



# BETA PHI MU | OMICRON CHAPTER

*International Library and Information Science Honor Society*

## Find Us Online

We have a new website:

<http://bit.ly/bpmomicron>

Follow us on Facebook:

<http://facebook.com/betaphimuomicron>

## Stay in Touch

If you've moved or have changed email addresses, please contact this year's chapter secretary, Meaghan Darling at [meaghandarling@gmail.com](mailto:meaghandarling@gmail.com).

## Have News?

We'd love to hear about your new job, retirement, publication, or presentation so we can share it in the next newsletter.

Send announcements to Melody Townley at

[meltownley@gmail.com](mailto:meltownley@gmail.com).

## Show your BPM Pride

Beta Phi Mu has an online shop where you can purchase honors cords, insignia pins, and more.

Find the shop online at:

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

Happy spring, Omicron members! We had another active and successful year thanks to your participation and support. This issue of the newsletter includes your annual renewal form and scholarship donation request.

Whether you are renewing or are a lifetime member, please consider making a donation to our scholarship fund, which last year awarded three exceptional students \$1,000 each in recognition of their outstanding scholastic achievement.

We hope to see you at this year's annual meeting and dinner!

## 2016 Omicron Annual Meeting & Dinner

This year's annual meeting and dinner will be on Tuesday, April 5 at the Rutgers Club. Our guest speaker, **Leslie Burger**, is a former ALA president, former director of the Princeton Public Library, and now is a partner at the consulting firm, Library Development Solutions. She will give the after-dinner talk.

At the dinner we will also be recognizing the newest class of inductees, as well as this year's scholarship winners.

## Report on the 2015 Annual Meeting & Dinner

The Spring 2015 annual meeting and dinner was held on Tuesday, April 28. Our speaker, Dr. Mark Sandler, director of the Center for Library Initiatives at the Committee for Institutional Cooperation (CIC), gave a presentation titled, "A Joyful Noise: Living Loud in the Library."

## Omicron Chapter Initiates

The Omicron chapters also inducted 11 new initiates at the dinner:

- Juliette Appold
- David Beales
- Kate Bellody
- Phebe Dickson
- Jennifer Hunter
- Dalynn R. Knigge
- Janet Lazar
- Kristen Mapes
- Susan McCabe
- Lisa Olszewski
- Judy Peyton

## Omicron Chapter Officers 2015 – 2016

**Acting President:** Jennifer Hunter,  
Reference & Instruction Librarian,  
Penn State Abington

**Acting Vice President:** Melody  
Townley, Educational Media  
Specialist, Woodbridge Township  
Schools

**Secretary:** Meaghan Darling, Youth  
Services Librarian, Long Hill  
Township Public Library

**Treasurer:** Open

**Past President:** Maureen Smyth,  
Librarian, South Hunterdon Regional  
High School

**Faculty Adviser:** Marie Radford,  
Professor, Department of Library &  
Information Science; Director, Ph.D.  
Program

## Volunteer for 2016 – 2017

The following position is open for  
the coming year.

- Treasurer

Please consider volunteering for this  
position, which involves keeping the  
organization's financial accounts in  
order.

Elections will take place at the  
Annual Meeting & Dinner on April 5,  
2016.

If you have questions about the  
position, please contact Jennifer  
Hunter at [jxh93@psu.edu](mailto:jxh93@psu.edu).

## Report on the 2015 Annual Meeting & Dinner, ctd.

### Scholarship Recipients

The Omicron chapter is especially proud of its mission to provide scholarships for current MI students at Rutgers iSchool. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to increase the number of recipients once again. In 2015, we provided \$1,000 scholarships to three worthy recipients:

- William Bejarano
- John Daquino
- Christine Forbes

### Dr. Wayne Wiegand Delivers Fall 2015 Lecture: “Thinking Differently About Libraries”

This year's BPM Omicron Chapter's fall lecture was presented by Dr. Wayne A. Wiegand on Friday, September 18, 2015 from 7pm to 8:30pm in the Alexander Library Scholarly Communication Center.

Dr. Wiegand is a noted author, librarian, historian, and scholar as well as Professor Emeritus at Florida State University. His engaging and well-attended talk centered on a discussion of his newest book *Part of our Lives: A People's History of the American Public Library* (Oxford University Press, 2015). This book is the result of many years of research into the history of public libraries.

His talk highlighted the role that libraries have played in the lives of ordinary and extraordinary American citizens. Over many decades, since their establishment, a multitude of people have found libraries to be refuges where they could freely access services and collections that have had a huge impact on their education and livelihood. Libraries have also played a key role in democratic society and have been sites of activism, especially for the poor and oppressed.

Dr. Wiegand said that other histories of libraries were from the institutional or professional point of view; this one is unique as it is from the people's point of view. A lively question and answer period followed, moderated by Dr. Marie Radford, Professor and Beta Phi Mu Faculty Advisor.

The lecture was co-sponsored by the New Jersey Center for the book, Rutgers University Libraries, the SC&I Alumni Association, and the SC&I Library and Information Science Department and Ph.D. Program.