

# The Pipeline

The Newsletter of Beta Phi Mu  
The International Library and Information Studies Honor Society

## Beta Phi Mu Executive Board

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*Vicki Gregory, Ph.D.*  
President

*Elaine Yontz, Ph.D.*  
Vice President/President-Elect

*Emily Knox, Ph.D.*  
Treasurer

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*Bill Davis, MLIS*

*Laura Saunders, Ph.D.*

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*Michelle Demeter, MLIS*

*Em Claire Knowles, MLIS*

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## From the President

Greetings! The Holidays are almost here and I don't know where the fall went. Many of you are doubtless starting to feel winter's nip, but in Florida, where we began our semester with a hurricane that looked far worse than it turned out to be, winter remains more of a concept than a reality. And for some folks, whether in parts of Texas, Florida, or Puerto Rico, much storm recovery work still needs to be done, including at universities and colleges affected. Some of my students are still catching up with work that got delayed due to the storm and your President is just getting around to writing this column.



Vicki Gregory, Ph.D.

Beta Phi Mu has commenced an Annual Fund drive, which is intended to help ensure our fiscal footing in the coming year. As with many other honorary societies, we have experienced a decrease in new memberships, perhaps related to declines in enrollment in many LIS programs due to demographic changes and other factors. Since our major source of revenue is membership/initiation dues, this decline has impacted our finances very directly. Thank you if you have already responded to the "Giving Tuesday" appeal from our Executive Director Alison Lewis. If not, there is still plenty of time to support your honor society, and I sincerely hope that you will be as generous as you can. Beta Phi Mu remains important to our field and to our membership, but at this point we simply cannot, as a practical matter, raise membership dues to the level needed to cover all our costs. Not only must we consider the financial status of our new LIS graduates, many of whom will just be entering the field, but we cannot ignore the fact that the additional cost of membership would surely only result in a further decline in new memberships. The entire Beta Phi Mu Board and I hope that when you consider your end-of-the-year donations, you will remember Beta Phi Mu in your giving: <https://www.betaphimu.org/donations.html>

Turning to brighter and happier news, 2018 will mark Beta Phi Mu's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Board and our Executive Director are planning a very special program for the American Library Association Annual Conference in New Orleans in June of this coming year, 2018. Make a point of including attendance at the Beta Phi Mu meeting in your schedule for ALA Annual. There will be more information about this exciting program in the spring newsletter.

Happy Holidays to everyone and wishing you a Happy New Year in harmony with the Beta Phi Mu goals of Leadership, Scholarship, and Service.

## *2017 Election Results*

Beta Phi Mu Past President Charles McElroy, chair of the 2017 Nominating Committee, was pleased to report the results of our online election at the Annual Business Meeting in Chicago.

Elaine Yontz, professor in the Master of Library Science Program at East Carolina University, was elected Vice President/President Elect. Elaine has previously served as a Beta Phi Mu executive board member, and is a founding member of the Beta Beta Omicron Chapter.

Emily Knox, Assistant Professor in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, was elected Treasurer. Emily is a member of Alpha Chapter, and



has been serving as an executive board member and Acting Treasurer.

Michelle Demeter, a member of Gamma Chapter and the Associate Director for Undergraduate Research & Learning Services at Florida State University was elected to the executive board as the new Director-At-Large.

An election for two Directors was also held on-site at our Annual Business Meeting. Elected at that time were: Gordon Baker, Dean of University Libraries at Clayton State University in Morrow, GA, a member of Beta Beta Mu Chapter; and Laura Saunders, Associate Professor at Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science, a member of Beta Beta Chapter.

President Linda Smith turned over the office of President to President Elect Vicki Gregory at

the Annual Business Meeting. Vicki Gregory is a Professor at the School of Information, University of South Florida, and a Beta Phi Chapter member. Linda Smith, a Professor and Executive Associate Dean at the School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and Secretary/Treasurer for Alpha Chapter, moves to new duties as Past President. Outgoing Past President Charles McElroy, Serials Department Head at Florida State University and a member of Gamma Chapter was thanked for his many years of service on the board, as was out-going Director Krystyna Matusiak, Assistant Professor in the Library & Information Science Program at the University of Denver and a member of Beta Rho Chapter.

Thanks to all who serve our honor society as executive board officers and directors!

# 2017 Scholarship Winners

Emily Knox, chair of the 2017 Scholarship Committee, thanks those who served as committee members this year: June Abbas, Gordon Baker, Robin Canuel, Bill Davis, Nancy Dupree, Walker Evans, Krystyna Matusiak, Linda Most, Della Paradise, Debora Shaw, Gina Shelton, and Rebekah Willson. The 2017 Scholarship winners are:

Sarah Rebecca Reed Scholarships for Beginning LIS Students (\$2,250 each) were awarded to Yalonda Green, University of Kentucky and Malory Nygard, Indiana University, Bloomington.

The Blanche E. Woolls Scholarship for School Library Media Service (\$2,250) went to Chelsea Brantley, East Carolina University.

The Frank B. Sessa Scholarship for Continuing Professional Education of a Beta Phi Mu Member (\$1,500) was awarded to Julie Edwards, Alpha Chapter, for pursuing a certificate in Sustainable Community Development through Village Earth/Colorado State University.

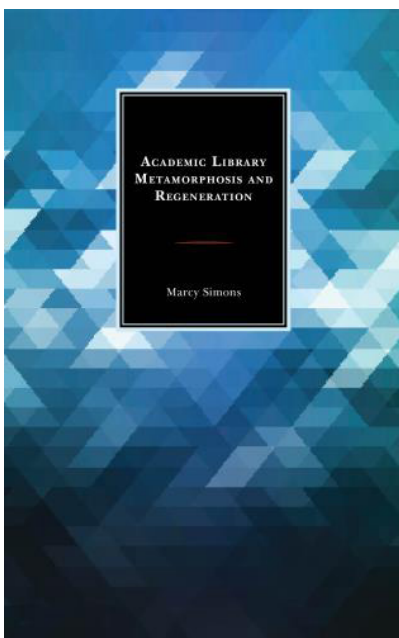
The Harold Lancour Scholarship for Foreign Study (\$1,750) went to Christopher Hollister, Librarian at the University Libraries, University of Buffalo. This award will support a project involv-

ing collaborating with the University at Buffalo's partner institution in Singapore to mitigate the costs of course textbooks.

The Eugene Garfield Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships (\$3,000 each) were awarded to: Kathy Brennan, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Karen Kaufman, Queensland University of Technology (QUT)/San Jose State University (SJSU); Emily Lawrence, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Andrea Thomer, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Emily Vardell, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Yongjun Zhu, Drexel University.

For the Beta Phi Mu/LRRT Research Paper Award:

Laura Saunders served as BPM representative in judging this award, which is given in partnership with ALA's Library Research Round Table (LRRT). This \$500 award has been funded by John Budd and recognizes an outstanding LIS research paper. This year's winner was "Including the Voices of Librarians of Color in Reference and Information Services Work," authored by Amy VanScoy and Kawanna Bright. Dr. VanScoy is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Library and Information Studies, University at Buffalo. Ms. Bright is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Research Methods and Statistics at the University of Denver.



## New Scholars Series Title Available

*Academic Library Metamorphosis and Regeneration* by Marcy Simons is the latest title in the Beta Phi Mu Scholars Series, published in conjunction with Rowman and Littlefield. Simons is the organizational development librarian at the University of Notre Dame. Her book focuses on the change and transformation that are taking place in the academic library profession today.

Beta Phi Mu members are eligible for a 20% discount when purchasing books through Rowman and Littlefield. For a limited time only, Beta Phi Mu members receive a 30% discount on all 2017 Scholars Series titles. Use promo code 4S17BPMS when you order online or by phone. Offer ends 12/31/2017.

# Beta Phi Mu Chapter Reports

## *Pi Lambda Sigma Chapter at Syracuse University*

Our 2017-18 Executive Board members are: President Pro Tem: Carole Kupelian, retired NYLA Board member and school librarian; Past-President: Linda Galloway, SU Libraries; VP: Ellen Owens, Crouse Hospital Librarian; Recording Secretary: Nicole Westerdahl, SU Libraries; Corresponding Secretary: Susan Slenker, retired school librarian; Treasurer: Suzanne Preate, SU Libraries; Membership Chair: Christine Demetros, SU College of Law Library; Scholarship Chairs: Gary Maggi, retired health sciences librarian, and Valarie Massulik, Onondaga County Public Library; at-large Board members: Jennifer Huzenitza, Northern Onondaga Public Library; Vanessa St.Oegger-Menn, SU Libraries; Amy Slutzky, Upstate Medical University Health Sciences Library; and Robert Weiner, SU College of Law Library. Together, we manage the Chapter's mission of extending financial support to the most academically-gifted yet challenged iSchool students in the Library and Information Science graduate degree program. iSchool Advisor is Blythe Bennett, Program Manager, MLIS/School Media degree.

The Executive Board held its summer dinner meeting at Blythe Bennett's home in August to review the past year and plan for 2018. We continue to discuss the 25% National rule as restricting our recognition of some outstanding graduates. We recognize member Anne Mlod as our 2017 Marion Mullen Award winner. Anne attended June ALA in Chicago as our Chapter representative to the national Beta Phi Mu meeting. Again, financial support of outstanding iSchool students is our Chapter's mission through our endowments. 2017 Student award winners are: Van Hoesen awards - Selena M Farrier, Alyssa M. Harvey, Kimberly Hoffman, Lauren Amanda Sweeney, Becky Fitzgerald, Ashley Denise Chasse. Dosa Scholarship - \$4,470 (3 graduate credits) is awarded to Krista Briggs .

Member News: We would like to extend congratulations and Happy Retirement to Barbara Settel of the iSchool. For many years Barbara was our Chapter Staff Advisor and has remained a strong member and supporter of the Chapter. Barbara has been Executive Director of Alumni Relations for many years and prior to that was Dean's Assistant. Member Margaret Backus is the new Director of Library Information Systems at our local Onondaga County Public Library. Member Brandon Fess is Librarian/Archivist in the Local History and Genealogy division of the Rochester Public Library.



~ Submitted by Susan Slenker,  
Corresponding Secretary,  
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Left: Pi Lambda Sigma Chapter Summer Executive Board meeting. Seated are Nicole Westerdahl, recording secretary and Board members Ellen Owens, Amy Slutzky, and Bob Weiner. Supervising is "Inez", the 3-legged rescue cat.



L-R: Jan Brocks, Carmaine Ternes, Robert Grover, Farrell Hoy Jenab, Mirah Dow, Dean Wooseob-Jeong, and Sarah Sutton

## *Beta Epsilon Chapter at Emporia State University*

In keeping with Beta Phi Mu International's promotion of excellence and leadership in the field of library and information science, Beta Epsilon chapter presented an annual fall program honoring the scholarly and professional work of Farrell Hoy Jenab. Ms. Jenab, a Master of Library Science alumna from Emporia State University [ESU], and current Faculty Development Coordinator at Johnson County Community College, presented her research documenting stories of Women along the Chisolm Trail. The session took place at the 2017 joint Kansas Library Association / Kansas Association of School Librarians Conference on the afternoon of October 25.

Ms. Jenab brought to life the stories of several heroines who had braved the trail, focusing on courage and entrepreneurship even during times of hardship or adversity. The Beta Epsilon Executive Council and ESU School of Library and Information Management [SLIM] faculty were both represented at the well-attended program.

Providing programming and support for state library conferences in all states represented by SLIM cohorts is one of the initiatives Beta Epsilon chapter identifies to support and encourage scholarly work of library and information professionals.

## *Psi Chapter at the University of Missouri*

The Psi Chapter met at the Missouri Library Association (MLA) Annual Conference 2017 in St. Louis, Missouri on October 5, and is currently planning its spring activities. Stay tuned!

## *Beta Beta Theta Chapter at the University of Iowa*

In honor of its 50th anniversary, the School of Library & Information Science at The University of Iowa hosted the opening reception for the 2017 Iowa Library Association Annual Conference in Coralville, IA, on October 18, 2017. Local Arrangements Committee Chair, Alison Ames Galstad, invited the Beta Beta Theta Chapter to host a table at the event. Member Kate Dale created a large poster; chapter secretary-treasurer, Marilyn Swanson, had new national brochures printed and created a complete list of members from the founding of the chapter to the current year in chronological as well as alphabetical order. It was a surprise to have Beta Phi Mu members visit the table who were Iowa alumnae, but had become BPM members BEFORE the chapter had been founded.

The poster, designed by Kate Dale (BPM 2004), Collection Development Librarian at Coralville Public Library, incorporates the goals of Beta Phi Mu, the membership rules, and the society's motto. In addition, the poster lists the primary activities of the chapter, scholarship winners, and all chapter presidents.

Elected at the annual meeting in May 2017, new chapter officers are Shana Stuart, President; Sarah Sellon, Past President; Susan Henricks, Vice-President/President-Elect; Marilyn Swanson, Secretary-Treasurer; and Lindsay Mattock, Faculty Advisor.



BPM member Alison Ames Galstad (L) and Secretary-Treasurer of Beta Beta Theta Chapter Marilyn Swanson (R)

## Alpha Chapter at the University of Illinois

The Alpha Chapter, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, celebrated its annual meeting and ceremony on Saturday, November 4, 2017 at the School of Information Sciences. The event was live-streamed and recorded. Fourteen graduates were inducted into Beta Phi Mu. Five were able to attend and sign the Great Roll in person: Jessica L. Colbert (2017), Gregory J. Knott (2017), Anna M. Lapp (2017), Holly Soboroff (2017), and Winn W. Wasson (2017).

Other business included: a report of chapter finances; a report on Beta Phi Mu activities at the national level; announcement of two awards supported by Alpha Chapter: Alison Rollins (MS '17) as the Anne M. Boyd Award recipient and Kristina Williams (MS '17) as the Kathryn Luther & William T Henderson Award recipient; and the election of Christine Cahill as incoming Vice President/President-Elect.

Following the ceremony and business meeting the members, new initiates, and guest enjoyed a luncheon. The event concluded with a talk by Patricia Hruby Powell, author, storyteller, and dancer, whose presentation was entitled, "A Vision of Hope: How Children's Diverse Books Could Change the World." She shared a bibliography of the titles highlighted and posted a copy to her website (<http://talesforallages.com/author-visits-keynotes/>).



From left to right: Alpha Chapter Officers 2017-2018: Kim Anderson, Past President; Emily Knox, Faculty Advisor; Linda Smith, Secretary/Treasurer; Lian Ruan, President.



From left to right: New Alpha Chapter Initiates: Winn W. Wasson, Gregory J. Knott, Jessica L. Colbert, Holly Soboroff, Anna M. Lapp.



Em Claire Knowles (3rd from left) at a BPM reception at the National Conference of African American Librarians 8/12/17

## *Report on NCAAL Conference and Reception*

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA) sponsored the 10th National Conference of African American Librarians (NCAAL) in Atlanta, Georgia on August 9-13, 2017. The theme of the conference was Culture Keepers X: “Beyond Library Walls: Innovative Ways to Engage Our Communities.” Sessions featured presentations in several key areas, including Children and Youth Services; Community and Civil Engagement; Health and Wellness; Innovation, Creativity and Technology; Leadership & Management; and Literature, Cultural Heritage, Public Programming & Access.

In attendance was Em Claire Knowles, Assistant Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs of Simmons College School of Library and Information Science. Dr. Knowles serves as a Beta Phi Mu Executive Board Director and was the 2017 recipient of the Beta Phi Mu Award. She hosted a Beta Phi Mu reception on the Saturday of NCAAL. It was an successful and enjoyable evening of networking and outreach to BCALA members.

***Bibliothekarios philax mathesis:  
“Librarians are the guardians of knowledge”***





## *In Memoriam: Dale Bentz (1919-2017)*

Dale Bentz, charter member of the Beta Beta Theta Chapter of Beta Phi Mu, died on June 25, 2017.

Dale earned an A.B. from Gettysburg College (1939), a B.S.L.S. from the University of North Carolina (1940), and an M.S. at the University of Illinois (1951). He was inducted into Beta Phi Mu in 1951 and served as president of the society for one term.

He came to the University of Iowa in 1953 as Associate Director of Libraries and served as University Librarian from 1970 until his retirement in 1986. Prior to his Iowa appointment, he was employed by the University of Tennessee, University of North Carolina, and Duke University. From 1942 to 1946 he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Dale was active on University committees and in professional associations, including the Iowa Library Association, for which he served as president in 1959/60. He served in several positions at the American Library Association, most notably as director of the Research Libraries Division. He was named president of the Resources and Technical Services Division of ALA from 1975 to 1976. Bentz was president of ACRL's University Libraries Section from 1963 to 1964.

During retirement he volunteered at Arts Iowa City, United Way of Johnson County, and the Home Delivered Meals program at the Senior Center.

A memorial service was held at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Iowa City on July 8. Memorial donations can be made in Dale's memory to the University of Iowa Libraries, c/o UI Foundation or to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Iowa City. <http://gayandciha.com/tribute/details/3181/Dale-Bentz/obituary.html#tribute-start>

The Papers of Dale M Bentz are held at The University of Iowa Libraries Special Collections & University Archives: <http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/scua/archives/guides/rg99.0299.html>

# *Beta Phi Mu Finances and the New Annual Fund: Executive Director's Report*

One of the interesting things about moving the Beta Phi Mu office last year was going through old files and learning about some of the past activities of our honor society. One thing was clear: Beta Phi Mu has had its financial ups and downs over the years! There were records of decisions made to increase lifetime membership dues, notices for chapter assessment fees, and evidence of several fundraising efforts, including at least one major giving campaign.

In the not-too-distant past, increased enrollments in LIS programs and the subsequent upturn in Beta Phi Mu memberships meant that our honor society was able to maintain a balanced budget, and even amass a small reserve, just through lifetime membership dues. Other income streams fell aside as they were seen as superfluous. In the past few years, however, we've seen a downturn in new memberships and an increase in expenses which have adversely affected our bottom line. There are a number of reasons for this: decreased enrollments in some LIS programs has meant a smaller pool of potential candidates to draw from; increased education about, and awareness of, "fake" honor societies has unfortunately negatively affected many legitimate honor societies, including our own; and increased costs associated with managing the services, activities, and finances of our honor society now that it is no longer realistic to depend on the volunteer services of an LIS faculty member.

The Beta Phi Mu Executive Board continues to wrestle with the question of how to maintain a balanced budget. The two main ways, of course, are to increase income and to decrease expenses. President Vicki Gregory lays out some of the arguments against raising lifetime membership dues in her column in this newsletter. The Board has also been reluctant to decrease the number or amount of the scholarships and awards we offer as a way of decreasing one of our major expenses. We are pleased to have our first corporate sponsorship helping to underwrite some of our scholarship costs, and we plan to seek more of this kind of funding in the future. Various LIS programs have been generous in sponsoring our annual Business Meeting and Member Reception at ALA Annual, significantly helping to defray the cost of this event. It has now become clear that we also need to once again seek the help of our members and chapters to maintain the financial health of our organization.

Beta Phi Mu chapters are no longer assessed annual fees, although a few continue to donate generously to our scholarship fund. Membership fees for our honor society are not paid on an on-going annual basis, but rather are "one and done." For those of us in the middle or at the end of our careers, our initial lifetime investment in Beta Phi Mu has already worked out to an extremely reasonable rate per annum! If you have benefited from your association with Beta Phi Mu, if you would like to continue to support our scholarships and other activities, if you would like to help ensure the survival of an important component of the LIS profession, please consider a gift to the Beta Phi Mu Annual Fund today! <https://www.betaphimu.org/donations.html>

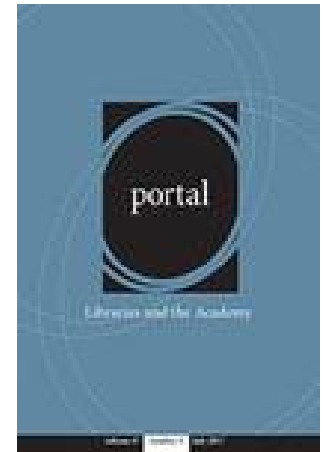


Alison M. Lewis

# Thanks to Our Partners and Sponsors

In addition to our members and chapters, our partners and sponsors help make the work and continued existence of our honor society possible. Thank you!

Thanks also to the many generous Library & Information Science programs and corporate sponsors who helped to underwrite our [2017 Annual Business Meeting and Member Reception](#) in Chicago!



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# *The NEW Sessa Scholarships for Continuing Education of Beta Phi Mu Members*

At the 2017 Midwinter Executive Board meeting in Atlanta, the BPM board voted on some important changes to our Frank B. Sessa Scholarships for Continuing Professional Education of Beta Phi Mu Members. We hope that these changes, which go into effect in 2018, will be seen as positive ones that will benefit more of our members.

Previously, the Sessa Scholarship has provided an annual award of \$1,500 to support the continuing education of one of our members. In recent years, we have not had a great many applications for this award. While we are proud of the support we've provided for the worthy pursuits of past winners, we recognize that the face of continuing education has changed significantly since this scholarship was established. In the past, a person might have traveled out-of-town or out-of-state to take a short course or workshop, incurring travel and other expenses. Today, however, many of the continuing education opportunities for our profession are taking place online – spending \$175-\$250 for a four- or six-week course, with \$0 travel or additional expenses, is typical of the costs involved. Even more expensive short courses or pre-conferences rarely cost more than \$500.

In line with this new model of continuing education, the BPM board decided to change the Sessa Scholarship from one award of \$1,500 to ten awards of \$150 each. These scholarships are not based on need and they are not competitive. We recognize that continuing education is an important aspect of every information professional's career and that it would be difficult to judge one member's desire or need for continuing education against that of another. The scholarships will be awarded by lottery, five in March and five in September. Lottery registration will open on January 1, 2018 and all Beta Phi Mu members are eligible to enter. For more information and the complete guidelines for the new Sessa Scholarships, please visit: <https://www.betaphimu.org/sessa.html>

*Aliis inserviando consumor:*  
“Consumed in the  
service of others”