

Letter from the President

Dear InULA members,

I'm writing this, my first President's Letter, on a very sunny Saturday morning in mid-November, a day in which the temperature in New Albany, Indiana is predicted to hit the low 70s. It's a wonderful day, and speaking of good things, InULA has been up to a lot of good recently.

We've figured out where all that missing money went to. At last May's Business Meeting, Sherri Michaels reported on her research of the Julieann V. Nilson scholarship fund, and how she uncovered an endowed account which is now being managed by IU Libraries. This money can only be used for student scholarships, and because there is a guaranteed minimum return of 4.5%, we can now once again offer two student scholarships this year of \$1,000 each. The Board is currently investigating renaming this endowment fund after Julieann V. Nilson.



This is also the first year that committees will have vice-chairs in order to better ensure continuity year-to-year. Thank you to those who have volunteered to step into these roles this year. I look forward to your leadership!

InULA could not function without the hard work of its committees. Below are a few projects that InULA committees have been working on this year.

The Ad Hoc Writing and Publishing Committee recently partnered with the BLFC's Continuing Education Committee to bring together the "Publishing & Research Discussion Panel," where librarians discussed their current research projects and answered questions concerning publishing and research. Audience members heard from Erika Dowell, Moira Marsh, Dot Porter, and Virginia Sojdehei, who each briefly described their current research and gave practical advice on how to fit research into our very busy schedules. Some of the takeaways from the session included "at least pretend self-discipline" (from Moira Marsh), meaning that you have to consistently block out time for research and hold it "sacred." Several panelists also noted that you should research what you love, which can help with blocking out that time for research. I highly recommend that you check out the session, which is available here: <http://connect.iu.edu/p40mh4lyo4b/>.

The Book Sale Committee is hard at work collecting and sorting donations for InULA's Annual Book Sale, which will be held April 6-7, 2013. The first of several "Sorting Parties" was held in early November. While there was some discussion at the InULA Annual Business Meeting about stopping the practice of sorting, the committee decided to continue for at least another year. Already donations from a multitude of places have started arriving, and this year's sale promises to include some really great items!

As Jennifer Laherty, last year's InULA President, noted in her April 2012 "Letter from the President," InULA is currently in the process of migrating to a new website, powered by WordPress (special thanks to Dale Wray, who designed the new site!). The Communications Committee is

currently reviewing the content on the new website, and we hope to have it up and running early next year. In other website news, Gary Wiggins has agreed to serve as InULA's webmaster for a two-year term. He'll be backing up the new site and applying updates as necessary. Thank you, Gary, for agreeing to serve in this new position! Finally, on the website/archives front, InULA has hired a SLIS student, Matthew Strandmark, to migrate all of the content on the old website to the Archives of Institutional Memory (AIM), and to move older *InULA Notes* issues over to the Open Journal System (OJS). Once this project is complete, we hope to start tackling InULA's print archives.

The Membership Committee has been working to maintain and increase InULA membership and to ensure that InULA remains relevant to our members' needs. If you're reading this and haven't yet [renewed](#) your membership, please consider doing so today!

The Holiday Luncheon is set for Friday, December 7th. This is a great time to talk with librarians from around IU and catch up or meet new people. The Program and Social Committee has also been working on planning an InULA reception during the 2013 ACRL Conference in April, as well as a professional development series to take place during the spring semester.

Last, but definitely not least, the Scholarships and Grants Committee has finished deliberations on the first round of InULA Research Incentive Fund applications, and submitted recommendations to the Board. If you have a research project that you're working on and are looking for travel funding (whether to conduct research or to present your research at a conference) or for other research needs, consider applying before the January 15th or April 15th deadlines! You can check out the categories of support on the InULA website:

<http://www.indiana.edu/~inula/opportunities/rif/rifguide.html>.

As always, the Board is looking for feedback from you concerning how InULA can grow and thrive. If you have any questions, comments, or feedback, please send them to me (kabmoore@ius.edu) or any other Board member: Lori Dekydtspotter (Vice-President), Michael Courtney (Secretary), Jennifer Laherty (Treasurer), Chanitra Bishop, Latrice Booker, and Christina Wray (Member-at-Large).

Cheers,
Kate

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