

## Winter 2007 Issue

## Inside this issue:

DUSLA Visits Jenkins Law Library	2
Reviews	3
Web 2.0 & Libraries	4
SEPLA Annual Conference Summary	5
Delaware Book Festival Summary	5
SLA/ALA Bowling Lubuto Benefit	6
The New Shape of Knowledge	7-8
Upcoming Library Events	9
SLA News Reader	10



## DUSLA News

## Letter from the President

As we roll into a new year, DUSLA has a new look and new focus. In previous years our focus was to expose our fellow students to various areas of special libraries by sponsoring numerous library tours and guest speakers. This year we are turning our attention to provide more opportunities for networking, student collaboration, information professional interaction, and community awareness.

We will continue in the tradition of DUSLA by providing library tours, which made our organization so successful in previous years; however, we have incorporated more social events into our agenda, such as a Round Table Discussion and 'Social' hours.

Let's not forget our "Bowl Off for Charity" event hosted along side SCALA (Student Chapter of American Library Association).

For the first time in DUSLA history, DUSLA and SCALA matched up for a bowling tournament to raise money for the Lubuto Library Project, which creates libraries for Africa's street kids. I won't tell you who won, but you can

read more about the tournament on page 6.

We also have a few projects in the making such as a mentorship and outreach program for Drexel IST graduate students.

Wait a second, did you say, "What about the library tours?" Oh, I thought so. I am happy to announce, back by popular demand, the Library of Congress and NPR library field trips. You heard right, DUSLA is planning another field trip to our Nation's Capital. As if this was not enough, we have also included tours to the Library Company of Philadelphia, Jenkins Law Library and PALINET. Look out for future announcements on times and dates of tours, not to mention a feature article on Jenkins Law Library in this newsletter (see page 2).

If you have been to our website recently, you might have noticed a few extra additions which our webmaster, Chris Curry, has added: [a blog](#), [a podcast](#) and [a wiki](#). Who said DUSLA isn't in touch with the latest tools in social software. As technology moves forward DUSLA makes it a point to

keep our students aware of the emergence of various tools used by many Informational Professionals to maintain and develop information resources and services.

DUSLA loves hearing from our fellow students as well faculty, so if you have any ideas or want more information about becoming a member please e-mail me at [tdf22@drexel.edu](mailto:tdf22@drexel.edu).

I would like to end by saying; I wish everyone a triumphant year and don't miss out what DUSLA has to offer.

Sincerely,  
Tanya D. Finney  
DUSLA President 06-07



**Tanya Finney—Drexel University  
SLA Student Chapter President**

## DUSLA Members Visit Jenkins Law Library

From its start as the Law Library Company of the City of Philadelphia, Jenkins Law Library (<http://www.jenkinslaw.org>) has been serving the legal community of Philadelphia since 1802, and the recently renovated library has never looked better. On December 3, 2006, law librarian, Mike Sweeney was kind enough to give the student chapter of SLA a tour of the facilities.

Jenkins Law Library has a staff of 13 full time librarians. While Jenkins looks for librarians with legal experience, they choose staff members who do not have legal degrees. This is because the library prefers that the librarians be able to help patrons with a

librarian's frame of reference, not an attorney's. This way they are well equipped to answer the over 14,000 questions per year asked by a patron base that includes everyone from lawyers to Drexel law students to local citizens looking for solutions to their legal problems.

Jenkins Law Library is open to the public for a daily fee, and membership is available at the individual, student and firm levels. Jenkins has recently struck an agreement with the new Drexel law school. Until Drexel's own law library has been properly established, Jenkins will be the acting legal library for the university. The library has opened up its conference rooms for students attend legal research courses and has extended its hours to accommodate this new type of patron.

To aid patrons in their search for legal knowledge, Jenkins has a varied collection, including standard legal texts, treatises, online databases (like HeinOnline, LexisNexis and WestLaw), a rare book selection with legal documents starting

from 1840 (such as wills, legal newsletters and legal dictionaries), and an extensive microfilm collection with holdings of previous editions of state regulations and legal journals. While the collection does include legal documents (such as statutes, regulations and legal digests) from other states,



From Left to Right: Tanya Finney (DUSLA President), Amy Popp (DUSLA Program Co-Coordinator), Katherine Fischer (DUSLA Program Co-Coordinator), Bob Olczak (DUSLA Social Chair) and Mike Sweeney (Jenkins Librarian)

the majority of the collection consists of legal resources specific to Pennsylvania. This includes primary sources such as trial reports and treatises as well as secondary sources such as materials from educational workshops and materials written about the law. Jenkins is also a depository for court records and briefs (searchable at: <http://briefs.jenkinslaw.org>), a rich legal resource.

Learn more about Jenkins Law Library online at: [www.jenkinslaw.org/about/history/index.php](http://www.jenkinslaw.org/about/history/index.php), or stop in for a visit, just tell them you're a DUSLA member.

**Article By:**  
Katherine Fischer  
DUSLA Program Co-Coordinator



**Jenkins Law Library**

**Located at:**  
833 Chestnut Street  
Suite 1220  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

**Ph. 215.574.7900**

*This way they are well equipped to answer the over 14,000 questions per year asked by a patron base that includes everyone from lawyers to Drexel law students to local citizens looking for solutions to their legal problems.*

## Book Review: The NextGen Librarian's Survival Guide

Who are the NextGen Librarians? We are! Like many people working in libraries, I just assumed that the NextGen Librarians were 20-somethings, the truth of the matter is that, we span many generations.

So how are we going to survive in the library world once we're done with our education here at Drexel? Rachel Singer Gordon does an excellent job of helping librarians like us find the right job, survive in that job, and succeed

as a librarian in the age of library 2.0.

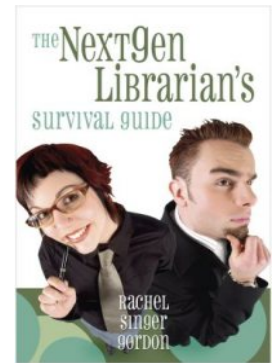
Rachel has a way of writing books as if she were speaking right to the reader—making it very easy to relate to what she's saying and put it into practice in your own life. In addition to Rachel's words, we get to hear from survey respondents of all ages and experience levels regarding NextGen Librarians.

One of the most important tips to take with you after reading

this book, is to keep up with the profession after graduation. Read library mailing lists, blogs, and news sites. Attend conferences and other networking opportunities. Learn from those around you and collaborate with them whenever possible.

My Rating: 5 Stars—required reading for all NextGen Librarians

**Review By:**  
Nicole C. Engard  
DUSLA Co-Newsletter Editor



March 2006

ISBN 1-57387-256-3

By: Rachel Singer Gordon

Web:  
[www.lisjobs.com/nextgen/](http://www.lisjobs.com/nextgen/)

## Librarian Action Figure and the Book Lust series

The Librarian Action Figure, based on librarian Nancy Pearl of Seattle, can be a welcome addition to your décor and comes full with the librarian, a computer, a reference desk and bookshelf. On Pearl's back is a button that puts her in a "shush" position.

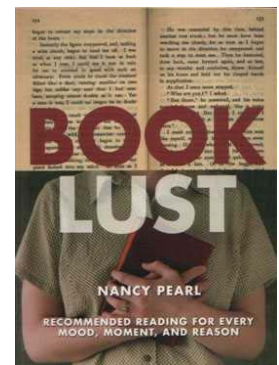
Nancy Pearl, subject of the Librarian Action Figure and author of the Book Lust series, speaks across the country in bookstores and libraries recommending books for book lovers to enjoy. Often when she comes to speak she draws so many people that the events are standing room only. Besides speaking in bookstores and libraries, Pearl is a regular commentator on National Public Radio's Morning Edition and NPR stations in Seattle and Tulsa.

Book Lust (2003) and More Book Lust (2005) include recommendations for books on a wide range of subjects. Are you interested in Irish fiction? Pearl recommends, of course, novels by James Joyce as well as Why Should You Doubt Me Now by Mary Breasted. If you are looking for books about Italy, she recommends books such as Luigi Barzini's The Italians and That Fine Italian Hand by Paul Hoffman. Along with titles, Pearl provides a very brief summary and often her own reviews on the books.

Besides being good guides for book lovers, the Book Lust series can be helpful for librarians in doing reader's advisory for patrons looking for books on certain topics.

So I would definitely recommend picking up both books in the series and compiling a nice, long list of books for your "to read" list.

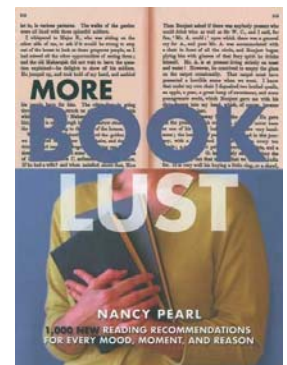
**Review by:**  
Jen Lott  
DUSLA Co-Newsletter Editor



September 2003

ISBN 978-1570613814

By: Nancy Pearl



April 2005

ISBN 978-1570614354

By: Nancy Pearl

## Web 2.0 & Libraries (from Internet Librarian 2006)

This year I was lucky enough to attend the Internet Librarian 2006 conference in Monterey California. Since the theme of many presentations centered around Web 2.0, I thought I should share this introduction to Web 2.0 & Libraries with you all.

Karen Coombs started out the session on [Innovative Uses of Web 2.0](#)

[Technologies](#) by sharing some basic principles of Web 2.0.

### Radical Decentralization

An example of centralization is people sending content to one web person and that person making the necessary web edits. Decentralization is the opposite - letting the people change the necessary pages as they need. The perfect example of this is Wikis & Blogs - giving the people the power - and saving us web people from the day to day web edits so that we can spend time developing nifty applications for you (this last bit is added by me).

### Small Pieces Loosely Joined

Modular is the key - having huge systems that do everything and having everything intertwined is no longer a good

business model. You need to be able to plug things in and pull things out with ease - but you also have to make it seamless for the user.



Darlene Fichter introduces Karen Coombs and Jason Clark.

### Perpetual Data

No more lengthy programming processes (kind of sounds a bit like Extreme Programming which we went over briefly in INFO 503—Introduction to Information System Analysis) - release things early and constantly make improvements. I think that the drawn out processes do nothing but let people's fears fester - making the change all that more difficult in the end. Karen called this the "Paper Cut" effect - change hurts - I say rip the Band-Aid off quick and it won't hurt as much. Also by constantly changing, people are more prepared - they know it's coming because it's always coming.

### Remixable Content

This is all about sharing data. Why not make the library's data available to be published on other pages? Why lock it

up in the library? And the reverse applies - why should we develop all of the content on our own - why not take some from other places?

### User As Contributor

Comes back to the first point - all the users to edit the content - why not - they know it better than we do - we're in the IT department. Let the users then tag their data so that they can easily find it later and to make it more accessible to other users

(I'm going to talk about this more later - because I saw an exciting presentation that has me ready to add tags to our intranet). Why not host blogs at the library so that your members (or students) can create their own content through your site? Karen mentioned [UThink at the U of Minnesota](#).

### Rich User Experience

Add fun things to the site to make the experience more enjoyable. Use multimedia like images and videos - maybe a video tour of your library. Allow for personalization of the site - we all want things differently - why not let us pick & choose? And my favorite - offer a space for collaboration - this is key and really makes the user feel like a part of the library.

**Article By:**

Nicole C. Engard  
DUSLA Co-Newsletter Editor



Web:  
[www.infoday.com/i2006/](http://www.infoday.com/i2006/)

*"The perfect example of this is Wikis & Blogs - giving the people the power - and saving us web people from the day to day web edits"*

## Southeastern Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference

The [Southeastern Pennsylvania Library Association's annual conference](#) was held on December 1 at the Upper Merion Township Building in King of Prussia. The conference's theme this year, The Library As Place, received great interest and because of the overwhelming response, no more registrations were permitted two weeks before the conference.

Librarians and friends of the library attended from as far as Altoona and from Bloomsburg. The keynote speaker, Josie Parker, Director of the [Ann Arbor Library System](#) in Michigan, spoke of the library as a place and destination for patrons. She described her

hometown library in Mississippi and the nice red, silk covered sofa that made her feel at home in the library. She went on to describe the efforts in her libraries to make all patrons feel welcome, from parents coming in with young children to telecommuters coming in to use the library's wireless network for their laptop. Their libraries have offered special services such as lounge areas away from the main library with vending machines where teens often come to study or work together on schoolwork. The main branch in downtown Ann Arbor hosted a controversial program where teens had a graffiti art contest and many of the teenage boys (whom

Parker pointed out as an audience difficult to reach) were able to make sales on their art. By implementing these programs and making the libraries a destination, the Ann Arbor Libraries have been very successful in getting patrons into their libraries.

**Article By:**  
Jen Lott  
DUSLA Co-Newsletter Editor



**Ann Arbor,  
Malletts Creek Branch**



**Ann Arbor,  
Pittsfield Branch**

## Delaware Book Festival

I went to the first [Delaware Book Festival](#) in [Dover, Delaware](#) on Saturday, November 4, 2006.

I had been looking forward to this event since I received the first email via the [Delaware Library Association](#) listserv back in the spring. The weather was wonderful and I enjoyed the foliage on the drive down to Dover.

My favorite session was presented by Michael Dixon, who is based in [Cecil County, Maryland](#) and also teaches at the [University of Delaware](#). He spoke on "Uncovering the Past" and had a great story

about one of his team finding a letter from [Thomas Jefferson](#) in an old house. Dixon related that this discovery was eventually featured on [NBC's Today](#) show.

Mr. Dixon discussed performing research and recommended that reference librarians be consulted because they will have the subject matter expertise of a particular collection. As a future librarian, I appreciated that! Dixon also talked about newspapers and passed around large replicas of small-town papers from the early years of the twentieth century.

There were also opportunities to meet various authors. I introduced myself to someone who had been a guest speaker at a public history course I took a few years ago as an undergraduate. I even saw a co-worker of mine while we were both visiting the nearby [Johnson Victrola Museum](#).

It was a great day and I'm looking forward to next year's event.

**Article By:**  
Debra Johnson  
DUSLA Membership Coordinator



**Debra with her Delaware Book Festival bag.**  
[11-4-06]

## SLA/ALA Bowling Lubuto Benefit

After much planning, confusion, and effort our bowling event went off quite well after all. Overall, we had a turn out of 19 current and future librarians all bowling for the [Lubuto Library Project](#). Lubuto is an organization that is “established to provide library collections for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in Africa. The goal is to give the burgeoning numbers of street children the opportunity for non-formal education, improving literacy, language skills, general knowledge and participation in society.” The previously quote is taken directly from their web-

site. Although our event was originally envisioned as a tourna-

pleasantly surprised when Tim Siftar (member of the SLA Advisory Committee in charge of Career Guidance & Student



Left to Right: Tanya Finney, Chris Maisano, and Christopher Curry



Christopher Curry Bowling for Lubuto.

ment with the ALA members competing against those of SLA, the night of the event we just competed in small groups of 3 to 5 and enjoyed ourselves forgetting our affiliations to SLA and ALA. To say that either SLA or ALA has the better bowlers amongst its members would be undeterminable from the event as it went down.

All in all, we raised \$272 dollars for the Lubuto Project.

Later on we were

Relations) informed us that SLA of Philadelphia decided to supplement our efforts with a \$100 donation of their own, bringing our total to \$372. In the end, it was a great time for the participants and we could not have been acting towards a better cause. Thanks to all who helped in making this event all that it was and we look forward to even greater participation the future.

**Article By:**  
Bob Olczak

DUSLA Social Committee Chair



*“SLA of Philadelphia decided to supplement our efforts with a \$100 donation of their own, bringing our total to \$372.”*

## The New Shape of Knowledge (from KMWorld & Intranets 2006)

[David Weinberger](#) gave an amazing opening keynote on day 3 of [the conference](#). I think this was my favorite.

David started with what he called the most hideous slide ever (it was very animated - bouncing words everywhere). The point was that knowledge is changing in all ways but one - the who of knowledge is going from experts to all of us (taxonomy v. folksonomy), the where of knowledge is going from people in cubicles to people in public places, the how is going from people sitting in a room to people engaging in conversation, the when is changing from this ribbon we've had of working in private to making it public and not being able to change it anymore - the ribbon is being broken, and the shape is what the whole keynote is about. The one thing that is not changing is the what (the content) of knowledge—and the what is boring.

So what has knowledge been? David starts with Plato who said 2 very important things "Justified true belief" (content) and "The wise man knows how to carve nature at its joints" (order) - the idea is that there are natural dividing places in nature. To explain this (and this was funny if you were there) David pointed out that we all know there are 9 planets. However, now we know how made up and arbitrary these joints (our knowledge) are because the International Astronomical Union came to us and told us that [Pluto wasn't a planet](#) anymore - there aren't 9 planets -there are only 8.

In the other example, David showed us [an image](#) of how to cut a pig. The idea is that there is a right way to carve a

pig - but in truth there are infinite ways to carve up that pig. The problem is that we assume [that nature \(the joints\) is orderly](#) and we try to make it so.

The truth is that there are so many ways to carve up our world - not just one orderly way - which is why we need tagging (great transition - don't you think?). The way we're carving up our world is dependent on our interests, our individual needs, and so on. So, deciding ahead of time that here is the taxonomy - and having only one taxonomy is the same as saying there is only one way to carve up the pig and limits our ability to do what we need and want to do.

David then took us through 7 properties of traditional knowledge. The first of these is that knowledge is in our heads - which is what psychotics believe - it is the definition of schizophrenia—and obviously untrue. The next is that there is only 1 (no plural) knowledge. Third is that therefore it is the same for everyone - there is only one truth and everything else is wrong. It's simple - the world looks really complex, but once we figure it out it's simple. Next, because there is so much to know, most of the opinions we hear are false and which means that we need experts (librarians) to help us weed through it all. Sixth, is that we've assumed that knowledge is not just a collection of facts, it's order, and we prefer to organize things in trees (bird is a vertebrate is an animal...). Lastly, we assume that knowledge is as big as we are - it expands over years.

The reason a lot of these principles match the rules of reality is because the means by

which we have preserved and presented knowledge is physical. It's books, it's blackboards, it's white boards. It means that the topics of knowledge have to be divided up because books have to be divided up. It's as if libraries were invented to keep ideas apart. Where do you put a book about the history of military cooking? You can't put it in all 3 places because of the rules of matter, books can only be in one place at one time.

David then introduced us to the 3 orders of order:

1. Organize the books (put them on shelves). This is a binary decision and forces us to think in trees
2. Separate the meta data about the books and organize it.
3. Everything is digital. The information, the content and the meta data.

We are no longer limited by the physical. An example is an online camera store - in the physical store you can only put the camera on one shelf. In the online world you're going to list that camera everywhere you can think of so that it's easier to sell. The thing is that this kind of disorder in the real world is messy - online messiness is a virtue - it enables ideas to come together. Finally, online everything is meta data. In the physical world there are objects and labels for the objects. Online you can go onto Google Books and type in an author and you'll get back not just the titles the author wrote, but the content of the books. This works the other way too - you can search for a line from the book and get that same book. There is no distinction between the content and the



Web:  
[www.kmworld.com/kmw06/](http://www.kmworld.com/kmw06/)

*"The truth is that there are so many ways to carve up our world - not just one orderly way - which is why we need tagging"*



David Weinberger speaking on the new shape of Knowledge at KMWorld & Intranets 2006.

## The New Shape of Knowledge continued...

meta data. Meta data is now what you know that you're going to use to find what you don't know.

If everything is meta data, the multiplier of knowledge goes up a lot - suddenly everything is a label to help us find something else.

Online we can also re-order data in a way that makes sense to us (if you did this in a real store you'd be thrown out). One of the ways to do this is faceted search. David showed us the [NCSU Endeca catalog](#) as an example of this. Any branch on your search results page can act as a root for your search - creating the tree for you. You can limit your search by female authors and then 19th century if you choose or you can choose to limit first by the 20th century and then fiction authors - you're in control. The system is organized around your needs and way of thinking, not the thinking of a catalog librarian.

So now we've gone from the organized tree to a pile of leaves. But it's not just a pile of leaves, it's a pile that's full of links and meta data. This changes the role of the traditional knowledge manager - who's job it was to filter out the crap for us. Now, it takes more effort to delete than to include. Storage is basically free so why take the time to go through the data and delete items? This also means that 3 years from now you'll be able to go back and pull up and article that at the time was insignificant and now is very important. So there is no reason to exclude and every reason to include now that we have tools that let us sort and filter on the way out.

Rather than the experts deciding how things are going to be

structured, give the users those tools so that they can decide how they want it organized and structured - postpone the taxonomy until the last step. Taxonomy is not the only way to see data - it's one way - another way is it to let users have a bit of control (tagging).

Next, David gave us 4 things this talk was not about and one that it was.

### This does not make things simple

That's okay! The example he gave us what a speech that President Bush gave that was 2400 words - and you know that the speechwriters said, we have to make it simple for the American people. Well, a few hours later David checked [Technorati](#) and found that there were over 2400 blog posts about this talk (1 per word). Each post would find something interesting in the speech and expand on it. Bloggers are taking the simple and making it complex - which is exactly what we do in conversation - why? Because we're sick of being treated like idiots (expletives removed) who can only handle little simple ideas, we want the complexity.

### It's not about you

You're making a new you online. Our blogs are a new self, we're writing ourselves into existence on the web with each post and populating the online world. Your blog is your new public self in the new public space of the web.

### It's not about experts

David believes that [Wikipedia](#) is a credible source. He knows that the fact that it's in the Wikipedia does not make it fact, but he does feel that the Wikipedia provides resources

which can be trusted. Why? Because it's highly edited, because there are discussions going on about the facts that people are including in these articles (and we're going to be able to go back and look at this for years to come), because it provides warning notices that make it more credible (ex. Neutrality is disputed) - this is not something you'll ever see on a newspaper.

### It's not about knowledge

David explained this by using the example of businesses. Businesses own their goods they also had all of this information and content - knowledge. They had assumed that it was theirs and that they owned it - building a wall around their businesses. In today's world this model doesn't work anymore, so what's happening is the knowledge (content) is being sucked out, leaving only the businesses as husks to hold the products. For example - Amazon. The content is being moved out of the business and aggregated on the web and having more content added to them (tagging, reviews, images, etc).

### It is about externalizing meaning

We get meaning by having the huge pile of leaves (the web) to sort through and putting it together - and we get to do it ourselves - and we want to do it ourselves! This enables understanding.

This does not mean that David feels that the growth of the web is the death of knowledge - we're way too good at being knowers.



Web:  
[www.kmworld.com/kmw06/](http://www.kmworld.com/kmw06/)

*“So now we’ve gone from the organized tree to a pile of leaves. But it’s not just a pile of leaves, it’s a pile that’s full of links and meta data. This changes the role of the traditional knowledge manager - who’s job it was to filter out the crap for us.”*

Article By:  
Nicole C. Engard  
DUSLA Co-Newsletter Editor

## Upcoming Library Events

### January 2007:

- 19th-24th: ALA Midwinter Meeting, Seattle, WA  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/y2vle3\]](http://tinyurl.com/y2vle3)
- 26th: NFSIAS Forum, Philadelphia, PA  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/ycam25\]](http://tinyurl.com/ycam25)

### February 2007:

- 22nd-24th: Electronic Resources & Libraries 2007, Atlanta, GA  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/ww5a1\]](http://tinyurl.com/ww5a1)
- 25th-27th: NFAIS Annual Conference 2007, Philadelphia, PA  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/ygku3e\]](http://tinyurl.com/ygku3e)
- 28th-March 2nd: Code4Lib Conference 2007, Athens, GA  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/yj8pfg\]](http://tinyurl.com/yj8pfg)

### March 2007:

- 1st-2nd: WebWise 2007, Washington, DC  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/y9te4r\]](http://tinyurl.com/y9te4r)
- 29th-April 1st: ACRL 13th National Conference, Baltimore, MD  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/y8cbme\]](http://tinyurl.com/y8cbme)

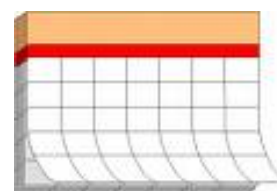
### April 2007:

- 15th-21st: National Library Week (ALA)  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/fg8ex\]](http://tinyurl.com/fg8ex)
- 16th-18th: Computers in Libraries, Crystal City, Arlington, VA  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/y6yp3w\]](http://tinyurl.com/y6yp3w)
- 23rd-25th: NJLA Annual Meeting, Long Branch, NJ  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/ym4egb\]](http://tinyurl.com/ym4egb)

### May 2007:

- 2nd-4th: Maryland Library Association Conference, Ocean City, MD  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/yflkcv\]](http://tinyurl.com/yflkcv)
- 8th: Delaware Library Association Conference, Dover, DE  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/tpct5\]](http://tinyurl.com/tpct5)
- 18th-23rd: MLA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA  
[\[http://tinyurl.com/st7x4\]](http://tinyurl.com/st7x4)

*“Computers in Libraries is the leading conference for librarians and information professionals who need to know about the latest technologies, equipment, software, and services available.”*



*“The 2007 Delaware Library Association Conference will have the broad theme of Libraries and Technology.”*



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

## SLA Student Leaders

Tanya Finney  
President  
[tanya.d.finney-ellison@drexel.edu](mailto:tanya.d.finney-ellison@drexel.edu)

Katherine Fischer  
Program Co-Chair  
[katherine.ruth.fischer@drexel.edu](mailto:katherine.ruth.fischer@drexel.edu)

Bob Olczak  
Social Committee Chair  
[robert.olczak@drexel.edu](mailto:robert.olczak@drexel.edu)

Brett Bonfield  
Treasurer & GSA Liaison  
[brett.bonfield@drexel.edu](mailto:brett.bonfield@drexel.edu)

Kate Inman  
Communications Chair & IST Liaison  
[kathleen.m.inman@drexel.edu](mailto:kathleen.m.inman@drexel.edu)

Amy Popp  
Program Co-Chair  
[amy.beth.popp@drexel.edu](mailto:amy.beth.popp@drexel.edu)

Christopher Curry  
Webmaster  
[curry@drexel.edu](mailto:curry@drexel.edu)

Debra Johnson  
Membership Coordinator  
[debra.lynne.johnson@drexel.edu](mailto:debra.lynne.johnson@drexel.edu)

Nicole Engard  
Co-Newsletter Editor  
[nengard@drexel.edu](mailto:nengard@drexel.edu)

Jenn Lott  
Co-Newsletter Editor  
[jennifer.lott@drexel.edu](mailto:jennifer.lott@drexel.edu)

## New Member Service: SLA News Reader

In October 2006, SLA partnered with NewsGator to provide us with a new members' benefit:

*"The Special Libraries Association (SLA) announced today that it has partnered with NewsGator to launch an online service that delivers RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feeds to the desktops of thousands of information professionals. This exclusive service is free only to members of SLA, and is available at [www.sla.org](http://www.sla.org) as part of the SLA News Connections."*

I got a chance to have a peak at this new reader while at the Internet Librarian 2006 conference and it's pretty nifty - es-

pecially for RSS newbies. They have predefined sets of feeds that people can subscribe to with one click - which is very handy when you're new to all of this.

Read the [Press Release](#). To see it in action, just login to [www.sla.org](http://www.sla.org) and click on the Resources >> SLA News Reader.

**Article By:**  
Nicole C. Engard  
DUSLA Co-Newsletter Editor