



ASIS&T SIG-III'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY  
COMMEMORATIVE PUBLICATION



**The Special Interest Group for  
International Information  
Issues ([SIG-III](#))**

Thirtieth Anniversary Celebrations  
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# *Editorial Introduction: 30 years of Excellence*

As part of the celebrations of the 75<sup>th</sup> ASIS&T anniversary and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Special Interest Group for International Information Issues (SIG III), we put together this special commemorative publication.

As one of the relatively newer members of SIG-III, and as someone who has been fortunate enough to attend every ASIS&T conference, since 2001, it has been easy to witness the role of SIG-III in our international Association. Considering the dedicated SIG-III friends and officers, it should come as no surprise that SIG-III is one of the largest and strongest SIGs in our society.

It has been my great pleasure to be the Chair of SIG III during this special Anniversary year. In addition to the huge responsibilities of maintaining the legacy, the current SIG III officers experimented with new things and planned short-and medium-term activities ranging from revamping our Website and social media presence to updating bylaws and related procedural documents. Our SIG III also participated in a number of ASIS&T activities including: serving on the [Webinar Task Force](#), and commenting and sending our input on ASIS&T's initiatives such as the name change and criteria of the Proquest Doctoral Dissertation Award. However, the greatest achievement of the current officers is the culmination of the old campaign, started in the early 2000's, to reduce membership fees for professionals and scholars from developing countries. We are very grateful that the then ASIS&T President, Diane Sonnenwald, and the ASIS&T Board supported and [adopted our proposal](#) unanimously. The membership fee reduction should encourage more international colleagues to join our society.

In this anniversary publication, current and past SIG-III officers attempt to capture some of the SIG III activities and highlight the challenges as well as the successes that the ASIS&T community has had in the last 30 years. For the past 13 years, among other activities, SIG III has been organizing the very successful International Paper Contest. Although there could be up to six winners (the award for each winner is a two-year individual membership of ASIS&T), but only the first place winner (who is a citizen of, and resides in a developing country) would be awarded with funding toward attending the ASIS&T Annual Meeting. So far, more than 375 authors from 50+ countries have participated in the International Paper Contest and a number of submitted papers have also been published in the International Information and Library Review journal. This indeed, provides a wonderful opportunity to learn from our colleagues and to share ideas and experiences.

Published since December 1999, our award winning [SIG-III Newsletter](#) has been another tremendous source of information and one of the primary tools for communication to keep our members and international colleagues informed about various SIG-III and ASIS&T events and activities. A number of articles were contributed and edited by many dedicated members, friends, and officers.

In recognition of the social media trends, SIG III has been active in building up its social media presence. In this publication, the newly created SIG III Social Media Squad updates us about the growing reliance on social media among scholars and how SIG III's active online and social media presence further contributes to our engagement with the broader ASIS&T community.

The Infoshare report succinctly describes the InfoShare program,—one of SIG-III's flagship programs that introduced ASIS&T to numerous information professionals around the world and sponsored over 120 annual ASIS&T memberships of individual information professionals and students from more than 30 developing countries.

Finally, the main highlight of this commemorative publication is our interview with our cofounders, Toni Carbo and Michel Menou, who are the pioneers and leading figures in the founding of SIG III in the early 1980's. They reflect on 30 years of SIG-III and offer strategies to maintain the legacy of the SIG in light of the current demands of our community.

Here's is to SIG III's continued success in its next 30 years and beyond!

Cheers!

Daniel Gelaw Alemneh,  
University of North Texas,  
Chair of SIG-III, 2012

# *SIG-III's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Interviews: Cofounders' Reflections*

**"If I have seen farther it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." - Sir Issac Newton**

In preparation for the 75<sup>th</sup> ASIS&T Anniversary and 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SIG III in 2012, we interviewed our co-founders, Toni Carbo and Michel Menou. It is very fitting to open our interview (our "Cofounders Reflections") with Sir Issac Newton's famous saying.

It is true that leadership qualities are instilled in almost every individual when they are born. But, opportunities for developing leadership skills are provided to everyone as they grow and mature. Taking advantage of these opportunities and learning from their experiences are truly what make leaders in almost any field.

In this regard, the interviews are really an opportunity to visit with the two SIG III Co-founders, capture their reflections, learn from their experiences, and make a lasting contribution to SIG-III and ASIS&T history.



*On behalf of past, current, and future SIG-III  
officers and members, we thank you for your  
vision, guidance, and commitment!*

*SIG III Officers, 2012.*



## *Responses from Michel Menou*

(See also the [video](#))



- **How did you first become involved in ASIS&T?**

Publications, especially ARIST were the door. I inquired with the Executive Director if the society was open to foreigners. He said yes of course. So I joined. In 1968, I guess.

I attended a few Annual and Mid-year meetings. I must have been active enough to be selected for the special section on "Young information professionals" which appeared in the Bulletin and was subject to a special exhibit at the Annual meeting.

With the launch of SIG/III I became even more active, if I may say. That was 1981.

It seems I kept involved. Untill last year.

- **Throughout your career, was there a particular person whom you admire and tried to emulate? Why/how?**

So many that mentioning only a few would be unfair to the others.

If one practical example is nevertheless to be given, I'd mention Peter Havard-Williams who led Loughborough and later University of Botswana departments of information studies. Peter always mentioned the "Loughborough connection" as a catalyst in spreading information science across the globe, with due attention to local socio-cultural environments.

- **Was there a specific objective, goal, or reason to start SIG-III?**

We just wanted to have fun. OK I'm kidding, but we had fun too, did we not ? In the early years we had for instance the "Hectic travel award" for the colleague having achieved the maximum number of miles, stops and places visited abroad over the year. Not to mention the secret parties in a room of the Annual Meeting hotel.

On the serious side, if information science is to be a science, it has to be universal, thus based upon observation of what goes on throughout humanity. It can't rely only on the observation of information use by small groups of yuppies living in major cities of the North, as it has been the case for many years. The goal was to facilitate exposure of information activities outside the US and Canada and to provide a focal point for international concerns.

- **What prompted you and other founders of SIG-III to start the SIG?**

The prompt for me was to observe that there was almost no contributors to the Annual Meetings from outside North America. More generally there was a need for a hub to connect ASIS&T members to developments in all countries and international colleagues to those taking place in North America.

- **As one of the founders of SIG-III, what achievement(s) are you most proud of?**

I am not proud of anything. Pride is a dangerous sentiment.

I am satisfied and happy that the SIG attracted over the years so many talented and dedicated members and officers who keep working hard. I am happy for them that they were so often recognized with the SIG of the year award.

Yes, OK, I might be proud of SIG/III when it will celebrate its centennial, cause then I won't risk to misbehave, contrary to what I often did.

Many activities carried out by SIG/III can be regarded as achievements, such as:

- international sessions at the Annual Meeting
- the international reception at AM

- Infoshare program to support international colleagues
  - international column in the Bulletin which for many years carried contributions from colleagues outside the ASIS&T community
  - international paper contest
  - reduced membership fees for colleagues in developing Nations
- **What were the challenges/obstacles to these achievements? How did you overcome them?**

There were, and still are, many obstacles:

- Many colleagues outside North America saw, and still see, ASIS&T as an unreachable promised land. When they simply don't not know it
- Bureaucratic and financial constraints for paying membership dues and attending meetings in the US faced by colleagues in many countries.
- Marginal interest in international issues among many ASIS&T members, what was natural and steadily changed.

How did we overcome them? Hard work, patience, continuity and support from countless good people. A special salute to Jan Krcmar who "invented" the SIG/III auction through which the SIG has been able over the years to fund its outreach activities.

- **What do you think are the most critical issues facing ASIS&T and SIG-III today?**

Information science emerged as a response to the recognition of the vital role of information in human activities and the need to organize its control and access in front of the information explosion. Thanks, if I may say, to the spread and rapid change in information technologies, the chaos which we face now is far greater than it was then. Yet we still lack a clear definition of the scope and boundaries of our field.

Today any particular object or activity is turned into an i-science of some denomination. The common core is to be rebuilt.

- **What is your vision for SIG-III?**

If and when ASIS&T will have become a true international society, it should disappear.

Till then, it should pursue its course. It should probably try and make more extensive use of available technologies to offer more opportunities for international interaction. For instance, I'd welcome regular webinars which would allow for discussing key issues in information provision from a cross-cultural perspective.

- **How has being active in ASIS&T helped you in your professional life?**

I had the opportunity to help many colleagues from different countries take advantage of the fine connections I enjoyed within ASIS&T.

- **What advice would you give to young ASIS&T members with respect to their careers?**

Cultivate critical thinking

Don't think of a career, concentrate on doing the best you can in a responsible way.

- **Why should they become involved with ASIS&T?**

Because there is no other place to get the gist of current knowledge and questions regarding information as the lubricant and energy in the growth of human knowledge.  
Because they will gain visibility and be connected to the finest people in the field.

=== /// ===

## *Responses from Toni Carbo*



- **How did you first become involved in ASIS&T?**

When I entered the master of science program at Drexel, in the fall of 1971, I learned about ASIS from Belver Griffith and Carl Drott and decided to run for chair of the student chapter. I was delighted to be elected and to attend local chapter meetings and the annual conference. Several members, including Tefko Saracevic, Michael Buckland, and Stella Keenan, were especially kind and helpful during my years as a student member and over the past decades. There are many other individuals who have helped me tremendously since I first joined, some of whom, sadly, are no longer with us.

- **Throughout your career, was there a particular person whom you admire and tried to emulate? Why/how?**

While there are many people I admired and whose work I have followed closely, I have never really tried to emulate anyone. Through my education and work experience, I have had very exciting and unexpected opportunities to develop a career path that is unique. I think that, as the fifth of seven daughters (with no brothers), I have always been encouraged to be independent and carve out my own path.

- **What prompted you and other founders of SIG-III to start the SIG?**

I have been very fortunate to travel outside the country many times, primarily for work-related projects and international conferences and workshops, and to live in the U.K. for 3 years. I have been on all continents except for Antarctica, and I plan to get there some day. My favorite city in the world is Paris, and I have been there 21 times. Through this work and these travels, I have made many friends and colleagues -- all of whom have

helped me learn about our multicultural and diverse information communities. Working on international information ethics and policy projects, information literacy programs, and other activities, as well as participating actively in groups like IFLA and the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID), made me realize how much I didn't know and that we all need to expand our perspectives beyond our familiar national and cultural boundaries. For example, organizing a workshop for UNESCO on indexing and abstracting back in the 1970s, and working with NATO AGARD, the British Library and other groups helped me realize how much I didn't know. I realized that I was not alone, and I thought that ASIS, my own primary professional association, could expand its programs and activities to help all of us increase our awareness and understanding.

Then I did the easy part. I told my dear friend, Michel Menou, that we really needed to do this and I suggested that **he** should start the SIG. He did the hard part and the vast majority of the work. I assisted as much as I could by helping to get others involved and doing some tasks to help with the process.

- **Was there a specific objective, goal, or reason to start SIG-III?**

The broad goals were to help all of us expand our awareness and understanding of our increasingly global village and to find ways that we could harness information and appropriate technologies to improve the quality of life for people around the world. More specific objectives included: recognizing the many contributions of members outside the U.S.; increasing international membership; conducting programs and developing publications to share information and provide continuous education for all of us; building and strengthening networks among information professionals around the world; expanding ASIS&T programs and activities around the world through chapters, programs, co-sponsorship of meetings and workshops; bringing in support to help individuals from countries and areas with fewer resources to become members and, if

possible, participate in conferences; and providing opportunities for us to have fun, such as at our international receptions.

- **As one of the founders of SIG-III, what achievement(s) are you most proud of?**

First, I'm most proud of getting Michel to take the lead in starting the SIG! I am also pleased that I have been able to help SIG III get selected articles from the International Paper Contest published in the *International Information and Library Review* (IILR), which I edited for many year. This also helped several authors get helpful feedback from reviewers, so they could improve their scholarly work. I'm also happy that I have been able to help bring in some outside resources to support our activities, such as the donations from Elsevier and also the contribution provided through my service on the Elsevier Foundation Board.

- **What were the challenges/obstacles to these achievements? How did you overcome them?**

I don't think that we really had any major obstacles, although getting sufficient funding and encouraging more people to get involved with activities are always challenges. Working with members, including many fine students, and a good dose of patience and enthusiasm always seem to help in meeting challenges. We have certainly used these as we built the SIG over the years.

- **What do you think are the most critical issues facing ASIS&T and SIG-III today?**

The critical issues I see are: 1) budget restrictions limiting individuals' abilities to participate more actively in events like the annual conference and SIG activities; 2) increased competition among the many professional organizations with more demands on individuals' time; and 3) our ongoing challenges of getting people to understand what we do and why it is important and valuable. Personally, I think that reducing the length of time for our annual conferences was a big mistake. We are trying to cram far too much into too little time, resulting in fewer high quality programs being accepted, competition among concurrent sessions, and too little time for key networking

opportunities. I have heard from many colleagues that taking the time and using the funding to travel to such a short event is very hard to justify. This is especially true for those who have to travel long distances, especially from other continents.

- **What is your vision for SIG-III?**

That we will continue to provide high quality programs, webinars, sessions and publications to benefit members and the wider global information community, and that we will bring in more active members to lead us in the future as our fine SIG leaders have done this year and in previous years. SIG III is an extremely valuable asset to ASIS&T and to the global information community, and I expect that it will become even more valuable in the future. I am excited about continuing to do whatever I can to help make this vision a reality.

- **How has being active in ASIS&T helped you in your professional life?**

I could write a 10-volume work to respond to this question. First of all, I have made many outstanding friends around the world, with Michel Menou at the top of that list. I have learned so much from all of them, and their energy and enthusiasm have kept me excited about our field and our future. I have also had many wonderful and fun experiences with them, including exploring new places, different foods, learning about different cultures, and even getting some dancing lessons. The energy and enthusiasm of this amazing community are contagious and invigorating. Secondly, I have explored and learned about new technologies, practices, issues, developments, changes, types of knowledge (including Traditional Knowledge), cultures, and traditions. The knowledge, skills, and attitudes I have learned have expanded my competencies tremendously. Thirdly, I have gained a lot of experience in chairing and serving on different committees and groups, starting with my first responsibility when I became a member, as chair of the Committee on Intersociety Cooperation (CISCO). I learned a lot about many of the other organizations in our field and their different perspectives and experiences. Serving as president and a member of the board provided another very helpful set of

experiences in working with society leadership and our wonderful ASIS&T staff. I think there is no question that without my involvement in ASIS&T over the 40+ years, I never would have had such a successful or fulfilling career -- and life -- as I have had.

- **What advice would you give to young ASIS&T members with respect to their careers?**

Get involved as fully as you can in ASIS&T. Build your network in part through active participation in ASIS&T and also in other groups within your local area and globally through social networks and other online activities. Travel and explore new places as often as you can. Reach out to others; don't wait for them to come to you. Ask for help - - go up to that individual whose work you have admired and introduce yourself. (That's how I first met Tekfo Saracevic.) Take risks; don't take the job for which you are fully qualified, because that's one you should have had years ago. Have fun -- socialize and, if possible, dance!

- **Why should they become involved with ASIS&T?**

I've answered this in the earlier responses. In summary: because 1) you will learn a lot and grow in your career; 2) you will expand your horizons and learn about new opportunities, ideas and perspectives; 3) you will meet outstanding leaders in our field, as well as many individuals who are up and coming leaders and others who are just starting out; and 4) you will have fun and make friends.



# *The InfoShare Program*

*By: Abebe Rorissa, Devendra Potnis, Fatih Oguz*

## Background

Sponsored by SIG-III and as one of SIG-III's flagship programs, the InfoShare Program introduced ASIS&T to numerous information professionals around the World by providing assistance through sponsorship of their ASIS&T memberships.

The Program is run by a team of one or more InfoShare Officers who send requests for nominations through listservs to the entire ASIS&T membership every year sometime in early December. InfoShare Award recipients can be nominated by current ASIS&T members, Chapters, or SIGs and must reside in a developing country where there is no ASIST chapter. They may be practitioners, researchers, or students enrolled in library and information science programs and nearing completion of their studies. Toward the end of December, SIG-III Officers vote to choose deserving recipients based on their nominating statements and CVs. Depending on the amount of funds available, on average, over seven professionals and two students are informed of their selection for the Award and a list is announced to, once again, the entire ASIS&T membership.

## Funding

The InfoShare Program is supported by funds raised mainly at the Annual Meeting during the International Reception organized by SIG-III through a silent auction, raffle, and generous donations by ASIS&T members. The International Reception itself is made possible every year through a generous donation by the academic publishing house Elsevier.

## Impact

Since 2001, the InfoShare Program sponsored over 100 annual ASIS&T memberships of individual information professionals and students from more than two dozen developing countries. While about half of them were sponsored for a year, over 35% were sponsored for two years. Unfortunately, fewer than 10% continue to remain ASIS&T members after three or more years. We hope that the approval by the ASIS&T Board in 2012 of the reduction in the ASIS&T membership fees for those from developing countries would change this.

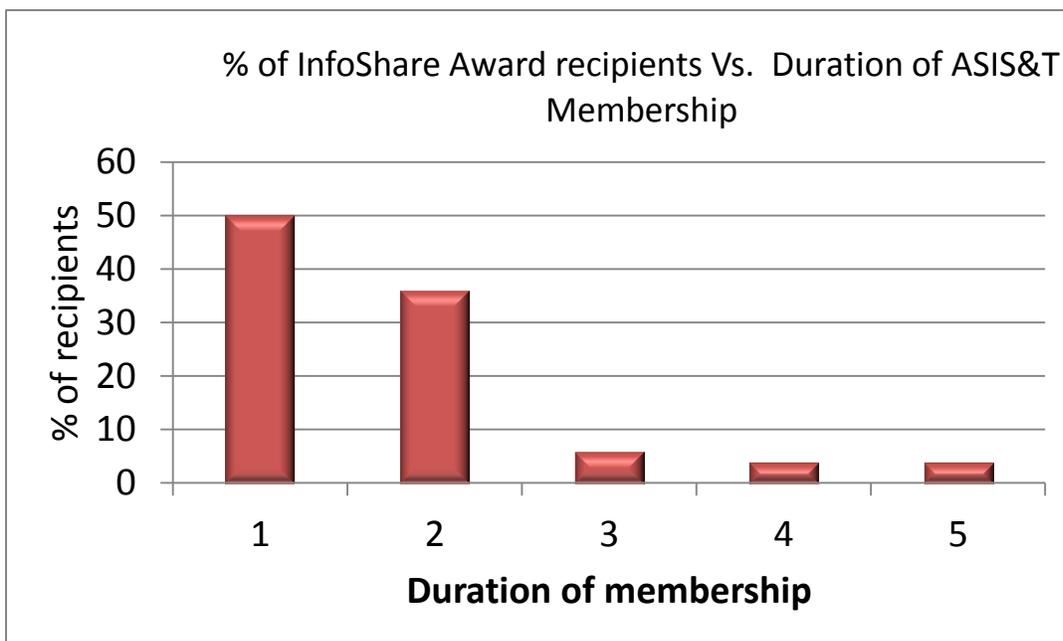


Figure 1: InfoShare Award recipients' duration of ASIS&T membership (2001-2011)

Recipients of the InfoShare Award span the globe and they are not only from various countries on a number of continents, they are also diverse in their professional and educational backgrounds (see InfoShare Award Map below). However, as shown by the map below, over the last 10 years, a significant number of InfoShare Award recipients are from Africa and Asia, two continents where membership fees are a burden to most and where the Award can have a greater impact.



Figure 2: InfoShare Award Map (2001-2011)

In terms of activities and achievements by the recipients of the InfoShare Award, a majority of them are geared toward publicizing ASIS&T and its activities as well as advancing its mission and goals. Award winners regularly publicize the International Paper Contest in their home countries and submit manuscripts to the Contest. For instance, winners of the last two years' paper contest were from Pakistan due to the efforts by one of last's year's InfoShare Award recipients actively promoting the contest.

## Future Plans

A campaign to reduce membership fees for members from developing countries started in 2003, by the then SIG-III chair Sue O'Neill Johnson, and came to fruition in 2012 due in no small part to tireless advocacy by a number of SIG-III members and officers, not least by our past

chair (2012), Daniel Gelaw Alemneh. Our sincere thanks also go to the ASIS&T President Diane Sonnenwald, the ASIS&T Board, and everybody who supported the effort for almost a decade.

With the approval, by the ASIS&T Board, of the reduction in the amount of membership fees for members from developing countries, the InfoShare program will be able to support more deserving information professionals and students. This in turn should broaden the ASIS&T membership base and increase its global reach as well as make it an even more international organization.



# *Updates from the SIG III Social Media Squad*

*By Jennifer Yurchak, Anindita Paul, and Anatoliy Gruzd*

A lot has been said about social media and how easy they have made it for people to connect. Social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and blogs have redefined information sharing and social networking in multiple ways. They have made it possible to bridge the boundaries of time and space so that relationships can be built and rebuilt; knowledge can be preserved and searched. Social media have also made it easier for people to form communities of practice where voices can be heard, support systems can be formed, ideas can flow, hobbies can be shared for which feedback can be sought, and so on. With the click of a mouse or a tap on a tablet, people can connect across geographic boundaries and contribute to various online communities.

Scholars and other professionals around the globe are also starting to rely on social media for professional purposes. Social media platforms – from popular sites like Facebook and Twitter, to more specialized ones, such as Academia.edu and ResearchGate.net – have enabled scholars to easily form online communities, discuss certain topics of common interest, share the results of their research, network and collaborate with colleagues from other institutions.

In recognition of these trends, SIG III has been active in building up its social media presence and engaging the ASIS&T community via social media. As part of our efforts in this area, we have officially created the SIG III Social Media Squad (SM Squad) in Spring 2012, followed by the launch of our new Twitter account - @sig3i. The SM Squad is currently made up of two social media administrators (Anatoliy Gruzd and Anindita Paul), coordinator (Jennifer Yurchak) and six volunteers (Anntoinette Arsic, Arryn Seburn, Hilary Stamper, Innocent Awasom, Sara Knezevic and Sarah Farrukh). While SIG III already had a Facebook page, the creation of @sig3i (<http://twitter.com/sig3i/>) was intended to expand its social media presence into the Twitterverse, a great platform for information sharing and community building across countries.

In just a few months since its creation, @sig3i's Twitter community has grown from zero to over a hundred followers, and it continues to grow. While the majority of followers are from Canada and the United States, @sig3i has reached a global community with followers also coming from Ecuador, the European Union, Australia and Pakistan (see Figure 1). It has also attracted several influential followers who often retweet our tweets including ASIS&T (@asist\_org) with over 1,800 followers and LIS Research (@lisresearch) with over 3,200 followers.

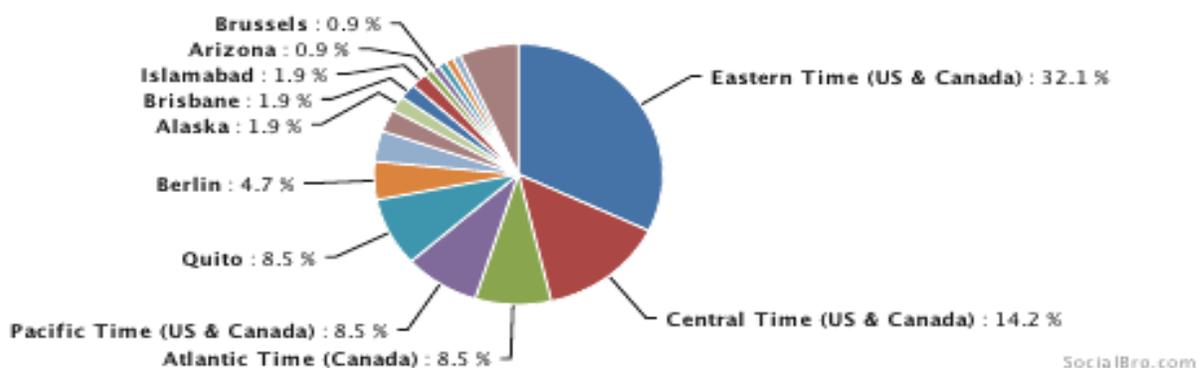


Figure 1: @sig3i Followers by Time Zone

SM Squad tweets cover a range of topics of relevance to the SIG III community including upcoming job postings, conferences and receptions, emerging technologies of interest to information professionals, and news about libraries and IT-related organizations around the globe. Thus far, the most retweeted links tweeted by the SM Squad were

- an information literacy infographic (<http://ow.ly/1NmUqo>),
- a blog post about an Austrian digital library initiative (<http://ow.ly/chvQ1>),
- a paper about open access publishing (<http://ow.ly/bnQON>), and
- a CNN World News story about social media in Africa (<http://ow.ly/chyL1>).

These four links demonstrate the breadth of subject matter being disseminated by @sig3i.

To celebrate the initial success of @sig3i and attract more Twitter followers, in July of 2012 the SM Squad conducted a random draw amongst its followers and awarded Isabella Peters (@Isabella83) from Heinrich-Heine-Universität Duesseldorf in Germany with a \$50 Amazon.com gift card. Most recently, to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> ASIS&T Anniversary and the 30<sup>th</sup> SIG III anniversary, we announced a new Facebook draw among everyone who joins our Facebook group (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/asist.sig.iii/>), and who uploads either a photo/video from any past SIGIIIrelated events or their current photo holding a sign saying “Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, SIG-III!” See some sample entries in Figure 2 below.



Figure 2: Facebook Draw Sample Entries

As we move into the future, the SM Squad plans to continue supporting SIG III's goals by promoting global awareness, communication and interactions amongst ASIS&T and information professionals through @sig3i. For example, at the upcoming ASIS&T 2012 conference in Baltimore, the SM Squad will tweet about presentations of relevance to the SIG III community. Through these initiatives, the SM Squad hopes to encourage communication about information issues on a global scale.

Join us on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/asist.sig.iii/>) and follow us on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/sig3i/>)!



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*Appendix-1. First and Current  
SIG-III Bylaws*

## DRAFT SIG / III Bylaws

ARTICLE II Purpose

The basic purpose of the SIG is:

- To promote better awareness among ASIS membership and information professionals at large of the importance of international cooperation;
- To facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction on international information issues among ASIS members and their foreign colleagues, including especially those studying in the U.S.
- To provide a forum for exploring and discussing major international information problems and issues interesting both industrialized and developing countries, and for catalyzing the relevant expertise. ~~through articles, meetings, publications and~~

The SIG shall provide an organization through which all members of ASIS having a special interest in international information issues may share their professional activities and studies through meetings, publications and organized activity.

Additional purposes are to advise ASIS in matters related to its area of special interest, organize technical programs at ASIS conventions, collect and disseminate information to its members, and, if requested by the Board of Directors, represent ASIS in international, interdisciplinary and interorganizational activities.

ARTICLE IV Officers

Section 1. Officers of the SIG shall include a presiding officer, to be known as the Chairman, an Assistant-Chairman, a Chairman-elect and Assistant-Chairman-elect, a Secretary-Treasurer, ~~and~~ a Representative and an Alternate Representative to the SIG-Cabinet, and a Newsletter editor.

The Assistant-Chairman and the Assistant Chairman-elect should be members from

Bylaws 2.

another country than the U.S. if the Chairman and Chairman-elect are from the U.S. and conversely so that there are always officers from countries other than the US among the SIG officers in order to keep with the international nature of the SIG.

Section 3. add

Note: in Art. IV S. 3 change ~~SIG~~ group cabinet for SIG cabinet. Same in Art. V Section 4 in Art. VII S. 1 change ASIS SIG Councilor for ASIS SIG cabinet director.

Section 2 Officers shall be elected prior to the convention of ASIS, except the Newsletter editor who shall be appointed by the Executive committee and confirmed by members vote. Committee chairmen of the SIG shall likewise be confirmed by members vote after their appointment by the Chairman. Officers shall serve for terms specified in Article V on an administrative year basis (coinciding with the terms for ASIS national officers)

P.S. I Agree with any change you or Ching-ahn would like to introduce. Just send me the final version for record.



# *Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) Special Interest Group for International Information Issues (SIG-III) Bylaws*

Approved by Board, 2/2/82; Amended 10/2/86; Amended 5/20/87; Amended 5/25/99; Amended 9/23/013

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## **ARTICLE I: GOVERNANCE**

These bylaws shall be the operating standard for all Special Interest Groups of the Association for Information Science and Technology. The term “SIG” is used throughout to apply to each SIG individually and its constituency.

## **ARTICLE II: NAME AND PURPOSE**

The purpose of each Special Interest Group shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) advising the Board of Directors or the Society officers on matters pertaining to the Group’s special interest or area;
- (2) organizing technical programs for such interests and areas including programs at conferences of the Society;
- (3) collecting and disseminating information concerning the special interests; and
- (4) at the request of the Board of Directors, either as a Group or through one or more of its officers or members, representing the Society in international, interdisciplinary and interorganizational activities.

The Special Interest Group for International Information Issues (SIG-III) shall be concerned with the following areas:

- i. Facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction on international information issues among ASIS&T members and their colleagues worldwide.
- ii. Provide a forum for the exploration and discussion of major international information topics and issues that are of interest to professionals from both developing and developed countries.
- iii. Serve as an organization through which all members of ASIS&T who have a special interest in international information topics and issues may share their professional activities and studies through meetings, publications, and other forums as well as venues.
- iv. Collect and disseminate information concerning international information issues.
- v. Promote better awareness of the importance of cooperation among ASIS&T membership and information professionals worldwide.

### **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**

- Section 1.** Membership in the SIG shall be open to any member of ASIS&T who elects to join and who satisfies the dues requirements established by ASIS&T.
- Section 2.** All SIG members are eligible to serve as officers of the SIG. All SIG members are eligible to vote on questions submitted to the membership by formal ballot or at official meetings.
- Section 3.** Members shall be informed of the activities of the SIG and are entitled to receive publications of the SIG.
- Section 4.** Any member whose membership in ASIS&T has been terminated shall no longer be a SIG member.
- Section 5.** SIG memberships shall always run concurrently with the member's ASIS&T membership.

### **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

- Section 1.** Officers of the SIG shall include, at a minimum, a presiding officer to be known as the Chair, and a Chair-elect. Although not required, a SIG can also choose to provide for other officers such as a Secretary, Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer, or Communications Officer in its Operating Rules. (See Article VI, Section 2, for the filling of vacancies.).
- Section 2.** Officers should be elected prior to the Annual Meeting of ASIS&T and shall serve for terms specified in Article V, on an Administrative Year basis (coinciding with the terms for ASIS&T National Officers). Individuals may be re-elected to an office, or may hold more than one office, except that the Chair and the Chair-elect may not be the same person. The SIG Chair will serve as the Cabinet Representative and the Chair-elect as the Alternate Cabinet Representative.

### **ARTICLE V: DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

- Section 1.** The Chair is elected to serve for a one-year term (unless two-year terms are provided in the SIG's Operating Rules) and shall preside over all SIG meetings. The Chair shall appoint all committee chairs and members and act as Chair of the Nominating Committee. It is the responsibility of the Chair to develop and implement the SIG's annual activity plan, which shall be filed with the SIG Cabinet Director and headquarters within 30 days after the Chair takes office. In addition, if the SIG does not have a Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer, the Chair is responsible for submitting the annual activity plan to the SIG Cabinet Director by August 15, and for keeping records of all meetings and activities. At the close of the year, the outgoing Chair must submit an activity report during the SIG's annual business meeting.
- Section 2.** The Chair-elect is elected to serve for a term of one year (unless a two-year term is provided in the SIG's Operating Rules) and automatically becomes Chair at the end of that term. The Chair-elect works closely with the Chair in planning and executing SIG programs, and shall assume the duties of the Chair in the event of the Chair's absence, resignation or death.
- Section 3.** The Chair as Cabinet Representative and the Chair-elect as Alternate Cabinet Representative shall represent the SIG at meetings of the SIG Cabinet. In the event that the Chair and Chair-elect cannot attend a SIG Cabinet meeting, the Chair shall appoint a substitute and notify the Cabinet Director in advance of the meeting.
- Section 4.** If a SIG chooses to include among its officers a Secretary or Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer, it must be indicated in the SIG's Operating Rules whether the position is elected or appointed. The Operating Rules must also indicate the length of time (one or two years) that the person will serve. The Secretary or Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer shall carry out the customary functions of these offices, and shall execute the decisions and policies of the Executive Committee. The Secretary or Secretary/Treasurer shall keep records of all meetings and activities and submit an annual activity plan to the SIG Cabinet Director by August 15.

## **ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1.** The Executive Committee of the SIG shall consist of the SIG officers plus any SIG member the chair wishes to include. The Executive Committee shall conduct and manage the affairs of the SIG, subject to these bylaws and the ASIS&T Bylaws and existing policy, and shall possess all powers necessary or incidental to that purpose, including the right to appropriate and expend SIG funds. If the SIG maintains its own bank account(s), the Executive Committee must ensure that the Executive Director of ASIS&T is a signatory on all accounts.

**Section 2.** A SIG office can be declared vacant by the SIG Executive Committee or by the SIG Cabinet Director. In the event of a vacancy in a SIG office other than that of the Chair, the SIG Executive Committee shall appoint a member to the office until the next regular election for that office, but an appointee filling a vacancy in the position of Chair-elect shall not become Chair as provided in Article V, Section 2; rather, a Chair shall be elected at the next regular election.

**Section 3.** In the event that all SIG offices become vacant at one time, the SIG Cabinet Director shall appoint SIG members to serve as Chair and Chair-elect until such time as official elections can be held.

## **ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** The annual planning meeting shall be held during the Annual Meeting of ASIS&T. An activity report for the previous year shall be presented at this meeting by the outgoing Chair. Copies of this report shall be filed with the SIG Cabinet Director and with ASIS&T Headquarters by August 15.

**Section 2.** Notification of meetings shall be distributed to the membership at least six weeks prior to the date of the meeting along with the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and a ballot. (See Article VIII.).

**Section 3.** Other meetings may be held at the request of the Executive Committee or on the petition of ten percent of the membership. The membership shall be given at least six weeks notification prior to the date of such a meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII: NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS**

**Section 1.** Elections shall be held each year by formal ballot at least six weeks prior to the annual business meeting of the SIG.

**Section 2.** At least ten weeks prior to the annual business meeting the Chair shall appoint a Nominating Committee. The Committee shall consist of the SIG Chair and two members. It shall prepare the ballot for use as provided in Section 1. When possible, at least two nominees for each office shall be provided. Additional names of candidates shall be added to the ballot if proposed by petition of ten percent of an individual SIG membership submitted through the SIG's Chair to the SIG Cabinet or by proposal of the SIG's Executive Committee, the SIG Cabinet, or the ASIS&T Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** Proposal for amendment to these bylaws may be made by petition of ten percent of an individual SIG membership submitted through the SIG's Chair to the SIG Cabinet or by proposal of the SIG's Executive Committee, the SIG Cabinet, or the ASIS&T Board of Directors.

**Section 2.** The proposed amendment shall be distributed to all SIG Chairs by the SIG Cabinet Director at least six weeks prior to the next SIG Cabinet meeting.

**Section 3.** The proposed amendment shall be voted on at the next SIG Cabinet meeting. Such proposed amendments must receive an affirmative vote of two thirds of those voting in order to be approved. No approved amendment shall take effect unless and until certified by the ASIS&T Constitution and Bylaws Committee as being consistent with the ASIS&T Charter, Constitution and Bylaws and until approved by the ASIS&T Board of Directors. If so approved, it shall take effect immediately.

**Section 4.** Amendments and/or changes to the SIG standard bylaws that are a result of changes in the ASIS&T Constitution and Bylaws and/or Board approved policies will automatically be incorporated into these bylaws so that they will not be inconsistent with ASIS&T policy.

#### **ARTICLE X: OPERATING RULES**

A SIG may establish Operating Rules which are not inconsistent with these bylaws or the ASIS&T Charter, Constitution and Bylaws. In the absence of properly-filed Operating Rules, the SIG must abide by specific conditions set forth in these bylaws.

The following shall be additional operating rules for SIG III:

**Section 1.** In addition to a Chair and a Chair-elect, the SIG shall also have a Co-Chair and a Co-Chair-elect.

**Section 2.** A Co-Chair is elected to serve for a one-year term and shall assist the Chair in keeping records of all meetings and activities.

**Section 3.** The Co-Chair shall also be responsible for coordinating and organizing the SIG's activities and functions such as, but not limited to, the International Reception before and during the ASIS&T Annual Meeting.

**Section 4.** The Co-Chair-elect is elected to serve for a term of one year and automatically becomes Co-Chair at the end of that term. The Co-Chair-elect works closely with the Chair-elect in planning and executing SIG programs, and shall assume the duties of the Co-Chair in the event of the Co-Chair's absence, resignation or death. A special election will be held to fill the Co-Chair-Elect's position unless it is a very short time until the new officers take on their responsibilities.

**Section 5.** The Co-Chair shall be a member from and residing in a country other than the United States if the Chair is a member from and residing in the United States and vice versa. The same shall apply to the Chair-elect and Co-Chair-elect. This is in order to ensure that there are always officers from countries other than the United States to maintain the international nature of the SIG.

#### **ARTICLE XI: DISSOLUTION**

The SIG retains its charter at the discretion of the ASIS&T Board of Directors. In the event of the dissolution of the SIG, the assets of the Group shall, after satisfaction of all just liabilities and obligations thereof, be paid into the general treasury of ASIS&T.



*Appendix-2: The Origin of SIG-III and Its  
30 Year's Journey: Visions and Reflections*

*Paper and Presentations at the ASIS&T-  
2012 Annual Meeting in Baltimore,  
Maryland*

# The Origins of SIG-III and Its 30 Years' Journey: Visions and Reflections

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## ABSTRACT

In this panel we will discuss the origins of the Special Interest Group for International Information Issues (SIG-III) of the American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) and its early years. In addition to the reflections of the last 30 years, Toni Carbo (one of the co-founders of SIG-III), Nadia Caidi (SIG-III Advisory board member), Anatoliy Gruzd (Social Media Administrator), Daniel Alemneh (SIG-III Chair), and Abebe Rorissa (SIG-III Chair-elect) look forward and discuss the future of the SIG-III including strategies to facilitate collaborations and information exchanges globally.

## Keywords

International Information Issues, interest group, 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## INTRODUCTION

ASIS&T was established in 1937 with the goal of stimulating communications and interactions within the information community. Although it began as a professional association mainly for professionals, researchers, students, etc., from North America and continues to have a significant portion of its membership of scholars from North America, ASIS&T is a truly international organization, with members from over fifty countries from around the world. The international nature of ASIS&T has allowed for a cross-continental network of information scholars and professionals to develop, which has allowed for exchanges on international information issues, challenges, and opportunities to take place.

In light of the 75th ASIS&T Anniversary Celebration and the 30th Anniversary celebration of SIG-III, the participants on this panel will discuss the history of the SIG and its

future plans. Toni Carbo one of the founding members of SIG-III, will present on the origins of SIG-III and its early years as well as provide us with the reflections. Followed by more presentations and discussions by past and current SIG-III officers, who will explore the progress over the past 30 years and discuss how SIG-III plans to foster international informational exchanges in today's increasingly digital and connected world.

## SIG III: The Origin Story

Founded in 1982, the Special Interest Group for International Information Issues (SIG/III) is an interest group of the American Society for Information Science & Technology. The purposes of the SIG, as outlined in its mission statement are:

- to promote better awareness among ASIS&T members and information professionals of the importance of international cooperation;
- to facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction among ASIST members and their foreign colleagues on information issues;
- to develop an international network of digital scholars and experts on digital libraries and information technology in developing countries; and
- to provide a forum for exploring and discussing international information issues and problems. SIG III membership includes most non-U.S. ASIST members and a true cross-section of U.S. ASIST members.

## SIG III: New Paradigm

This original mission statement remains to be highly relevant and even more pressing in today's globalized world. We believe that the ability to form connections with other scholars from around the world is one of the most important skills an academic can possess. The formation of an international network of colleagues allows for academics to stay on top of current global trends, internationally disseminate information, and form cross-border and cross-cultural research teams. However, maintaining international

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ASIST 2012, October 28-31, 2012, Baltimore, MD, USA.  
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relations can become time consuming and costly for all parties involved.

Social media tools such as Academia (academia.edu) and Twitter (twitter.com) can help address these problems, as they allow scholars to discover potential collaborators, find relevant publications and easily communicate with colleagues from around the globe.

In this regard, SIG-III tried various (face to face and virtual) ways to engage the broader ASIS&T community. The Global Information Village Plaza for example provided such a forum. The first Global Information Plaza was facilitated by Michel Menou and Nadia Caidi at the 2002 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Up until late 2000's the Global Plaza offered an opportunity for all ASIS&T members and information professionals at large to share opinions and consider these implications in an informal setting.

Today we are living in an era where social media play increasingly more roles in facilitating such information sharing and discussions. The panel will explore how ASIS&T members are using social media and the entire landscape of tools available to reach out to a broader audience in order to maintain the continuity in international information exchanges, and collaborations. For the purpose of this panel, one of the presentations by Anatoliy Gruzd will focus on the use of Twitter by a sample of 141 active Twitter users from the ASIS&T community. The analysis was done using <http://AcademiaMap.com>, a new online influence assessment application for scholars, developed by the Social Media Lab at Dalhousie University. AcademiaMap follows public Twitter conversations among scholars and visualizes their Twitter connections in real-time. This application also helps scholars to filter the "noise" from their Twitter streams using various "influence" metrics and gives scholars an easy way to identify trending topics and interesting voices to follow from Twitter.

This case study has shown that Twitter is being actively used for international informational exchanges by ASIS&T members. Twitter messages (tweets) ranged from friendly remarks, to discussions over grant proposals, to conversations on conference proceedings, to the sharing of articles and blog posts pertaining to Library and Information Science research.

### **SIG III: Looking into the Future**

To address the growing reliance on social media among scholars, the current SIG-III officers on the panel will discuss their plans to encourage and facilitate international informational exchanges via social media. They will also share they experience engaging the ASIS&T community through the SIG-III Facebook group and a new Twitter account @sig3i (launched on June 1, 2012). At the end, the panel will engage the audience in a broader discussion about the role that social media play in the creation and maintenance of cross-border connections and stimulate international knowledge exchange.

For any professional association such as ASIS&T and its various special interest groups to continue to grow their memberships in North America and beyond, a regular assessment of its past and current missions, activities as well as strategies is crucial. In order to facilitate ways for the members to form local/regional groups, connect, collaborate, and share among the various groups and their members, various stakeholders need to coordinate their efforts. One of the presentations on this panel will focus on how the work of pioneers such as those whose vision led to the establishment of SIG-III 30 years ago (e.g., Toni Carbo and Michel Menou) as well as those who worked tirelessly to continue ASIS&T's growth internationally since then will offer possible avenues forward. Because, a forward looking organization, while mindful of past achievements and building on a strong foundation of those achievements, will fulfill its core mission and at the same time adapt to changing environments. Such an organization and its members will contribute to society's development globally only if, from time to time, it is able to reflect on its past and look forward to the future. This is the general theme of this panel with respect to ASIS&T and SIG-III.

### **REFERENCES**

- The Special Interest Group for International Information Issues (SIG/III) Web site. Retrieved July 15, 2012 from <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>
- The American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) Web site. Retrieved July 15, 2012 from <http://www.asis.org/about.html>

# The Origins of SIG-III and Its 30 Years' Journey: Visions and Reflections

**Daniel Gelaw Alemneh**

University of North Texas

(SIG-III Chair, 2012))

**ASIS&T 2012 Annual Meeting**  
**Baltimore, MD**  
**October 26-30, 2012**



## The Origins of SIG-III and Its 30 Years' Journey: Visions and Reflections

- In light of the 75th ASIS&T Anniversary Celebration and the 30th Anniversary celebration of the Special Interest Group for International Information Issues (SIG-III), the participants on this panel will discuss the origins of SIG-III and its early years.

# The Origins of SIG-III and Its 30 Years' Journey:

- -The ability to form connections with other scholars from around the world is one of the most important skills an academic can possess. The formation of an international network of colleagues allows for academics to stay on top of current global trends, internationally disseminate information, and form cross-border and cross-cultural research teams.



## The Origins of SIG-III and Its 30 Years' ...

- In addition to the reflections of the last 30 years, the panel will explore how ASIS&T members are using social media and the entire landscape of tools available to reach out to a broader audience in order to maintain the continuity in international information exchanges, and collaborations.

# SIG/III Purpose:

- SIG/III promotes better awareness among ASIS&T members and information professionals of the importance of international cooperation.
- SIG/III facilitates and enhances better communication and interaction among ASIS&T members and their foreign colleagues on information issues.



# SIG/III Purpose:

- SIG/III members work to develop an international network of digital scholars and experts on digital libraries and information technology in developing countries.
- SIG/III provides a forum for exploring and discussing international information issues and problems. SIG III membership includes most non-U.S. ASIS&T members and a true cross-section of U.S. ASIS&T members.

# SIG/III Activities

- Hosts the yearly International Reception at ASIS&T Annual Meetings.
- Sponsors panels at ASIS&T Annual Meetings.
- Awards one-year ASIS&T memberships, through its InfoShare Program

# SIG/III Activities

- Coordinates the International Paper Contest
- LIS professionals from developing countries submit research to win travel awards to ASIS&T Annual Meetings as well as two-year ASIS&T memberships.
- SIG/III builds close relationships between Paper Contest participants and established members of the SIG/III and ASIS&T community through its Mentorship Program.

# SIG/III 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Publication:

<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/30th-anniversary-publication>

- The Origin Story and 30 Years of Memories: Interviews
- SIG-III: International Paper Contest: 13 years' journey
- InfoShare and its impact

# SIG/III 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Publication:

<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/30th-anniversary-publication>

- SIG-III sponsored international sessions at ASIS&T
- The SIG-III Newsletter, Mentorship Program, Global Plaza, and other outreach activities
- Archiving memories (Facebook Photos and videos)



# SIG/III Social Media/Web Presence

- Find SIG/III on Facebook at:  
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=101547247614>
- LinkedIn Group:  
<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=3868177>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/sig3i>
- Web: [www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII](http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII)



**Daniel Alemneh**

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Chair, SIG-III (2011 - 2012):

<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>



# The Origins of SIG-III and its 30 Years' Journey: Visions and Reflections

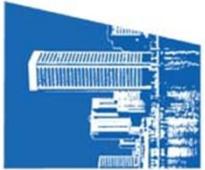
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**ASIS&T  
2012**

October 26-30, Baltimore, MD



**75<sup>TH</sup>**

INFORMATION, INTERACTION, INNOVATION:  
CELEBRATING THE PAST, CONSTRUCTING  
THE PRESENT AND CREATING THE FUTURE

**Annual Meeting**



“SIGs didn't just come out of the blue  
They were just something new  
That came from the membership  
that grew  
From a bunch of organizations that  
made an ado  
about communicating  
reproducing  
disseminating  
**INFORMATION!**”

American Society for Information Science (ASIS). (1988). SIGs: Special interests of information science. Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science, June/July, 42-44.

**SIG-III definitely didn't just come out of the blue. It took the vision and imagination of leaders such as :**

» Toni Carbo



» Michel Menou



» And countless others ...

# 1982



- The word Internet was used for the first time
- JASIS had six (6) issues per year
- ASIS&T had a few SIGs & non-North American Chapters
- SIG-III had a couple of founding members

# 2012



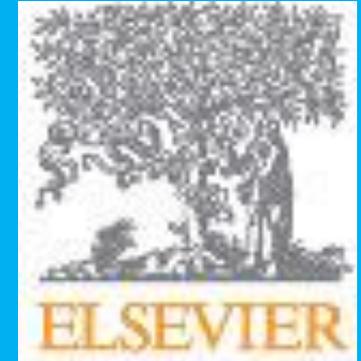
- Facebook has over 1 billion users
- JASIS&T has double the number of issues
- ASIS&T has more than 56 chapters and over 20 SIGs
- SIG-III has over 160 members

## SIG-III: Activities/Events

- International Reception
- Fundraising (Raffle, Silent Auction, and Other means)
- InfoShare Program
- International Paper Contest
- Annual Meeting
- Global Information Village Plaza
- Newsletter
- Website
- Facebook Page
- Twitter Account

# International Reception

- Sponsored by Elsevier
- ASIS&T members:
  - meet colleagues from all over the world
  - congratulate the International Paper Contest winner(s)
- Silent Auction
- Raffle Ticket Sale
- Lots & Lots of fun 😊



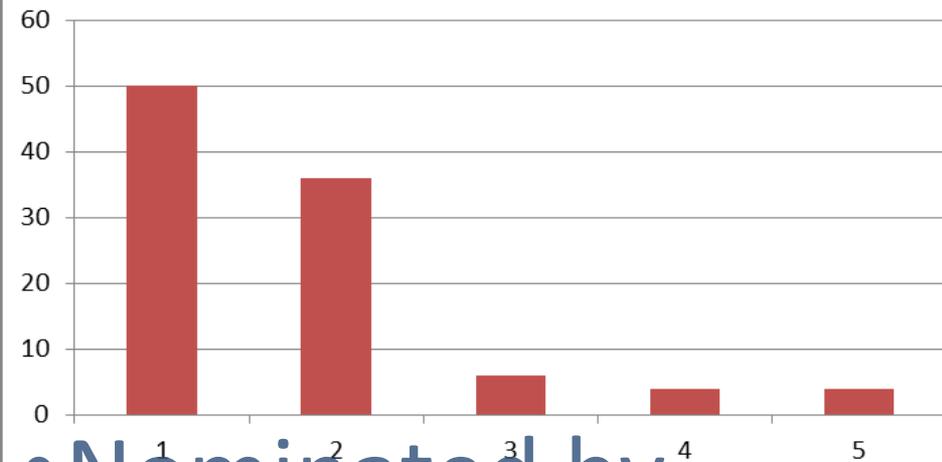
# Fundraising (Raffle, Silent Auction, and Other means)

- At the International Reception
- All proceeds from the Silent Auction and Raffle Ticket Sale go to the SIG-III InfoShare Fund
- From Publishers (e.g., Elsevier)



# InfoShare Program

% of InfoShare Award recipients Vs. Duration of InfoShare Membership



- Nominated by current ASIS&T members, Chapters, or SIGs and must reside in a developing country

- Each year SIG-III sponsors, on average, 12 members from developing countries



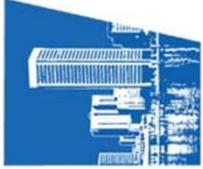
# International Paper Contest

- Draws, on average, over 30 submissions from 15 or more countries
  - A peer review process
  - Selection Criteria:
    - Originality
    - Relevance
    - Presentation and organization
    - Style (follows the International Information and Library Review, IILR)
- Prize: at least a two-year individual ASIS&T membership & a minimum of \$1,000 for travel, conference registration, and accommodations at the Annual Meeting
- Other publishing opportunities, including consideration for inclusion in a special issue of IILR and the ASIS&T Bulletin



**ASIS&T  
2012**

October 26-30, Baltimore, MD



**75<sup>TH</sup>**

INFORMATION, INTERACTION, INNOVATION:  
CELEBRATING THE PAST, CONSTRUCTING  
THE PRESENT AND CREATING THE FUTURE

**Annual Meeting**

## Annual Meeting

- Annually, SIG-III Sponsors a number of panels, workshops, and other panels
- Occasionally, sponsors special anniversary events
- E.g., This year, SIG-III sponsored the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary keynote speaker

# Global Information Village Plaza

Focus on the discussion of various issues and their impact on the audience

- Past themes included:
  - In the global information society, what will impact you and how? (2002)
  - Connecting multi-cultural, multi-lingual and multi-media universes (2003)
  - "What if" questions (such as "What if people in university departments (or other organizations with relevant interests) helped people "on the other side of the digital divide" to become "e-mail pen-pals" with them, in order to address issues of shared interest?) (2004)
  - Trust in information, and how ideas of "trustworthy" information change in different parts of the world (2006)
  - Social networking in an international context (2007)



# Newsletter

## **SIG-III Newsletter**

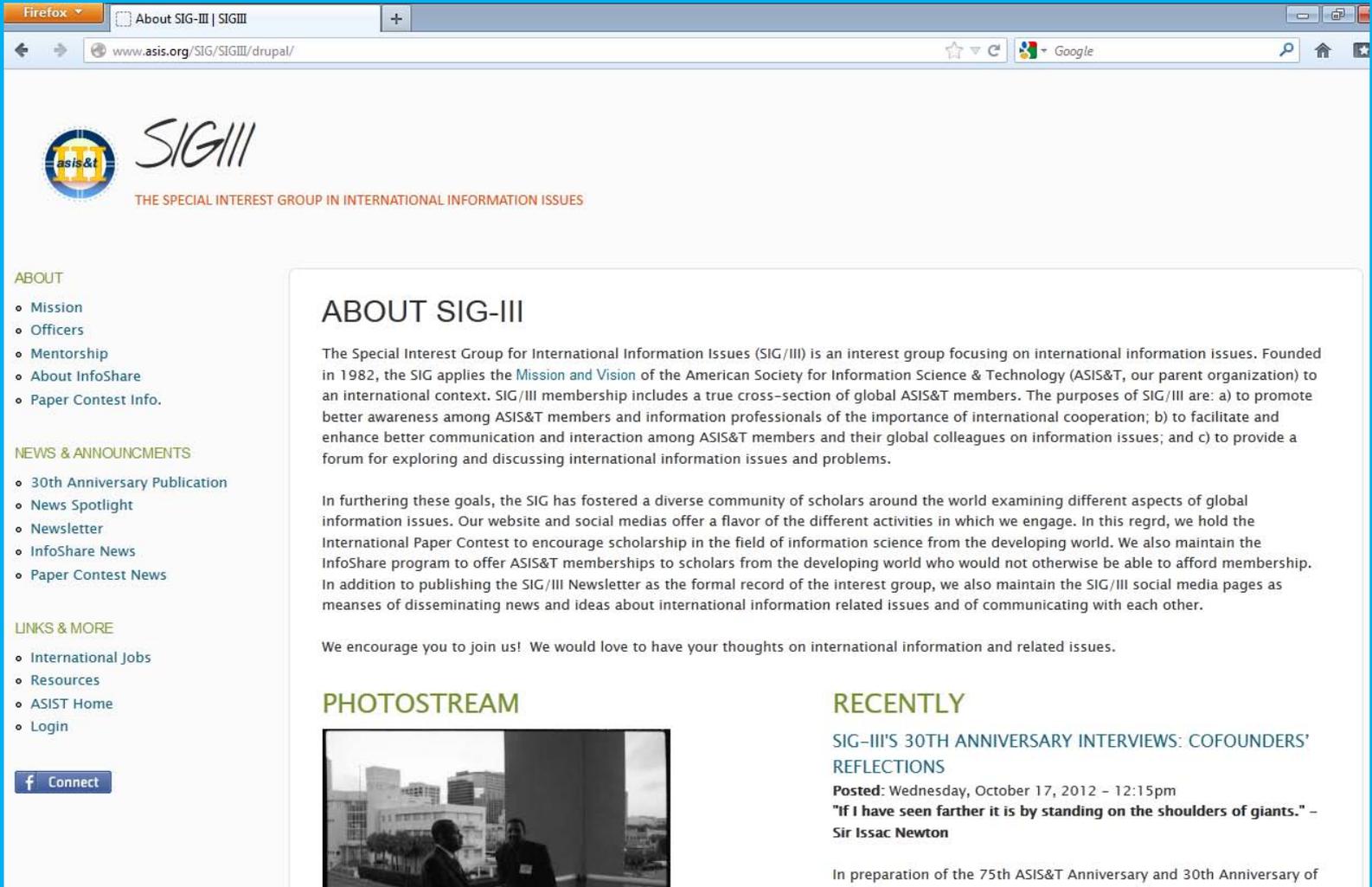
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- Published two to three times a year
- Covers a wide variety of topics relevant to SIG-III members
- Avenue for disseminating SIG-III activities, events, and calls for InfoShare nominations and Paper Contest submissions to the ASIS&T membership

# Website



The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window displaying the website for the Special Interest Group in International Information Issues (SIG/III). The browser's address bar shows the URL [www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/drupal/](http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/drupal/). The website header features the ASIS&T logo and the text "SIG/III THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP IN INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION ISSUES".

**ABOUT**

- Mission
- Officers
- Mentorship
- About InfoShare
- Paper Contest Info.

**NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 30th Anniversary Publication
- News Spotlight
- Newsletter
- InfoShare News
- Paper Contest News

**LINKS & MORE**

- International Jobs
- Resources
- ASIST Home
- Login

[f Connect](#)

## ABOUT SIG-III

The Special Interest Group for International Information Issues (SIG/III) is an interest group focusing on international information issues. Founded in 1982, the SIG applies the [Mission and Vision](#) of the American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T, our parent organization) to an international context. SIG/III membership includes a true cross-section of global ASIS&T members. The purposes of SIG/III are: a) to promote better awareness among ASIS&T members and information professionals of the importance of international cooperation; b) to facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction among ASIS&T members and their global colleagues on information issues; and c) to provide a forum for exploring and discussing international information issues and problems.

In furthering these goals, the SIG has fostered a diverse community of scholars around the world examining different aspects of global information issues. Our website and social medias offer a flavor of the different activities in which we engage. In this regard, we hold the International Paper Contest to encourage scholarship in the field of information science from the developing world. We also maintain the InfoShare program to offer ASIS&T memberships to scholars from the developing world who would not otherwise be able to afford membership. In addition to publishing the SIG/III Newsletter as the formal record of the interest group, we also maintain the SIG/III social media pages as means of disseminating news and ideas about international information related issues and of communicating with each other.

We encourage you to join us! We would love to have your thoughts on international information and related issues.

## PHOTOSTREAM



## RECENTLY

**SIG-III'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY INTERVIEWS: COFOUNDERS' REFLECTIONS**

**Posted:** Wednesday, October 17, 2012 - 12:15pm  
**"If I have seen farther it is by standing on the shoulders of giants." – Sir Issac Newton**

In preparation of the 75th ASIS&T Anniversary and 30th Anniversary of

# Facebook Page

Firefox | in power point m... | SIG-III facebook -... | SIG-III's NEW Fac... | (18) ASIS&T SL... x | Global Informati... | SIG-III Spotlight | About SIG-III | SL... | ASIST SIG III (sig3... +

www.facebook.com/groups/asist.sig.iii/ | SIG-III international reception

facebook | Search for people, places and things

Abebe Rorissa | Find Friends | Home

**ASIS&T SIG-III** | About | Events | Photos | Files | Notifications

130 members | + Add People to Group

Write something...

**Abebe Rorissa** was with Selenay Aytac.



Like · Comment · Unfollow Post · October 18 at 11:15am

Selenay Aytac likes this. Seen by 30

Write a comment...

**Muhammad Rafiq**

I won 2009's International Paper contest of ASIS&T SIG-III, and was not able to participate in ASIS&T's conference. Can anyone inform me about the certificate of that win? Is there any certificate or not? I did not receive. Thanks!

Like · Comment · Follow Post · October 18 at 2:19pm

Selenay Aytac and 2 others like this. Seen by 24

Write a comment...

**Sponsored** | See All

**Mitt Romney**  
Together, we will restore the promise of America. Keep the momentum going and help us get ...



Like This Page

**Verizon Wireless**  
Which city is the fastest? It's a 400 way tie. <http://social.vzw.com/hdZ>



Like This Page

**Suits Are For Suckers**  
betabrand.com  
Our Executive Pinstripe Hoodies redefine business casual. Find them at Betabrand.com.



**Create your travel map**  
The average person has only been to 17 cities. Can you beat that? Create your map.



Jo Glenn used TripAdvisor.

**What's for Dinner?**  
mccormick.com

**FAVORITES**  
News Feed | Messages | Events | Find Friends

**GROUPS**  
ASIS&T SIG-III | Books for Ethiopia Volunteer... | Friends of Abebe-th... | Create Group...

**APPS**  
App Center | Games Feed | Photos | Music | Notes | Links | Pokes

**PAGES**  
Like Pages

**MORE**

Aaron Bowen | Abebe Kebede | Assefa Asrat | Brandi Loveday | Brian O'Connor | Brooke Witham | Catherine Leigh Dumas | Corrie Marsh | Dawit Hundie | Diane Rasmussen | Jo Glenn | John Santana | Maqsood Shaheen | Mary O'Connor | Michel Menou | Philip Eppard | Samuel Tolessa | Sarah Cordts | Sarah Emmerson | Selenay Aytac | Serhiy Polyakov | Shukralla Elias K | Sue Fensore | Tarkey Alhozaimey | Vika Kravchyna | Xiaoai Ren | Yunke Chang

Search | 8:40 PM

# Twitter Account

The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window displaying the Twitter profile of ASIST SIG III (@sig3i). The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://twitter.com/sig3i>. The profile header includes the account name, handle, bio, and statistics: 510 tweets, 202 following, and 124 followers. A 'Follow' button is visible. The main content area features a list of tweets from the account, with the most recent tweet dated 22 Oct. The left sidebar contains a 'Follow ASIST SIG III' form and navigation links for Tweets, Following, Followers, Favorites, and Lists. The bottom of the screen shows the Windows taskbar with various open applications and the system clock at 8:41 PM.

**ASIST SIG III**  
@sig3i  
ASIS&T Special Interest Group in International Information Issues (SIG). Tweets about Research, News & Jobs in SIG. Managed by SM Team <http://bit.ly/sig3iTeam>  
Twitterverse <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>

**Follow ASIST SIG III**

Full name  
Email  
Password  
**Sign up**

**Tweets**

- ASIST SIG III** @sig3i 22 Oct  
Check out the schedule for #asist2012 Conference in Baltimore [asis.org/asist2012/prog...](http://asis.org/asist2012/prog...) Follow @sig3i for updates during conference w/ @capak9.  
Expand
- ASIST SIG III** @sig3i 21 Oct  
We're gearing up for our 75th anniversary annual meeting. Who's coming to the party? #asist2012 via @asist\_org @capak9  
Expand
- ASIST SIG III** @sig3i 17 Oct  
Check out #taxonomy workshop at @asist\_org Annual Meeting with @Sara\_Mooney & @gameronomist next week, Baltimore! [asis.org/asist2012/Taxo...](http://asis.org/asist2012/Taxo...)  
Expand
- ASIST SIG III** @sig3i 17 Oct  
The 7 Deadly Sins of Cover Letter Writing [bit.ly/QQUOc1](http://bit.ly/QQUOc1) #jobsearch #coverletter #résumé via @ALA\_JobLIST @capak9  
Expand
- ASIST SIG III** @sig3i 16 Oct  
The dark side of the social Web [ow.ly/ewDkU](http://ow.ly/ewDkU) via @SBoSM @capak9  
View summary
- ASIST SIG III** @sig3i 16 Oct  
BC 2 become 1st Cdn province to offer free online open txts for 40 most popular post-second courses [bit.ly/V56Tea](http://bit.ly/V56Tea) w/ @mgeist @capak9  
Expand
- ASIST SIG III** @sig3i 16 Oct  
Be one of the first to get the new LinkedIn profile! [linkd.in/U0xZHA](http://linkd.in/U0xZHA) #newlinkedin via @LinkedIn @capak9  
Expand

© 2012 Twitter About Help Terms Privacy  
Blog Status Apps Resources Jobs  
Advertisers Businesses Media Developers  
Directory

Windows taskbar: SIG\_III - ar..., Windows..., Microsoft..., Untitled - ..., Notes\_Pan..., Mozilla Fl..., Microsoft..., Untitled - ..., 8:41 PM

# Highlights and Achievements

**SIG-III**

The text "SIG-III" is rendered in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Below the text is a faint, semi-transparent reflection of the same text, creating a 3D effect. The background is a solid, vibrant blue.



13

**Number of times, out of 35 (37%), SIG-III won the ASIS&T SIG of the year Award (2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1997, 1993, 1991, 1984, 1983)**



**2**

**Number of times SIG-III members won the ASIS&T Watson Davis Award (Michel Menou - 1985; Toni Carbo - 1983)**





**Number of times SIG-III members won the ASIS&T SIG Member-of-the-Year Award (Yin Zhang - 2005; Sue O'Neill Johnson - 2003; Bahaa El-Hadidy - 2000)**



**2**

**Number of times SIG-III members won the ASIS&T Chapter Member-of-the-Year Award (Caryn Anderson - 2007; Yin Zhang - 2003)**



**2**

**Number of times SIG-III members won the ASIS&T James M. Cretsos Leadership Award (Nadia Caidi and Caryn Anderson - 2006; Suzie Allard - 2002)**



**1**

**Number of times SIG-III members won the ASIS&T Student Chapter of the Year Award (Sarah Emmerson - 2012)**





**2**

**Number of times the  
SIG-III Web Site won  
the ASIS&T SIG  
Publication-of-the-  
Year Award (2005,  
2003)**





**1**

**Number of times the  
SIG-III Newsletter  
won the ASIS&T SIG  
Publication-of-the-  
Year Award (2011)**





**Amount of money  
raised through raffle  
ticket sales at the  
International  
Reception between  
2001 and 2011**





**58+**

**Number of  
panels/workshops/  
events sponsored/  
co-Sponsored since  
2000**

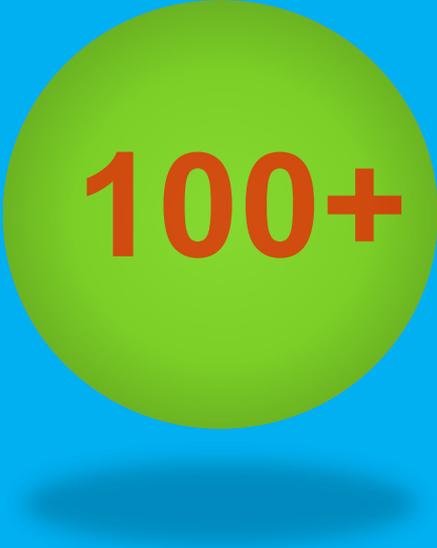




**28+**

**Number of issues of  
the SIG-III Newsletter  
published since  
December 1999**





**100+**

**Number of annual memberships over the last 12 years sponsored through the SIG-III InfoShare Program**





**283+**

**Number of  
information  
professionals from  
over 50 countries  
who submitted  
papers to the SIG-III  
International Paper  
Contest since 2000**





12

**Number of information professionals from developing Countries who were awarded the Eugene Garfield Travel Grant in 2002 (Nicaragua, South Africa, Lithuania, Uganda, Vietnam, Nigeria, Brazil, Yugoslavia, India, China, Indonesia, Mongolia)**



**\$40**

- **Amount of membership fee most members from developing countries pay as of 2012.**

**This effort started by the SIG-III chair in 2003, Sue O'Neill Johnson, and concluded by our immediate past chair (2012), Daniel Gelaw Alemneh.**

**Our sincere thanks go to the ASIS&T President Diane Sonnenwald, the ASIS&T Board, and everybody who supported the effort for almost a decade.**

# Future Plans

- The purposes of SIG-III are (10/20/2003)
  - to promote better awareness among ASIS&T members and information professionals of the importance of international cooperation;
  - to facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction among ASIST members and their foreign colleagues on information issues;
  - to develop an international network of digital scholars and experts on digital libraries and information technology in developing countries; and
  - to provide a forum for exploring and discussing international information issues and problems
- SIG-III bylaws: Update the bylaws to reflect current set of officers, activities, and programs
- SIG-III Website: Continue improving on what has been done for the last year and before
- Seek feedback on the future of SIG-III (Name change in ASIS&T)

*Appendix-3: SIG-III Promotional Pamphlet*



# SIG-III:



## International Information Issues Invites You to Become a New Member!

[www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII](http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII)

### **SIG/III Purpose:**

- SIG/III promotes better awareness among ASIS&T members and information professionals of the importance of international cooperation.
- SIG/III facilitates and enhances better communication and interaction among ASIS&T members and their foreign colleagues on information issues.
- SIG/III members work to develop an international network of digital scholars and experts on digital libraries and information technology in developing countries.
- SIG/III provides a forum for exploring and discussing international information issues and problems. SIG III membership includes most non-U.S. ASIS&T members and a true cross-section of U.S. ASIS&T members.

### **SIG/III Activities:**

- SIG/III hosts the yearly International Reception at ASIS&T Annual Meetings.
- SIG/III sponsors panels at ASIS&T Annual Meetings.
- SIG/III awards one-year ASIS&T memberships, through its InfoShare Program, to information professionals in developing countries for whom the cost of membership would be a financial burden.
- SIG/III coordinates the International Paper Contest in which information professionals from developing countries submit research to win travel awards to ASIS&T Annual Meetings as well as two-year ASIS&T memberships.
- SIG/III builds close relationships between International Paper Contest participants and established members of the SIG/III and ASIS&T community through its Mentorship Program.

### **SIG/III Business Meeting:**

- Please join us at the SIG/III Business Meeting at the ASIS&T Annual Conferences
- Please also join us at the International Reception at ASIS&T conference, usually on Monday, 8-10pm.

### **How to Join SIG/III:**

- To become a member of SIG/III you must be a member of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T). Visit the ASIS&T website (<http://www.asis.org>) for instructions on how to become a member of ASIS&T and SIG/III.

### **SIG/III Social media pages:**

- Find SIG/III on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/assist.sig.iii>
- Find SIG-III on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/sig3i/>
- Find SIG/III on LinkedIn at: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&qid=3868177>

### **Questions?**

- Please contact SIG-III Officers: [www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/officers](http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/officers)

