

Dear All!

It's my pleasure to welcome you to the Summer issue of the SIG-III Newsletter for 2022. This issue features on some exciting initiatives this year taken by ASIS&T SIG-III, like Flipped Panel, Research Wing, Guest Speaker Series, Café International Meet, Reimagining Infoshare Program etc. Finally, we all know that SIG-III has turned 40 this year! It's my great pleasure to share with you that we have been planning to publish a commemorative issue in the honor of SIG-III's 40th anniversary.

So, I am very much looking forward to receiving your good thoughts, experiences and ideas regarding your involvement with ASIS&T SIG-III. It would be much appreciated if you could spare a few minutes of your time sharing your experiences and activities with us. Your thoughts will help to make this special commemorative issue a success.

Hope you enjoy reading this newsletter! Do reach out if you have questions or suggestions about how to work better.

Cheers!

Rajesh Kumar Das
Newsletter Officer

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ASIS&T SIG-III has turned 40 ! Want to share your memories, experiences, thoughts and many more with SIG-III and get published!

Please send them to:

rajesh@nstu.edu.bd or dpotnis@utk.edu

Message from the Chair



Welcome! I am happy to inform you that SIG-III officers are working hard to create value for SIG-III members through multiple initiatives. In 2021-22, we have launched new initiatives such as Research Wing, Guest Speaker Series, and International Café Hour. Research Wing will serve as an interface between LIS professionals in developing and developed countries for bringing them together in the form of mentors and mentees. The collaboration between a pair of a mentor and a mentee is expected to produce tangible outcomes such as manuscript submissions to peer-reviewed conferences and journals.

As part of the Guest Speaker Series, SIG-III officers are planning to interview LIS academics and professionals from around the world. These interviews will be made available on iConnect. International Café Hours serve as an excellent opportunity for SIG-III members to bond with each other and strengthen professional ties. Our officers are working diligently for offering two research workshops via Zoom. These workshops will be open to all. SIG-III officers are also reimagining the current InfoShare Program to offer professional guidance and mentorship to LIS academics and professionals in developing countries.

The call for International Paper Contest is broadcast widely via our social media channels. I encourage you to spread the word. I wish to thank all officers and advisors of SIG-III for their time, efforts, and contributions. I am also grateful to SIG-III members who periodically encourage us and provide feedback on various activities. Finally, I would like to invite you all to attend the 40th Anniversary Celebration of SIG-III at the 2022 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, USA. Please feel free to share your thoughts, photos, videos, and experiences related to SIG-III in the last 40 years with us, which we would love to include in the Anniversary Publication.

- *Devendra Potnis*

Quick Note

Please do share your photos, experiences, and videos related to SIG-III, which we plan to display on a monitor at the SIG-III's Social Event at the 2022 ASIS&T Annual Meeting. There also will be cake and music at the social event. See you there !

SIG III Café International Meet

Bhakti Gala

The Café International Meet initiative was started to provide an opportunity for the SIG III members to informally connect with each other as part of the series of new initiatives launched by the current SIG III Chair, Devendra Potnis. A team of three SIG III members- Bhakti Gala, Vanessa Reyes, and Manika Lamba have joined hands to plan and execute the Meets. The broad objectives of this initiative are to :

- ⇒ Provide an informal space to help connect members socially, informally, and virtually with peers.
- ⇒ Offer opportunities for collaboration, informal conversations, and more.
- ⇒ Be a virtual space for reaching out to each other.

The series is planned at a frequency of 2-3 months with each episode having a specific theme to encourage active participation and engagement among the members. The Invitation flyers (below) for the Café International Meets were circulated through iconnect and the social media platforms of SIG III. The first meeting was held on 20th January 2022 with the theme of “Join us with your favorite drink”. The first Café Meet gave a great glimpse into diverse cultures through the varieties of drinks brought by participating members. This meet was attended by 9 members from 6 countries.




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SIG-III

**SIG III Café
International Series**

JOIN US IN A SERIES OF VIRTUAL INFORMAL
MEETS OVER COFFEE/TEA/ OR YOUR FAVORITE
DRINK
VIA ZOOM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022
AT
9:00AM EST / 7:30PM IST

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://tinyurl.com/yckackvd>






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SIG III Café International

LET'S CONNECT THROUGH GAMES: BUILDING YOUR NETWORK IN
THE DIGITAL ERA

VIA ZOOM
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022
AT
8:30AM EST / 7:00PM IST

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://tinyurl.com/2p92yanb>



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We were happy to receive positive feedback from the attendees. Paul Jason Peres from the Philippines said, "I enjoyed the more personal questions, it was great knowing some things both personal and professional from everyone". Motivating words from the Chair, Devendra Potnis, "Interesting games, engaging conversation, and happy faces! I loved this second cafe meet very much. Keep it up"

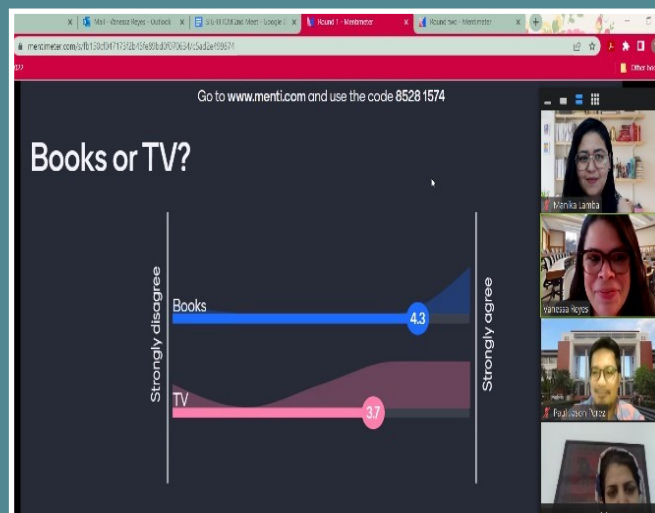
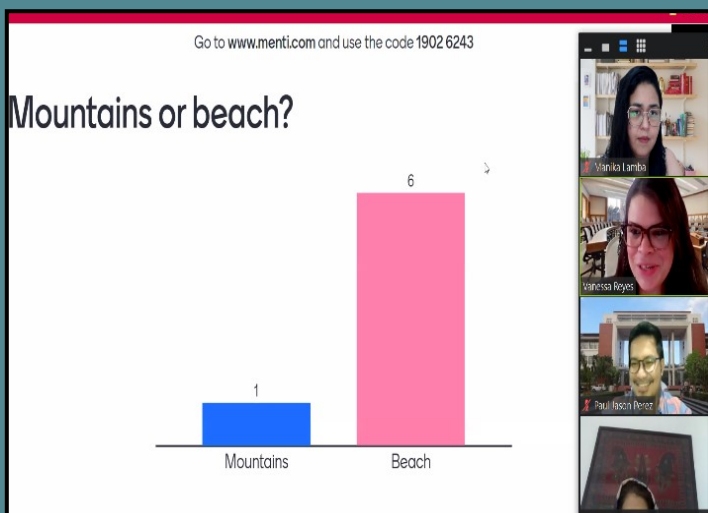


Photo: Interaction among participants from various session of SIG III Café International Meet

The initiative is a small beginning and the nature of participation among the members has already reflected the promise it holds. The team hopes to establish this event as a tradition in line with other long-running initiatives launched by SIG-III. Look out for more interesting themes for upcoming Café International Meets.

-Bhakti Gala

Flipped Panel Report

Devendra Potnis

On January 6th, 2022, SIG-III organized a flipped panel on Publishing Research in Reputed Venues via Zoom. The following panelists recorded their guidance before the panel: (1) Ina Fourie, a Full Professor and Head of the Department of Information Science, University of Pretoria, South Africa, (2) Heidi Julien, a Professor in the Department of Information Science at the University at Buffalo (State University of New York) and a Research Associate at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, (3) Edda Tandi Lwoga, a Professor in Information Science and the Deputy Rector at the College of Business Education in Tanzania, (4) Diane H. Sonnenwald, an Emerita Professor (Research Active), University College Dublin, Ireland, (5) Shalini Urs, a professor emerita at the Department of Library and Information Science of the University of Mysore, India, and Founder Executive Director of the International School of Information Management, and (6) Yuxiang (Chris) Zhao, a Professor of Information Science at the School of Economics and Management, Nanjing University of Science and Technology, China.



Photo: Participants Enjoying 'Flipped Panel' on Publishing Research in Reputed Venues

During the panel discussion, the panelists answered several questions posed by SIG-III members. Devendra Potnis, SIG-Chair, moderated this Q&A session that lasted for about an hour. The recordings of the guidance offered by the panelists and the recording of the Q&A session are available on iConnect under the "2022 FLIPPED PANEL ON PUBLISHING RESEARCH IN REPUTED VENUES" folder.

The SIG-III Speaker Series

Vanessa Figueiredo

The SIG-III officers launched the Speaker Series in Fall 2021 to document relevant discussions in LIS. The overarching goal of the Speaker Series is to support culturally diverse perspectives and experiences by interviewing LIS researchers and practitioners from the Global South and the Global North. The Speaker Series organizers (Vanessa, Raj and Nosheen) collected input/suggestions from SIG-III members on what LIS researchers and practitioners they wished to see in this series via a questionnaire shared in February on iConnect. The LIS researchers and practitioners invited for the Speaker Series will:

- * Discuss culturally diverse perspectives on LIS topics and theories.
- * Discuss the impact of LIS research on society.
- * Share their professional, teaching and service experiences.

The Speaker Series organizers invite all SIG-III members to suggest what LIS researchers/practitioners could contribute to the Speaker Series. Please send your suggestions to Vanessa Figueiredo (vanesfi@mail.ubc.ca), Raj K Bhardwaj (raajchd@gmail.com) or Nosheen Warraich (nosheen.im@pu.edu.pk). The Speaker Series organizers are currently preparing interview protocols and plan to launch the first Speaker Series chapter this Summer. All videos will become available on the iConnect library. The Speaker Series will contribute to more inclusive research and professional ecosystems by documenting valuable culturally diverse discussions around LIS research and practice. SIG-III members will have the opportunity to learn how international researchers and practitioners carry out LIS research and activities in different cultural settings.



Research Wing Report

Devendra Potnis

SIG-III established the Research Wing initiative to help LIS professionals in developing countries publish research in top-tier conferences and journals. For over five months in 2021 and 2022, Devendra Potnis, SIG-III chair, sought feedback from all members, officers, and advisors of SIG-III to identify and finalize the procedure for the Research Wing initiative. Over 15 SIG-III members, officers, and advisors met twice through synchronous Zoom sessions in 2021 and 2022. Several members emailed their concerns and opinions to the SIG-III chair. Based on this input, SIG-III's chair created and revised the procedure document, shared it with all members of SIG-III, and uploaded it on iConnect. SIG-III members can access the Procedure document on iConnect. Research Wing officers elected in the 2022-23 elections will use this document to implement this initiative.

Procedure for the Research Wing of SIG-III

April 18, 2022

1. Research Wing Chair and two officers will be elected before the ASIS&T Annual Business Meeting in **October/November** every year. [Internal division of labor: one officer for mentor issues and another for mentee issues] [Staggered rotation – one officer position every year would be open.]
2. Research Wing Chair and officers will meet in **December** every year.
3. Research Wing will finalize the content of the call for mentors and mentees. They can work virtually to refine and finalize the Call.
4. A call for mentors and mentees will be broadcast by the Research Wing of SIG-III (by **January 15** of every year). People will be asked to fill in an online, application form.
 - a. Mentors and mentees can work together to design and implement a new research project.
 - b. Mentees can work on mentors' existing research projects to help them meet their current research needs.
 - c. Mentors can guide mentees to work on their projects.
 - d. Beneficiaries of the Research Wing initiative will be SIG-III members alone.
 - e. Research Wing officers can advertise SIG-III initiatives to non-ASIS&T and non-SIG-III forums and invite people to join ASIS&T and SIG-III to benefit from the Research Wing initiative.
 - f. Make mentors aware of the time commitment by mentors.
 - g. Mentors and mentees can reach out to SIG-III anytime they experience any unintended consequences or experiences...

Reimagining InfoShare Program

Nicoleta-Roxana Dinu

Continuously growth of technology and the emergence of new topics in Library and Information Science might be a challenge for the early careers of both practitioners and academics. The InfoShare Program comes up with a new initiative in order to support people who need to be guided and who are eager to learn more from LIS experts.



PHOTO: <https://unsplash.com>)

The InfoShare Emerging Leaders Initiative is addressed to all SIG-III members in their mid-career (<10 years experience) and aims to be a frame of debate and a permanent dialogue with senior specialists and members of ASIS&T groups/ chapters. The mentorship will last one year and the mentees will have to be dynamic, open to new ideas, be the voice of ASIS&T and SIG-III in their institutions, and to offer proposals to enhance the SIG III activities.

Would you be interested in joining our initiative? If so, please fill out the following survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe9lm83PLsDOIQshJC3_dSE-oOwFYKeyaT52Si3whhicbkEjQ/



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Register for ASIS&T 22 at:

<https://www.asist.org/am22/22registration/>



SIG-III Advisory Board



Toni Carbo



Kendra Albright



Abebe Rorissa

SIG-III Officers 2021-22

Chair: Devendra Potnis

Co-Chair: Md. Anwarul Islam

Chair-Elect: Bhakti Gala

Co-Chair-Elect: Vanessa Figueiredo

Treasurer: Caroline Kobusingye

Newsletter Officer: Rajesh Kumar Das

Webmaster / Communication

Officer: Paul Jason V. Perez

SIG Cabinet Representative: Andiswa Mfengu

InfoShare Chair: Nicoleta-Roxana Dinu

IPC Chair: Nosheen Warraich

IPC Jury:

Alia Arshad

Raj Kumar Bhardwaj

Chris Cunningham

Shima Moradi

Jiban K. Pal

Naailah Parbhoo-Ebrahim

Leili Seifi

Want to get involved with SIG-III? Stay connected with us !



Your contributions, news, comments, and enquiries are always welcome. Please direct them to: rajesh@nstu.edu.bd or dpotnis@utk.edu