

COVER STORY

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CHAIR'S DESK

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IPC



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Message from the Chair



Welcome all! I am happy to inform you that SIG-III is one of the fastest-growing special interest groups in ASIS&T. The number of members has almost doubled since January 2021 and is now close to 500. Since January, SIG-III has been actively seeking member expectations and meeting those expectations. For instance, in response to member expectations, SIG-III collaborated with South Asia Chapter and Africa Chapter to submit a proposal on the challenges and solutions for conducting and publishing research in developing countries.

Our proposal is accepted for the 84th Annual Meeting of ASIS&T. Also, we recently celebrated the success of our members in the calendar year 2020 by compiling and publishing the accomplishments of our members on ASIS&T's iConect and social media platforms. Currently, we are working on building solutions in the form of a webinar and online collaborative spaces for helping researchers in developing countries publish articles in peer-reviewed journals.

We look forward to conducting open, fair, and transparent elections online in September. I invite all members to participate in this important process of shaping the future of our SIG by running for officer positions and voting for candidates. Finally, I wish to thank all the officers who are working hard for SIG-III so that it can create value for the library and information science professionals around the world. Special thanks to Abebe Rorissa, Kendra Albright, and Toni Carbo for offering their valuable guidance as our advisors! As always, I welcome your queries or suggestions to make SIG-III a more diverse, collaborative, value-creating, and inclusive platform.

- Devendra Potnis

Quick Note

SIG-III is in the middle of updating its website to better meet member needs and expectations. Thanks to Humphrey Keah, Webmaster, SIG-III, for making the changes in consultation with Devendra Potnis, Chair, SIG-III. If you have any suggestions or feedback to enhance the usability of our website at <https://www.asist.org/sig/sigiii/>, please reach out to Devendra Potnis at dpotnis@utk.edu

SIG-III Advisor Abebe Rorissa to Receive the 2021 Watson Davis Award for Service



The Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) has announced Dr. Abebe Rorissa, Professor and Director of the iSchool (School of Information Sciences), University of Tennessee Knoxville as the 2021 recipient of the “Watson Davis Award for Service”.

The award’s purpose is to recognize an individual member of the Association who has shown continuous dedicated leadership in and service to ASIS&T and made substantial and lasting contributions to ASIS&T governance, chapters, SIGs, committees, and publications. Candidates are assessed based on 3 criteria: dedicated service to ASIS&T as evidenced by the amount and length of participation in, leadership of, and support to ASIS&T programs, chapters, SIGs, committees, publications, etc.; sustained, active involvement in ASIS&T; and engagement in activities that create a meaningful impact on ASIS&T communities, such as in high attendance numbers for events, attracting significant news coverage of a publication or event, attraction of new members, and/or positive financial impact for the Association, SIG or Chapter. The award is named after Watson Davis, President and founder of the American Documentation Institute (ADI), a precursor to ASIS&T.

Dr. Rorissa will receive his award at the 2021 ASIS&T Annual Meeting to be held October 29-November 2 in Salt Lake City, Utah. As a proud community of ASIS&T SIG-III, let’s join hands to congratulate Abebe for his achievement !!

Source: Inside ASIS&T, June 2021

SIG-III Co-Chair Elect Md. Anwarul Islam to receive the 2021 Crestos Leadership Award

The Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) has announced the name of 2021 recipient for ASIS&T Crestos Leadership Award. Dr. Md. Anwarul Islam, Associate Professor, Department of Information Science & Library Management at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, has been named for this year’s award.

The award recognizes a new ASIS&T member who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in professional ASIS&T activities. Dr. Islam, as an active member of ASIS&T has been involved in several leadership position like- Chair, ASIS&T South Asia Chapter; Chair, SIG-KM; Co-chair Elect, SIG-III. The award is named in honor of James M. Crestos, long-time member and leader in ASIS&T. Crestos served as President of ASIS&T in 1997 and was also an active leader and contributor to the Southern Ohio Chapter, SIG-CON, SIG-MED, and the Awards & Honors Committee.



He is perhaps best remembered for the role he played in mentoring emerging leaders in the field of information science. Candidates are assessed based on the following four criteria: participation in ASIS&T annual meeting as organizer, moderator, speaker, discussant, etc.; participation in programs and activities of Special Interest Groups (SIGs), chapters and/or student chapters; services on ASIS&T committees; and recruitment of new ASIS&T members and/or retention of existing members.

Dr. Islam will receive his award at the 2021 ASIS&T Annual Meeting to be held October 29 through November 3, 2021, in Salt Lake City, Utah. SIG-III proudly celebrates his recognition .

Source: Inside ASIS&T, June 2021

SIG-III Co-Chair Prodip Roy to receive the 2021 Inaugural Lois Lunin Award



The Association for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) announced Prodip Roy, Library Officer (Monograph and Digital Collections) and Ph.D. candidate, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Australia, as the inaugural recipient of the “Lois Lunin Award”.

This award recognizes individuals who have made noteworthy contributions to the practice of Information Science and Technology through leadership, mentoring, and innovation.

The Lois Lunin Award was named in honor of long-time ASIS&T member and newsletter editor Lois Lunin. The award recognizes early or mid-career individuals who have made noteworthy contributions to the practice of Information Science and Technology through leadership, mentoring, and innovation.

Originally from Bangladesh, Roy is currently Library Officer (Monograph and Digital Collections) and Ph.D. candidate RMIT. He is the founder and editor-in-chief of The Librarian Times, the first-ever and only professional weekly news bulletin in Bangladesh for the library and information profession; established The Library Times (TLT) Foundation to promote library professional development; and has inaugurated several awards to encourage library professionals and students.

Roy will receive his award at the 2021 ASIS&T Annual Meeting to be held October 29 through November 3, 2021, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Cheers to Prodip making the most of this award as a part of our very own SIG. Congratulations !!

Source: Inside ASIS&T, June 2021

SIG-III International Paper Contest (IPC) Winners 2021

By Nosheen Warraich, Chair, IPC

First Place Winner

- ◆ Sia Wan Qi, & Nurul Afiqah, M.E.S. **Usage of SNS among Underprivileged Entrepreneurs: Effect of Social Capital and Attachment.** Department of Library & Information Sciences, Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology Universiti Malaya, Malaysia.

Second Place Winner

- ◆ Amara Malik, Talat Islam and Khalid Mahmood. **Information Sharing Behavior of Facebook Users in Pakistan: A Case of COVID-19.** University of the Punjab, Lahore-Pakistan.

Third Place Winner

- ◆ Ghulam Murtaza Rafiq. **Impact of Knowledge Sharing on Nurses' Job Satisfaction: The Mediating Effect of Innovation Behavior.** Department of Information Management, University of Sargodha, Sargodha, Khalid Mahmood, University of the Punjab, Lahore-Pakistan.
- ◆ Nurul Afiqah Mohammed Ebnu Saifudin. **Information Needs and Seeking Behaviour of Women Entrepreneurs: The use of Social Media.** Department of Library & Information Sciences, Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology Universiti Malaya, Malaysia.

My Journey as an IPC Chair

- Nosheen Warraich



Dear all, it's a matter of great pride and honour for me to serve as the Chair of SIG-III International Paper Contest (IPC) from the platform ASIS&T. The key objective of this contest is to motivate the researchers from developing countries to present their work internationally by providing them with guidance, awards and incentives. This SIG IPC has been doing this wonderful job for the last 21 years and many people from unrepresented regions joined SIG-III through this contest. I feel blessed to have an erudite IPC jury to maintain the standard of the contest.

I am especially thankful to Devendra Potnis who has set a high standard for IPC as Committee chair during his consecutive three years tenure. I am lucky enough to serve with him as a jury member during this period. As a chair, I also endeavored to follow his foot prints. We tried to engage more diverse IPC jury members from Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and Turkey for the 84th Annual Meeting 2021. All the IPC submissions were double-blind peer reviewed through quantitative and qualitative feedback from jury members. I didn't participate in the evaluation process to maintain impartiality and objectivity of the contest; however, I collected, compiled and announced the scores of jury members. I didn't participate in the evaluation process to maintain impartiality and objectivity of the contest; however, I collected, compiled and announced the scores

Later, the qualitative feedback was communicated to all the authors with an invitation to submit their papers to the Pakistan Journal of Information Management & Libraries. During the current time of confinement, IPC has to face certain challenges in reaching out its community, involving more diverse groups, and encouraging people to participate in certain activities with more dependency on digital and social networks. With the belief that every dark cloud has a silver lining, we will come across through these uncertain times with a smiling face. IPC winners are invited to attend ASIS&T Annual meeting to be held in 2021 and to submit their papers to LIBRI: International Journal of Libraries and Information Studies, subject to peer review process. We got a good number of papers from Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Turkey. The competition was tough and two papers qualified for third position. I am excited to announce the name of winners with all of you (See Page 3). We Sia Wan Qi and Nurul Afiah, first-place winners, are going to present their paper at the 2021 ASIS&T conference poster session.

We try to engage our IPC winners in the future activities of SIG-III so we may recruit new members through them. I, once again, thank our learned jury members who agreed to be part of this contest, spare time, circulate calls for papers to the target audience, and provide constructive feedback in a timely manner. Let me introduce you to the jury members of IPC 2021: Iman Tahamtan, Jaya Raju, Noorhidawati Abdullah, Shi-vanthi Weerasinghe, Muzammil Tahira and Zehra Taskin.

In the future, we are aiming to recruit jury members who represent more geographic diversity to make IPC truly an international contest. We also expect and welcome jury members from Africa and South America so we could reach authors from this region as well. To motivate potential authors, we are thinking of inviting all winners to present their posters in AM.

“A comprehensive rubric was used to review different aspects of the submissions”

- Iman Tahamtan

I believe under Dr. Nosheen Fatima Warraich's guidance and with Dr. Devendra Potnis's leadership and support, the IPC jury tried to be fair in evaluating submissions and providing constructive feedback. The review process was blind, meaning that we could not see the identities of authors, which made evaluating the sub-missions a fair process. A comprehensive rubric was used to review different aspects of the submissions.



About Iman: Iman Tahamtan is a doctoral candidate and lecturer in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville (UTK). His current research, under Dr. Devendra Potnis's guidance, ex-amines public opinion about public health emergencies on social media. He investigates the framing of and at-tention to COVID-19 on Twitter and examines the network agenda-setting effect of the World Health Organiza-tion (WHO) about COVID-19 on different groups of Twitter users. After completing his Ph.D. in Summer 2021, he will be joining the school of Information Sciences at UTK as a lecturer in Fall 2021. He will also be starting his work as a Senior User Experience Research Associate at JP Morgan Chase in August 2021.

“It was especially difficult to choose the best among the papers sent this year”

- Zehra Taskin



It is exciting to evaluate the scientific publications sent from developing countries together with the experts in my field in the IPC Jury for three years and try to choose the best. It was especially difficult to choose the best among the papers sent this year because all the papers had a good level of scientific quality. I believe that the international paper competition provides a great opportunity for our colleagues working in developing countries to join the international information science network. I am very happy to be a member of this amazing jury.

Zehra Taşkın is a visiting professor at Adam Mickiewicz University, Scholarly Communication Research Group (Poland). Her main research interests are research/er performance evaluations, bibliometrics, and scholarly communication. She has worked as an IPC jury member since 2019. Detailed information can be found on <http://zehrataşkın.com>

“Serving as a jury at IPC 2021 is a good experience” - Noorhidawati Abdullah

Dr Noorhidawati Abdullah is an Associate Professor and the head of the De-partment of Library & Information Science in the Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, Universiti Malaya from 2018-2021. Dr. Noorhidawati obtained her Ph.D. in 2008 from the University of Strathclyde Glasgow. Her research interests include digital library, digital literacy, information management, scholarly communication, and bibliometrics. She is at present the joint editorial board member of the Malaysian Journal of Library & Information Science (indexed in WOS and SCOPUS) and editorial board member of Public Library Quarterly (indexed in Scopus).



Experience: Serving as a jury at IPC 2021 is a good experience. I was given ample time to complete the review. The review process was conducted smoothly and transparently.

“The Evaluation criteria facilitated me to perform that tough task as it served as a realistic guideline.”

- Shivanthi Weerasinghe

It was interesting and professionally fulfilling to be a judge at this esteemed contest, which attracted submissions from professionals in the field. It was not an easy assignment to judge the papers as it was a very competitive contest. The Evaluation criteria facilitated me to perform that tough task as it served as a realistic guide-line. I enjoyed reading the research contents, problems and the findings of all the papers.



Shivanthi Weerasinghe is a professional librarian. She has worked in the field of librarianship and information Sciences for over 38 years in research and finance sectors. She did a short time service as a Library Consultant in the Open University of Sri Lanka in 2018. She is a former President of the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA) and has a Masters Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Colombo, Associate and a Fellowship of the Sri Lanka Library Association (SLLA). Served in SLLA Council in many other capacities over the years. Currently she is a nominated member of the SLLA Council.

Shivanthi was the winner of the International Paper Contest of ASIS&T , Special Interest Group - International Information issues (SIG III) in 2004 for submitting the paper on “The Role of Financiers As Intermediaries In Bridging The Information Gap of Micro Entrepreneurs Of Sri Lanka”. She is a recipient of many travel grants to attend international conferences on LIS.

“New trends in information science were sighted due to COVID-19”

- Muzammil Tahira



My journey with SIG-III ASIS&T started in 2011 as a winner of the student paper contest. It was a challenging and learning experience that motivated me to work in the diverse areas of Information Science and Technology. My second experience as a IPC jury member for SIG-III (2021) was as wonderful as the previous one. I enjoyed working with the chair and jury members from different countries and research areas. This year we received a good number of articles on a diversified topic of information science. New trends in information science were sighted due to COVID-19. It was difficult to decide due to the high quality of work however I congratulate the chair and committee members that selected the winners on merit. I hope and wish the best to all contestants for good research in future.

Dr. Muzammil Tahira is a Head of Libraries at the University of Education, Lahore. She completed her masters and MPhil from the University of the Punjab, Lahore and PhD from the University of Technology Malaysia (UTM) in Information Systems. She has served more than 23 years in Library and Information Science in various capacities and is well presented at national and international level. She has also served as Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, University of Malaya, Malaysia. She has been published in well-reputed journals and international conference proceedings indexed in WoS and Scopus.

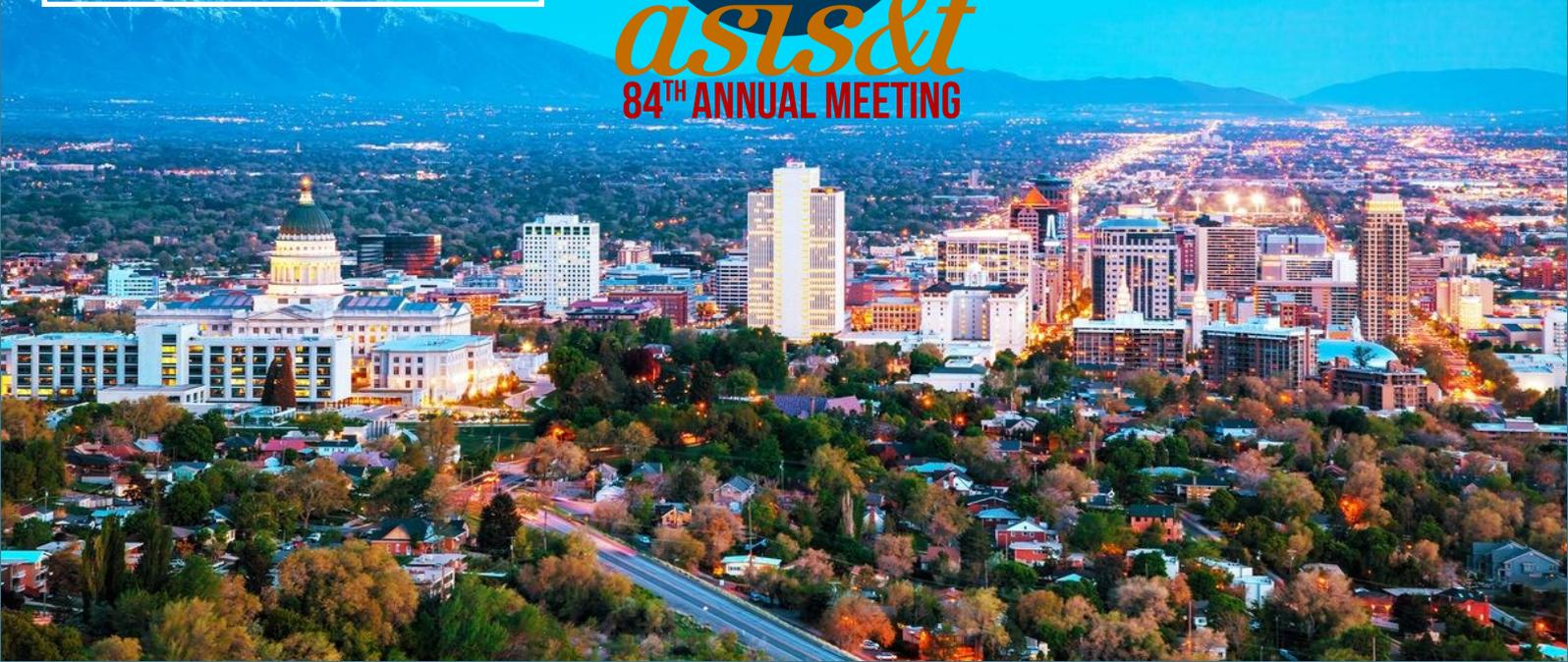
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
Register for ASIS&T 21 at:
<https://www.asist.org/am21/registration/>



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SIG-III Advisory Board



Toni Carbo, Co-founder & Advisor, SIG-III



Kendra Albright, Advisor, SIG-III



Abebe Rorissa, Advisor, SIG-III

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Co-Chair: Prodig Roy

Chair-Elect: Devendra Potnis

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IPC Jury: Iman Tahamtan

Jaya Raju

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Shivanthi Weerasinghe

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Zehra Taskin

Past Chair: Ashraf Sharif

Want to get involved with SIG-III? Stay connected with us !



Your contributions, news, comments, and enquiries are always welcome. Please direct them to: rajesh@nstu.edu.bd or dpotnis@utk.edu