

**Election  
Edition**

## Vote in the LTD Board Election Fast, Convenient Online Voting

The Library Technology Division Board election for the positions of Chair-Elect, Secretary/Historian, and Member-at-Large will open in early May and close on May 30. Online voting will once again be offered. Watch your inbox for an e-mail with the voting instructions.

Following are descriptions of the responsibilities of each position, and the candidates. Profiles of the candidates appear on the following pages. Thank you to all those willing to run for office and help keep the division on the forefront of innovative programs and activities!

**Chair-Elect** - The Chair-Elect works with the Chair in an apprenticeship role, and serves in the place of the Chair as necessary. The winner of this election serves for three years – first as Chair-Elect, then as Chair, then as Past-Chair. The runner-up serves one year as a Member-at-Large.

*Vote for ONE; runner-up serves one year as Member-at-Large (7/07-6/08)*

- ✓ **Don McGaw**, Independence Township Library
- ✓ **Robert Slater**, Oakland University

**Secretary/Historian** - The Secretary/Historian keeps the minutes of the Board to remind everyone who is doing what, and informs unit members, and the MLA president and staff of the unit's activities. The winner of this election serves one year.

*Vote for ONE; one-year term (7/07-6/08)*

- ✓ **Heidi Williams**, Detroit Public Library
- ✓ **Peng Xu**, Michigan State University

**Member-at-Large** - Members-at-Large bring their diverse experience to the Board to guide and implement the unit's activities and programs. They may serve on unit committees as well as represent the LTD on other MLA committees. There is one Member-at-Large position open. The winner serves for two years.

*Vote for ONE; two-year term (7/07-6/09)*

- ✓ **Elizabeth Bodenmiller**, Caroline Kennedy Library
- ✓ **Dwayne Henderson**, Fanning/Howey Associates
- ✓ **Sonya Norris**, Library of Michigan
- ✓ **Arjun Sabharwal**, Baker College



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**Candidates' Statements Begin on Page 2**

**Report from TechEscape 5.0  
— Mining User Trends — See Page 5**

# Library Technology Division Election 2007

CHAIR-ELECT:

Vote for ONE; runner-up serves one year as Member-at-Large (7/07-6/08)

## Don McGaw Independence Township Library

As the Head of Circulation and Information Technology Manager at the Independence Township Library I have received not just a long winded title, but many educational experiences as well. Before joining the library world I performed over the phone technical support for ISP's and software vendors; learning first hand the difficulties in communicating technical issues to non technical people. My day to day duties keep me in touch with librarians, support staff and IT personnel at libraries around the state. I have worked with various ILS vendors and taken the lead role in upgrading our Library to a new Polaris ILS.

These experiences have taught me that technology changes affect nearly everyone at your library. And that communicating these changes to your staff, your patrons, and your Board, is sometimes the greatest challenge we face. If elected I would put my over five years of library experience and a decade in the IT industry to use in helping the LTD Board aid you in overcoming that challenge. The LTD Board has always helped facilitate the sharing of new ideas for the use and implementation of technology. We need to expand that tradition and share not just how we found a great new tool or software package, but how we convinced our directors, staff, board members and patrons that we needed it in first place.



Don McGaw



Robert Slater

## Robert Slater Oakland University

I love experimenting with new technologies and have been doing so since I was ten years old, when I learned BASIC on a TI99/4A. Since 2002 I've been the Digital Information Services Librarian at Oakland University's Kresge Library. I regularly attend MLA conferences and LTD workshops. This year, I'm honored to serve on the 2007 Conference Program Selection Committee. When I'm not developing web resources at work or gaming at home, I can usually be found volunteering at the Rochester Hills Public Library, assisting with teen programming and events (see [animeted.org](http://animeted.org)).

The LTD works hard to keep MLA members abreast of new technologies by organizing well-attended, practical programs. The LTD should continue this tradition of helping members sift through new technologies—separating what is *simply* cool and new from what is cool, new, and *useful*. If elected to the LTD, I will work to develop interactive web casts and A/V archives of LTD conferences and programs to expand our members' knowledge of what's new, what works, and what hurts.

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### 2006–07 LTD Board

**Juliane Morian**, Chair  
**Benjamin Sebrowski**, Chair-elect  
**Sheryl Cormicle Knox**, Past Chair  
**Sara Memmott**, Secretary  
**Krista Graham**, Member-at-large  
**Judith O'Dell**, Member-at-large  
**Tom Volkening**, Member-at-large  
**Jackie Wrosch**, Member-at-large

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**Phillip Kwik**, Peer/2/Peer  
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[www.mla.lib.mi.us/ltd](http://www.mla.lib.mi.us/ltd)

# Library Technology Division Election 2007

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SECRETARY-HISTORIAN: Vote for ONE; one-year term (7/07-6/08)

## Heidi Williams Detroit Public Library

I am a 2005 graduate of Wayne State's MLIS program. After one year of working in Pfizer's Product Information Library, I joined Detroit Public Library's Chaney Branch staff as Adult Services Librarian. I bring to my job sixteen years of experience teaching college English and research skills, as well as several years in academic administration (and all of the fun committee work that goes with it).

Technology is what lured me into library science. I enjoy all aspects of it – from introducing library patrons to “the mouse” to creating web pages, wikis, and blogs.

I would love to bring my experience and passion for technology to the LT Division.

## Peng Xu Michigan State University

Peng Xu is currently a business librarian at Michigan State University Libraries. He has worked at MSU for over 2 years. Before coming to MSU, Peng studied Library and Information Science at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Industrial Relations and Human Resources at Penn State. Peng holds a M.S. in Library Information Science and a BA in English.



Heidi Williams



Peng Xu

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Vote for ONE; two-year term (7/07-6/09)

## Elizabeth Bodenmiller Caroline Kennedy Library

I wear many hats in the Dearborn Heights City Libraries: adult/children's reference librarian, reader's advisor and collection developer, as well as being the person in charge of the website.

My interest in technology goes back to the early 90's when I first made that journey from University of Michigan's central campus up to north campus in order to find “MAN,” the only person who could issue me a UNIX account. In those days, one had to make a personal appeal to be allowed access to the internet!

Since then, I spent a lot of time getting to know UNIX, as an editor for the LINGUIST list, a scholarly journal at Eastern Michigan University, and years later, after earning my MILS from University of Michigan, I used UNIX and Perl as a way to automate and make my work at the University of Michigan Transportation Research library more efficient.

Then, at Gale Group I wrote shell scripts in my spare time to do quality assurance and to automate reports on the *Dictionary of Literary Biography* online. At Gale I created classes in shell scripts and XML for my fellow editors so that they could benefit from what I had learned to help them become more efficient in their work. I became a Technical Training Specialist there because of my obvious interest in teaching others to use technology to help them accomplish their goals.

Now that I am a librarian, I want to extend my passion for visualising and implementing ways to use new technologies to make people's lives easier and fuller to benefit both patrons and librarians. Current fascinations: content management systems, rss, wikis, mashups, Library 2.0 ning group, how Google is changing our universe, and library association presence in Second Life.



Elizabeth Bodenmiller

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MEMBER-AT-LARGE (continued)

## Dwayne Henderson, RCDD Fanning/Howey Associates



Dwayne Henderson

I have has more than 18 years of experience in the telecommunications industry. Extensive experience on network integration, including voice, data, video, and network electronics, along with file servers, switches, routers, and digital video. Prior to joining Fanning Howey, I managed systems engineers and installers for an integration company. It was responsible for network estimating and project management. As a Technology Specialist I have completed several library technology projects. I have worked very close with the IT staff members planning the designs as well as the talking to staff member, directors and board members helping everyone come together for a common understand how the technology can be used. I would say I act as the ROUTER or Firewall between the techies and the architects when planning for spaces. I would be able to share my experience and knowledge with the group; I am affiliated with several national recognized groups listed below:

Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD) Member of Building Industry Consulting Services International (BISCI) – Currently on the committee rewriting the ITSIM 5th Edition Manual; Member of the Michigan Library Association; Institute of Electrical, and Electronics Engineering, Inc. (IEEE)



Sonya Norris

## Sonya Norris Library of Michigan

I am currently serving as the Web site administrator for the Library of Michigan; I also serve as the Web site administrator for MeL. Another part of my job entails reviewing the technology plans submitted by libraries in

Michigan applying for discounted telecom service via e-Rate.

I'm very interested in the uses of technology in libraries, including how Flickr, meebo, MySpace and other applications can be harnessed as avenues to provide service and spread the good word about Michigan libraries. I'm also interested in how technology can better support librarians by serving as communication tools such as IM, and collaborative devices such as blogs and wikis.

I joined MLA when I finished library school at Wayne State last May. Running for a position as member-at-large of LTD is my first active participation. I hope you'll take advantage of my enthusiasm.

## Arjun Sabharwal Baker College

I am a Remote Services Librarian at the Baker College Center for Graduate Studies, working with the graduate and online students and faculty. Before joining Baker College in 2004, I had worked at several libraries and enjoyed learning from diverse experiences. In my current position, I have the opportunity to understand the emerging community of virtual clients who rely on the ever-expanding technology infrastructure. Prior to joining the library profession, I had taught at universities and colleges in the Metro Detroit area while developing interest in archives and libraries. My experiences with students have not only helped me become a more effective academic librarian, but I have been able to rely on these experiences in the broader context of librarianship also.

My interdisciplinary background is well reflected in my affiliations with organizations like the Society of American Archivists, American Society for Information Science and Technology, the Association for Integrative Studies, Michigan Library Association, and the American Library Association. While I have envisioned and proposed joint events, these

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# TechEscape 5.0: Mining Data to Uncover User Trends

This year the Library Technology Division (LTD) decided to focus on the data that helps library personnel make decisions. We chose the title of “The Naked Patron: Mining Data to Uncover User Trends.” Our goal was to invite a variety of speakers from the research, academic, and vendor community that could help educate us on how to gather information about what our patrons want in order to determine what we want to offer.

The day started with a presentation from Mary Madden from the Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary acknowledged the fact that many of us refer to teenagers today as “digital natives” meaning they were raised in a world where digital technology was all-pervasive. She used this phrase as a springboard to discuss teenagers’ relationship with local libraries. By labeling today’s teenagers “library immigrants” she contrasted them to the older generation of Americans that is more often thought of as “library natives.” The idea of library immigrants vs. natives is an interesting one to ponder and may help library administrators better serve the new generation of young Americans.

The second speaker was Brian Hilligoss, a Ph.D. student at the University of Michigan’s School of Information. Brian spoke on the tips, tricks, and traps of designing survey questions. This session was designed to be a crash course in effective survey techniques.

Brian explained what double-barreled questions were, helped us dissect a good question from a bad one,

explained why online surveys are somewhat limited, and overall left attendees with this central thought: survey questions should put people at ease so that they tell you the truth.



The afternoon sessions featured three speakers, each from the vendor community: Counting Opinions, CivicTechnologies, and Blue Granite. Each presentation offered their own take on gathering information, defining patterns, and identifying trends. Counting Opinions offered a product that tracks user feedback over time (so that libraries can see the effect of introducing new services). CivicTechnologies provided a case-study and preview of a subscription database that provides profiles of community members based on census data. BlueGranite, Inc. is a company that will take raw data from the ILS and quantify it, so that library administrators can draw meaningful conclusions.

Overall the attendee feedback was positive. Some members stated that they didn’t know what to expect from the title of the workshop, but that they were pleasantly surprised by how informative it was.

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interests have helped me prepare myself for a challenging and rewarding career. My record of participation includes serving on the MLA Web Advisory Committee, writing tech reports for the *Peer/2/Peer* Newsletter, an ARLD poster session, an article in the MLA Forum, and numerous presentations and projects elsewhere. Through these and other valuable

experiences, I have developed expertise in enhancing virtual library services, and will look forward to collaborating with libraries on web-based learning initiatives. A board membership in the Library Technology Division will help me expand the network of libraries interested in technology-based initiatives, training programs, and outreach projects.