



SIG History & Foundations of Information Science (SIG HFIS) of ASIS&T

SIG HFIS Business Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4, 2013, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Salon 5, Le Centre Sheraton

2013 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Introductions of Attendees

Sarah Buchanan	sarahab@utexas.edu
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Bob Williams	BOBWILL@SC.EDU
Jenna Hartel	jennahartel@hotmail.com
Fidelia Ibekwe-SanJuan	fidelia.ibekwe-sanjuan@univ-lyon3.fr
Trudi Hahn	tbh29@drexel.edu

Updates from SIG Cabinet

Lai attended SIG Cabinet on Sunday as HFIS' representative. (Sarah, Fidelia, Kathryn, and Julian attended as well). The meeting began with a roll call; HFIS reported completing its officer election. Some announcements included: The new SIG Cabinet Director, 2013-14, is Kathryn LaBarre; the new Director-Elect is Heather Pfeiffer; a new Advisor elected by voice-vote is Moriana Garcia; the SIGs' representative to the ASIST Nominations Committee is Daniel Alemneh; and two representatives were appointed to the SIG of the Year jury: Leona Faust (SIG KM), Kevin Comerford (SIG DL), and alternate KT Vaughan (SIG STI). It was voted to increase the activity expense requiring SIG Cabinet approval from \$200 to \$500. Dick Hill discussed having revisited the START V2 system for report submissions, but ultimately decided to keep the system as it is the only one currently offering the needed level of flexibility and customization. Naresh Agarwal discussed the recent decision by Chapter Assembly to make all reports publicly visible through an opt-out checkbox on the form. Chapter Assembly held virtual quarterly meetings.

Annual SIG Awards were announced yesterday as well: SIG HFIS was named SIG of the Year! Congratulations to our officers, and all who've contributed to the SIG.

The SIG Cabinet meeting was further dedicated to discussion of SIGs' involvement in the AM (cross-disciplinary panels), benchmarking requirements for SIG activity, and expanding the AM by one day more. It was concluded that the Advisors will address the issue and foster discussion on SIG-L.

The remainder of the meeting, led by Director Kathryn LaBarre, centered on discussion of SIG budgets. Attendees received a Calendar of SIG dates related to budgets / governance, which is also attached here: <http://mail.asis.org/pipermail/sig-l/2013-November/000341.html>. A membership count is taken each May 31 from which each SIG is allocated a portion of all SIGs' \$12,000, for the period Oct. 1-Sept. 30. A SIG may wish to have a dedicated budget officer if income is earned from activities throughout the year.

Minutes from the SIG Cabinet meeting were sent to the Cabinet Representatives in attendance.

Chair's Report, 2012-2013

SIG HFIS Annual Activities Report was submitted on Tue. 8/13/13. HFIS membership increased from 95 to **97** (May 31, 2012 to 2013). This year we spent our allocation of \$501 for FY13 on our activities: oral history of Stephen Robertson by Lai Ma (\$200), transcription of ASIST Oral History interviews (Marcia Bates, Marjorie Hlava, Peter Ingwersen) / video recordings (Ingetraut Dahlberg) by Robert Williams (\$251), and purchase of a scanner for ASIST Online Photo Archives by Trudi Hahn (\$50).

Sarah and Elliott this year completed a new website for HFIS on WordPress, hosted by ASIST; thank you to Thomas Haigh for serving as webmaster for the past six years. Also the past officer page is missing officer lists from 2000-01, and 1972 to 1999 – please send information to Sarah, and thanks.

The full report is posted on our website: <http://www.asist.org/SIG/SIGHFIS/> – check it out!

Officers: Changing of the Chair

Sarah welcomed Lai as HFIS Chair. 2013-14 Officers: Chair (Lai Ma); Chair-Elect (Fidelia Ibekwe-SanJuan); Secretary (Emma Zhang); Past Chair (Sarah Buchanan).

Lai communicated our officers to SIG Cabinet via the form distributed.

This election was facilitated by HFIS' Nominations Committee: thanks. An open appointed position is Webmaster.

The Chair conferred with HFIS Advisory Board members currently present.

Planning for 2014 and New Business (Lai)

Lai submitted a budget for HFIS's allocation for FY14 of \$521 on 9/15/13; items include oral history project, HFIS promotional swag for Montreal, gift cards for newsletter, *Information and Culture* database project, and co-sponsorship of SIG SI Symposium 2013.

Lai would like to publish two HFIS newsletters this year, encouraging article stories on scientists, schools, and chapters. Gift cards are available.

Sarah discussed an emerging database project at the journal, *Information and Culture: A Journal of History*, whereby Editor William Aspray is interested in building a database of biographies of individuals in our field. Further details will likely be communicated to the journal's Editorial Board, on which the HFIS Chair participates.

Open Discussion

Today we confirmed the following attendance numbers for HFIS-sponsored sessions at the 2013 AM: “The Concept Formerly Known as Information” (75 attendees), “Preserving and Accessing the History of ASIST and Information Science” (35 attendees), “Crossing the Boundaries in Information Science: Perspectives on Interdisciplinarity” (60 attendees). Tomorrow was a fourth session, “Uncovering Epistemological Assumptions Underlying Research in Information Studies” (60 attendees).

Despite this, we discussed the printed program's "Index of SIG-Sponsored Sessions" and noted HFIS was not listed, nor were we asked to supply a list of sessions.

The ASIST History Fund was discussed, which is run independently of SIG HFIS. This year the Fund distributed two awards, and we may plan a submission for the 2014 ASIST AM. Dr. Williams discussed fundraising and tax-deductible donations. Will Senn volunteered to assist.

Fidelia discussed HFIS collaborating with the European Chapter on a book / website on Histories of Information Science in Europe, emphasis on non-Anglophone countries.

HFIS members were encouraged to submit news and updates to "Inside ASIST" of the *ASIST Bulletin*. Examples may include our Portal for Oral Histories, and Online Photo Archives upon launch.

Will Senn discussed a recent conversation with Jon at Info Today regarding possible interest in updating the title *Historical Information Science* (2001). <http://books.infotoday.com/books/HistInfoScience.shtml>

Dr. Williams briefly discussed that his Web Portal team opted not to use the ASIST Thesaurus metadata. The last update to *ASIS Thesaurus of Information Science and Librarianship*, by Jessica Milstead and her panel, incorporated the "visual thesaurus" with international perspectives.

Future HFIS Activities:

Jenna Hartel led a discussion on whether theorizing information science is in HFIS' scope. Attendees generally agreed. Michael Buckland, dubbed "HFIS' conscience" has encouraged sessions on theory, beyond history. SIG HFIS could seek to conquer a sleepy(?) perception of our SIG by staging a debate for the 2014 AM, or fostering the discussion through other media such as publication.

Future potential sessions discussed included: Death of the User: Part 2, to continue the well-attended session held at the 2003 ASIST AM; and Julian Warner discussed a challenge between IS and CS over human information retrieval.

Trudi Hahn discussed her successful exhibit installation of the ASIST Photo Archives at last year's ASIST AM in Baltimore. SIG HFIS could "label" this and the oral history portal as HFIS Projects. Jenna Hartel discussed her successful iSquare exhibit, "New Views of Information," at the recent CoLIS 8 conference in August. Some key benefits are that these installations were mounted on video screen on continuous loop (photos) or on bulletin board (iSquares) in the lobby and posed no time conflicts with other sessions.

Richard Urban discussed organizing a wiki hackathon between HFIS and ASIST Student Chapter(s), utilizing a crowdsourcing platform.

The meeting concluded with a brief discussion of SIGs on social media (i.e. ED and SI) and HFIS participating in the general ASIST Facebook presence (contact Misty Weaver).

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Buchanan
Nov. 18, 2013