

SIG-III Newsletter

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International Information Issues

<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>

In This Issue

Message from the Chair.....	1
International Reception at the 2013 ASIS&T Annual Meeting.....	2
Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group Supports SIG III's International Paper Contest and the ASIS&T International Reception.....	2
2013 SIG Cabinet Meeting.....	3
Pan SIG-III's Social media strategy for involving information professionals from around the world	3
2014 InfoShare News.....	4
2014 International Paper Contest Announcement.....	4
Call for Participation Silent Auction 2014 ASIS&T Annual Meeting.....	5
Mentorship Program.....	5
Treasurer Report.....	5
Review of Popular MOOCs and their International Audiences.....	6
2013 Cabinet Meeting Minutes.....	8
2013 SIG III Annual Meeting Minutes.....	9
2013-2014 SIG-III Officers.....	10
SIG-III Listserv, Website, and Social Media Sites	11

Message from the Chair

By Anatoliy Gruzd, Chair, ASIS&T SIG-III



As this year's SIG Chair, it is my pleasure to open this Spring issue of our newsletter. In this issue, you will find information about our long-standing initiatives such as the International Paper Award and Infoshare Awards as well as get a glimpse of some of our new initiatives.

This has been a very productive year for our SIG. Our membership has been growing steadily at an annual rate of ~5% (now including 123 members), a clear sign of the strong interest and support for our objectives as well as reflecting the continuing internationalization of ASIST. Our annual international reception featuring the silent auction was

a smashing success at the 2013 ASIST conference in Montreal, helping to raise much needed funds to support Library and Information Science scholars and professionals from developing countries through the SIG's Infoshare program (<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/infoshare/>). The event was also a great opportunity to build a closer partnership with the Canadian Association for Information Science (<http://www.caais-acsi.ca/>) that generously sponsored a gift basket for the evening raffle. We are currently in the midst of gearing up for the 2014 ASIST event. In particular, this year we are initiating a new online submission of items for the silent auction (read more details in this issue). This will allow us to collect and disseminate information about some interesting auction items and build up the excitement and awareness in advance of the ASIST conference.

In preparation for the 2014 ASIST in Seattle, the SIG has also been actively encouraging and helping to organize conference panel submissions with the focus on International Information Issues. This year, we have sponsored and co-sponsored six panel submissions, and we are excitedly looking forward to the outcome of the panel reviews to be announced this summer.

Among new initiatives, I want to highlight that our popular calendar of International Information Science events now has a new look. In particular, to make it easier to submit and share information about various international events with the ASIST community, we are now taking advantage of an open access calendar platform provided by Google. The calendar is available at <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/international-conferences>. If you are interested in sharing information about your upcoming event, please feel free to use the online form available at <http://bit.ly/lisevents>.

In closing, I want to thank all of our SIG III officers for their great contributions to the SIG programs. I would also like to congratulate Abebe Rorissa and Daniel Alemneh for putting together a special journal issue on International Information Issues to be published later this year in the ASIS&T Bulletin.

Finally, on behalf of the SIG, I would like to welcome the Taylor and Francis Group as our partner of the International Paper Contest. Papers submitted to the Contest will be considered for inclusion in a special issue of the Taylor and Francis's International Information and Library Review (ILR).

I invite you to read more about these exciting initiatives at SIG III outlined in this newsletter, visit our website for the latest news (<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>), and join conversation on our Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/assist.sig.iii/>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/sig3i/>).

International Reception at the 2013 ASIS&T Annual Meeting

By Krystyna K. Matusiak, Co-Chair, ASIS&T SIG-III

The SIG III international reception at the 2013 ASIS&T Annual Meeting was a successful social and fundraising event. The venue at the top floor of the Sheraton hotel offered beautiful views of Montreal at night. The event was enhanced by live jazz music, great food and, above all, lively conversation amongst colleagues from all over the world. The reception provided an opportune occasion to recognize the 2013 International Paper Contest winner, Melody Madrid from the Philippines.



The international reception is held annually in conjunction with a silent auction and a raffle, two major SIG-III fundraising activities. The proceeds from the raffle ticket sale and the silent auction are used to support the InfoShare program that sponsors ASIS&T membership for scholars and information professionals from developing countries. The 2013 InfoShare fundraising activity drew significant support. A total of \$1,462 was raised through the raffle ticket sale and the silent auction. The gift basket that was raffled at the reception was donated by the Canadian Association for Information Science (CAIS).

Our thanks go to individuals and organizations who helped us make the 2013 international reception a great success: a.) Dr. Sam Hastings, Director and Professor, School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina, who generously offered to pay for the jazz band; b.) the Canadian Association for Information Science (CAIS) and its president, Dr. Diane Rasmussen Pennington for donating the gift basket; c.) ASIS&T members who either donated or bid on items for the silent auction; and d.) SIG III members who tirelessly went around selling raffle tickets.

It is not too soon to start thinking about the SIG III international reception at the 2014 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Seattle. Summer travels provide great opportunities for collecting items of an international character. Remember the SIG III silent auction and pick up a few pieces. See you in Seattle.

Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group Supports SIG III's International Paper Contest and the ASIS&T International Reception

By Abebe Rorissa, Immediate Past Chair, ASIS&T SIG-III

SIG III had successfully organized over a dozen International Paper Contests and countless international receptions at the ASIS&T Annual Meetings. Various companies, organizations, and individuals provided generous donations and financial support over the years. Chief among these were Elsevier, the Elsevier Foundation, and Dr. Toni Carbo who, With Dr. Sam Hastings and Dr. Michel Menou, is amongst the indefatigable advocates for SIG III and its various activities. Without their assistance, the SIG as well as the Paper Contest and international reception would not have been as successful. In order to continue this success, the Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group, one of the world's leading publishers, recently donated **\$3,000** to cover expenses for the 2014 Paper Contest and international reception.

While the International Paper Contest (through which SIG III awards a two-year individual ASIS&T membership each to between two to six winners and provides funding for the first place winner to attend the ASIS&T Annual Meeting) is one of the most popular programs with participation, so far, by over 400 authors from over 50 developing countries, the international reception is one of the most colorful events at the Annual Meeting. Winning papers of the International Paper Contest have regularly been published in the International Information & Library Review, a reputable scholarly journal now published by the Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group.



SIG III would like to thank Stacy Sieck, who will be joining us at the 2014 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Seattle, and the Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group for their generous donation as well as Karen MacDonald, Editor of the International Information & Library Review, for continuing to work with SIG III to get winning papers of the International Paper Contest published. We are also very grateful to Jan Hatzakos, Director of Finance & Administration at ASIS&T headquarters, for facilitating the transfer of funds, as well as the best ASIS&T headquarters staff (Dick Hill, Vanessa Foss, Sandra Holder, & Carline Haynes) who work tirelessly every year to make the Annual Meeting in general and the International Reception in particular run smoothly.

We believe that the future of the International Paper Contest is bright largely thanks to the continued and sustained support from the Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group, ASIS&T headquarters staff, and others - including

donors & ASIS&T members. For more information on SIG III's activities and the Paper Contest, please visit <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>

2013 SIG Cabinet Meeting

By Toni Carbo, Cabinet Representative, ASIS&T SIG-III

This report highlights a few key points from the meeting.

- The discussion of the role of SIGs and expectations for them was quite extensive. The current responsibilities are quite limited to the election of officers, an annual report and a budget. The participants seemed to agree (no vote was taken) that better benchmarks and higher expectations are needed. There was some discussion of the problem of having high quality sessions rejected because of time and space limitations and possibly some problems with the conference committee review process. Several people emphasized the key role at SIGs play in the Association in providing benefits to members, especially those members who are practitioners.
- Several ideas were presented, including:

1) sharing ideas for program panels and other sessions, as well as information about accepted panels, to encourage SIGs to co-sponsor sessions to have more high quality sessions be accepted with fewer time conflicts;

2) making annual reports from all SIGs available to help incoming officers and those working to strengthen SIGs; 3) encouraging more strongly co-sponsorship of sessions, which will require addressing the allocation of funds for this and working with the conference committee on sponsored sessions; (NOTE, the Chapter assembly earlier in the day decided that chapter reports will be shared unless a chapter opts out of sharing its report.)

3) Having virtual SIG cabinet meetings, perhaps quarterly, to increase interaction and collaboration among SIGS;

4) Add the day back to the conference, to return to the format of earlier years; (Many people have complained that it is difficult to justify time and funding for a conference that is so short and often requires a full day of travel before and after the conference. This is a particularly difficult problem for people outside N. America. Dick Hill noted that the Board can decide on lengthening the conference.)

5) Webinars presented by SIGs have been very successful and of great benefit to members. SIGs were encouraged to develop more webinars and to co-sponsor them, if appropriate.

Budget discussion: All SIGs have submitted their budgets and received approval for them. There was wide discussion that the level at which approval to spend a SIG's funds

should be raised above the current \$200 amount. Currently any allocation not spent gets returned to ASIS&T. Other funds, considered to be earned income (such as donations for a specific SIG), are carried over. The allocation of the \$12,000 for special projects was discussed and is summarized in the minutes.

Cabinet meeting minutes are included here on page 7.

SIG-III's Social media strategy for involving information professionals from around the world

By Anindita Paul, Social Media Administrator, ASIS&T SIG-III

Web2.0 has provided a platform for members to stay connected. With increasing membership of social networking sites such as Facebook, web 2.0 technologies have provided a useful platform to reach out to members as well as non-members across the globe. The SIG III Facebook community has increased and now reached to 231 members. Information professionals have shared information regarding conference announcement, call for papers, accolades for fellow members work and current topics of interest. The social networking strategy of the SIG is geared towards supporting the overall strategy of the SIG III that includes spreading awareness of the importance of international cooperation, to facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction and a forum for exploring and discussing important international information issues and problems. The SIG III Facebook group has been able to achieve these objectives at varied levels with emphasis on round the year connectivity of members beyond conferences. The increasing awareness of the SIG is evident from the increase in membership since the past year. Though the Facebook posts originate from different countries including the developing ones, more needs to be achieved in terms of covering the current emerging topics of concern across the globe that are specific to the regions the members belong to.



Information science research has its application across domains. Facebook has been able to reach out across the world and to build an online community, however further strategies have to be thought out for greater involvement of the membership so that the members feel a part of the SIG community. Discussions need to be encouraged on topics of local interest of the members. Greater impact can be made when the members utilize this forum for spreading announcements related to Information Science and related disciplines, topics of interest, thoughts and ideas about research problems, more conference announcements across

the world, call for papers etc at a larger scale. It is time that the 'network value' of social media be realized with more people contributing to the forum with discussions on relevant topics on international information issues and responses.

2014 InfoShare News

By Devendra Potnis and Selenay Aytac, InfoShare Officers, ASIS&T SIG-III

Every year SIG-III offers InfoShare Membership Award to a group of information professionals from developing countries. The award consists of a complimentary membership of the ASIS&T for one year. This year we distributed the call for nominations for the Award to administrators, academics, professionals, and researchers working at universities, libraries (e.g., public, academic, special, etc.), and professional library associations in more than 21 developing countries, including Afghanistan, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Iran, Kenya, Malta, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, Serbia, and Turkey. Women, minority, and candidates from underrepresented groups were encouraged to apply for the Award. In addition, several SIG-III officers requested their professional contacts in the North America and Europe to broadcast the call to professional listservs and networking groups with active members working in the developing world. As a result, we received 29 nominations from 11 countries. Based on the votes cast by 13 SIG-III officers, four professionals and three students were selected for the 2014 InfoShare Membership Award. The Award winners are as follows:

- Abdullahi Bege, Nigeria,
- Emilian Bribena, Nigeria,
- Irakli Garibashvili, Georgia,
- Projes Roy, India,
- Guleda Dogan, Turkey,
- Purity Mwagha, Kenya, and
- Zehra Taskin, Turkey.

2014 International Paper Contest Announcement

By Maqsood Shaheen, International Paper Contest Chair, ASIS&T SIG III

The Special Interest Group on International Information Issues (SIG-III) of the Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) is pleased to announce its 14th competition for papers to be submitted for the 2014 Annual Meeting, which will take place in Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Seattle, WA, October 31- November 4, 2014. (<http://www.asis.org/asist2014/>)

Building from the overall conference theme, the theme for this year's paper contest is: "Connecting Collections, Cultures, and Communities". Papers could discuss issues, policies and case studies on specific aspects of the theme from a global and/or international perspective. The maximum length for a paper is 10 pages, single-spaced. Papers could discuss issues, policies and case studies on specific aspects of the theme from a global and/or international perspective. The SIG-III welcomes contributions from all areas of information science and technology.

Topics include, but are not limited to, the following core areas:

Arts & Humanities; Bioinformatics; Blogs, Wikis, Podcasts; Classification Research; Critical Issues; Digital Libraries; Education for Information Science; Health Informatics; History & Foundations of Information Science; Human Computer Interaction; Information Architecture; Information Needs, Seeking and Use; Information Policy; International Information Issues; Knowledge Management; Library Technologies; Management; Metrics; Scientific & Technical Information; Social Informatics; and Visualization, Images & Sound.

Selection Criteria: There will be up to three winners who will be selected by a panel of judges including: Maqsood Shaheen (IRC, US Embassy Islamabad), Alma Rivera (Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México), and, Fatih Oguz (University of North Carolina at Greensboro).

Judging Criteria: Submissions will be judged on such criteria as quality of content, significance for theory, method, design, education or engagement, originality and level of innovation, and quality of presentation. Eligibility & Information for authors: Only papers by a principal author who is a citizen of, and resides in a developing country are eligible. The winners in the 2009-2013 contests are not eligible. The papers should be original, unpublished, and submitted in English. We encourage submissions from librarians, information and network specialists, and educators involved in the creation, representation, maintenance, exchange, discovery, delivery, and use of digital information.

Award: The award for each winner is a two-year individual membership in ASIS&T. In the case of multiple authors, the principal author will be awarded the ASIS&T membership. In addition, depending on SIG III fundraising for this competition, the first place winner will be rewarded a minimum of \$1,000 toward travel, conference registration, and accommodations while attending the ASIS&T Annual Conference which will take place in Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Seattle, WA, October 31- November 4, 2014. (<http://www.asis.org/asist2014/>).

Style: The international paper contest committee requires that submissions follow the International Information and Library Review instructions to authors. Detailed information is available under the heading, Instructions for Authors at:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=ulbr20&pa...>

Publishing opportunities: Submitted papers will be considered for inclusion in a special issue of the Taylor and Francis's International Information and Library Review (IILR), subject to the usual peer refereeing process, for that journal.

ASIS&T Copyright Policy: ASIS&T will have the non-exclusive right to publish any of the papers submitted on its web site or in print, with ownership and all other rights remaining with the author.

Deadline for submission of full papers: Authors are invited to submit manuscripts, not to exceed 5,000 words, by May 31, 2014, to Maqsood Shaheenat ShaheenMA@gmail.com, preferably as Microsoft Word or PDF attachments.

**Call for Participation
Silent Auction 2014 ASIS&T Annual Meeting**

By Catherine Dumas, Mentorship Coordinator, ASIS&T SIG-III

**Donate Items for the Silent Auction in Seattle, WA.
77th ASIS&T Annual Meeting 10/31 - 11/4 2014**

It is not too early to start thinking about what you would like to donate to the silent auction held each year at SIG III's International Reception. This event is always one of the highlights of the Annual Meetings.



The money that is raised by this event is used to help fund SIG III's InfoShare project which awards 1-year ASIS&T memberships to Information Professionals in developing countries for whom the cost of membership would be a financial burden.

This year we are going to have a page on the SIG III website to showcase items in advance of the silent auction.

• **Upload Auction Items Here:**

<http://www.formpl.us/form/0B4nZCvpgLedRRlhjb3NWeVB2YUE/>

The first step in the process is to go to the link above and provide a description and an image of the item(s) you wish to donate. We plan to post some of these items and their pictures on the SIG III website around the end of August. We are looking forward to all of your wonderful donations.

For more information contact Catherine Dumas at asistsigiiiuction@gmail.com

Mentorship Program

By Catherine Dumas and Loni Hagen, Mentorship Coordinators, ASIS&T SIG-III

SIG III is in the process of reworking its mentorship program. We are interested in providing a means of connecting our more experienced, active members to newer members. The extent and nature of the mentoring would be worked out by the mentor and the mentee. We expect to discuss this issue at the Annual Meeting in Seattle (October 31-November 4).

We see that the first step in this process is to create a "SIG III Member Profile" list. Once this list is compiled, it will be available on our website. This member profile list will allow each SIG III member to become more familiar with others' research interests.

A form will be available at the SIG III website <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/> for SIG III members to be included in the member profile list. If you have any questions or suggestions please email Catherine Dumas cdumas@albany.edu or Loni Hagen lkim3@albany.edu.

Treasurer Report

By Bahaa El-Hadidy, Treasurer, ASIS&T SIG-III

The SIG allocation for this year was \$661. Elsevier sponsorship allocation was \$3,000. The fund balance carryover from prior year is \$13,321. Thus resulting in: *Total Funds Available of \$16,982.*

Please note that the SIG has until Sep. 30th to spend all of its allocation (\$661), and any unused amounts will be forfeited and subtracted from funds at fiscal year-end.

The Info-Share Program's beginning balance was \$3,529. Donations (Raffle/Silent Auction) were \$1,462, resulting in *Ending Balance of \$4,990.*

The Digital Scholarship Fund started with \$5,680. Donation and expenses of the Int'l Paper Contest was \$1,960, and thus the *Ending Balance is \$3,720.*

Review of Popular MOOCs and their International Audiences

By Lee Wilson, Dalhousie University, and Anatoliy Gruzd, Chair, ASIS&T SIG III

Two years ago, the New York Times boldly proclaimed 2012 to be “the year of the MOOC” (Pappano, 2012). Since then, there has been a whole lot of hemming and hawing over exactly what these strange “MOOC” creatures are and what business, if any, they have in academia. Simply put, most Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are a large scale, open-access re-imagining of the more “traditional” forms of e-learning that came into their own during the mid-1990s. Rather than catering to the needs of a few hundred tuition-paying students, each course is designed to be taken simultaneously by thousands of distance learners at little or no cost. To better understand the MOOC landscape, we will first briefly review the top three, most visited MOOC providers (based on the Alexa Internet Global Ranking): Udemy, Coursera and edX. The article will then explore who is accessing these websites around the globe.

Udemy (www.udemy.com) functions as a marketplace for educators who may wish to monetize their skills through MOOCs. It was launched in 2010 by founders Eren Bali, Oktay Caglara and Gagan Biyani and has raised \$16 million (USD) in funding (Empson, 2012). As a for-profit, many of the MOOCs promoted on the website have a price ranging from \$29 to \$99 (USD). All of the MOOC courses are created independently on Udemy’s free to use platform by instructors who then receive a percentage of the revenue (Udemy, 2014a). There is a lot of freedom in terms of course design, but content creators must satisfy a set of minimum requirements (2014b). Udemy also provides a course-building MOOC for potential instructors. It does not have an integrated Learning Analytic tool, but it does allow instructors to download student data for use in other analytic tools.

Coursera (www.coursera.org) is partnered with 85 institutions of higher learning worldwide and offers university-level learning material free of charge (Coursera, Inc., 2014a). It also boasts the most users of all MOOC providers, which means that Coursera can offer content creators a high degree of exposure. While potential instructors must be a representative of a partnered university and have permission to host a MOOC using their university brand, Coursera does provide an FAQ which details the robust set of features available to instructors (Coursera, Inc., 2014b). This includes a comprehensive, integrated Learning Analytic tool-set. Official quizzes and short answer assignments are auto-graded, while longer assignments are peer evaluated. Peer evaluation enables individual feedback in the large-scale MOOC environment and also gives students the chance to learn by enacting a teacher role. To encourage consistency, Coursera suggests that instructors provide a clear grading rubric for assignments and also perform a “ground truth” assessment that acts as a benchmark grade to measure the accuracy of peer grading (2014b).

edX (edx.org) is a little MOOC provider with powerful parents. It is a non-profit created by Harvard and MIT that offers courses from a variety of notable institutions. EdX Edge is a separate site that functions like a testing ground for “prototype” MOOCs. This encourages developers to become familiar with Studio, edX’s course building tool, or to try new or radical approaches in a limited public environment. Like Coursera, access to Studio is restricted to instructors from a university that is part of the xConsortium or “selected guests” (edX, 2014). However, anyone who has signed up for a free edX Edge account can take part in a MOOC building course that showcases the features available in Studio. EdX lessons are grouped into tight, multimedia packages that allow an instructor to transition seamlessly from video lecture, slides, quizzes, and discussions. For example, a question posed in a video can be answered by the learner, who sees a breakdown of how other learners answered the question, and is then invited to take part in an asynchronous, in-lesson discussion about the response. Such integration helps to simulate the immersive experience of a physical classroom. Another unique feature of edX is the ability to auto-grade long essay questions. While this process remains highly controversial (Markoff, 2013), it would be a great benefit to an instructor looking to teach a Humanities MOOC that favours long writing assignments over short-answer quizzes.

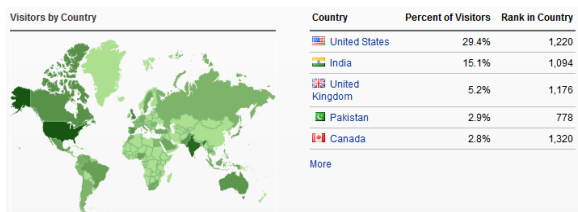
On the surface, many MOOCs share similarities with traditional, online university courses. They are generally hosted on a centralized platform that includes standard features like video playback, discussion boards, practice quizzes, course reading materials, etc. Courses are instructor-lead and usually conform to a linear, week-by-week learning model. What makes MOOCs such a big deal, then, is that they are both big and a deal. MOOC courses enroll thousands of students and are offered for free or at a significant discount compared to their university counterparts. Thus, MOOCs are distinguished from traditional e-learning university courses by the unique virtues of accessibility and scalability. A large part of the initial excitement surrounding MOOCs stemmed from this idea of accessible, quality education that would be made available across socio-economic and cultural backgrounds (Yuan & Powell, 2013).

As MOOCs have matured and more information pertaining to their user-base has become available, it is uncertain as to whether or not these open education initiatives have been able to live up to the high expectations. One study suggests that “MOOCs seem to be reinforcing the advantages of the ‘haves’ rather than educating the ‘have-nots’” and that “[b]etter access to technology and improved basic education are needed worldwide before MOOCs can genuinely live up to their promise” (Emanuel, 2013, p. 342). Conversely, others argue that predominantly North American made MOOCs are on the rise in economically developing countries where the current infrastructure of higher education is inadequate to meet the demands of their burgeoning university-aged populations (Khemka, 2013).

Available data about web traffic trends for the major MOOC providers has shown that, strangely, both assertions hold true. According to Alexa.com (see Figure 1), most visitors to the top three MOOCs are from the United States, followed by visitors from India. Further, Coursera and edX both have a number of economically developing countries within their top five visitor-groups by country. This shows that while there is a tangible international interest in MOOCs, they might not yet be accessible to those who are incapable of receiving traditional higher education. As suggested by Emanuel (2013), this under-representation is likely a product of a complex host of issues that includes a lack of basic education and access to technology. Another potential barrier to the internalization of MOOCs is the prevalence of courses taught in English. It would be interesting to see if in the future, more non-Anglophone countries will join this trend and start offering MOOCs in their national languages.

In the wake of their sudden rise to prominence, MOOCs were heralded as vehicles for a new age in education wherein anyone, anywhere (so long as they have a stable internet connection) would have access to free, high quality education. However, it is still unclear as to whether or not MOOCs are singularly capable of revolutionizing academia and enabling open education on a truly massive scale. Nevertheless, what is clear is that regardless whether you are an educator or a learner, an information systems developer or a publisher, the “MOOC” phenomenon is an emerging international information and education issue to watch for!

Figure 1: Visitors to popular MOOCs by Country
(Source: Alexa.com, as of March 19, 2014)



(a) Udemey



(b) Coursera



(c) edX

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2013 Cabinet Meeting Minutes

SIG Cabinet Meeting, Sunday, November 3, 2013

Minutes provided by Kathryn La Barre

Called roll of SIG – All SIGs present except IFP

>We were not able to approve last year's SIG Cabinet meeting minutes because neither the outgoing SIG Cabinet Director (Shelly Warwick) or then Deputy Director (Chris Landbeck) were able to locate the minutes. If any SIG member has notes please share them with us!

- New Cabinet Director – Kathryn La Barre
- Chris Landbeck is outgoing Director – now past Director

SIG Cabinet election

- Election of Deputy Director – Heather Pfeiffer (elected)
- Election of SIG Cabinet Member - STI – Morianna Garcia (elected)
- Nomination Committee – SIG representative - SIG III – Daniel Alemneh (volunteered and appointed)

SIG of Year Jury (SIG representatives)

Leona Faust – KM

Kevin Comford – DL

KT Vaughan – STI – Alternate

SIG Awards

- Member of the Year – Judit-Bar Ilan (to be presented at the Awards luncheon)
- Publication of the Year – SIG III
- SIG of the Year – HFIS
- Chris led the discussion on:
 - Do we need to have a criteria [sic] for being a SIG? Now: annual budget, report and Chair
 - Does it make sense to expect a SIG to do work for ASIST to be a SIG? Discussion ...
 - Not a by-law change. Difficult to get members involved. Possibility for SIG annual reports being available. Not wanting subjected level. Levels of SIGs? Small group to talk about this. List serve not always updated. Expanded length of annual meeting? Voices to the board. Panel for practitioner. Webinars to get more people involved. Send to the Cabinet Steering Committee.

- From Steve Hardin – the Board manual states the following minimum activity levels for SIGs:

To monitor and maintain vitality, there must be minimum levels of activity among SIG officers and members. The following are minimum levels of activity for a SIG to be considered viable:

1. Membership must remain above 50 at the end of each Administrative Year.
2. At least one newsletter or alternative form of substantive correspondence to the general membership should be produced during each Administrative Year.
3. Annual elections as specified in the SIG bylaws must be held.
4. At least one technical program or project should be SIG-sponsored or co-sponsored each year.
5. There should be at least 10 members, including one officer, at the SIG's annual planning meeting.
6. As specified in the bylaws, each SIG must submit an Annual Activities Report for the past year and an activities plan and budget plan for the upcoming year.

If any two of the above minimum criteria are not met in a given year, the SIG Cabinet Director shall write a letter to all of that SIG's members informing them of the problem.

If any two criteria are not met for two consecutive years, the SIG shall go on probation. The Cabinet Director shall inform the SIG Cabinet and the SIG's membership of this fact. If more than four of the six criteria cannot be met three consecutive years, then the Cabinet Director shall recommend dissolution or merger to the SIG Cabinet. The SIG members and SIG Cabinet shall be notified 30 days in advance if such action is to be taken. SIG members may submit written reactions to the action and may appear at the Cabinet meeting to participate in the discussion. *In the event a SIG does not meet at least two of the minimum criteria in any one year, the Cabinet Director shall notify the members and the Cabinet 30 days in advance of the Cabinet meeting and automatically recommend merger or dissolution.

- From Kathryn La Barre:
 - 2 handouts: SIG officers for SIG-I, SIG calendar
 - All 15 SIGs did annual reports
 - Sent out annual allocations and membership counts to SIGs prior to the ASIST annual meeting

Budgets

- Each SIG has a pot (allocation based on membership counts on May 15th) goes away if not spent
 - Earned income
- 12,000 special projects fund – how to get: written request 90 days before

- 1) Loan
- 2) Cost sharing project

- 3) Emergency loan
 - 4) Grants
 - 5) Emergency grants
- 780 dollars of released fund from SIGs – this year. If SIGs release funds after the January accounting, a post will be made on SIG-I to invite SIGs to apply for these funds.
 - Get SIGs most involved in Annual Meeting selections – have SIGs more involved in this process. We will be conducting a survey for SIGs on how to get more involved in the annual meeting and ASIST as a whole.
 - Vote to raise to \$500 to spend without cabinet approval. The parliamentarian is going to check with the Board to see if this requires - Board approval.
 - Deputy chair will get annual reports to SIG; Dick sent to Deputy.
 - Newsletter – can send news to Dick or Irene
 - Send the SIG Officer list in!
 - Watch for quarterly SIG meetings that we'll hold online to better increase sharing of SIG expertise and foster shared activities and knowledge.

Adjourned at 11:22 am.

2013 SIG III Annual Meeting Minutes
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SIG III Annual Meeting

Monday, November 4, 2013@4:00pm

Meeting Minutes provided by Kendra Albright

Abebe Rorissa, Chair, Presiding

Welcome and Introductions – Dr. Rorissa will serve until 10:00p when Anatoliy Gruzd will assume Chair's position.

Election of Officers

- Completed in advance
- Thanks to everyone who has continued to serve
- Nominations will be taken for open positions
- Newsletter Editor: Nicolau DePaula
- Mentoring coordinator will match new members with more experienced members to support continuation
- Nominees who were both elected:
 - Loni Hagen
 - Catherine Dumas

Business meeting minutes from meeting in Baltimore in 2012 were approved unanimously.

Chair's Report (Abebe Rorissa)

1. Chair's report (Abebe Rorissa)
 - a. 14 activities planned and most of them successfully completed. Highlights:
 - b. SIG III membership:
 - i. Increased 7% (115 to 123 or 5.05% of total ASIS&T membership to 5.51%)

- c. 30th Anniversary Publication:
 - <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/30th-anniversary-publication>
 - i. Congratulations to Daniel for his leadership and a number of SIG III Officers & members for their contributions
 - ii. Won the ASIS&T SIG Publication of the Year Award: <http://www.asis.org/SIG/iii.html>
- d. Organized a Webinar (thanks to our esteemed speakers: Toni Carbo, Sam Hastings, and Diane H. Sonnenwald) that attracted close to 100 live audience members from around the Globe
- e. We held election of officers for 2013-2014 ahead of the Annual Meeting
- f. The InfoShare Program and International Paper Contest were a great success. Our Officers (Devendra, Selenay, Shaheen, Fatih and Alma) should be commended. Melody Madrid from the Philippines, this year's first place winner of the International Paper Contest is with us
- g. We have new and improved Bylaws – approved by the ASIS&T Board.
- h. Newsletter – Thanks to Sarah's excellent work, we published two issues this year
- i. International Reception - Kendra was great in organizing it and securing funding for the band and gift basket.
- j. Social media presence has increased – due to Anatoliy & Anindita's excellent work.
- k. Finance – Bahaa sent his financial report and I will provide you with a summary under "Treasurer's Report".
- l. Our SIG-III website is constantly improving: <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>. Thanks very much to Fatih & Borchuluun
- m. Fundraising - We raised \$1143 at the 2012 International Reception. Kendra raised \$700 to pay for the band and the gift basket. We need to do more.
- n. International Calendar of Information Science conferences - Sajid & Yao are working with Michel & Caryn to update the Calendar.
- o. Member Recruitment - Although our membership increased 7%, we need to do more.
- p. ASIS&T Annual Meeting - SIG III is Co-Sponsoring two panels, both of them on Tuesday (1:30 & 3:30pm).

Treasurer's Report (Bahaa El-Hadidy)

[See report in this newsletter for information about the Treasurer's Report]

SIG Cabinet Meeting Report (Toni Carbo)

[See report in this newsletter for information about the 2013 Cabinet Meeting]

International Reception

[See report in this newsletter for information about the International Reception]

Other Business

- SIG-III members voted to merge the Social Media Administrator and Communications Officer Positions
- Abebe and Julian Warner are serving on the *Bulletin* advisory board
- SIG III issue – June-July 2014
 - Daniel Alemneh and Abebe Rorissa will serve as guest editors and will contact people to contribute to the issue
 - This will be a special issue on the activities and accomplishments of SIG III over the last 30 years Toni Carbo will contribute to an issue of the Bulletin on information ethics (with SIG IFP – Brandy) and get someone else to edit as guest editor (Toni suggested Kristene Unsworth at Drexel)
- Winning International Papers contest – SIG-III membership discussed pass it to Libri instead of International Information and Library Review
- Julian Warner will take SIG-III's position to the board regarding the length of the conference to be extended by one day

2013-2014 SIG-III Officers

Chair

Anatoliy Gruzd
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Co-Chair

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Immediate Past Co-Chair

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Alternate SIG Cabinet Representative

Chair and/or Chair-Elect

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Communications Officer

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SIG Liaison Officer

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Advisory Board Member

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Advisory Board Member

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Advisory Board Member

Michel Menou
San Jose State University

SIG-III Listserv, Website, and Social Media Sites

Listserv

To post a message to sigiii-l:
Send your message to sigiii-l@asis.org (all lower case). Attachments will NOT be processed.

To subscribe or view prior postings:
Visit: <http://mail.asis.org/mailman/listinfo/sigiii-l>

To unsubscribe:
Step 1. Visit your subscription page at:
http://mail.asis.org/mailman/options/sigiii-l/your_email_address
For example, if your list delivery address is msmith@yahoo.com, the URL to access your subscription page should be:
<http://mail.asis.org/mailman/options/sigiii-l/msmith@yahoo.com>
Step 2. On the subscription page, type your password to unsubscribe.

Password assistance:
If you forget your password, click the "Email My Password to Me" button to have your password e-mailed to you.

Questions:
Please contact Muhammad Sajid Mirza (m.sajid@iiu.edu.pk) and Yao Zhang (zhang82@mailbox.sc.edu) with questions regarding the sigiii-l listserv.

Website

The official SIG-III website is located at <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>.

Please contact Borchuluun Yadamsuren (by888@mail.missouri.edu) and Fatih Oguz (f_oguz@uncg.edu) with questions regarding the SIG-III website.

Facebook Group

The official SIG-III Facebook group is located at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=101547247614>.

LinkedIn Group

The official SIG-III LinkedIn group is located at <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=3868177>.

Twitter

The official Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/sig3i>
Please contact Anindita Paul (aninditapaul@gmail.com) with questions regarding the SIG-III social media accounts.

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