



SCALA NEWS

October
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The Newsletter of the Student Chapter of the American Library Association at the University of Pittsburgh

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SCALA Stuff

We're a little over a month into the semester, and hopefully everyone has been surviving their classes thus far. SCALA has been moving and improving (you may have noticed the snappy new design for the newsletter!) and we can't wait to see all of you (at least the cool people) at our next meeting, October 15 in the large common room on the 5th floor of the

SIS Building at 6pm.

As part of our next meeting, SCALA will yet again be hosting another Movie Night! In honor of Halloween, we will be showing *Soylent Green*—the story of what happens to humanity when librarians rule the world! Surprisingly, humanity isn't happy under our control.

Later this month we'll be taking a trip to the

Warhol Museum. Read more about the museum under Weekend Breaks! If you have any questions or suggestions on the SCALA field trips, please email Sarah at smd26@pitt.edu. She loves suggestions!

~
By CA Brown
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Weekend Breaks!

Like the Pittsburgh Zoo, one attraction everyone should see when visiting the city is the Andy Warhol Museum. Located at 117 Sandusky Street in the Northside, the museum has a wide range of visiting attractions, original works by Andy Warhol, and boxes and boxes of materials that Andy "archived" himself. These boxes are extremely interesting because of their display; the museum opens one

every month or so and places the items on display— Receipts for cleaned laundry are displayed with old toupees, theatre programs (who knew if Warhol even went) and original sketches that have rarely been seen before. This exhibit is a must-see for anyone interested in archives, or anyone who randomly saves every ticket or brochure they ever receive. The attractions in the upcoming months are

as diversified as Warhol's boxes; starting in October include, "Really Phoney: Andy Warhol and the Telephone" (through the 17th): showing the role of the telephone on Any Warhol's work and his life. "Inconvenient Evidence: Iraqi Prison Photographs from Abu Ghraib" through November: Digital photos interpret and review the prison abuse scandal of Iraq. "Georgia O'Keeffe and
See Breaks, Page 6



Amy Broestl, Field Placement Goddess

Field Placement: A Field of Dreams!

It's hard to believe that we've completed a month of this fall semester. Pretty soon it will be time to start thinking about courses for next semester. A course that is highly recommended by everyone, including professors and fellow students is the Field Placement (LIS 2921). This course is mainly for those who do not

have any work experience in a library or for those that might want to obtain some experience in a different library setting. Not only does the field placement option help students gain valuable experience in a library setting, but it provides a great networking opportunity (i.e. a possible good reference letter.)

I'm currently

doing my field placement at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Main Branch in reference services. I have learned so much in these past few weeks. I have done projects including: compiling the population statistics of people who are visually impaired living in the Western half of Penn-

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People to Know



Toni Carbo, One of the three instructors for LIS 2000 this semester.

If you've had her for a class, you know of Toni Carbo's policy to read and comment on every paper she receives. This commitment to her students has made Toni Carbo a LIS favorite among the students. The following is a selection of her interview; please visit the SCALA webpage for the full transcript.

CB: Professor thank you for sitting down with me. What made you decide to go into library school?

TC: When I was a kid, I used to go to our local library, so certainly I had a love of libraries early on, but I did not think I was going in to library science. I actually went to Brown to eventually get a Ph.D. in Mathematics because I wanted to be an astronaut. I thought by working to get a Ph. D. in

math, it would create an opportunity. However, in my sophomore year I found out that I couldn't be an astronaut because in the dark ages of 1962, one had to be a military pilot and only men were military pilots. I was really very sad about that—it was the first time I learned there was a barrier that I couldn't overcome, no matter how hard I worked. So I took some time off-- as a scholarship student with a loan and two jobs, I needed to get a job and I went to work at a place called "Mathematical Reviews" in their library. That led me down a meandering path, so eventually I had nine years of experience in libraries before I got my undergraduate and then master's degree. I never thought I wanted to be a librarian when I was

growing up, I just came into the field.

CB: You mentioned before that you worked for nine years at various libraries. I've come to learn that every librarian has a horror story of the impatient patron, or power-loss during data entry; do you have one?

TC: There really wasn't a worst moment...there were some interesting times. When I worked at the Mathematical Reviews, the head of the library suddenly had to be home on medical leave, so for a while I had to take over her responsibilities. When I was at the University of Washington, I got to do a lot more than I would have been expected to do—I was supervising people with degrees. There were times when I

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"Don't apply for the job you're fully qualified for; that's the job you should have had five years ago."

People to Know, continued.

From *People*, Page 1

thought, “Oh my god, I’m not really prepared to do this,” but I tried to do my best. What I tell students always is, “don’t apply for a job you’re fully qualified for; that’s the job you should have had five years ago. Of course you want to be qualified and not go in over your head, but always go for a job where you’re continuing to learn and grow.

CB: What is one piece of advice you would love to give to every student.

TC: Get involved. Which means more than just *going* to classes; get involved *in* your classes. Get involved in a student organization [Editor’s note: Like SCALA!]. It is

such a bargain to join one of the professional organizations as a student member and become involved by serving on the committee for the school: Edit the newsletter [Editor’s note: position filled—but you can write an article! Email Me.], or do interviews. There are so many speakers who come here—not just here at the school, but in the community. I look at what’s going on culturally with Pitt Arts, the many different events, the Speaker Series coming in; there are three or four different series, some just right down at the Carnegie. When you think of what your tuition can buy beyond the classes, it’s really that

involvement that makes a difference.

CB: Thank you so much Professor for the interview, and for the advice.

TC: Thank you Chris!

Susan Alman, to put it bluntly, is one heck of a busy woman. Besides being a professor at Pitt, Sue is also the coordinator for professional development. Early this month (October 1-3) she will be hosting the incoming Fast Track students.

CB: What first made you decide to go into Library Science?

SA: The program itself. I wasn’t sure which
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*Susan Alman
Coordinator of
Professional Development*

“Libraries are more than books!”

TVs in the Lobby? Madness!

Smile, you’re on camera! You may have noticed a change in the lobby of the building. Has the department installed TV screens for our viewing pleasure? No, it’s the RAPAI project, which stands for Role Assured Publicly Accessible Information. The Department of Telecommunications has initiated this project and hopes to increase the awareness of people who use the SIS building. The project is still under development, but the Department hopes to eventually evolve it into

an interactive system that allows the user to access and post information in a controlled and easy manner. Eventually the paper postings on the bulletin boards and elevators will be displaced, as announcements will be displayed on the RFID screens. The system will remember you and provide information relevant to your own individual interests as well information on groups or classes in which you are involved. There are also several cameras in place that can be viewed in real

time on the internet, including one that records the activity in the lobby hallway. Be careful what you do down there. Keep a close watch on this project as it develops; it is likely to have an effect on all of us. Students are welcome to interact with the screens and can submit ideas or suggestion to Michael Spring, spring@imap.pitt.edu. More information can be obtained by viewing the website at <http://webdev.sis.pitt.edu>

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By Sarah Doughty
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“Has the department installed TV screens for our viewing pleasure? No, it’s the RAPAI project, which stands for Role Assured Publicly Accessible Information.”

Field, continued.

"The golden smile and gasp: 'That's it! Thank you so much!' really makes it all worth it."

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-sylvania; starting a collection development project in the small business reference corner; and finding out that indeed there was a Bible (New Testament, to be exact) that was handed out to school students in England commemorating the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1954. Whew! It is thrilling to help people find what they are looking for

whether it be a book or a research problem. The golden smile and gasp: "That's it! Thank you so much!" really makes it all worth it. I have found this field placement enriching and fulfilling. It has truly helped me to confirm that I would like to be a reference librarian in a public library.

Remember, students must have completed a minimum of twelve

credit hours and be in good academic standing. Your advisor should be able to point you in the right direction. I would encourage everyone to find a library to participate in a field placement. Whether it be academic, public, or a special library, the possibilities are up to you!

~
By Amy Broestl
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To Infinity and Beyond! ~~Archives!~~

Infinity, the student preservation interest group, will be holding its first organizational meeting at the Sharp Edge in Friendship on Friday, October 15th at 5:00. Previous Infinity groups have organized

tours of the Iron Mountain National

Underground Storage facility in Boyers, PA., visited Preservation Technologies in Cranberry, and invited speakers from other institutions to speak on

preservation-related topics. Infinity is open to all interested graduate students. Please RSVP for the meeting on Oct. 15th by emailing Jean Ann at: jeanann@pitt.edu.

SCALA T-Shirts

"Yes, you do need a master's degree to be a librarian."

Special thanks to everyone who sent in their suggestions for the new SCALA T-shirt logo. As promised, here is a listing of the top slogans we've chosen for this year's T-Shirts. To place your vote, please email Chris Brown at cab70@pitt.edu. Please

try to have your votes in by October 15th. If you do not want to vote by email, we will also be polling members during the October Meeting. Every member of SCALA gets one vote. The top five T-shirt slogans (in no particular order) are: Suggestion #1:

"Librarians fill all your information needs." Suggestion #2: "Yes, you do need a master's degree to be a librarian." Suggestion #3: Librarians: saving the world's treasures from disaster (archivists), confusion (cataloguers), boredom

See *T-Shirts*, Page 5

Five Fast Facts about FastTrack

The FastTrack students have come and gone, and their visit led to many questions about the program. If you were lucky enough to be in a class with an online counterpart, you might already know about these, but for the rest of us, here are five fast facts about FastTrack:

1. The program was approved on January 8th of 2001, but the first students only came in May of 2001.

2. Originally there were only 36 students in the FastTrack program. Now three years later,

the building hosted over 100 FastTrackers over the weekend of October 1-3.

3. The FastTrack students move in groups called "cohorts." Each cohort moves along, ensuring that by the time they graduate at the same time and with the people they originally started with.

4. Some teachers double teach the same course, one for the on campus students and one for the FastTrackers, others combine the courses—this means that you

could be doing a group project where half of your group isn't even in Pennsylvania!

5. The age range of FastTrackers is as diverse as it is for the on campus students; Currently, the ages range from 21-62.

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This information has been compiled from the extended interview with Susan Alman. For more on Sue and on the FastTrack program, please see the SCALA webpage.

"Originally there were only 36 students in the FastTrack program. Now three years later, the building hosted over 100 FastTrackers over the weekend of October 1-3."

T-Shirts, Continued.

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(collection development) and misinformation (reference librarians)!"

Suggestion #4: "New Laws of Librarianship: 1. Libraries serve Humanity 2. Respect all forms by which knowledge is communicated. 3. Use technology intelligently to enhance service. 4. Protect free access to knowledge. 5. Honor the past & create the future. — Michael Gorman (American Libraries 9.95)."

Suggestion #5: Top Ten Librarian Pick-up Lines: 10. What's your call number, baby? 9. Would you like to check out my stacks? 8. Now you're what I call a library FINE! 7. Can I check you out over here? 6. I'd catalogue you under RC560.S43. Rowr! 5. My budget just got cut, care to buy me a drink? 4. I'm not a stalker; I'm a librarian... 3. Can I access your special collection? 2. I do collection development for 613.96 and 306.71

1. Did I mention I go to the University of Pittsburgh's School of Library and Information Science?"

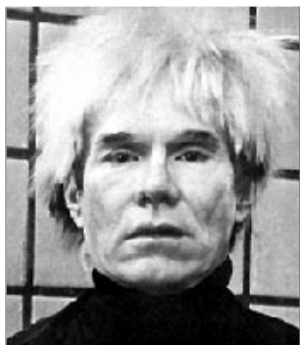
Each T-Shirt will have one of the previous suggestions on the front and the SIS logo on the back. The colors of the shirts will be determined later, but will use the Pitt colors of Blue, Gold, and White. Thanks to everyone who emailed in suggestions!

~

By Chris & Sarah

"I'm not a stalker; I'm a librarian."

Weekend Breaks, Continued.



Pictured: Andy Warhol



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Andy Warhol.” Highlighting the similarities of O’Keeffe and Warhol, two artists who shaped a generation. Finally, “General Idea Editions:” showing the work of Canadian artists, Jorge Zontal, AA Bronson and Felix Partz ³/₄, influential multimedia artists of the late 1960s and Early 1970s.

Later this month, SCALA will be taking a field trip to the Warhol museum, around the weekend of the 23rd. More information on this will be coming out in the following weeks, so remember to check

the walls of the building for fliers on it!

If you’re unable to attend the museum with SCALA, here is the bottom line:

Address:
The Andy Warhol Museum - 117 Sandusky Street - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15212-5890 – USA – Telephone: 412.237.8300 Fax: 412.237.8340

Admission:
Adults \$10.
Senior citizens \$7
Students with ID -- \$6
Children -- \$6
Members of the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh - Free
Fridays -- 5:00pm -

10:00pm, half-price as part of the special Good Fridays program.

Museum Hours:
Su -- 10:00am - 5:00pm
M – Closed
T -- 10:00am - 5:00pm
W -- 10:00am - 5:00pm
Th -- 10:00am - 5:00pm
F -- 10:00am - 10:00pm
S -- 10:00am - 5:00pm
Parking:
Museum parking is located one block north of the Museum on Sandusky Street (\$6).

We hope to see you all at the Warhol this upcoming 23rd!

~
By CA Brown
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People to Know, Continued.

From *People*, Page 3

direction I was taking and I knew I did not want law or medicine (as all of my friends were doing). Then a faculty member from undergraduate said why don’t you consider library science?

CB: Now you’re here working and teaching... why did you decide to stay?

SA: I didn’t. I’ve left three times.

CB: Oh. Um...welcome back?

SA: Thank you. [Laughing] At the time I commuted from Somerset when I was in the master’s program and I was working full time and went to school full time! After I finished the program, I took a position in an academic library in West Virginia, and then I

moved to an academic library in Virginia. Later, I decided to get my PhD, so I came back to Pitt. After I received the PhD, I went to the University of Michigan I went to the University of Michigan to teach and conduct a time and cost study for the university library system. I missed the energy that has been a part of the School of Information Sciences so...when a position became open, I returned. So, three’s a charm!

CB: Can you recommend for me one class (that you don’t teach) that you think everyone should take, regardless of on campus or online?

SA: I think government resources [LIS 2537] because you can use that information in a number of types of libraries by

knowing the kind of publications that are available for research or reference.

CB: Lastly, what’s one piece of advice you wish you could give every student, online and on campus?

SA: I would tell them to remember the people who use the library and work in the library more than anything else: Bend the rules so they make the most sense, don’t be so strict in so strict or structured. Don’t take yourself so seriously. If it weren’t for the people who come to and work in the library, what would you have? Libraries are more than books.

CB: Sue, thank you so much for the interview.

~
By CA Brown
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