



KATHERINE BERTOLUCCI, CANDIDATE DIVISION CABINET CHAIR-ELECT

Taxonomy and Information Management Consultant, Isis Information Services, 1978 - current.
SLA Member Since 1988

Education: MA in Library Science, University of Chicago, 1977; BA in English Literature and Communication, Southern Oregon College, 1973.

SLA Chapter Activities: Phoenix Networking Chair, Arizona Chapter, 2002 - current.

SLA Division Activities: Library Management Division: Awards Committee, 2003-04; Nominating Chair, 2002-03, Sponsorship Chair, 2001-02; Chair, 2000-01; Strategic Planning Chair; 1999-2000, Consulting Section Chair, 1998-99.

Association-Level Activities: Information Futurists Caucus Convener, 2001 - current.

Awards, Honors and Publications: "Happiness is Taxonomy: Four Structures for Snoopy," SLA Information Outlook, March, 2003; "Taxonomy for the Future: Organizing Futures Information into a New Hierarchical Structure," World Future Society, Futures Research Quarterly (in pre-publication).

1) One of SLA's Core Values is: "Leadership: Strengthening our roles as information leaders in our organizations and in our communities, including shaping information policy." How would you move forward in accomplishing this?

SLA does not take its place at the forefront of the information policy debate. We primarily defer to public and academic libraries in this arena. However, SLA represents an increasingly mainstream style of information management. So our more innovative members should be active in the theoretical aspects of information policy development. Chapter, Division and Association level programs would help to encourage this.

2) What has been your most significant contribution to SLA?

Because of my concern about SLA's contribution to the information policy debate, I produced two conference programs on digital preservation. The records of corporate memory are a part of history and our members need to be concerned about this. The first program, with Jeff Rothenberg of Rand Corporation, provided an introduction. The second with Ken Thibodeau of the National Archives, gave an update on state-of-the-art techniques. These programs both had an impact on our member's involvement in digital preservation within their own information centers.

3) What has been your most significant accomplishment working in the information profession?

I realized early that traditional library resources are not the optimal organizing strategy for subject-based collections. So I developed a technique for designing proprietary hierarchical classification systems, customized for my clients. With the advent of Internet browsing categories, others have experienced the value of this method for organizing information. It is now called taxonomy. In my 25 years working with taxonomy, I have developed a unique approach to the presentation of information discovery tools. My methods make it easier to find and to understand information. This approach is synthesized in my theories of persuasive, perspective and personal taxonomy. Persuasive taxonomy recognizes that presentation imparts meaning to information. The design of a classification system can itself be used to promote enterprise goals. Perspective taxonomy recognizes that information usage influences its own presentation and organizational structure. Personal taxonomy takes this to an individual level. I am currently using almost all my time to present these theories within the broader information community.