

Report from the Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting

June 12-14, 2016 – Philadelphia, PA

Christine Malinowski, ACRL Liaison to SLA SciTech Division, 2015-2017

In 2016, the Special Libraries Association returned to Philadelphia for its Annual Meeting. The conference had 1758 registrants and another 753 exhibit personnel, bringing the total conference attendance to 2511 (compared to 3002 in 2015).

The SciTech Division did not hold a business meeting or open house during the Annual Meeting, but chose to concentrate efforts on the All Sciences Poster Session and other sessions outlined in more detail below.

Overview of the SciTech Division Programming at SLA 2016:

1. Newcomer's Breakfast
 - a. replaced the Division's Newcomer's Dinner from previous conferences
 - b. focused on bringing newcomers together with mentors and helping them make the most of the conference
2. All Sciences Poster Session
 - a. co-presented with Biomedical and Life Sciences Division; Chemistry Division; Engineering Division; Food, Agriculture, and Nutrition Division; and Physics, Astronomy and Math Division
 - b. 23 posters were included in the session with many of them now available online at <http://scitech.sla.org/ase-2016-posters/>
 - c. included the SciTech Division Awards presentation as the division didn't have a separate business meeting or open house during the meeting
3. SciTech presented/co-presented conference sessions:
 - a. "Just the Facts: Data Curation and Management (Science and Engineering 101 Session)"
 - i. co-presented with the Petroleum & Energy Resources Division
 - ii. provided an overview of data curation/management and future developments/practices/policies
 - b. "Hidden Treasures: Mastering Grey Literature"
 - i. co-presented with the Taxonomy and Social Science Divisions
 - ii. focused on efficient searching for grey literature
 - iii. highly attended session (standing room only)
 - c. "Find Your Niche: Preparing for a New Area in Librarianship"
 - i. a diverse group of panelists spoke of their paths to various SciTech-gear roles in librarianship
 - d. "Citizen Science: How Communities, Scientists, and Libraries Can Engage Together in Scientific Discovery"
 - i. co-presented with Environment & Resource Management and Biomedical & Life Sciences Divisions
 - ii. explored examples of how the general public is contributing to professional scientific research
 - e. "Preparing Students for Corporate Research Life"
 - i. co-presented with Leadership & Management Division
 - ii. panel of academic science librarians discussed ways librarians in STEM disciplines can help students prepare for corporate positions

- f. “Master Class: The Librarian’s Role in Research Assessment and Highlighting Value”
 - i. co-presented with Chemistry; Academic; Physics, Astronomy and Math; Engineering; and Biomedical & Life Sciences Divisions
 - ii. covered examples of how libraries have partnered with institutional assessment offices, academic departments, and individuals to help in the evaluation of research output

See also the July 2016 [ACRL STS Liaisons Forum webinar](#) recording for a report on SLA from the two STS Liaisons to SLA: Christine Malinowski (Liaison to SciTech Division) and Jeffra D. Bussmann (Liaison to PAM Division)