SALIS Elections!

Don’t forget to vote in this year’s Executive Board election! Candidate bios can be found on page 2; email salis@salis.org if you did not receive a ballot.

Shop Online for SALIS

Don’t forget: When shopping Amazon.com or Hazelden.org, even for personal purchases, use the SALIS Affiliates links!

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2009 SALIS Conference, Halifax, May 5-8, 2009
Sheila Lacroix, CAMH

Why Canada, Eh?

With a Home Office in California and the majority of members from the United States, one might ask, why hold the conference in Canada? We realize that this is a barrier to many of our US members this year, particularly given the economic times and security issues that have affected the ease of crossing the US / Canada border. Those of us who live close to the border remember the days when people would live on one side and work or go to school on the other or drive across the border to fill up the car with gas, or need I say, drink alcohol legally. (When I was young, growing up in Toronto, youth flocked to New York State to legally drink. Now it’s the other way around!)

You may have noticed that, every few years, SALIS is hosted in Canada: Halifax this year, Toronto in 2003, and Vancouver in 1996. There is a history behind this. A Canadian group very similar to SALIS called LISA, Librarians and Information Specialists in Addictions, merged with SALIS in 1986. Back then, every Canadian province had a designated library specializing in addictions, not to mention other agencies, organizations and government departments that had such libraries, so our membership was strong. This was the ‘War on Drugs’ era when drugs were politically a hot issue in North America. Shortly after, the Canadian Government developed its first National Drug Strategy which resulted in, among other things, the formation of the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) in 1988. This was an exciting time for libraries, as clearinghouses sprung up and harnessed technology to create databases and networks. The CCSA clearinghouse staff under the direction of Jill Austin, was very active in SALIS as well as Margy Chan from my organization (formerly known as Addiction Research Foundation ARF), Trish MacNeil, Ruth Hart’s predecessor in Nova Scotia, and current SALIS member Bette Reimer who was originally with the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC).

As all of this was happening, similar developments were taking place in Europe. In 1988 the European Association of Libraries and Information Services on Alcohol and Drugs, (Elisad) was formed. See Elisad’s anniversary poster at: http://www.elisad.eu/images/elisadposters.pdf. You will see many

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2009 SALIS Executive Board Election
Candidate Biographical Statements

SALIS members should have received their official ballots for the 2009 Executive Board election via email. If you did not receive a ballot, please contact SALIS Home: salis@salis.org.

Chair-Elect:
Meg Brunner, MLIS

Meg Brunner has been in the library field since the 11th grade, when she worked summers at a library on a military base that got, on average, one patron per week. As she was the only librarian on staff most days, she was able to spend entire hours honing her computer skills, and by the end of the first summer, had finally made it to the last level of Super Mario Brothers, a stunning achievement indeed. In 1992, she moved to Seattle to attend the University of Washington, starting out as a biochemistry major and somehow ending up with a degree in English literature four years later. In 1998, she obtained her MLIS from the University of Washington (Seattle) School of Library and Information Science, and she has been working at the UW Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute Library ever since. She specializes in web and database development, but is also notorious for her cutthroat tactics with patrons who refuse to return their books on time. Meg recently served for two years as a Member-At-Large on the SALIS Executive Board and has also been very active in the SALIS Technology Committee over the last several years. She looks forward to working with the Executive Board again, and hopes to bring to the table a lot of enthusiasm, a modicum of knowledge, and a fairly ridiculous sense of humor.

Secretary:
Christine Goodair, BA (Hons) MCILIP, MAUA

Since graduating in 1979 from Loughborough University of Technology with a Bachelor of Arts in Information & Library Studies, I have worked in a variety of special libraries and information services. These include industrial psychology & management sciences, child care sector and drugs and alcohol. I currently work at the International Centre for Drug Policy, St George’s, University of London, and am responsible for managing their international and national programmes of work such as running workshops and training on tobacco cessation, drug epidemiology, screening and brief interventions (alcohol) and managing a project on substance misuse in the undergraduate medical curriculum. Substance misuse is an international issue and in order to enhance our work and knowledge I believe that we need to work across cultural and geographical boundaries. In the role of secretary I would aim to provide an efficient minute taking service as well as giving SALIS a UK and European perspective on professional matters drawn from my twenty five years experience of information work. I have recently joined the editorial board of Drugs and Alcohol Today with responsibility for producing its Media Resource Round Up column that reports on recent publications, websites, journals and other relevant resources. As Chair of Elisad I would also hope to build and strengthen the relationships between ELISAD and SALIS.

SALIS Member Sheila Lacroix Awarded for Excellence

Long time SALIS member and a past Chair, Sheila Lacroix, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, CAMH, was awarded the Joan Leishman Award of Excellence in Health Science Information at the Annual General Meeting of the Health Science Information Consortium of Toronto in early December 2008.

This award recognizes the contribution of a Consortium library staff member for the advancement of health care through health science information service. It recognizes the valuable contribution of library staff to the Consortium and the health care community.

Congratulations Sheila! We know how much you deserved this.

Have You Read?

ISBN: 0321518667, 9780321518668 (paperback)
familiar faces of Elisad colleagues who have come to SALIS conferences and in some cases become SALIS members.

At the same time, many of us were working at large research centres with international ties (Penny Page at Rutgers Center for Alcohol Studies, Andrea Mitchell at the Alcohol Research Group (ARG) and Margy Chan at ARF), working with globe trotting scientists such as Robin Room who encouraged our international outlook and involvement. As a result, many of us were working in an international context, so it made perfect sense that our networks spread to Europe and beyond, including strong ties with Australia, and that SALIS members started joining Elisad and attending Elisad conferences. CCSA was instrumental in networking internationally through hosting the Virtual Library project, a web-based library of policy documents from around the world. Unfortunately, funding was cut, but the process had great value in bringing people together and enabling librarians such as Jill Austin and later Bette Reimer to pioneer the development of web-based collections.

I hope this very brief, incomplete history has opened your eyes to the international flavour of SALIS, and the strong role Canadian members have played over the years. We are not only willing to support SALIS by taking on the conference host role periodically, but have also filled many of the executive positions over the years.

All conference locations pose a challenge for some members. Halifax, perched on the Eastern seaboard of Canada, has the advantage of being more convenient for our European attendees and definitely an advantage for Canadian members. We will have the highest Canadian turnout in years. It is also very convenient for those in the northeast USA. However, we realize it is a challenge for many others. Whether or not you are able to join us physically, please join in the spirit of the conference! Look for the reports and the results of the discussion, in particular our “SALIS Let’s Get Social” outcomes in the summer issue of SALIS News. Our drop in conference attendance this year is all the more reason virtual networking is essential to our survival.

So, if you are able, do Set Sail for Halifax this May. It’s not too late!

Visit the conference web site: http://salis.org/conference

Ruth’s Favourite Halifax Hotspots
Ruth Hart, 2009 Conference Host

If you are arriving before the 31st SALIS Conference or staying for a few days afterwards, you might like to try some of my favourite places and activities.

If you’re a coffee drinker, Just Us on Barrington Street (very close to the conference hotel) has great fair trade coffee, muffins, and chocolate. The coffee is roasted in Grand Pre, Nova Scotia, and the chocolate produced at Hantsport. I stop here every morning on my way to work. Can't begin my day without a dark roast decaf. http://www.justuscoffee.com/barrington.aspx

My favourite weekend coffee shops are Juliens, Coastal Coffee, and Whet. Juliens is a French bakery and coffee shop. On a warm day, there are outdoor tables in the sun. It's a great place to meet friends, read a newspaper or watch the rest of the world go by. Try a sticky almond croissant http://www.juliens.ca/masterjuliens3.html

Juliens is located in the Hydrostone area of Halifax. The Hydrostone is an example of an English type garden suburb, built between 1918 and 1920 for survivors of the Halifax Explosion, which completely destroyed the North End of Halifax in 1917. http://www.hydrostonemarket.ca/index.html Take some time to browse around the other stores and stay for lunch or supper. Epicurious Morsels is consistently good. I celebrated a milestone birthday here with 15 friends several years ago.

Coastal Coffee is a tiny coffee shop and brunch place - very reasonably priced, super breakfast and lunch food. Saturdays and Sundays, breakfast is from 8:00am to 3:00pm. The scrambled eggs with smoked salmon is particularly yummy. The menu is on their website http://www.thecoastal.ca/index.html

Whet is a coffee shop with walls displaying local art. Located in a former bank building at Agricola and North, the coffee shop is the other half of a hair salon called Fred. As well as coffee, Whet has good lunches. The best fish and chips in town is a slightly longer journey to Wharf Wraps at Fisherman's Cove, Eastern Passage on the Dartmouth side of the Harbour. The fish is right off the boat and the 2 piece with chips is enough for 2 persons.

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You will need a car to get here. It is accessible by public transport, but travelling there by bus can consume a lot of time. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Passage,_Nova_Scotia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Passage,_Nova_Scotia)

Across the street from your hotel is the [Neptune Theatre](http://www.neptunetheatre.com/). *High School Musical* is playing until May 31.

The Halifax Regional Libraries has a literary walking tour [http://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/assets/files/research/walking_tour.pdf](http://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/assets/files/research/walking_tour.pdf). This is a great way to find out interesting facts about downtown Halifax.

Don't miss a trip on the Halifax/Dartmouth ferry. It's the cheapest way ($4 return) to get a good view of Halifax from the water [http://www.halifax.ca/metrotransit/ferries.html](http://www.halifax.ca/metrotransit/ferries.html)

Looking forward to seeing you in May in Halifax, Nova Scotia!
Lorelei Harris
Health Sciences Librarian
University of Lethbridge Library

How long have you been a member of SALIS? About 5 months.

What organization do you work for and what is your position?
I am the subject librarian for Health Sciences at the University of Lethbridge Library. In this position I do some collection development work, reference services, classroom instruction, and faculty liaison. I also work with the Department of Religious Studies, and with Shastri, a partnership program with the Government of India.

How has being a member of SALIS enriched your life?
I became a member of SALIS shortly after taking on the Health Sciences subject liaison portfolio. At the U of L, Health Sciences encompasses Nursing, Addictions, and Public Health—all areas that were relatively new to me. The previous subject specialist (Judith Droessler, now retired) appreciated the subscription to *Addiction Professional* and had found the SALIS listserv helpful in her reference and collections work. So far, I’ve found the same! I especially appreciate the “New Books” lists in the SALIS newsletter, and look forward to these each quarter.

Hobbies outside of work:
Hiking, Skiing (X-country & downhill), Fishing, Most things outdoors!

Favorite color: Blue

Favorite food:
Peanut Butter n’ Chocolate Chip Cookies.

Favorite book:
My favorite book would have to be Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*. Forced to read one of the “tales” in a high school English class, I found them to be a fun & enjoyable read!

Is there anything else you want SALIS colleagues to know about you?
I began my library career in 2000, working in a one-room library, serving a community of approximately 400 in northwestern Ontario. During my undergraduate degree (BA with honors) History & Media, Information, Technology) I spent one year in Scotland, where I attended the same university as Prince William—whom I ran into one morning, on my way to return an overdue library book!

Clare Imholtz
Information Specialist/Librarian
Center for Substance Abuse Research (CESAR)

How long have you been a member of SALIS? Ten years. I joined in 1999.

What organization do you work for and what is your position?
I am librarian at the Center for Substance Abuse Research at the University of Maryland at College Park. At CESAR, we monitor trends; conduct epidemiological and other research; evaluate prevention, intervention, and treatment programs; support state and local agencies; and train students in research methods and policy analysis.

How has being a member of SALIS enriched your life?
SALIS is an organization made up of great people doing meaningful work, the kind of people who are in it for the public good and not just to get rich and famous. My first conference was in New York in May 2000, and I was so impressed with the quality of the presentations and the people I met. The knowledge, expertise, and downright generosity of SALIS members are vital resources to which I turn frequently. I had the good fortune to be SALIS Secretary for several years, which gave me the opportunity to get to know other Board members very well, and believe me, they are the best!

Hobbies outside of work:
Book collecting, Running, Tennis, Research, Reading, Writing.

Favorite color:
This week it is green.

Favorite food:
I’ll eat just about anything that comes my way, with gusto, though I’ll admit a prejudice towards green beans, olives, cheese, & Kit-Kats.

Favorite book:
Two books I read recently and was very moved by: *A Fine Balance* by Rohinton Mistry; and *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy.

Is there anything else you want SALIS colleagues to know about you?
Best not.

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New Books
By Andrea L. Mitchell
Librarian

* Indicates non-English title
+ Government Document


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New Books from page 6

9780255365857, 0255365853 (paperback)


