

SIG-III Newsletter

Volume 16, Number 1 – September 2016



International Information Issues

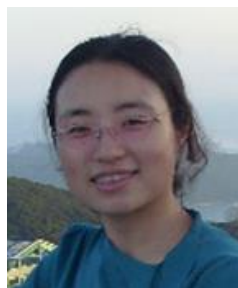
<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>

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Message from the Chair

By Xiao Hu, Chair, ASIS&T SIG-III



Greetings! As the chair of SIG-III of 2015-2016, it is my great honor to introduce this issue of Newsletter. There are stories on our excellent traditions such as the International Reception at the 2015 ASIS&T Annual Meeting and InfoShare Awards. You will also find information on some of our upcoming activities.

Over the past years, our SIG has built a track record of excellence and leadership in international information issues. Thanks to our previous chair, Shimelis Assefa, and the board officers, our SIG had a big growth in membership last year, from 123 to 161 (a 20% growth). We hope we will continue our efforts in retaining our members and recruiting new members, especially those in developing countries. Last year, our SIG worked with the International Relations Committee

membership fee structure for developing countries. This is an invaluable step forward in strengthening the impacts of ASIS&T and supporting individuals and organizations in developing countries. In 2015, our InfoShare program (<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/news/infoshare>) awarded ASIS&T memberships to seven individuals (five professionals and two students). In the ASIS&T annual meeting in St. Louis, MO in 2015, our SIG co-sponsored four panels that involved international issues.

In 2016, our InfoShare program has been highly successful. Thanks to Anindita Paul for her effective coordination, we have 13 awardees (9 professionals, 3 students and 1 transitional) which is a high record. This gives our SIG a jump start of this year. Grateful for Selenay Aytac's initiative, our SIG supported one panel proposal submission to the ASIS&T Annual Meeting 2016. Currently, Zamir Hassan is taking the lead on a proposal to the special project fund for innovative ideas that involve collaborations among SIGs.

The International Paper Contest in 2016 was a success. Thanks to our contest officers and participants, we have selected winners for both 2015 and 2016! Six awardees will be awarded two years' ASIS&T memberships and the two first place winners will have travel support to attend the ASIS&T annual meeting at Copenhagen. A special thank goes to Taylor & Francis who has generously donated \$3000 to sponsor the International Paper Contest, which makes it possible to support two first place winners this year.

We will continue our good tradition of the international paper contest, international reception and silent auction in the annual meeting of 2016. To make it a success, we call for participation to the events as well as donations of items for the silent auction. A box will be ready next to the registration table at the conference venue. For those who cannot come to the annual meeting, you may mail the donated items to:

Crowne Plaza Copenhagen Towers
ASIS&T Annual meeting
Attn: Vanessa Foss
Ørestads Boulevard 114-118
2300 Copenhagen, Denmark
Hotel Front Desk: 45-88-776655

Besides programs and events, another emphasis of this year is the communication channels of the SIG: to update and well maintain the website (<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>), as well as the SIG's Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/asist.sig.iii/>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/sig3i>) accounts.

In closing, I would like to thank our board officers for their great contributions. It is the collaborative work of passionate

officers and highly motivated individuals that has brought our SIG to its excellence today. I am confident that together we will continue the good work and contribute to a better ASIS&T and SIG-III community.

International Reception at the 2015 ASIS&T Annual Meeting

By Shimelis Assefa Immediate Previous Chair, ASIS&T SIG-III

The SIG III international reception at the 2015 ASIS&T Annual Meeting was successfully held in the Park View room at the conference venue. This year, we did not find a local student chapter or LIS school to help us prepare the gift basket with local goods for first and second place winners of the raffle ticket sales. Abebe Rorissa and Shimelis Assefa went out to the local store and purchased the gift basket. Shimelis called on everyone to attend, helped to organize the international reception, and sold the raffle tickets.

The international reception is held annually in conjunction with a silent auction and a raffle, two major SIG-III fundraising activities. Many thanks go to Toni Carbo, who has brought over 30 different items to be used for silent auction during the evening reception. Great appreciation also goes to Dr. Sarah Morton, one of the keynote speakers from Scotland, who donated a scotch whisky for the silent auction that later fetched about \$65. The proceeds from the Silent Auction and the Raffle ticket sale goes to support ASIS&T membership for scholars and information professionals from developing countries through the InfoShare program.

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

By Xiao Hu, Chair, ASIS&T SIG-III

International Paper Contests and the international receptions at the ASIS&T Annual Meetings have become well recognized traditions of SIG-III and ASIS&T. It would not have been possible to have these events without the generous donations and financial sponsorships from various companies, organizations, and individuals over the years. This year, we are very grateful to receive the sponsorship of **\$3,000** from the Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group, one of the world's leading publishers. This sponsorship is to cover expenses for the 2016 and 2015 Paper Contests.

In the International Paper Contest each year, SIG-III awards a two-year individual ASIS&T membership each to three winners and provides funding for the first place winner to attend the ASIS&T Annual Meeting. This year, we are able to give out two sets of awards for the years 2015 and 2016, as there was no award given in 2015. The

awards are usually presented in the International Reception which is one of the highlight and tradition at the Annual Meetings.



SIG-III would like to thank Katarina Troutman, Managing Editor, Library & Information Science, Business, Economics, and Sociology Group in Taylor & Francis Group, LLC and the Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group for their generous donation. We also thank the European Student Chapter for their kind sponsorship of a gift basket for the International Reception in the 2016 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Copenhagen. 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 ASIS&T headquarters staff whose help is indiscernible for the success of International Reception every year.

We have every reason to expect continued success of International Paper Contest and International Reception, given the strong support from our sponsors, supporters, and friends. For more information on SIG-III's activities and the Paper Contest, please visit <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>

2015 SIG Cabinet Meeting

By Catherine Dumas, The SIG Cabinet Representative, ASIS&T SIG-III

There was a discussion about webinars and having them open to everyone even if they are not members. There was talk of creating a task force to collect data about the users of the webinars with Toni Carbo taking the lead and looking for volunteers to help her with it.

The SIGs submitted 17 panels to the Annual Meeting 2015. 8 were accepted and 9 were rejected. A committee was formed to help the panels that were rejected to get ready for submission to the next Annual Meeting in Copenhagen. The committee will also provide feedback on papers before people submit. Committee members: Karen, SIG Ed, Jeremy SIG AH & Michael SIG STI.

There is \$10,000 for funding for a SIG project. There was a discussion about what would be a good project. Past projects include the Oral History Project (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/store/10.1002/bult.2014.1720410114/asset/bult1720410114.pdf;jsessionid=A09CFC66C12CCD543ED99F3DF625FC9D.f04t02?v=1&t=inp5j8hf&s=430a774c67fc9d944e5de1e981062e4ee8e41447>).

Kathryn LaBarre will be sending out a survey to see what kind of experiences SIGs have had and find out if there are questions about the funding and the purpose. Some ideas

that were discussed include student scholarship, a book, and having social events at other conferences. They said they would put examples on the award page.

There was only one submission and no award. There was some confusion on what to submit. A steering committee was created. Some officers need to be elected (chair, chair elect). We need to have an election.

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

By Anindita Paul and Muhamad Sajid Mirza – Facebook; Yao Zhang- Twitter, Social Media Administrators, ASIS&T SIG-III

SIG-III's social media was still trying to involve information professionals from around the world. The number of followers of SIG III Twitter and Facebook accounts has kept on increasing. It follows not only other SIG groups with ASIS&T, but also news and information updates from other disciplines. Special focus was given to the worldwide innovation and economic trends. A few of the data analysis organizations and entrepreneur communities have been brought to sight. It supports the SIG-III to keep up with the global restless change and makes SIG-III stand at the frontier for reaching out to other communities.

2016 InfoShare News

By Anindita Paul, InfoShare Officers, ASIS&T SIG-III

The Infoshare awards were announced in January 2016. The membership award which is for one year, with the possibility of renewal for a second year if the new member proves to be a strong advocate for ASIS&T in their home country during the course of the year, is an opportunity for professionals, researchers and students to strengthen their relationship with ASIS&T. Thirteen nominations were received out of which 8 were professionals, 2 students and the rest 2 were transitional. One nomination was a renewal from last year. The nominees were from Brazil, Egypt, India, Iran, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. We are happy to announce that with the consent of the SIG-III officers and the budget allocation of this year, all of the applicants were awarded the Infoshare award, including the renewal applications from last year. The award winners are as follows:

- Azadeh Aletaha, Iran,
- Bashir Ahmed, Pakistan,
- Behjat Nezhadmohammad Namaghi, Iran,
- Claudio Gottschalg-Duque, Brazil,
- Iman Tahamtan, Iran
- Manjula Wijewickrema, Sri Lanka,
- Marzieh Siamak, Iran,
- Pari Hosseinzadeh, Iran,
- Sanam Ebrahimzadeh, Iran,

- Shima Moradi, Iran,
- Zaheer Ahmad, Pakistan,
- Jiban Pal, India,
- Girma Debele Dinegde, Ethiopia

2016 International Paper Contest Announcement

By Innocent Awasom, International Paper Contest Chair, ASIS&T SIG-III

We had a busy year planning for the 2016 paper contest. Calls for proposals were sent out March 3rd, 2016 with a deadline of May 31st, 2016. With permission from the Chair, we included the papers received in 2015 for consideration alongside the 2016 papers. We had 5 papers from 2015 from India, Nigeria and Pakistan and 8 papers in 2016 from Algeria, Ethiopia, Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan and Zambia. The great team of jurors worked on a rubric that was used to grade the papers during the month of June and July. The results below were published on August 2nd, 2016.

First Place winners:

2016: Yared Mammo and Patrick Ngulube (Ethiopia) - *Insights into e-information resources (e-journals) Access Models in Higher Learning Institutions in Ethiopia.*

2015: Amjid Khan and Shamshad Ahmed (Pakistan) - *Usage of E-Databases and E-journals by Research Community in Pakistani Universities: Issues and Perspectives*

Second Place winners:

2016: Muhammad Arif and Saima Kanwal (Pakistan) - *Adoption of Social Media Technologies and their Impact on Students' Academic Performance: The only Way for Future Survival of Distance Education Students in Pakistan*

2015: Hamza Musa and Zakari Muhammad (Nigeria) - *Access to online Arabic information resources by the Academics in Ahmadu Bello University Zaria and Bayero University Kano, Nigeria.*

Third Place winners:

2016: Syeda Batool and Sheila Webber (Pakistan) - *Mapping information literacy situation in primary schools: A case of Pakistan.*

2015: Deep Jyoti Francis and Vineet Kumar (India) - *Cricket and Copyright in Indian Courts: Commercial Interests or National/Public Interests.*

The principal authors of each of the winning papers will be awarded a two-year individual membership to ASIS&T. In addition, the first place winner will be awarded a minimum of \$1,000 to attend the 2016 ASIS&T annual meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark. The winning papers will be considered for publication by Taylor & Francis' International Information and Library Review (IILR). We

thank Routledge/Taylor & Francis for their support of this program. Special appreciation to the jurors for the 2016 competition: Innocent Awasom (chair, USA), Maqsood Shaheen (Member, Pakistan) and J.K Vijayakumar (Member, Saudi Arabia).

Treasurer's Report

By Naureen Nizam, Treasurer, ASIS&T SIG-III

The SIG allocation for this year was \$646. The Art Exhibition Sponsorship was \$100, thus the remaining fund available is \$546. Please note that the SIG has to spend all of its allocation (\$546) until Sep. 30th, and any unused amounts will be forfeited and subtracted from funds at fiscal year-end. The fund balance carryover from prior year is \$16,123. Thus, resulting in: Total Funds Available of \$16,669.

The Info-Share Program's beginning balance was \$5,430. Donations (Raffle/Silent Auction) were \$883. Expenses from Info-Share memberships were \$299, resulting in Ending Balance of \$6,014.

The Digital Scholarship Fund's beginning balance was \$4,570. After the donation of \$3000 by the Taylor and Francis Group, there is an ending balance of 7,570. These funds will be utilized for the International Paper Contest Winners 2015 and 2016 along with ASIS&T memberships. ASIS&T now allows online donations to be earmarked for specific SIGs/Chapters using the ASIS&T Donation Form: <http://www.asis.org/donate.html>.

Mentorship Program

By Jisue Lee, Mentorship Coordinators, ASIS&T SIG-III

Besides working on his dissertation proposal, Zamir has been working closely with SIG-III on a proposal of introducing MOOC through YouTube with the aim to promote LIS education worldwide particularly in developing nations. He has crafted a proposal and is undergoing reviews with fellow SIG III executive officers. Apart from SIG III, he has been active with other SIGs, namely SIG ED and local ASIST student chapter. Zamir is currently the co-chair of SIG ED. He plans to organize collaborative events from the banner of SIG III and SIG ED. Zamir has been active in organizing events from University of South Carolina Student Chapter where he's the outgoing chair. He has recently organized, in association with fellow chapter officers, events on film archiving and cyber security.

International Calendar of Information Science

By Borchuluun Yadamsuren and Michel Menou - Webmaster, ASIS&T SIG-III

The calendar suffered over the past few years from a number of constraints beyond control. It was originally run on a commercial platform the cost of which was covered by a sponsor from the publishing industry. A link to the calendar appeared on the main page of ASIS&T web site.

In Spring 2014 SIG-III Chair decided to switch to Google Calendar and include the calendar under SIG-III's own web site. Later on the ASIS&T web site went through a wide restructuring. An unfortunate consequence was that the calendar disappeared from the screen. As a result it eventually reached a 0 hit level against an average of 150 in 2013. When this was noticed in January 2016, it was decided to create a link to the calendar under the "Events" section. Special announcements eventually appear on the main page (e.g. on May 4, 2016). Consequently, visits to the calendar are now back to "normal". For the period February to May 10, 2016 there were 290 unique visitors from 42 countries (a majority from USA and Canada). 21 countries show only one visitor. Visitors from 28 countries spend one minute or less on a page.

Another issue was the input and moderation of entries directly submitted by conference organizers. The original team of Simmons students slowly disappeared after Caryn Anderson's departure from Boston and had to be substituted. Dr. Muhamad Sajid Mirza took over in 2013. He was replaced from 2014 till now by Mrs. Borchuluun Yadamsuren, both endeavored to cope with the tasks. As a senior member of SIG-III who takes charge of this job for many continuous years, Michael makes great contribution in content input and coordination.

A number of open or commercial calendars for scientific events, both general or specialized, are now available on the web. As one may expect information science stricto sensu, or related areas, are hardly identified. The questions to consider and act upon are thus whether the international calendar of information science conferences offers a valuable service to the community, and whether it is contributing to a growing outreach of ASIS&T. If the answer is yes, then we need to discuss how to streamline its production and enhance its quality and effectiveness within ASIS&T or in conjunction with another entity that runs a calendar of scientific events.

For the period May to December 2016, 103 events are listed. This shows that on average an international conference related to the broad field of information science(s) is running every day somewhere in the world. When it is not five or six, it becomes a fact worth meditating and investigating.

2015 SIG III Annual Business Meeting Minutes

SIG III Annual Business Meeting
Monday, November 9, 2015 @ 2:45pm-4:15pm
Meeting Minutes provided by Shimelis Assefa

Shimelis Assefa, outgoing Chair of SIG-III, Presiding

Welcome and Introductions – Shimelis Assefa, outgoing Chair of SIG-III opened the meeting and welcomed the SIG members and cabinet representatives. Xiao Hu, incoming chair joined the meeting via Skype. Before starting the meeting Shimelis asked SIG members to introduce themselves one by one. Shimelis acknowledged Toni Carbo for her contribution to SIG-III as a founding member and for her continued support to the cause of the SIG. Shimelis noted that Toni has brought over 30 items for the silent auction that will take place later in the evening. SIG members gave a round of applause to Toni and thanked her immensely.

Introduction of the Newly Elected/ Reelected Officers

Shimelis reported that an online form was sent out to members before the conference to self-nominate or nominate others for open positions. He read the names of new officers for 2015-16. He also noted there were still positions that were not filled and he asked from participants who will volunteer for – InfoShare (2 positions), Co-chair-elect for 2016-17, and communication officer (1 position). Anindita Paul volunteered for the InfoShare position. Election of the officers was conducted online ahead of the Annual Meeting. He presented the list of new officers for 2014-2015.

Approval of the 2014 Business Meeting Minutes

A copy of the 2014 business meeting minutes in Seattle, WA was distributed via email prior to the conference. Shimelis called for motion to approve the minutes and it was approved unanimously.

Chair's Report (Shimelis Assefa)

The Chair shared the full report through e-mail prior to the Annual Meeting. In the business meeting, he highlighted the major points.

- Membership growth – based on the membership roster data, SIG-III membership registered a big surge in members count, from 123 in 2014 to 161 members in 2015.
- One issue of the newsletter was published (http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/sites/default/files/2015/03/3F02/sigiii_newsletter_14_2_2015.pdf)
- Working with IRC, new fees structure to benefit individuals and organizations in developing countries was established.
- Awarded membership benefit to seven individuals (5 professionals and 2 students) through InfoShare program
- Nominations and elections were made for the new officers, including chair-elect for 2017.
- SIG-III has sponsored and co-sponsored 5 panels.
- Although the international paper contest jury team worked hard to evaluate and select winners out of 5 submissions, due to delays and transparency issues, Shimelis have decided not to go ahead and announce the results. The papers for this year will be re-entered for next year's contest.
- The Website has been erratic and it was not working as it should for the better part of the year.
- The chair's full report is attached.

Treasurer's Report (Naureen Nizam)

- Naureen Nizam, our treasurer, was not present at the meeting. Shimelis summarized the treasurer's report on her behalf.

SIG Cabinet Meeting Report (Catherine Dumas)

- Catherine Dumas gave a brief report of the SIG Cabinet meeting. She shared the information about the newly elected Cabinet members, including SIG-III member, Abebe Rorissa.

International Reception

- This year we did not find a local student chapter or LIS school to help us prepare the gift basket with local goods that would have been used to give out to first and second place winners of the raffle ticket sales. Shimelis Assefa and Abebe Rorissa went out to a local store to purchase the gift basket. Shimelis announced that the International Reception will take place later in the night at 8:00 pm in room PARK VIEW. Shimelis called on everyone to attend and help in organizing the international reception and selling the raffle tickets.
- Toni Carbo announced that she has brought over 30 different items to be used for silent auction during the evening reception. One of the keynote speakers from Scotland, Dr. Sarah Morton, donated a scotch whisky for the silent auction that later fetched about \$65.
- The proceeds from the Silent Auction and the Raffle ticket sale goes to support ASIS&T membership for scholars and information professionals from developing countries through the InfoShare program.

Other Business

- Abebe Rorissa gave updates about the survey he developed to explore the possibility of translating the table of contents of the ASIS&T Bulletin. The survey was sent out to gather information about the number of different languages that the table of contents can be translated into and identify volunteers who can do the work.
- Catherine briefed attendants about the new members/first conference brunch. She noted the brunch was a bit rushed due to lack of time.
- Shimelis gave information about social media use by SIG-III. He noted that Catherine Dumas has maintained SIG-III's Facebook and Twitter presence active.
- One issue of the newsletter was published during the year and Shimelis noted that Lama will send out a call for contribution soon after the conference ended.
- Loni Hagen, Ph.D. student from the University of South Carolina, agreed to serve as the mentor for the new leaders award and she has been paired with one mentee.
- Shimelis called on attendees to volunteer for unfilled officer positions. Anindita Paul stepped up to be the new InfoShare officer. Zamir agreed to serve as one of the communication officers, and Yao Zhang agreed to serve as the chair-elect.
- Catherine encouraged to make the effort to use special projects fund available up to \$10k for innovative ideas

and most importantly working collaboratively with other SIGs. The request can be submitted anytime during the year. Catherine noted that research components for the proposal were not a requirement and she added that the fund is replenished annually.

- Zamir Hassan talked about an idea that could be submitted to the special projects fund. He suggested developing an online learning platform modeled after MOOC with a focus in the information science discipline to benefit students in developing countries.
- Given that the next ASIS&T AM is in Europe, several ideas were discussed around what SIG-III can do and how to prepare for the annual reception evening. One idea suggested was to work with the Royal school of Library and Information Science in Denmark.

2015-2016 SIG-III Officers

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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 the page
<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 (laviedeemma@gmail.com) with questions regarding the sigiii-l listserv.

Website

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

Please contact Fatih Oguz (f_oguz@uncg.edu) and Borchuluun Yadamsuren (borchuluun.ya@gmail.com) with questions regarding the SIG-III website.

Facebook Group

The official SIG-III Facebook group is located at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/asist.sig.iii/>.

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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