



# BETA PHI MU **OMICRON CHAPTER**

*International Library and Information Science Honor Society*

**H**appy fall, Omicron members! We had an active and successful season, thanks to your participation and support! This issue of the newsletter is an online-only publication. Look for a print edition of the spring issue in your mailbox!

## **2011 OMICRON ANNUAL MEETING**

**M**embers, initiates, scholarship recipients, faculty members, and special guests attended the 2011 Omicron annual meeting at the Rutgers Club. **Susan Conlon**, librarian at the **Princeton Public Library**, offered the after dinner talk, **“Change Is Good! Connection & Innovation in an On-demand World.”**

Susan discussed her success in engaging the community by developing innovative takes on programs and services. She also shared her successful approach to harnessing social networking and online communications to drive in-person participation and attendance.



*Susan Conlon, the Annual Meeting Speaker, talks about innovation in library services*

During the meeting, we recognized and welcomed our 23 initiates (listed below).

## **2011 BΦM INITIATES**

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Jamie L. Barbaccia      | Madelyne Burr-Asher    |
| Joanna J. DiPasquale    | Deborah A. Fanslow     |
| Jen Fitzgerald          | Ariel Marie Franklin   |
| Teresa Avis Gibbons     | Caitlin Hull           |
| Joan A. Keegan          | Julina Lee             |
| Kathryn Guthrie Merzena | Nicole Jennifer Newman |
| Michael C. Overgard     | Renee M. Rogers        |
| Cathy S. Salomon        | Carole J. Stubeck      |
| Alex Tretiak            | Gerald W. Van Slooten  |
| Jaimie L. Vigue         | Krista Welz            |
| Susan Wengler           | Katherine A. Wiggins   |
| Marci Zane              |                        |

The meeting also served as an opportunity to elect this year’s slate of officers (see below). New initiate Katherine Wiggins agreed to serve as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. Welcome Kate!

## **2011-2012 OFFICERS ELECTED**

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| President:            | Melissa A. Hofmann  |
| Vice President:       | Maureen Smyth       |
| Sec./Treasurer:       | Kristen Fitzpatrick |
| Asst. Sec./Treasurer: | Katherine Wiggins   |
| Past President:       | Susan Quinn Faculty |
| Advisor:              | Dr. Marie Radford   |

The agenda, minutes, and photos may be found in the “Events” section of our website at <http://betaphimuomicron.wordpress.com>.

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **2012 ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 24**

**T**his year’s annual meeting of the Omicron Chapter will be held on **April 24, 2012 at 6 PM at the Rutgers Club** in New Brunswick, NJ. A cash bar will be open for early arrivals, followed by a buffet dinner, initiation

ceremony for new Omicron Chapter inductees, annual meeting, and after-dinner speaker. Parking is available at the Club.

**Look for more details and a form for membership renewal, dinner reservation, and scholarship donation in the Spring newsletter.**

### SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

**T**he Omicron Chapter of Beta Phi Mu is especially proud of its mission to provide **scholarships** each for current Rutgers School of Communication and Information (SC&I) students who are pursuing the master's degree in library and information science. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to increase the number of recipients once again.

This year, we provided **\$1,000 scholarships** each to four worthy recipients, **Natalia Ermolaev, Shanna Hollich, Miraida Morales, and Anna Raya Rivera**, selected from another impressive pool of applicants. Thank you to the following donors:

January Victoria Adams	Tamara Alito
Karen Brunner	Jill Butcher
Kay Cassell	Jayashree Chatterjee
Linda Cifelli	Cynthia E. Condon
Hendrik Edelman	Judith Everitt
Kristen M. Fitzpatrick	Beverly Genneta
Melissa A. Hofmann	Judith Trostel Howard
Ronald Jantz	Andrew Levandowski
Phyllis Lockwood	Beverly Luck
Ruth Lufkin	Brigitte Mankiewicz
Lori McConnell	Virginia McDonnell
Claire McInerney	Stephanie Mikitish
Susan Moss	Andrea Ouida
Hope Preston	Susan M. Quinn
Marie Radford	Patricia Reeling
Juan Rodriguez	Stephen Rogow
Enola Rose Romano	Mary Riskind
Maureen Smyth	Ann Snowman
Linda Tripp	Karen Vaias
Jana Varlejs	Maria Webb

*Our sincere apologies if we have failed to recognize anyone!*

If you know a current Rutgers SC&I student who is studying for a Master of Library and Information Science, please tell him/her about this opportunity. **The form may be found on our web site** or by contacting Maureen Smyth, Vice President, via email at [maureen.smyth@gmail.com](mailto:maureen.smyth@gmail.com).

Please consider supporting this worthy effort with a donation when you receive the Spring membership renewal.

### FALL LECTURE A SUCCESS!

**O**n Wednesday, October 5, 2011, **Marc Aronson, Ph.D.** (YA author and lecturer for Rutgers University, School of Communication and Information) paired with **Evan St. Lifer** (Vice President, Digital Initiatives, Scholastic Library Publishing) to present the Beta Phi Mu Omicron Chapter 2011 Fall Lecture: **“The Exploding Book and the Smiling Librarian.”**



*Marc Aronson shares his thoughts on the book...and why librarians are still smiling*

Attendees were challenged to rethink the idea of “the book,” with particular focus children’s literature, the learning process, and how librarians can best embrace the

ever-increasing combination of technology and the written word to best facilitate learning and service. Dr. Aronson defined librarians as “the digital weaver[s] bringing together strands in the digital world.” Evan St. Lifer stated that, “technology is not the end...technology is the means to an end. ...It can help us change lives. It can help us reform education as we know it.”



*Evan St. Lifer discusses the role of technology in publishing, education, and libraries*

By the end of the presentation, the collective understanding of books and teaching had been transformed to allow the limitless possibilities of their technical future room to grow, just as manuscript copiers once allowed the possibility that Guttenberg’s press could revitalize the way we pass on the written word.

This year’s lecture was co-sponsored by: Rutgers University Libraries; Department of Library and Information Science, School of Communication and Information; and Rutgers University School of Communication and Information Alumni Association.

Thank you to our wonderful speakers as well as our program partners, BΦM members, and attendees for an enlightening and enjoyable evening!

## **GET UPDATES FROM US!**

**T**he Omicron chapter’s website, at <http://betaphimuomicron.wordpress.com>, allows you to sign up for email updates or RSS feeds when new information is posted. It’s easy. And don’t worry—we are low traffic! Remember: All **news, photos, bios, newsletters, and scholarship applications** can be found on our website.

If you would like to be a **contributing author** to our **blog**, please email [maureen.smyth@gmail.com](mailto:maureen.smyth@gmail.com) so that we can add you. Anyone may submit comments to posts—we encourage you!

For those of you on **Facebook**, we also have a “Beta Phi Mu, Omicron Chapter” page. **Hope to see you there!**

## **MEMBER NEWS**

Please send us your career updates and news to publish in the next newsletter and/or on our website/blog. Email [maureen.smyth@gmail.com](mailto:maureen.smyth@gmail.com) with updates on your career, professional activities, and family news!

## **BETA PHI MU NATIONAL CHAPTER**

**T**he Fall 2011 edition of Beta Phi Mu’s online national newsletter, *The Pipeline*, is available on the web at: <http://www.beta-phi-mu.org>

## **ARE YOU MOVING?**

**P**lease remember to let us know if your address changes. Virtual Move? Please let us know your preferred email address. We want to keep our members as informed as possible as efficiently as possible!

Please notify Kristen Fitzpatrick at [K.Fitzpatrick@ieee.org](mailto:K.Fitzpatrick@ieee.org).