the way we retrieve information.

Featured speakers: Erica Mobley (INSPEC), Craig Van Dyck (Wiley & Sons) and Connie Wu, (Rutgers)
The New Jersey chapter of ASIS&T conducted an oral history project from October through December 2004. Interviews with nine leaders and members of the New Jersey chapter of ASIS&T were collected during that time.

The participants were selected to represent leadership of the chapter, while embodying the chapter’s diversity in education backgrounds, career paths in information science, gender, and periods of active involvement with the chapter (three participants were the founding officers of the chapter). The interviewees presented their views on the identity of the chapter and their own professional identity in that context, and on the development and maturation of information science field over the past thirty years. The existing archives of the chapter provided the background for identifying networks of individuals who were involved with the organization for an extended period of time and as chairs from its most active periods. We are now analyzing the interviews, and plan to feature some of our findings at the annual ASIS&T meeting.

We would like to acknowledge the support of the ASIS&T Chapter Development Grant for some of the cost of transcription. The tapes and the transcriptions will be deposited in the Rutgers University Archives and Special Collections and added to the existing NJ-ASIS&T collection thus becoming part of the public record. The original plan to make the transcriptions available online would violate the wish of some of the participants which we must honor. Nevertheless, it is realistic to expect that we will be able to provide some sound quotes (with proper permission for online use) from some of the interviews eventually.

Marija and Ellen will be presenting their paper on this topic, “Information Science Practice in a Historical Perspective: Preliminary Findings of an Oral History Project,” at the ASIS&T annual meeting this November.
NJASIS&T Distinguished Lectureship
By Kristen Fitzpatrick

Eighteen years ago, NJ-ASIS&T created the Distinguished Lectureship Award to honor individuals who have made noteworthy contributions to the field of information science. Past honorees include Gerald Salton, Marcia Bates, Carol Tenopir, and Christine Borgman.

The 2004 recipient of this internationally-recognized award was Eugene Garfield, who was feted during a day-long series of events at Rutgers University on October 18, 2004. For those not familiar with the legend, Dr. Garfield is Chairman Emeritus at the Institute for Scientific Information and President of The Scientist LLC. His research interests include scientific communication and information science, including delayed recognition, the impact factor, bioinformatics, algorithmic historiography, citation analysis, and mapping the world of science. For more on his background, a visit to his site, www.eugenegarfield.org is as much a blast from the past (he’s a versatile and prolific writer) as it is a glimpse into the future of information science.

An entertaining raconteur, Mr. Garfield fielded questions throughout the day, including one which addressed an event covered by an article in Science (1978) “Librarian turned entrepreneur makes millions off mere footnotes.” The day’s events culminated in his capstone lecture, presented to an attentive audience at the crowded Scholarly Communication Center. Entitled “A Prospective View of Citation Indexing and Information Retrieval in the 21st Century” it can be viewed in its entirety on his website.

The bottom line of his discussion: “Information systems should facilitate the process of making new contacts.” A number of methods he proposed:

- Create files of the ten to thirty thousand of the most-cited papers (a la www.citationclassics.org)
- Promote open access publishing, and improve full text searching. Until then, make accessible contact information so researchers can request unpublished materials. See Dr. Garfield’s self-archival (above).
- Selective dissemination of information (SDI) profiling and clipping services – “Information professional have an important educational task to make users ‘profile’ conscious to they will embrace…SDI systems.”
- “Information nirvana – automatic review of the literature.” Until achieved, spotlights the critical interpretative role of information professionals.
- Evidence-based medicine and its application to other fields, i.e. the “Campbell Collaboration to judge outcomes in social engineering.” (For more information, he suggests contacting Robert Boruch at robertb@gse.upenn)

In his concluding remarks, Dr. Garfield noted that problems of information recovery and information discovery are tandem challenges. The former, he believes, “should approach perfection in the years to come.” The latter, however, will remain a “daunting challenge” and assure that the need for information professionals will outlast us.
Preparing for the Journey Ahead:  
SCILS Technology Workshops  
By Stephanie E. Fox, Rutgers MLIS Student

Since 1998, the Rutgers University Student Chapter of the American Society for Information Science & Technology (RUASIS&T) has sponsored twice annual workshops addressing the basic technology skills incoming MLIS students need to be successful at SCILS. The workshops are offered in two modules just prior to the beginning of each semester. Module A, entitled “Computing at SCILS”, addressed such topics as how to access and use the Rutgers e-mail system, transferring files to and from the SCILS server and subscribing to Rutgers and SCILS listservs. Module B, “Rutgers Libraries & File Management”, included basic information about using the Rutgers libraries, searching Rutgers’ online catalogs, indexes and databases and accessing course materials offered through electronic reserve. A typical series attracts about 80% of each semester’s incoming class.

As a new Rutgers-SCILS MLIS student myself, I decided to attend both Technology Workshops. The brochure boasted, “Think you’ve done it before? You haven’t done it at SCILS.” I was skeptical because I’ve been involved in computing and internet-based research for many years now. I signed up thinking that I’d know most of what the instructors would be teaching and the workshops would just be a nice way to meet some of my fellow students. I’ve never been happier to be so wrong. While I did get to meet a lot of my new classmates, I gained extremely valuable knowledge about MLIS life at SCILS in the process.

From the technology perspective, I learned all sorts of tips and tricks for accessing the libraries’ online information. For instance, who knew that the service works better with Netscape than IE? I sure didn’t. I also wasn’t aware that, as a SCILS student, I have my very own space on the school’s server. This means that I can transfer files to the server from my computer and back again without the need for floppy disks or flash drives. I can even access my files via the internet which means I can easily share information, presentations, etc. with my professors and classmates.

Thankfully, the instruction didn’t stop at technology. The instructors, all volunteer MLIS students, made a point of sharing their personal experiences at SCILS. They gave the attendees tips on the best web sites for purchasing discount software, the best computer labs to visit on campus and even suggested the best semesters for taking certain courses and/or signing up for internships. You can’t buy this kind of insight…it only comes from people generous enough to voluntarily give their time to assist those of us who are new to SCILS.

All of RUASIS&T’s efforts seem to have paid off. Some of the comments received from the fall 2004 workshop evaluations included: “Friendly, helpful, well-prepared”, “Very warm and welcoming!” Personally, I second every one of these sentiments. I would highly recommend both workshops to novices and experienced computer users alike. Like me, you may think you’ve done it before but, until you attend the RUASIS&T Technology Workshops, you’ve never done it at SCILS! For more information on the Technology Workshops, please visit http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/~ruasis.

“I would highly recommend both workshops to novices and experienced computer users alike.”
Ten Great Reasons to Join ASIST!

10. Opportunities to network with other information professionals – share best practice, explore job opportunities and more…..

9. *Journal of ASIST, Bulletin* and *Jobline* are included as a bonus in your membership fee.

8. Sharpen leadership and organizational skills by serving on committees or becoming officers in the local chapter or national level.

7. The annual meeting gives access to internationals scholars and researchers who speak on current research initiatives. The 2005 conference, *Sparking Synergies: Bringing Research and Practice Together*, will be in Charlotte, NC, October 28-November 2.

6. SIG (Special Interest Group) affiliation is included in your membership fee.

5. NJ-ASIS&T programs are top-notch!

4. ASIS&T membership looks good on your resume (as does being a SCILS workshop instructor or ASIS&T-ant, if you’re a Rutgers student.)

3. You will get an excellent return on investment in your future.

2. The friendly members of NJASIS&T want you to join (and they throw great parties).

1. It’s easy to join – you’re just a click away!

http://www.asis.org/join/index.html
NJ-ASIS&T Calendar

Blogs: Passing Fad
or the Revolutionary Communication Tool?

Join NJ-ASIST for a networking lunch and learn about the Blog revolution that is transforming both public and private communications

Friday May 20, 2005

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
One Health Plaza
East Hanover, NJ 07936
Noon-3:30 PM

Speakers

Michael Angeles
Information Solutions, Lucent Technologies, Murray Hill, NJ
Michael will address Blogs as an internal professional communications medium.

To Be Announced:
NJ-ASIST is awaiting confirmation of one more speaker who will address RSS Newsfeeds.

For directions and registration form:
http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/nj-asis/blog.htm

Event planners:
Gerry Grenier (IEEE) and Barbara Ringk (Novartis)

Coming this fall!

19th Annual Distinguished Lectureship
30th Anniversary Celebration
# Chapter Leadership

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<td><strong>Xiangmin Zhang, Ph.D.</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assistant Professor, SCILS&lt;br&gt;Rutgers University&lt;br&gt;732.932.7500 ext 8229&lt;br&gt;732.932.2644 FAX&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:xzhang@scils.rutgers.edu">xzhang@scils.rutgers.edu</a></td>
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<td><strong>Maurica Fedors</strong>&lt;br&gt;Manager TIC&lt;br&gt;Engelhard Corporation&lt;br&gt;732.205.5269&lt;br&gt;732-205.6900 FAX&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:maurica.fedors@englhard.com">maurica.fedors@englhard.com</a></td>
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<td><strong>Barbara Ringk</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sr. Technical Information Specialist&lt;br&gt;Medical Information &amp; Communication&lt;br&gt;Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.&lt;br&gt;862.778.4299&lt;br&gt;973.781.5540 FAX&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:barbara.ringk@novartis.com">barbara.ringk@novartis.com</a></td>
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<td><strong>Colleen Cool, Ph.D.</strong>&lt;br&gt;Associate Professor, GSLIS&lt;br&gt;Queens College, CUNY&lt;br&gt;718.977.3788&lt;br&gt;718.997.3797 FAX&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:cool@forbin.qc.edu">cool@forbin.qc.edu</a></td>
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<td><strong>Claire McInerney, Ph.D.</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assistant Professor, SCILS&lt;br&gt;Rutgers University&lt;br&gt;732.932.7500 ext. 8219&lt;br&gt;732.932.2644&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:clairemc@scils.rutgers.edu">clairemc@scils.rutgers.edu</a></td>
<td><strong>Kristen Fitzpatrick</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rutgers University - SCILS&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:kfitzpat@eden.rutgers.edu">kfitzpat@eden.rutgers.edu</a></td>
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<td><strong>Stephanie Fox</strong>&lt;br&gt;Rutgers University - SCILS&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:stephfox@eden.rutgers.edu">stephfox@eden.rutgers.edu</a></td>
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<td><strong>Marija Dalbello, Ph.D.</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assistant Professor, SCILS&lt;br&gt;Rutgers University&lt;br&gt;732.932.7500 ext 8215&lt;br&gt;732.932.2644 FAX&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:dalbello@scils.rutgers.edu">dalbello@scils.rutgers.edu</a></td>
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