

Current Comments®

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To Recognize and Encourage Excellence: ISI-Sponsored Awards. Part 2. Fellowships and Lecture Programs

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The first part of this essay covered the various honorific awards sponsored or cosponsored by ISI®.¹ As I observed, awards serve many purposes, benefiting not only the recipient but the sponsor as well. ISI supports other types of awards, including fellowships and lectureships, primarily in library and information science. Having experienced the financial and prestige benefits of a fellowship at a particularly opportune time during my own student days, I have a special appreciation of these programs.

Fellowships

Medical Library Association

Sponsors of fellowships at universities, both American and foreign, are of course numerous. As it happens, even before I managed to obtain a graduate degree, I had been associated with several professional societies, including the American Society for Information Science (ASIS), the Medical Library Association (MLA), the American Library Association (ALA), and the Special Libraries Association (SLA). So I was eager to see these organizations sponsor fellowships that were independent of any particular university. My first contact with the MLA was in 1951 at the Welch Medical Library, Baltimore, Maryland. It wasn't until 1986, however, that ISI began sponsorship of the MLA Doctoral Fellowship, designed to "foster and encourage superior students to conduct doctoral work in medical librarianship or information science."² As is the case with the awards mentioned in the first part of this essay, ISI funds this and other fellowships, but professional organizations, in this case the MLA, select the fellows and

handle all administrative functions. This program is listed in Table 1, along with the other fellowships and lecture programs that ISI supports. The names of the recipients and lecturers appear in Table 2.

The 1987 recipient of the MLA fellowship was Joanne Gard Marshall, a doctoral candidate in health sciences at the University of Toronto, Canada. The fellowship was presented to Marshall to support her investigation of the diffusion and adoption of information technology by health professionals in practice settings. In particular, Marshall plans to study the impact of these processes on the health-sciences library community.

Special Libraries Association

Readers of *Current Contents*® who are unfamiliar with the many varieties of library and information workers may not realize that "special" means specialized. Many sci-tech and other specialized libraries are members of the SLA. ISI sponsors a scholarship administered by the SLA. Established in 1983, this scholarship is intended for a qualified student in library or information science who is just beginning doctoral studies. For unknown reasons, there were no applicants for the fellowship in 1984 and 1985, and so no awards. Whatever the reason, it is unfortunate that such funds go unused in this manner when there are surely students who could make use of them. In 1986 the fellowship was awarded to Beth Paskoff, science bibliographer, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

Association of College and Research Libraries

Another scholarship sponsored by ISI is administered by the Association of College

Table 1: ISI®-sponsored fellowships and lecture programs with name of administering organization and contact address.

Award	Administrator	First Year of Award	Amount of Award
Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)/ISI Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship	ACRL 50 East Huron Street Chicago, IL 60611	1984	\$1,000
Eugene Garfield Lecture	University of Strathclyde Business School Department of Information Science Livingstone Tower 26 Richmond Street Glasgow G1 1XH Scotland	1986	\$200
ISI Information Science Doctoral Dissertation Scholarship	American Society for Information Science 1424 16th Street, NW Suite 404 Washington, DC 20036	1982	\$1,000
Medical Library Association (MLA) Doctoral Fellowship	MLA 919 North Michigan Avenue Suite 3208 Chicago, IL 60611	1986	\$1,000
Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Acquisitions or Technical Services in an Academic or Research Library	ACRL 50 East Huron Street Chicago, IL 60611	1983	\$1,000

and Research Libraries (ACRL), which, as one of the many divisions of the ALA, sets professional standards for academic libraries. This is the ACRL/ISI Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, which provides funds for a student working on a dissertation in the area of academic librarianship. The purpose of the scholarship, of course, is to foster original, creative research in this area. Recipients need not be members of the ACRL. The 1984 recipient of the fellowship was Donald P. Gould, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, whose research concerned time-stratified systems theory as applied to levels of work in academic-library technical services departments.

In 1985 the fellowship was awarded to Vicki Gregory, Auburn University, Montgomery, Alabama, and Joanne R. Euster, University of California, Berkeley. As Euster wrote in a letter to Morton Malin, then ISI's vice president for professional relations but now retired, "While I am obviously pleased to have my own research supported, I also believe that visible encouragement and acknowledgment of this sort helps to foster the growth of scholarship in librarianship more generally."³

Another fellowship administered by the ACRL and sponsored by ISI honors the late Samuel Lazerow, who served as ISI's vice president for administration from 1972 until his death in 1981. Lazerow had a distinguished career in library and information science. As I've reported previously, he held high-level administrative posts in each of the three national libraries of the US—the National Agricultural Library, the National Library of Medicine, and the Library of Congress.⁴ It is entirely fitting, therefore, that he be honored with a fellowship in his name.

The full name of the fellowship is the Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Acquisitions or Technical Services in an Academic or Research Library. It is intended to give a practicing librarian funds to aid research, travel, or writing. The 1987 Lazerow fellowship was awarded to Margaret Ann Johnson, head of technical services, University of Minnesota, St. Paul.⁵ Johnson proposed to study the different methods of implementing technological changes in libraries and the relative success of each method. The plan involved a survey of 100 technical services units in academic libraries. A previous winner, in 1983, was

Award	Administrator	First Year of Award	Amount of Award	
Samuel Lazerow Memorial Lecture	Columbia University School of Library Science New York, NY 10027	1983	\$500	
	Drexel University School of Library & Information Science Philadelphia, PA 19104	1983	\$500	
	Florida State University School of Library and Information Science Tallahassee, FL 32306	1985	\$500	
	Indiana University School of Library & Information Science Bloomington, IN 47405	1983	\$500	
	North Texas State University School of Library & Information Science N.T. Box 13796 Denton, TX 76203-3796 and Texas Woman's University School of Library Science P.O. Box 22905 Denton, TX 76204	1984	\$500	
	Simmons College Graduate School of Library & Information Science 300 The Fenway Boston, MA 02115	1985	\$500	
	University of California Graduate School of Library & Information Science Los Angeles, CA 90024	1985	\$500	
	University of Pittsburgh School of Library & Information Science Pittsburgh, PA 15260	1983	\$500	
	Special Libraries Association (SLA)/ ISI Doctoral Scholarship	SLA 1700 18th Street, NW Washington, DC 20009	1983	\$1,000

Denise D. Bedford, who won the fellowship for her proposal to study the cost of cataloging, labeling, and shelving books and periodicals in large research libraries.

American Society for Information Science

An award administered by ASIS, with sponsorship from ISI, is known as the ISI Information Science Doctoral Dissertation

Scholarship. Like the other scholarships, this one is designed to foster research in information science by encouraging and assisting doctoral students in the field with their dissertation research. The 1986 winner was Elizabeth Liddy, Syracuse University, New York, whose proposal was entitled "Frame structure and semantic relations in abstracts."⁶ Frame structure is a term used in linguistics relating to information recognition and description.

Table 2: Fellowship recipients and lecturers in ISI®-sponsored programs.

Award	Year	Recipient
ACRL/ISI Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship	1984	Donald P. Gould
	1985	Joanne R. Euster & Vicki Gregory
	1986	Gemma De Vinney
	1987	Ling Hwey Jeng
Eugene Garfield Lecture	1986	William H. Melody
	1987	Kenneth Cooper
ISI Information Science Doctoral Dissertation Scholarship	1982	Susan Bonzi
	1983	Barbara Rapp & Carol Tenopir
	1984	Danny P. Wallace
	1985	Gail Thornburg
	1986	Elizabeth Liddy
MLA Doctoral Fellowship	1986	Ann C. Weller
	1987	Joanne Gard Marshall
Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Acquisitions or Technical Services in an Academic or Research Library	1983	Denise D. Bedford
	1984	Not awarded
	1985	Anne Highsmith
	1986	Not awarded
	1987	Margaret Ann Johnson
Samuel Lazerow Memorial Lecture		
Columbia University	1983	Frederick G. Kilgour
	1984	Herbert B. Landau
	1985	Not awarded
	1986	Charles Meadows
Drexel University	1983	Susan Martin
	1984	Lillian Moore Bradshaw
	1985	Not awarded
	1986	Herbert R. Brinberg
Florida State University	1985	Lester Asheim
	1986	Joseph Becker
	1987	Michael Buckland
Indiana University	1983	Carlos Cuadra
	1984	Toni Carbo Bearman
	1985	Not awarded
	1986	Blaise Cronin
	1987	Beverly P. Lynch
North Texas State University/Texas Woman's University	1984	Allen Kent
	1985	Not awarded
	1986	Patricia Battin
	1987	Herbert Goldhor
Simmons College	1985	Carol Nemeyer
	1986	Frank H. Spaulding
University of California, Los Angeles	1985	William Paisley
	1986	Michael Rogers Rubin
	1987	A.J. Meadows
University of Pittsburgh	1983	Richard De Gennaro
	1984	William D. Baker
	1985	Glen Bacon
	1986	Rowland Brown
SLA/ISI Doctoral Scholarship	1983	Stephen F. Cummings
	1984	Not awarded
	1985	Not awarded
	1986	Beth Paskoff

Lectureships

Samuel Lazerow Memorial Lecture Series

In addition to the fellowships in support of research and education in information science, ISI sponsors lecture programs in the US and abroad. One of these programs, begun in 1983, is the Samuel Lazerow Memorial Lecture series. The series is designed to promote excellence in library science by putting scholars and students in touch with eminent thinkers in the field. The program was established at four colleges or universities during the 1983-1984 academic year and expanded to five more institutions the next year. The schools themselves have responsibility for administrative details, including the selection of the lecturer, but ISI provides an honorarium for the speaker as well as funds to cover administrative costs.

The initial series of lectures has been collected in book form under the title *Libraries and Information Science in the Electronic Age*.⁷ The topics include "The coming era of local electronic libraries," "Modern techniques linking knowledge to action," and "The challenge of the emerging information society: are we ready?" Topics from the 1986 Lazerow lectures include "Blurring boundaries: educating the information professionals," "Information economics and information policy," and "Libraries, technology, and scholarship."

In 1986 a similar series was begun in the UK at the University of Strathclyde Business School, Glasgow, Scotland. At the suggestion of Blaise Cronin, of Strathclyde's Department of Information Science, the lectureship was named the Eugene Garfield Lecture.⁸ Cronin is the author of *The Cita-*

tion Process.⁹ Some of the unique programs at Strathclyde were described recently.¹⁰ One of the great moments in my association with the university was my first meeting with its chancellor, Lord Todd, whose work (as Alexander Todd) on nucleotides and nucleotide coenzymes won him the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1957.¹¹

The first Eugene Garfield Lecture at Strathclyde was given by William H. Melody, director, Program on Information and Communications Technologies, Economic and Social Research Council, London. Melody spoke on "Some implications of change in the information age."

ISI's involvement in these awards, fellowships, and lecture programs is motivated by a simple principle of corporate philanthropy, that self-interest and community interest can be mutually reinforcing. I trust that the awards in the library and information science professions will continue to increase the visibility and prestige of these disciplines—disciplines too often taken for granted by the scientific community. In all, these awards signify ISI's commitment to excellence. Recently, we published a brochure that contains ISI's mission statement, which reflects that commitment.¹² I hope that students and professionals alike will be inspired by our dedication to excellence both in research and in our own products.

* * * * *

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