

BETA PHI MU

Executive Board

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The Pipeline



www.beta-phi-mu.org

Winter, 2015

Executive Director's Column

Once again, change is upon us. It's hard to believe that it's been almost four years since the Beta Phi Mu Headquarters moved from Florida State University to Drexel University, and I took on the role of BPM's Executive Director.

During the past four years, we've had two able part-time Program Directors helping to manage the day-to-day operations of the Headquarters office, and many of those "behind the scenes" tasks that most members are unaware of but are necessary for the functioning of any organization. Both Erin Gabriele and Isabel Gray have gone on to full-time job opportunities elsewhere and I hope that I can say that their tenure at Beta Phi Mu was a

valuable stepping-stone on the way to those further opportunities. Please see the article on p. X regarding Isabel's recent departure and her many contributions.

During this time period, we've also facilitated over \$100,000 worth of scholarships and awards, enrolled thousands of new Beta Phi Mu members, planned board meetings and G-ALA events, helped launch a new scholarly publishing initiative, and produced semi-annual copies of this newsletter, *The Pipeline*, to help members stay in touch and aware of chapter activities and other relevant news.

It is too soon to say what the next phase will be in the history of Beta Phi Mu Head



Alison M. Lewis

quarters. More news will be coming by the next edition of *The Pipeline*, as the Beta Phi Mu Executive Board considers its options. For the time being, I will say that it has been an honor to serve this organization as I look forward to the final months of my tenure.

~ Alison Lewis

Stay in Touch with Beta Phi Mu —

One of the biggest challenges for a far-flung membership organization like Beta Phi Mu is simply keeping in touch. We're currently researching ways to leverage new technologies for better facilitating communication within our organization for all members. For now, the best way to keep abreast of what's happening

in Beta Phi Mu is to visit our website at:

<http://beta-phi-mu.org/>

All updates are also announced on the Beta Phi Mu accounts at LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter. Direct links for joining us on these social media outlets can be found on the website.



Disappointed you didn't win? Want some Beta Phi Mu branded gear of your own?

Visit the Beta Phi Mu Café Press Shop at:

<http://www.cafepress.com/betaphimuhq>

Congratulations to Our Survey Winners!

Over four hundred members took part in our recent membership survey! We thank all who participated, and will have information concerning the results of the survey available to members following the Beta Phi Mu Executive Board meeting at ALA Mid-winter.

Everyone who completed the survey was eligible for one of three chances to win an item of their choice from the Beta Phi Mu Café Press shop. Congratulations to the following members, chosen by the random number generator at Random.org:

Julie Deardoff, Cedarville, OH
Donna Hornberger, Traverse City, MI
Peter Kopecek, Palm Bay, FL

2016 Scholarship Season Now Open!

Every year, Beta Phi Mu provides over \$25,000 worth of scholarships to outstanding students, members, and researchers! See the final page of this newsletter for the 2015 winners.

Applications are now available for the following 2016 Beta Phi Mu scholarships and fellowships:

Know a promising potential member of the Library and Information Science profession? The **Sarah Rebecca Reed Scholarship** provides \$2,250 to a beginning LIS student, and the **Blanche E. Woolls Scholarship** provides \$2,250 to a

beginning LIS student with a concentration in school library media.

The **Frank B. Sessa Scholarship** is specifically for Beta Phi Mu members, and provides \$1,500 for continuing education.

The **Harold Lancour Scholarship** provides \$1,750 to a librarian conducting foreign research.

And, thanks to the continuing generosity of Dr. Eugene Garfield, the **Eugene Garfield Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships** provide \$3,000 to help support doctoral students in LIS and

related fields who are in the dissertation-writing stage of their degree program.

Help spread the word to all who might be interested in, and benefit from, any of these awards! For more information, and links to the online scholarship applications, see:

<http://beta-phi-mu.org/scholarships/>



Beta Phi Mu G-ALA: Initiation, Networking, and Good Times for Beta Phi Mu Members at ALA Annual

The 2015 Beta Phi Mu G-ALA at the ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco was a treat. In case you didn't know, the Beta Phi Mu G-ALA is part business meeting, part initiation ceremony, and part social. Approximately 25 Beta Phi Mu members attended.

The business meeting is the time when the Board and Headquarters staff conveys new business to the chapters. Scholarship winners and election results are announced; the election for new Directors is held and chapter reports are read by chapter representatives. Chapter reports usually generate discussion at the G-ALA because the reports usually include ideas that chapters might want to explore.

Vicki Gregory, Beta Phi chapter representative and newly elected Director for the Executive Board, explained how her chapter has eased the economic burden of joining Beta Phi Mu by allowing newly invited members to pay their membership fee in installments. This initiative generates a lot of good will and has proven successful for Beta Phi.

Vicki's chapter report caused a lot of discussion at the G-ALA; don't be surprised if your chapter uses this approach in the future.

The initiation ceremony is an important part of the G-ALA as it provides a chance for members who were unable to attend their own initiation or for members-at-large to participate in an initiation.

Three Beta Phi Mu members were initiated at this year's G-ALA. **Robin Canuel**, a 2002 initiate from McGill University was formally initiated at the G-ALA. Joining him were **Kendra Giannini**, a 2015 initiate from Simmons College (Beta Beta), and **Halley Little**, a 2015 initiate from Valdosta University (Beta Beta Mu).

The G-ALA concluded with a raffle to help promote Beta Phi Mu products available on CafePress (<http://www.cafepress.com/betaphimuhq>). **Emily Knox** won the key chain, **Kendra Giannini** won the mug, the water bottle was won by **Em Claire Knowles**, and **Jodi Shaw** won the tote bag.

Attendees lingered to enjoy the food and each other's company. We hope that more Beta Phi Mu members will include the next G-ALA in their schedule for the 2016 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida.

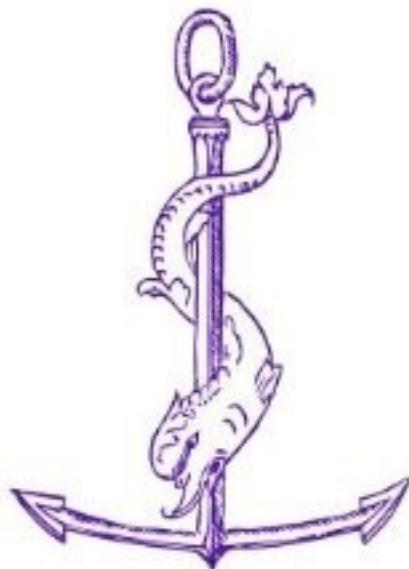
~ Isabel Gray



New Beta Phi Mu Initiates, from L to R:

Kendra Giannini, Robin Canuel, and Halley Little

Chapter News — Beta Psi Chapter



Beta Psi Chapter, of the University of Southern Mississippi, holds a program each year during the Mississippi Library Association annual meeting. For the 2014 meeting, the speaker was David Maggio, a guide for the Vicksburg National Military Park and the City of Vicksburg. Mr. Maggio spoke on the older homes of Vicksburg and the history of Vicksburg from the time of inception until after the Civil War.

The chapter also sponsors the Annual Student Research Competition and funds the annual Beta Phi Mu Scholarship for an SLIS student at the University of Southern Mississippi. The 2013 award was presented to Callie Wiygul at the Special Libraries section meeting during the Mississippi Library Association's annual meeting in Biloxi in October, 2013.

Also at that meeting Jennifer Nabzdyk was installed as the chapter's Vice President/President Elect.

Beta Beta Theta Chapter

Beta Beta Theta Chapter, based at the University of Iowa, held their 28th Annual Chapter Program on May 13, 2015 at Mount Mercy University in Cedar Rapids. The speaker was Anne Marie Gruber, Assistant Director for Library Instruction & Public Services, University of Dubuque. She is also President of the Iowa Chapter of ACRL. Her topic was "Be a Newbie, Do the Unexpected, Embrace Advocacy: Lessons Learned (Mostly the Hard Way)."

New members of the chapter include: Roberto A. Arteaga, Justin L. Baumgartner, Kathrina Litchfield, and

Christine M. Moeller (*nee* Vivian).

The chapter's 2014 scholarship winners were: Jillian Phillips, Stephanie M. Blalock, and Amy M. Koopmann.

Lindsay Mattock took on the role of faculty advisor for the chapter in the 2014-2015 academic year. She holds an MLIS (2009) and Ph.D. (2014) from the University of Pittsburg, where she was inducted into the Pi Chapter in 2014. She was preceded in the faculty advisor role by Joan Bessman Taylor, who served in the position from 2010 to 2014. Bessman has taken a new

position at the University of Northern Iowa. She was credited with devising a system which enabled new Beta Beta Theta chapter members to be inducted prior to graduation ceremonies.

Members of the chapter Executive Council are: Kristy Raine, President; Suzanne Araas Vesely, Past President; Dottie Persson, Vice-President/President Elect; and Marilyn Swanson, Secretary-Treasurer.

Chapter News — Alpha Chapter

The Alpha Chapter annual meeting was held on Saturday, November 7, at the Hawthorne Suites hotel in Champaign, IL. Sixteen students from the class of 2014/2015 class and two graduates from previous classes accepted the invitation to join Alpha Chapter, four of whom were present to be in the initiation ceremony and sign the Great Roll.

Dr. Smith shared the citation that accompanied the presentation of the Anne M. Boyd Award to Anna M. Boyd Trammell at the May 2015 Graduate School of Library and Information Science graduation ceremony. This annual Chapter award named for a distinguished and beloved GSLIS faculty member is given to recognize an outstanding graduating student. Ms. Trammell has distinguished herself not only through her exceptional performance as a student, but also through her leadership in GSLIS as an officer in the Society of American Archivists Student Chapter and MS student representative to the GSLIS Curriculum Committee and through her many contributions to the work of various units of the University Library.

Members voted to establish an endowed fund titled "Alpha Chapter of Beta Phi Mu Award Support Fund." This endowment fund was created to provide a secure, sustainable source of funding for our Chapter's named awards and designated GSLIS student support. A vote followed to transfer a portion of the Chapter's general funds into the endowment fund.

Other business included:

- A report on a new Chapter website;
- A report on National Assembly activities;
- A report on a transfer of Alpha Chapter back files this past summer to the University Library's Student Life and Culture Archives as part of the records retention policy initiated in 2014;
- A report on exploration of resources, costs, etc. to provide streaming video of annual meetings that will continue in the new year;
- Election of officers. Following the ceremony and business meeting, over thirty Alpha Chapter members and their guests enjoyed a luncheon, followed with a talk by Sue Searing, Alpha Chapter Representative to

Advisory Assembly, national Beta Phi Mu Director-at-Large, and Interim Associate University Librarian for User Services/Associate Dean of Libraries at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Professor Searing retired this past August after nearly 40 years as a librarian, almost half of that at UIUC, and will be moving to Minnesota. In her presentation *Consumed in Service to Others*, Professor Searing reflected on her long and distinguished career in which she has been witness and participant to broad and profound changes in librarianship. We wish her well on her new chapter in life where we know she will continue to find brilliant new ways to be *Consumed in Service to Others*.



Alpha Chapter initiates: L to R, Victoria C. Moré, Linda M. Wessels, Dena L. Strong, and Louisa M. Kwasigroch.

Dr. A. Kathryn Oller, 98, of Waynesboro, PA passed away on May 29, 2015. She was born July 1, 1916 to the late Daniel G. and Blanche (Ruthrauff) Oller. She lived her early life in Waynesboro.

Dr. Oller graduated from Waynesboro High School with the class of 1934. She later graduated from Juniata College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1938 and received her Bachelor of Science degree in Library Science from Drexel University in 1939. She was awarded a Master of Science from the University of Illinois in 1951 and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Michigan in 1963.

She was the Associate Dean and Professor of the College of Information Science and Technology (now the College of Computing and Informatics) at Drexel University for 30 years, from 1952 until 1982. Prior to her tenure at Drexel, Dr. Oller was Assistant Professor at Florida State University and held various positions in the Huntingdon County Library, Juniata College Library, Adams County Library, and the Pennsylvania State Library. She also had an exchange professorship at Liverpool Polytechnic in the United Kingdom.

In retirement, she lived in Waynesboro, where she was active in a number of organizations, including the Waynesboro Historical Society, the Renfrew Museum and Park, the Renfrew Institute, and the Alexander Hamilton Memorial Library. She was a lifelong

In Memorium —

Dr. A. Kathryn Oller



member of the Church of the Brethren, attending both the Philadelphia First Church of the Brethren and the Waynesboro Church of the Brethren.

Dr. Oller was a member of the American Library Association, the Pennsylvania Library Association, and Beta Phi Mu. Anyone wishing to do so may remember Dr. Oller through a contribution to the Waynesboro Church of the Brethren, 117 S. Church St., Waynesboro, PA 17268; or the Waynesboro Historical Society, 138 W. Main St., Waynesboro, PA 17268.

Delores Sue Lifson, 1937-2013

Sue Lifson was a charter member of the Beta Beta Theta Chapter of Beta Phi Mu, based at the University of Iowa. She received her MLS degree from Indiana University. She held a variety of positions: teaching high school English, journalism and theater prior to getting her master's degree, and running the children's program at the Brooklyn Public Library afterwards.

A native Iowan, Sue was a teacher librarian in the

Cedar Rapids Prairie school district and a reference librarian at Cornell College from 1975 until she retired in 1999.

She was active in her church, First Presbyterian in Mount Vernon, the Iowa League of Women Voters, and Ingleside, the prestigious women's literary club founded over 100 years ago.

Anyone wishing to remember Sue may make a donation in her name to the First Presbyterian Church,



301/309 First St. NW, Mt. Vernon, IA 52314 or to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

In Appreciation: Beta Phi Mu Program Director, Isabel Gray

It's with a mixture of sadness and happiness that we announce the departure of Beta Phi Mu Program Director, **Isabel Gray**. Isabel came to work at Beta Phi Mu at a particularly challenging time: in June, 2014, directly prior to ALA Annual meeting in Las Vegas. She hit the ground running and was a tremendous help in getting materials prepared for the semi-annual Executive Board meeting and for the G-ALA event. For the next year and a half, she took care of all of the day-to-day operations of the Beta Phi Mu office, including membership processing; answering questions from and providing outreach to Beta Phi Mu members, chapters, and LIS programs; newsletter pro-

duction; website maintenance; scholarship management; finances; meeting planning; record-keeping; and all of the various tasks that help keep our organization running. Many of you will have interacted with her in one of these roles and no doubt remember her friendly efficiency.

Isabel graduated with her MS LIS degree from Drexel University and is a member of Drexel's Sigma Chapter of Beta Phi Mu.

As much as her presence is missed at Beta Phi Mu, we wish Isabel all the best in her new role as an academic librarian at Camden County College Library in Blackwood, NJ.



BPM Program Director Isabel Gray (L), with BPM Executive Director Alison Lewis at the BPM G-ALA event in San Francisco.

Welcome to Our New Board Members!



L to R: Vicki Gregory, Bill Davis, and Emily Knox. Not pictured: Krystyna Matusiak; Linda C. Smith.

Beta Phi Mu welcomes its newest Executive Board members:

- Bill Davis**, Public Relations and Marketing, Canton, GA;
- Vicki Gregory**, School of Information, University of South Florida;
- Emily Knox**, GSLIS, University of Illinois; and
- Krystyna Matusiak**, LIS Program, University of Denver.

We also welcome **Linda C. Smith**, GSLIS, University of Illinois, our new Vice-President/President Elect.

We appreciate your willingness to actively serve our organization!

BETA PHI MU

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Beta Phi Mu was founded in 1948 by a group of leading librarians and library educators to recognize and encourage scholastic achievement among library and information studies students. Our name comes from the initials of the Greek words *Bibliothekarios philax mathesis*, meaning “librarians are the guardians of knowledge.” The motto, *Aliis inserviando consumor*, meaning “Consumed in the service of others” was selected by the founders based on the concept of the dedication of librarians and other information professionals to the service of others. Eligibility for membership in Beta Phi Mu is by invitation of the faculty from institutions where the American Library Association, or other recognized accrediting agency approved by the Beta Phi Mu Executive Board, has accredited or recognized a professional degree program.

Congratulations to the 2015 Scholarship and Fellowship Award Winners!

We're pleased to announce those selected for scholarships and fellowship awards for the 2015 Beta Phi Mu scholarship season:

Sarah Rebecca Reed Scholarship (\$2,250 each)

Rebecca Greenstein and Alena Principato, both enrolled at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Blanche E. Woolls Scholarship for School Library Media Service (\$2,250)

Kathryn Shaw, enrolled at the University of Alabama

Frank B. Sessa Scholarship for Continuing Education of a Beta Phi Mu Member (\$1,500)

DawnMarin Dell of the Texas Tech University School of Law Library

Harold Lancour Scholarship for Foreign Study (\$1,750)

Elizabeth Cramer, Appalachian State University, for the study of international library development in India

Eugene Garfield Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (\$3,000 each)

Tiffany Chao
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Morgan Currie
University of California, Los Angeles

Noah Lenstra
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Teresa Prendergast
University of British Columbia

Nicholas Weber
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Ayoung Yoon
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill