Happy 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

Members, 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.

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 ΦΜ 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 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

This 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**

The 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  
Karen Brunner  
Kay Cassell  
Linda Cifelli  
Hendrik Edelman  
Kristen M. Fitzpatrick  
Melissa A. Hofmann  
Ronald Jantz  
Phyllis Lockwood  
Ruth Lufkin  
Lori McConnell  
Claire McNerney  
Susan Moss  
Hope Preston  
Marie Radford  
Juan Rodriguez  
Enola Rose Romano  
Maureen Smyth  
Linda Tripp  
Jana Varlejs

Tamara Alito  
Jill Butcher  
Jayashree Chatterjee  
Cynthia E. Condon  
Judith Everitt  
Beverly Genneta  
Judith Trostel Howard  
Andrew Levandowski  
Beverly Luck  
Brigitte Mankiewicz  
Virginia McDonnell  
Stephanie Mikitish  
Andrea Ouida  
Susan M. Quinn  
Patricia Reeling  
Stephen Rogow  
Mary Riskind  
Ann Snowman  
Karen Vaias  
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.

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

**FALL LECTURE A SUCCESS!**

On 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, ΒΦΜ members, and attendees for an enlightening and enjoyable evening!

GET UPDAtES FROM US!

The 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 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 with updates on your career, professional activities, and family news!

Beta Phi Mu National Chapter

The 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?

Please 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.