## SIG III Newsletter

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## **OSISSE** International Information Issues http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/

## In This Issue

Greetings from the Chair
Slate of Officers for 2005-2006
International Reception and Fundraising
SIG III 2005 Business Meeting Minute5
Sessions proposed for ASIST 2006
International Paper Contest Winner9
SIG III Listserv and Web Site 10

## Greetings from the Chair

Welcome to SIG III from the 2005-2006 Chair, Nadia Caidi.

A warm welcome to SIG III members and friends.

With the 2005 Annual Meeting behind us, this is a time to celebrate (once again) our multiple achievements and the awards bestowed upon SIG III, in recognition of the hard work of the great 2004-2005 team led by SIG Member-of-the-Year Awardee, Yin Zhang.

## Achievements

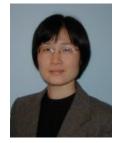
I am delighted to report that SIG III swept all three SIG related awards at the 2005 ASIST Annual Meeting in Charlotte, NC:

#### • SIG of the Year Award

For the ninth time in its history, SIG III won the SIG of the Year Award (previous awards received in 1983 -the year of its creation!, 1984, 1991, 1993, 1997, 2000, 2001 and 2002). We must be doing something right, as we are the only SIG with such achievement! Congratulations to everyone for making this possible and let's continue the great work.

• SIG Publication of the Year Award SIG III received this award for its website (<u>http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/</u>). The award recognizes the best publication produced by a SIG. SIG III had won this award in 2003-2004 as well, thanks to the excellent work of Yin Zhang. Hong Cui is picking up the torch and is our new Webmaster.

#### SIG Member of the Year Award



Yin Zhang, the 2004-2005 SIG III Chair, is the winner of the 2005 SIG Member-of-the-Year Award. Yin held various positions within SIG III including Communications Officer (she created an awardwinning web site and newsletter, that are both recognized by ASIST) and as its Chair.

She has exhibited great leadership by providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all. Her rigor and attention to detail has paid off and has benefited greatly the SIG. She has also taken the fundraising efforts to the next level. We are grateful for Yin's hard work and dedication to the SIG. Congratulations, Yin!

These achievements speak volumes about Yin's leadership and the hard-working and dedicated slate of officers who have been helping with various aspects of the work. Under Yin's leadership, much has been accomplished: a great fundraising year, a successful International Paper Contest (now in its 6th year), an award-winning website, a Manual for officers, and an overall great spirit of activity. On behalf of all SIG III members, let me convey our warmest congratulations to Yin and everyone on board for a job well done!

As Yin would be the first to mention, the awards are a tribute to the dedication of all SIG III members. who are the greatest strength of our SIG. These include longstanding officers who have been active and involved since its inception, as well as talented new members, student assistants (special kudos to Yin's graduate assistant, Cari Baker, for her help in the past year with data entry, emailing fundraising letters, etc.) as well as to the large number of active overseas members. In recognition of the importance of our international colleagues, we have decided that this year's slate of officers would include a Co-Chair and a co-Chair Elect from outside US/Canada. Joining forces with Duncan Omole (the current Chair-Elect) and myself are therefore: Miriam Vieira da Cunha, my Co-Chair from Brazil, and our Co-Chair Elect, Ifeanyichukwu (Ify) Njoku from Nigeria. We look forward to their contributions. We also have more international representation through our Communications Officer, Jonathan Levitt, from the UK; our Marketing and Fundraising officer from Nigeria, Ozy Orji; and various student representatives from across Europe and North America. A warm

welcome also to Kate Johnson, our Annual Meeting Program Chair; Caryn Anderson, our Infoshare officer, and Hong Cui, the new Webmaster. We have a promising and exciting year ahead!

#### Plans for next year

- Infoshare and the International Paper Contest have become staples of SIG III and it will be one of our aims to keep these going: Caryn Anderson joins ranks with Sue O'Neill Johnson to make the Infoshare program bolder and more wide-reaching (contact them if you want to make any nominations). The International Paper Contest also has a new structure, consisting of an Organizing Committee (Duncan Omole. Jonathan Levitt and Ozy Orji), a Core Jury (Yunfei Du, Nathalie Leroy, Sue O'Neill Johnson, Michel Menou, Yin Zhang, Liwen Vaughn, Nadia Caidi) and Rotating Jury Members. We are looking for volunteers so if you are interested in reviewing papers, please let Duncan Omole know. Our thanks to Liwen and Duncan for their wonderful job in running this year's paper contest as well as to Toni Carbo for helping publish the winning papers.
- Other programs to watch closely include: the International Reception (we are always looking for ideas to improve it), the International Calendar of Information Science Conferences, which is starting to make a name for itself, and the Global Information Village Plaza, which will be resurrected thanks to Aaron Bowen. Finally, the new knowledge base will be further developed to enable the passing of skills and know-how between officers.
- During the next year, we will maintain our emphasis on recruitment and expansion of our member base. This remains a top priority and we will address this issue in various ways. Our international slate of officers will hopefully be instrumental in this regard. With their help, a more ambitious and aggressive marketing strategy will be developed. However, all SIG III members will be asked to participate in this task by acting as ambassadors as well as mentors. Recruiting and keeping members informed is therefore a key objective for the upcoming year.
- Finally, the fundraising effort, which was a huge success this past year (raising \$9,600) needs to be sustained in the next year in order to support the broad range of SIG III activities and programs.
- More plans for next year are in the works, as you will see in the minutes included in this newsletter, including exciting panels and

sessions for next year's Annual Meeting (we are grateful to Kate Johnson for her work on this front). Bahaa El Hadidy has also received initial support from ASIST for the Alexandria project, for which SIG III would be a natural home.

All in all, a productive year ahead! Please remember that this is a team effort, and we need your help. The activities are only possible thanks to individuals volunteering their time, energy and enthusiasm.

If you have any comments, suggestions, ideas or simply want to become involved, please do not hesitate to contact any of us (<u>caidi at utoronto dot ca</u>). There is room for everyone, and we will do our best to support your initiatives.

Nadia Caidi

## Slate of Officers for 2005-2006

## Chair

Nadia Caidi University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada <u>nadia dot caidi at utoronto dot ca</u> **Co-Chair (Outside US/Canada)** Miriam Vieira da Cunha Brazil <u>miriamcunha at brturbo dot com dot br</u>

### **Chair-Elect**

Duncan Omole Information Analyst The World Bank Group domole at worldbank dot org **Co-Chair-Elect (Outside US/Canada)** Ifeanyichukwu (Ify) Njoku Nigeria iphienjoku at yahoo dot co dot uk **Immediate Past-Chair** Yin Zhang Winner of the SIG-Member-of-the-Year Award for 2005 Kent State University, Kent, Ohio yinzhang at slis dot kent dot edu

## **Communications Officers**

Jonathan Levitt The Open University and University College London jonathan at levitt dot net Yin Zhang(mentor) yinzhang at slis dot kent dot edu

## **Infoshare Officers**

Caryn Anderson Simmons College, USA <u>caryn dot anderson at simmons dot edu</u> Sue O'Neill Johnson Winner of the SIG-Member-of-the-Year Award for 2003 Consultant <u>sueojohnson at hotmail dot com</u>

#### Treasurer

Bahaa El-Hadidy Winner of the SIG-Member-of-the-Year Award for 2000 International Information Consultant, Tampa, FL <u>elhadidy at cas dot usf dot edu</u>

#### **Cabinet Representative**

Toni Carbo University of Pittsburgh tcarbo at mail dot sis dot pitt dot edu

Alternate Representative Yin Zhang Kent State University, Kent, Ohio yinzhang at slis dot kent dot edu

## Webmaster

Hong Cui Unversity of Western Ontario <u>hcui7 at uwo dot ca</u>

### **Program Officers and Committees: International Paper Contest**

Chair Duncan Omole Information Analyst The World Bank Group <u>domole at worldbank dot org</u> Co-Chair Jonathan Levitt The Open University and University College London, jonathan at levitt dot net Marketing and Fundraising Ozy Orji Nigeria ozyorji at hotmail dot com

### ASIST Annual Meeting Program Chair Catherine (Kate) Johnson University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, USA caj3 at uwm dot edu

## **Global Village**

Chair Aaron Bowen <u>asb01 at u dot washington dot edu</u> and Amanda Wilson <u>wilson dot 1596 at osu dot edu</u> Mentors Michel J, Menou <u>michel dot menou at wanadoo dot fr</u>, Nadia Caidi <u>nadia dot caidi at utoronto dot ca</u> and Toni Carbo tcarbo at mail dot sis dot pitt dot edu

## SIG III Advisory Board

Sue O'Neill Johnson Consultant sueojohnson at hotmail dot com Norman Horrocks Scarecrow Press and Professor Emeritus, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada Norman dot horrocks at dal dot ca Michel J. Menou michel dot menou at wanadoo dot fr Toni Carbo University of Pittsburgh tcarbo at mail dot sis dot pitt dot edu Julian Warner Oueen's University of Belfast Northern Ireland j dot warner at qub dot ac dot uk Shivanti Weerasinghe Sri Lanka librarian at boc dot lk

## **Student Representatives**

Danielle Allard, Canada <u>allard at fis dot utoronto dot ca</u> Imma Subirats Coll, Spain <u>imma dot subirats at gmail dot com</u> Mabrouka El Hachani, France <u>hachani at enssib dot fr</u> Susan MacDonald, Canada <u>susan dot macdonald at utoronto dot ca</u> Aaron Bowen, USA <u>asb01 at u dot washington dot edu</u>

## **International Reception and Fundraising**

This year's International Reception was held on Monday, October 31, 2005, at 8 pm. The reception attracted a large number of attendees! Elsevier Publishers generously contributed \$1,000 to this year's event.

It was a well-planned and fun event this year indeed. Posters about the InfoShare program, International Paper Contest program and this year's winners, and contributors to the paper contest fundraising were visible on site (thanks Julian and Michel). International attire and Halloween costumes lit up the room quite a bit. The silent auction items were well displayed near the entrance and drew a large crowd. A huge basket full of attractive gifts (thanks to Sue and Toni for this brilliant idea) definitely created incentives for the raffle sale!

Michel's powerful voice kept the event in order. Speakers at the event included this year's first place winner of the International Paper Contest, Mr. Lukman Ibraheem Diso from Nigeria; 2003 paper contest first place winner Ms. Ifeanyichukwu F. Njoku, also from Nigeria; Mr. Chris Pringle of Elsevier; and Mr. Jonathan Levitt, student representative of the ASIST European Student Chapter.

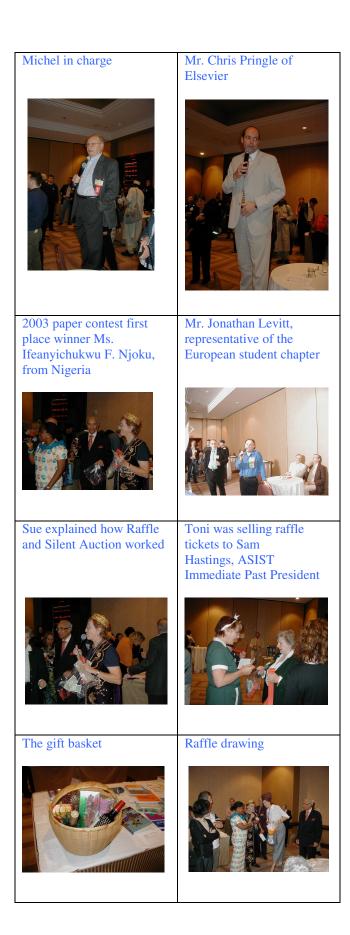
Both the Silent Auction and Raffle to benefit the SIG III InfoShare Program went extremely well! Thanks to all those who contributed and participated. We set a new fundraising record of \$677 at this event. The 50-50 raffle took in \$430 (\$215 went to the winner, \$215 kept), and the Silent Auction took in \$462. The lucky winner of this year's raffle was Jela Steinerova, PhD., Associate Professor, Faculty of Philosophy, Dept. of LIS, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovak Republic. She received \$215 cash and the gift basket!

A scene you don't want to miss:

Bahaa charmed the audience for a last minute call to raise more money: for ladies, \$10 for a kiss on the hand and \$20 for a kiss on the cheek; for gentlemen, \$20 for shaking hands! And he raised \$40!

Here is another scene you don't want to miss: The fundraising effort did not stop at the reception this year! Sue and Trudi managed to raise another \$5 at the President Reception Wednesday night. Would Dick Hill dance? The bet was between Sue and Trudi for \$5. It was YES and Trudi won! ©

More information about the InfoShare program and photos of the event are available at the SIG III website.



The raffle winner got the cash from Caryn	The raffle winner got gift basket from Toni
The happy group: Lukman, Michel, Yin, Sue, Caryn, Ify, and Bahaa	Would Dick Dance? You bet!

## SIG III 2005 Business Meeting Minutes

The first of the two SIG III business meetings was called to order by outgoing Chair, Yin Zhang. Those present were:

Name	Affiliation
Caryn Anderson	Simmons College
Aaron Bowen	University of Washington
Toni Carbo	University of Pittsburgh
	School of Information Science
Hong Cui	University of Western Ontario
Lukman I. Diso	Bayero U, Kano, Nigeria
Bahaa El-Hadidy	University of South Florida
Maria Haigh	U of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
Kate Johnson	U of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
Sue O'Neill Johnson	Consultant
Randall (Randy) Kemp	University of Washington
	Information School
Jonathan Levitt	University College London
Ifeanyi F. Njoku	FCFMT, Lagos, Nigeria
Peishan Tsai	Simmons College
Julian Warner	Queen's University of Belfast
Amanda Wilson	Ohio State University
Hong Xu	University of Pittsburgh
Yin Zhang	Kent State, School of
	Library & Information Science

## I. Introducing Attendants

- Lukman Ibraheem Diso from Nigeria, 1<sup>st</sup> place winner of the 2005 paper contest;
- Ifeanyichukwu (Ify) Faith Njoku from Nigeria,
  - o 1<sup>st</sup> place winner of the 2003 paper contest, and
  - o 2005-2006 SIG III Co-Chair-Elect (Outside US).
- Jonathan Levitt, European Student Chapter representative.

### II. 2005-2006 Officers Election and Confirmation

The 2005-2006 slate of officers (See Section 2 of this newsletter) was approved unanimously with the addition of Hong Cui as the new SIG III website Webmaster (Bahaa moved, Toni seconded).

## **III. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Bahaa El-Hadidy reported on the three accounts SIG III holds as of the end of the fiscal year:

- General account: The FY'04-05 SIG III general fund has a closing balance of \$3,607 as of the end of September'05. Per treasurer's request, 100% Closing Fund Balance rollover to FY05 was approved. With the SIG III membership revenue, the starting budget for FY05 is \$4,175.
- **InfoShare account:** The SIG III InfoShare account has a balance of \$956.15 as of the end of FY'04-05. This year, we have supported two InfoShare awardees, a one-year membership for Subbiah Arunachalan and a two-year membership for Ozioma (Ozy) Orji, with total spending at \$370 (\$140 + \$230).
- **Digital Scholars account:** This year, we have raised \$9,600 for the International Paper Contest. With the spending of \$4,200 for 15 two-year memberships for this year's and last year's paper contest winners (15 \* \$140 \* 2), and a travel grant (\$1,751.05) to the first place winner to the annual conference, the balance is at \$9,289.42 for the next fiscal year. [Yin updated with the most recent spending].

## IV. Chair's Report by Yin Zhang

With the hard work and dedication of our officers, members, and supporters, we achieved a lot in this year:

• Our international paper contest was a huge success. Liwen Vaughan and Duncan Omole, and the reviewers, have done a great job this year. This year, we had many previous paper contest winners serving as judges. Toni and our previous paper contest chairs, Sue, Nathalie, and

Yunfei, helped a great deal with the process. Winners have been announced and awarded a two-year membership. The first place winner traveled to the annual meeting.

- Our fundraising effort was also a huge success. We have raised \$9,600 this year. Toni helped to persuade Elsevier to donate \$2,000 this year.
- Our InfoShare program has been revived under Sue O'Neill Johnson's leadership. We have worked with the Los Angeles chapter and the Potomac Valley Chapter to identify three Infoshare awardees.
- We have a SIG III manual set up for future officers. This manual provides sample documents on procedures for various programs. For example,
  - A marketing plan for the international paper contest (listervs to cover, individuals to contact, etc).
  - o We did good work on planning this year's reception. This is documented and will help future planning.
- Also, we have a database that contains our international paper contest participants, Infoshare awardees, fundraising records, and contact information of the individuals and organizations.
- Our incoming chair, Nadia Caidi, has formed a strong new SIG III board with energetic officers and a wise advisory board for the next year! We are looking forward to a productive year under Nadia's leadership!

## V. Report about the SIG Cabinet Meeting by SIG III Cabinet Representative, Toni Carbo

This year's SIG Cabinet Meeting was one of the best in many years.

## **Elected officers:**

- K.T. Vaughan, SIG Cabinet Steering Committee (term: 2005-2007).
- Yin Zhang, SIG Cabinet representative to the ASIST Nominations Committee.
- Vicki Gregory, Director, SIG Cabinet Steering Committee.
- Pascal Calarco, Deputy Director, SIG Cabinet Steering Committee.

## SIG re-organization effort:

• ASIST recognizes two types of Special Interest Groups (SIGs): traditional SIGs and virtual SIGs. Virtual SIGs can become traditional SIGs at anytime by sponsoring workshops or sessions at the ASIST Annual Meeting or other relevant venues and indicating such on their annual report.

- There are two sets of criteria to evaluate each type of SIG as active or inactive.
- SIGs that do not meet the standards of either traditional (four of six criteria) or virtual (three of five criteria) SIGs for two consecutive years will be declared inactive at the meeting of the SIG Cabinet during the annual ASIST meeting.
- The SIG Cabinet Steering Committee has procedures to dissolve inactive SIGs.

There was also discussion on simplifying the SIG annual report process.

## VI. Michael Leach

The 2005-2006 ASIST President, Michael Leach, stopped by briefly to discuss the five-year strategic plan. In particular, internationalization will be one of the five areas ASIST will be working on in the next five years. ASIST is becoming an international society. Chapters and student chapters will be established in the following major geographic locations: East Asia, Europe, South America, and Africa.

## VII. International Reception for the Night

The group went over the procedures at the reception and divided the Silent-Auction and Raffle-sale related tasks among the members. Officers and volunteers were asked to help set up the Silent Auction as soon as possible.

#### VIII. Work Plan for the Next Year a. InfoShare Program

There was a brief discussion on the InfoShare program, including:

- Background of the program.
- Length of membership: can it be more than one year?
- How do we decide a two-year award?
- Related evaluation criteria and expectations.
- Application procedures.

Caryn will provide a summary of the discussion for further deliberation.

## b. Alexandria Project

Bahaa briefed the group on the Alexandria project, which has received some initial support by ASIST. Michael Leach asked for a proposal and will take it to the ASIST board.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm for the Alumni Reception. The remaining items on the agenda were to

be discussed at the next business meeting on Tuesday, Nov 1, 6-8pm.

The second of the two SIG III business meetings (Tuesday November 1, 2005) was called to order by Kate Johnson, theAnnual Meeting Program Chair, on behalf of Nadia Caidi. Those present were:

Name	Affiliation
Caryn Anderson	Simmons College
Aaron Bowen	University of Washington
Toni Carbo	University of Pittsburgh,
	School of Information Science
Hong Cui	University of Western Ontario
Lukman I. Diso	Bayero U, Kano, Nigeria
Bahaa El-Hadidy	University of South Florida
Maria Haigh	U of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
Kate Johnson	U of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
Sue O'Neill Johnson	Consultant
Jonathan Levitt	University College London
Ifeanyi Njoku (Ify)	FCFMT, Lagos, Nigeria
Sarah M. Webb	Syracuse University,
	School of Information Studies
Amanda Wilson	Ohio State University
Yin Zhang	Kent State, School of
	Library & Information Science

Agenda continued from Monday's meeting:

#### VIII (Continued). Work plan for 2006

# c. Budget planning for next year – allocation of SIG III General Fund

- Possibly pay for foreign expert to participate in panel or give paper.
- Possible contribution to Alexandrina project.
- Proposals should be presented to the SIG to be considered by executive committee.

## d. Infoshare program

- We have approximately \$1600 in fund to pay for upcoming year's memberships.
- There is no fixed method of determining the number of memberships that get funded and who gets funded.
- Approximately 3 memberships get funded each year.
- Recommended that memberships be for a term of 2 years.

- Eligibility criteria and obligations of recipients will be drawn up by Caryn Anderson and Kate Johnson.
- T. Carbo and representative to SIG cabinet will request that cost for developing country memberships be reduced.

## e. Global Plaza

• Aaron Bowen (<u>asb01 at u dot washington dot</u> <u>edu</u>) has agreed to work with Michel on resurrecting the Global Plaza for 2006.

## f. Fundraising

- \$678 raised from this year's raffle and silent auction.
- Recommended that next year, raffle be for gift basket only.
- Suggested that items for silent auction be displayed at registration desk on the day of the International Reception in order to give conference attendees more time to view items.
- Recommended that the International Reception serve food that is different from the Alumnae reception that immediately precedes it, preferably international fare.
- Nadia is in charge of the reception, assisted by Bahaa.

### g. Mentoring program

• We decided to ask Nadia for more information about this item.

## h. Library of Alexandria project

• Suggested that Bahaa present a formal proposal to the SIG to determine how we should participate.

## i. Paper contest program

- Deadline for submission of papers is set to March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Language of competition remains English since we are not equipped at the moment to translate into several different languages.
- Normalized scores will be method of determining final scores.
- Decided to maintain eligibility for participation in paper contest as developing country national as determined by World Bank criteria. We are open to cooperating with European Student Chapter on paper contest but will leave this for Michel to discuss further.
  - Themes for next year's contest: o Information realities: Shaping the digital future for all?
    - o E-governance in developing countries.

- o Indigenous knowledge and digital libraries – collecting, preserving and disseminating IK.
- o Rural/urban digital divide.
- o Any of the topics for the proposed sessions (?)
- It was suggested that the contest winners present in one of the panels sponsored by SIG III.

## Sessions proposed for ASIST 2006

## Sessions proposed during the business meeting:

- HIV/AIDS information seeking in developing countries (Ify).
  - SIG Med, Social Informatics and USE are interested in co-sponsoring. Steve MacCall <u>smacall at bama dot ua dot edu</u> (SIG MED), Kevin Rioux (<u>riouxk at stjohns dot edu</u>) USE.
- Information seeking behavior in rural areas of developing countries (Ify).
  - o SIG USE and Social Informatics are interested in co-sponsoring.
- Cultural perspectives on trust in information (Toni, Aaron).
- Review of projects related to digitization of the cultural heritage (Bahaa).
  - o SIG DL may be interested in cosponsoring.
- Digital Divide: Shaping the digital future for all (Bahaa, Aaron).
- Cross-national comparison of libraries and information services in a developing world context (Kate, Maria Haigh, Kendra Albright).
- Information services for children in a developing world context (Sarah Webb).
  - o USE will co-sponsor.
- WSIS panel (Sarah Webb <u>swebb at wyr dot</u> <u>edu</u>).
  - o SIG IFP will co-sponsor (John Gathegi jgathegi at ci dot fsu dot edu).
- Learning and education of international students in LIS programs (how LIS education is translated into local context) (Yin).
  - o SIG ED Candy Schwartz (<u>candy dot</u> <u>schwartz at simmons dot edu</u>) is interested in co-sponsoring.
- The Global Plaza will be on the topic "Cultural perspectives on trust in information" (Suggested by Toni Carbo and Aaron Bowen). Panel - Response to disasters (Co-sponsored with SIG-KM)

## Sessions proposed by other SIGs that III may cosponsor:

- Digital Libraries:
  - o Digital preservation.
  - o Multilingual access to digital libraries.
- Education:
  - o Students in distance learning.
  - Information Policy:
    - o Preservation of indigenous knowledge.o Intellectual property rights in age of digital globalization.
    - o Open access to scientific information.
- Medical informatics:
  - o Use of PDAs in connecting to medical information.
- Social informatics:
  - o Disaster planning.
  - o Digital communities.
  - o Social interpretations of information technologies.
  - Scientific and Technical Information systems: o Open access to scientific data.

## Notes from SIG planning meeting:

- SIGs can put on their own smaller conferences (Summits).
  - o ASIST HQ will help by providing registration support, staff and by publishing the proceedings.
- JASIST can publish proceedings and other collections in *Perspectives*. This might be a good venue for III to publish theme-cantered papers.
- Reminder that we should all be subscribed to SIG-L.
- There is a \$5000 general fund that SIGs can draw on.

## Session proposed after the Annual Meeting:

• Shaping the Future of the Governance of the Internet (Bahaa El Hadidy),

## **International Paper Contest Winner**

#### My trip to ASIST's Annual Meeting

This year's first place winner of the International Paper Contest, Mr. Lukman Ibraheem Diso from Nigeria



I was extremely delighted when I received the news that I was the first place winner of the international paper contest, not only because of the sheer pleasure in winning but also because of the series of problems I had encountered in preparing and sending the paper. Immediately I received the invitation letter to attend the conference I began the preparations, tedious as they proved to be later. I wrote to my institution for permission and assistance to attend the conference and booked an appointment for visa interview on the America Embassy Website.

It was a very tough process to secure an American visa. I had to go through the process to get it. I also had to pay and get a transit Visa for the Netherlands.

My trip to charlotte through Amsterdam and Washington (Dulles) was smooth. Although I was not new to the security system in the U.S (I was there in 2002, a year after 911), I found the checking and searching process tougher and more intensified for foreigners.

My immediate impression of charlotte as soon as I arrived at the airport was that of a nice and beautiful city. That impression remained throughout my stay. I enjoyed my stay at the Marriot Hotel and the daily routine of walking to the Westin Hotel, where the conference was holding. Indeed, I attended the conference with the expectation that I was going to present my winning paper. I was a little disappointed when I didn't see it on the programme. When I inquired during the SIGIII meeting the reason was because it was too late for such papers to be included at the time the results of the contest were announced and perhaps, I think, because ASIST had not made it a tradition from the beginning. However, I participated in and learned a great deal from a number of sessions I attended on Digital Library, Information Seeking, Internet usage, Neutrality of technology, Greenstone in

practice, social informatics, etc. I equally learned a great deal from the poster session.

I was fascinated by the new books and journals on interesting (some novel) areas, in information science. I got so many of such publications- many of them free. All these plus the conference papers are great and valuable assets to me- a teacher in an information science school.

It was great meeting different people- professionals, academics/ professors, Librarians, archivists, computer scientists, etc-from different parts of the U.S and the world, especially in relaxed and informal atmosphere as during the social activities. Welcome Reception, Alumni Reception, international Reception, Awards Luncheon and Annual president's Reception provided great opportunities to come close to and discuss issues with other people and to understand them and their perspectives better.

Having returned home safely I am left with the exiting and refreshing reminiscences of the Charlotte 2005. Sue Johnson, Deborah Swain, Jonathan, and Ify were wonderful people, and it was great meeting them. Yin was a great organizer. I can't forget them. I can't forget the wonderful assistance from the people at the registration desk.

I am grateful to ASIST, my institution – the Bayero University Kano – and all the other people who made it possible for me to have these rewarding experiences. It is indeed great to have the two-year membership of ASIST as it provides a valuable opportunity to maintain the link with professional colleagues across the world.

#### Lukman Ibraheem Diso

## SIG III Listserv and Web Site

- To post a message to sigiii-1: Send your message to <u>sigiii-1 at asis dot org</u> [All lower case!]. Attachments will NOT be processed.
- To subscribe or view prior postings: Visit the page: <u>http://mail.asis.org/mailman/listinfo/sigiii-l</u>

To unsubscribe:

Step 1. Visit your subscription page at: <u>http://mail.asis.org/mailman/options/sigiii-</u> <u>l/your email address</u>

For example, if your list delivery address is <u>msmith@yahoo dot com</u>, the URL to access your subscription page should be: <u>http://mail.asis.org/mailman/options/sigiii-l/msmith@yahoo.com</u>

Step 2. On the subscription page, type your password to unsubscribe.

If you forget your password, click the "Email My Password to Me" button to have your password emailed to you.

SIG III Web site:

The official Web site of SIG III is located at <u>http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/</u>. Please contact Hong Cui (<u>hcui7 at uwo dot ca</u>) if you have any questions regarding the SIG III Web site and the sigiii-l listserv.