

Session: 2009 SLA Computer Science Roundtable and Lunch

Date: Tuesday, June 16th

Time: 11:30am-1pm

Location: Convention Center 201

Moderator: Jeanine Scaramozzino

SLA Divisions: PAM and Sci-Tech

Sponsors: ACM and IEEE

“Data Curation and Special Libraries: Education, Trends, and Developments”

AGENDA:

11:30am Introductions

11:35am Panel Presentations (abstracts and bios below):

"Societal Need for Digital Curation Specialists in the Library Setting"

P. Bryan Heidorn, Associate professor at the Graduate School of
Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign

"Metadata for Scientific Data and Dublin Core Metadata Initiative"

Jane Greenberg, Francis Carroll McColl Term Professor and Director, SILS
Metadata Research Center School of Information and Library Science
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

"Digital Curation: From Concept to Reality at the US Geological Survey"

Richard Huffine, National Library Coordinator for the United States
Geological Survey

12:20pm Panel discussion

12:40pm Open Forum (CS into SciTech, questions for sponsors, additional panel
discussion, etc.)

Presentation title:

“Societal Need for Digital Curation Specialists in the Library Setting”

Abstract:

Many scholarly disciplines in the humanities and sciences are moving from a period of data scarcity to a period of data abundance because of advances in instrumentation and digitization. At the same time many of the key questions of our time such as climate change, ecosystem collapse, and energy require a faster pace of scientific discovery as well as improved data analysis, synthesis and reuse. Much scientific data is currently being lost or underutilized because of a lack of viable institutions for its maintenance, because of a lack of education and because of cultural biases among the data generators that prevent proper data curation. Federal government bodies such as the Interagency Working Group on Digital Data, the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation are calling for a major restructuring of the national management of science information including the underlying data. This presentation will outline the impacts these changes will have on scientists, information and computer scientists, librarians and the traditional repositories of scholarly knowledge: libraries and museums. I will draw on examples from the concentration in Data Curation concentration in the Master of Science in Library and Information Science Program, University of Illinois. I will also discuss research in automatic metadata extraction from museum specimens and literature, biodiversity informatics projects, biodiversity data standards development, education programs in biological informatics.

Biographical Note:

P. Bryan Heidorn is an associate professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a co-founder of two new degree programs including a concentration in Data Curation and a Masters in Biological Informatics. He is currently serving as a program manager in the Division of Biological Infrastructure at the U.S. National Science Foundation.

Presentation title:

“Metadata for Scientific Data and Dublin Core Metadata Initiative”

Abstract:

In early spring 2009 the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) launched the Science and Metadata Community--SAM. The DCMI Science and Metadata Community is a forum for individuals and organizations to exchange information and knowledge about metadata describing scientific data. The community focuses on metadata challenges specific to scientific data curation, and solutions that will benefit from the architecture and global reach of the DCMI.

This presentation will introduce the DCMI Science and Metadata Community and briefly comment the Dryad repository project, which has served as an inspiration

for the community. The presentation will broadly address requirements for description and structure of datasets and vocabularies to support data preservation, reuse, and re-purposing. The presentation will conclude by commenting on how special librarians may further engage with this community, and implications of ongoing activities, bringing librarians and scientists together.

Biographical Note:

Jane Greenberg <<http://ils.unc.edu/~janeg/>> holds a Frances Carroll McColl termed professorship in the School of Information and Library Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (SILS/UNC-CH). She is the founder and director of the SILS Metadata Research Center, and a co-founder of the DCMI Science and Metadata Community. Her research and teaching focus in the area of metadata and classification.

Presentation title:

“Digital Curation: From Concept to Reality at the US Geological Survey”

Abstract:

Since joining the US Geological Survey in 2007, Richard Huffine has been working on introducing and implementing the components of Digital Libraries for the organization. The introduction of the concept of "digital curation" raised a number of issues for the management, staff, and users of the USGS Library and Richard has been working with these constituencies to understand and implement digital curation at the USGS.

Richard's presentation is a real-world exploration of the concept and how one organization is viewing the challenges and opportunities of the digital age. Richard's presentation will also address the involvement of USGS in the DataONE initiative funded by the National Science Foundation and where he sees the USGS playing a role in the curation and provision of scientific data and information in the future.

Biographical Note:

Richard Huffine is the National Library Coordinator for the United States Geological Survey, a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Interior. The USGS Library is one of the world's largest libraries specializing in the earth and natural sciences. The USGS Library serves over 9,000 federal staff, 1,300 internal research scientists, and the general public with collections spanning over 130 years and covering the disciplines of geology, geography, hydrology, and biology. Richard has previously held leadership positions in other federal government agencies and is currently the President-Elect of the Federal and Armed Forces Libraries Round Table of the American Library Association.