



Beta Phi Mu –

International Library and Information Science
Honor Society

– Chi Chapter News

2003, Issue No. 2

President's Letter

Greetings Friends!

I have quite enjoyed the first few months of my tenure as Chapter President. Last year's president, Anna Martinson, is a tough act to follow, but with the assistance of the present Board, I will do the best I can to live up to the high standards she established. We are busy planning for the upcoming Career Forum and are beginning to plan the Spring Annual Meeting. For details on the Annual Meeting, please visit our website, where we'll post more information soon (<http://www.monroe.lib.in.us/~bpmchi/>).

One of the things we want to call to members' attention this year is the Beta Phi Mu Scholarships and Fellowships program. Of course, every spring semester the Indiana Chapter bestows a \$100 award for an outstanding work of student scholarship, but there are also awards available from the national organization. Five scholarships and the Eugene Garfield Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship are awarded annually by Beta Phi Mu. Applications for all scholarships and fellowships are accepted beginning November 15. The deadline for receiving all applications is March 15 every year, and the recipients are announced at the annual national meeting in June. Details for the national and local opportunities can be found later in this newsletter. Keep an eye out for outstanding achievement by your colleagues, and let's bring some of these awards to Indiana.

--Steve Backs
Chi Chapter President

Career Forum to be held October 24th, 2003

The 2003 Chi Chapter Career Forum, which is again being co-sponsored by the SLIS ALA student chapter, will be held on Friday, October 24th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in SLIS Room 001. Speakers will be addressing the qualities and skills libraries are currently expecting from entry-level staff, how candidates can maximize their chances for getting interviews, and where students should look to find the best job openings.

Confirmed speakers include:

- Keith Kuhn, Head of Public Services, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County
- Pat Steele, Head/Coordinator, Academic Information Services, Indiana University Libraries
- Sara Laughlin, President, Sara Laughlin and Associates
- Howard Rosenbaum, Associate Professor of Information Science, Indiana University School of Library and Information Science
- Jennifer Burton, Student ALA Chapter, Indiana University School of Library and Information Science

2003 Chi Chapter Annual Awards/Initiation News

Initiation

The annual Awards/Initiation Meeting was held at a new location this year--at the Coronation Room in the Indiana Memorial Union in

Bloomington on April 11th. The Board thought that the change of venue would permit many initiates who were not planning to attend ILF to come to the ceremony.

Twenty-two new members were initiated into Beta Phi Mu. The Board and current Chi Chapter members would like to extend a warm welcome to all new members:

Alberta Comer
Maryann Farnham
Michael Fisher
Delia Fritz
Lynette Georgeson
Janean Gilbert
Kristina Jensen
Andrew Kolovos
Kirsten Kowalewski
Christopher Mehrens
Katherine Overstreet
Elizabeth Pearson-Coan
Alisa Rata
Lauren Thompson Rider
Elizabeth Rozelle
Sue Salamone
Heather Smedberg
Janet Spaulding
Amanda Swygart-Hobaugh
Christopher Walker
Becky White
Melissa Whitesell

Service Award

The Chi Chapter Service Award is presented annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession of library and information science. This year's Service Award was presented to Dr. Stephen P. Harter, Professor Emeritus of SLIS and former Chi Chapter faculty sponsor.

Dr. Harter observed that most of his research stemmed from the basic problem of information retrieval: How can relevant information be extracted from the billions and billions of pieces of information that exist? He noted that this question can never be completely solved in all of its manifestations and is still "alive and well" today.

Dr. Harter spoke of some of the changes he has witnessed over the course of his career and mentioned several noteworthy changes of the past two decades:

--Technology is becoming more integrated

--Library/Information Science is more interdisciplinary

--Many library schools have closed

--More attention is focused on users

He also commented on the changes brought about by the Internet, and indicated that new research is needed to refine Internet search capabilities and improve information retrieval.

Scholarship Award

The 2002-2003 student scholarship award was presented to Heather M. Smedberg for her paper "*Privatization and Access to Information: A Policy Analysis of OMB and GPO.*" SLIS professor Alice Robbin accepted the paper on Heather's behalf and spoke briefly about the significance of Heather's work. Heather's paper and other past Chi Chapter scholarship papers are available at:

<http://www.monroe.lib.in.us/~bpmchi/scholarship.html#list>

2004 Scholarship Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the 2003-2004 Chi Chapter Student Scholarship Award is February 15, 2004. A web page summarizing the award is available at the following URL: www.monroe.lib.in.us/~bpmchi/scholarship.html

Chi Chapter Board Positions

If you would be willing to serve on the Executive Board of Chi Chapter, please contact Steve Backs, Chi Chapter President (sbacks@monroe.lib.in.us). We are especially in need of a Treasurer!

2003-2004 Dues and Change of Address

If you are an initiated member of Beta Phi Mu and are interested in joining Chi Chapter or renewing your current membership, you may pay your dues (\$10.00) at any Chi Chapter event or send a check at any time to:

Steve Backs c/o Chi Chapter
Monroe County Public Library
303 E. Kirkwood Avenue
Bloomington, IN 47408

Please let us know if you have changed your address recently by filling out the dues/update form at the end of the newsletter, or, you may

update your records by sending a "Chi Membership Update" from the Chi website at: <http://www.monroe.lib.in.us/~bpmchi/members.html>

In addition, change of address notification should be sent to the National Society: Beta Phi Mu, School of Information Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306

BPM Scholarships Available

Five separate scholarship opportunities are available from the national society for 2004, in addition to six Garfield Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships. Scholarships are offered for continuing education, foreign study, dissertation work, (beginning) graduate LIS studies and (beginning) school media studies. Guidelines for applying can be found at the national BPM website:

<http://www.beta-phi-mu.org/scholarships.html>

Please Note: Chi Chapter mailed the previous issue of the newsletter in electronic format to those for whom we had email addresses. Unfortunately, due to the transience of email addresses, many members did not receive a copy at a current address. The Board has decided that it is expeditious to send the newsletter in print format to ensure that everyone receives a copy. We extend an apology to

anyone who did not receive a copy during our last mailing.

Officers for Beta Phi Mu Chi Chapter Executive Board 2003-2004

President: Steve Backs
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Chi Chapter Dues and Information Update Form - Annual Dues: \$10

Name:

Address:

Comments/Updates:

Please mail to:

Steve Backs c/o Chi Chapter
Monroe County Public Library
303 E. Kirkwood Avenue
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