

CNN New York Welcomes SLA Drexel

by Erin Hoopes a tour of CNN outside of the library...I can't believe we were allowed access to the news library at CNN New York, the station's broadcasting facilities, rooms, the studios, and the control rooms." The CNN Library tour on October 10, 2003 was more than just a tour - it was an experience extraordinaire! Shira Kavon, Senior Librarian at CNN, treated SLA Drexel members to a tour of the news library at CNN New York, the station's broadcasting facilities, rooms, the studios, and to a question and answer session with Managing Editor Edith Chapin and Library Director Moira Danehy.

"I think the tour was fantastic," said online student Kathleen Padova. "I certainly wasn't expecting

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*from left: Howard Leyland, Heidi Muller, Kris Wich, Karen Kozak, Debbie Delcollo, Erin Hoopes
Photo by Gary Kaplan*

Knower Fund Sends Student Contingent to Quint Conference

by Erin Hoopes Eight SLA Drexel members recently attended the October 26-28 QuintEssential Conference in Philadelphia. Registration fees for Anita Chiodo, Michael Cooperman, Loretta Dunne, Erin Hoopes, Gary Kaplan, Rebekah Kilzer, Karen Kozak, and John Wineberg were covered by \$100 Knower Awards, sponsored by the SLA Philadelphia Chapter.

Margy Grasberger, Chair of the Knower Fund Committee, reported, "The Committee was pleased to be able to sponsor all eight of the students who ap-

plied for Knower fund support to attend the Quint meeting. In reviewing the applications, we remarked on the wide-ranging experiences and accomplishments of the candidates—one of the features that makes the profession so interesting."

The QuintEssential Conference, sponsored by four regional chapters of the Medical Library Association and one regional chapter of the Special Libraries Association (the Philadelphia chapter), featured keynote speaker Robert S. Martin, Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, numerous

sessions, roundtables, and networking events, and nine continuing education courses.

The Knower Fund was started in 1978 to honor Beverly M. Knower, a longtime SLA Philadelphia member who strongly supported student development. According to Grasberger, "Funds for the Knower award are raised by donations from Chapter members, proceeds from the Fall Wine and Cheese party, and bids on a Silent Auction at the Holiday Party. Students interested in contributing items or services to the auction may contact Erin Hoopes."



by Anita Chiodo

President's Message: Why Join SLA?

The crisp fall air nestles in around us as we begin another academic year within the brick and mortar of Drexel University's College of IST. What will this year bring for us all? We look forward to the challenge of learning new things, change, growth, and, for those who are graduating, gainful employment.

This can, in part, be accomplished through education; however you'll find an even richer experience by making connections with professionals in the field through active involvement in associations like the Special Libraries Association (SLA).

My objective this year for the Drexel SLA Student Chapter is to strengthen the bond between the student membership, the Philadelphia Regional Chapter, and National. The SLA isn't just a nebulous thing we all pay dues to in exchange for an "Affiliations" entry on our resume; it gives access to sponsored events and programs and, more importantly, an opportunity to speak with professional librarians.

I have never known a more supportive group of people as I have found in the professional librarians I've met through SLA. Take for example, our very recent trip to CNN - New York City for a tour of the library and

broadcast facilities. This tour was very generously hosted by Senior Librarian, Shira Kavon (read about Shira on our website www.cis.drexel.edu/slادrexel/content/featuredlibkavon.htm), whom I met at SLA's 2003 Annual Conference in New York City this past June. Twelve students and faculty had the unique opportunity to explore the inner workings of a bureau within one of the most re-

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nowned news organizations in the world.

There's value in actively participating in any organization to enhance your educational experience, so why join SLA? Join to explore the wider-world of librarianship. Librarianship can be practiced in more than just academic and public libraries. Do you like cooking? Perhaps culinary librarianship would excite you. Are you interested in pharmaceuticals or business? Corporate librarianship might suit you. Are you a news junkie? Look into opportunities in media. What about law?

Law firms, courthouses, and universities need law librarians too. These are just a few examples.

What if you're not sure what you want to do? Actively participate in SLA sponsored events whether they're on the student, regional, or national level. Exploring your profession and networking for ideas and job opportunities is invaluable to furthering your education at Drexel.

Use the student chapter as a stepping stone, a place to get comfortable, a place to get to know your peers and learn about the larger organization. Stretch your experience. Take your education to the next level by participating in events to meet people outside the college arena. Start networking **before** you graduate. Sign up to become an SLA member today!

SLA DPHT Division Offers Travel Awards

by Erin Hoopes

SLA's Division of Pharmaceutical and Health Technology is offering up to three \$1,500 awards to cover travel expenses for library students or DPHT members. Applicants must submit a personal statement, resume, and project relating to the pharmaceutical or health technology industry by February 29. More information can be found at: www.sla.org/division/dpht/travelaward04.htm.

Student Aid Gains Valuable Experience at National Archives

by Deborah Delcollo
"I've died and gone to heaven!"
 That sums up my first week as an archival aid at the National Archives in Philadelphia. My first task was organizing Habeas Corpus documents dating as early as 1863.

The Mid-Atlantic Regional National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), located at 900 Market St., is a massive collection of documents, microfilm, and images dating from our country's beginnings.

Archivist Jefferson Moak lists some of the holdings in Philadelphia: "the National Archives Mid-Atlantic Region is the repository for records from federal agencies located in the following states: Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. These records include the permanent records of the various United States District Courts in these states, as well as records of the

United States Customs Service; the Frankford and Schuylkill Arsenals; the U.S. Navy Yards in Philadelphia and Norfolk; U.S. Naval Home; the divisions of the Corps of Engineers in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk and West Virginia; and the United States Mint in Philadelphia."

The Mid-Atlantic Region also has microfilm of all of the surviving U.S. censuses from 1790 to 1930, as well as military service records of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. Other military related records include the pension records of the Revolutionary War, and selected indexes to military service records of the War of 1812, the Mexican War, and the Spanish-American War. Nationalization and immigration records from 1790 to 1990 are found within the collections of the District courts, Customs, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service records.

Other topics of interest include

the lighthouses from New Jersey to North Carolina, fugitive slaves and the black presence in American society, national parks from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River, and many items of genealogical importance.

The National Archives' records are accessible to the public. Stacie Byas, Director of Archive Operations, reports that so far this year, the Philadelphia office has hosted 10,556 microfilm researchers, 453 textual researchers, 1,356 public access PC users, and 2,237 reference requests. It has also issued 1,163 researcher ID cards and provided 37 on-site and off-site workshops to 677 participants so far this year.

N A R A ' s w e b s i t e www.archives.gov/midatlantic is a wealth of information for anyone interested in learning more about the field of archives and preservation.

UP TO DATE

IST Students Offer Advice on Staying Current in the Information Profession

by Erin Hoopes
 Networking events are a great way for students to meet other library and information professionals. The SLA Philadelphia Chapter hosted its annual fall networking event, a Wine and Cheese Party, at the Chemical Heritage Foundation on September 16. Proceeds from the event went to the Knowler Fund.

SLA Drexel was represented by students Anita Chiodo,

Loretta Dunne, Elizabeth Groves, Erin Hoopes, and Gary Kaplan, and professor Marti Smith. Attendees mingled and enjoyed wine, cheese, and other snacks, then convened for a brief meeting. Jack Morris, Past President of the Philadelphia Chapter, presented the President's Award to Peggy Lynch, for "leadership, vision, and initiative."

Christopher Stanwood, Assis-

tant Librarian for Access Services at the Chemical Heritage Foundation, then gave a brief talk on the Donald F. and Mildred Topp Othmer Library of Chemical History, which contains volumes dating from the sixteenth century.

More information about the Chemical Heritage Foundation and the Othmer Library can be found on the web at: www.chemheritage.org.

CNN Library Tour

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Student Debbie Delcollo agreed: "the tour exceeded my expectations."

The day began with lunch at Tir Na Nog, an Irish pub in the same building (5 Penn Plaza) as the CNN offices. Then the group traveled to the 23rd floor to the library facilities.

The news library at CNN New York, which is staffed from 8 AM to 8 PM daily, provides reference and research support for shows produced by the New York Bureau, indexes and catalogs raw tapes of daily news coverage and features, and assists producers and editors in finding needed video clips. Al-

SLA S&T Division Offers Travel Award

by Erin Hoopes

Applications are now being accepted for the S. Kirk Cabeen Stipend Award, sponsored by SLA's Science and Technology Division. The \$750 stipend will pay a student's travel expenses for next summer's Annual Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

Applicants must be members of SLA attending their first SLA Conference, with preference given to S&T members.

Students should submit a 500-word essay, resume or curriculum vitae, and any other supporting documents by March 1.

More information about this award is available at: <http://www.sla.org/division/dst/2004awards.html>.

though the library does house a limited collection of reference books, magazines, and newspapers, its primary focus is on videotapes.

"Our volume of service changed drastically after 9/11," Kavon told the group. "CNN reformatted its programming to cover three hours in the morning and three hours in the evening of original programming produced in New York. Use of the library has skyrocketed."

Kavon's tour gave the group a brief glimpse into the busy, ex-



CNN Senior Librarian Shira Kavon displays a raw tape. Photograph by Gary Kaplan

citing life of a news librarian. "I thought the tour was extremely informative," said student Kris Wich. "It really shed light for me on the world of news librarianship."

SLA Drexel Leaders

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Special Thanks

We'd like to say thank you to Moira Danehy, Edith Chapin, and especially Shira Kavon for hosting our CNN NY Tour.

Mission Statement

The SLA Student Chapter of Drexel University is a platform for students to explore special librarianship and the information profession; an opportunity to engage with library and information professionals; an opportunity for networking, interaction, and community building; a promotion of the Special Libraries Association.

Website:

www.cis.drexel.edu/sladrexel/