



Beta Phi Mu –

International Library and Information Science Honor
Society

– Chi Chapter News

2004, Issue No. 1

Chi Chapter Selects Nancy Lair for Service Award

The Chi Chapter of Beta Phi Mu is delighted to announce that Nancy Lair is the winner of this year's Service Award. The award is given annually to individuals who have made major contributions to library and information science.

Nancy began teaching in SLIS in 1974. Prior to SLIS, Nancy had worked as a School Media Specialist in Bloomington and was also Head of Acquisitions at the University of Kentucky. She retired from SLIS in 1993.

During her time at SLIS, Nancy earned a reputation as a wonderful teacher devoted to her students. One former student commented in a news group on the Internet that although he had been exposed to some bad instructors at various institutions, "Nancy Lair, whom everyone still loves" was the instructor he had had for cataloging class at IU. Similar impressions are etched into the minds of former SLIS students all across the globe.

Nancy has sponsored multiple international students (even in retirement), spent time abroad in Malawi teaching cataloging, and is interested in private press publishing and owns her own hand press.

The Service Award will be presented at the Chi Chapter Initiation Ceremony in the Monroe County Public Library on April 30th. Please join us in honoring Nancy Lair!

Coming April 30th: Annual Awards/Initiation Ceremony

Location! Location! Location! Last year, we were in the Coronation Room in the Indiana Memorial Union. This year, we are in the Monroe County Public Library. Give us your thoughts/ideas/comments on a location for next year's Awards/Initiation ceremony when you attend this year (or, of course, you can always send email, too).

Our meeting will be held in the MCPL Rooms 1B & 1C on April 30, 2004. Refreshments will be provided. The rooms will be open at 3:00; our business meeting starts at 3:30 and should last approximately an hour. Come and give our new initiates a warm welcome--all Chi Chapter members are cordially invited to attend!

No need to register for the awards ceremony--this year the event is free!

Chi Chapter Board Positions

If you would like to serve on the Executive Board of Chi Chapter, please contact David Ross, Chi Chapter Vice President (dbross@scican.net). We are especially in need of a new Treasurer and Secretary for 2004-2005!

Career Forum Attendance Remains High

The Chi Chapter of Beta Phi Mu and the SLIS student chapter of ALA once again co-sponsored a Career Forum, held October 24th, 2003 at IU Bloomington. Topics of the panel discussion included: *Qualities and Skills Libraries Are Currently Expecting for Entry-Level Staff*, *How Candidates Can Maximize Their Chances for Getting Interviews*, and *Where Students Can Look to Find the Best Job Openings*. Featured speakers were Keith Kuhn, Head of Public Services, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County; Pat Steele, Head of Academic Information Services, Indiana University Libraries; Sara Laughlin, President, Sarah Laughlin and Associates; Howard Rosenbaum, Associate Professor of Information Science, SLIS; and Jennifer Burton, SLIS ALA Student Chapter. The panel was moderated by Steve Backs and covered wide-ranging topics, including: Ten ways to leverage your SLIS degree, What you need to know that will not be provided in any graduate school, Characteristics of successful job hunters, Opportunities and rewards of being a consultant, Advantages (and disadvantages) of tenure, and The best web sites to investigate when seeking employment. These topics represent just a sampling of the issues addressed. Once again, attendance at this event was excellent!

The Doable Dozen: 12 Tips from the Career Forum

- 1) Network! Network! Network!
- 2) Management classes/programs/training will help you advance and build a new (and needed) skill set
- 3) Attitude matters
- 4) Understand the value that you provide to your organization and that Libraries provide to the community and the world
- 5) A "human face" is needed even on a "virtual" library
- 6) The Internet is a great place to hunt for jobs, but don't discount #1
- 7) Get involved in service projects
- 8) Learn how to negotiate and to manage projects and people
- 9) Think and plan long-term, and learn how to balance short and long-term needs
- 10) Ask questions—before you get the job and after
- 11) Keep your resume up-to-date
- 12) Understand the politics of your organization and be a positive agent for change

National BPM Scholarships Available

Multiple scholarship and fellowship opportunities exist for BPM members.

One is the Harold Lancour Scholarship for Foreign Study (\$1,500). This scholarship is awarded to librarians or library/information studies students to survey foreign libraries or programs, attend a foreign library school, and/or to do research in a foreign country. No application form is required.

Requirements for this scholarship include:

- Current vita
- One or two page typed description of the planned foreign study with some indication of plans to use the information gained. Include any previous experience in foreign travel or study, as well as any languages you can read or write

The Scholarship will be awarded on:

- Plan of study or research
- Usefulness of the study or research to the applicant and to the profession

It is anticipated that recipients of this scholarship will submit a paper pertaining to their study to Beta Phi Mu within one year of completion of the study.

For more information on various BPM scholarships and fellowships, see:
www.beta-phi-mu.org/scholarships.html.

President's Letter

Friends,

I can't say enough how important it has been to have had the assistance of a great group of Board members this year. We have all been very busy and mostly unable to ever get together, but we have held things together through email communication and a few informal meetings. We went without a Treasurer this year, or I should say I acted as both the President AND Treasurer, which caused a few bumps in the road as we progressed. Nevertheless, we had a tremendous Career Forum in the fall and we are looking forward to our Initiation this April. I hope you will join us for an afternoon of catching up and enjoying each others' company.

Speaking of Board positions, the Indiana Chapter would not exist were it not for the service of Board members. It is both enjoyable and rewarding to connect with others in the profession throughout the State and to remain involved with SLIS. Please consider serving a term in one of three vacant positions for 2004-2005. Our outstanding (and longstanding) Secretary, John Fritch, has served for 4 years and we are all thankful for his steady and skilled service. However, he's moving on and we will need to find a replacement. We are also seeking a new Treasurer and Vice President. If you are interested, contact information is provided at the end of the Newsletter.

David Ross will take over as the President during the Initiation Ceremony. I will remain as the Past President. We hope to see you there!

--Steve Backs

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/yr.) at the initiation/ awards event, or just send your dues to:

David Ross
Chi Chapter Vice President
2590 Old State Road 37 North
Martinsville, Indiana 46151

Please let us know if you have changed your address recently by sending current address information to the above address, 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, send your change of address notification to the National Society: Beta Phi Mu, School of Information Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-2100.

Nominees for Beta Phi Mu Chi Chapter Executive Board 2004-2005

President: David Ross
dbross@scican.net

Vice-President: Open

Treasurer: Open

Secretary: Open

Membership Coordinator:
Erika Dowell
edowell@indiana.edu

At Large: Jo Burgess
jborges@indiana.edu

At Large: Mary Krutulis
krutulis@insightbb.com

Past President: Steve Backs
sbacks@monroe.lib.in.us

Faculty Sponsor: Tom Nisonger
nisonge@indiana.edu