

by Gary Marchionini

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A SIS&T begins 2010 with great expectations that the work of ASIS&T leaders over the past few years to increase participation and engagement will stimulate more ideas and actions by information professionals around the globe. The 11th Information Architecture Summit <http://iasummit2010.crowdvine.com/> will feature Dan Roam and Whitney Hess as keynote and plenary speakers respectively, and the program committee has created a flexible and dynamic program that includes plenty of time for professional interactions and networking. We are excited about a new summit on Research Data Access and Preservation <http://ASIS&T.org/Conferences/IA10/ResearchDataAccessSummit2010.html> that will be held in conjunction with the IA Summit. Reagan Moore, the architect of the iRods data grid software system, has organized the event. A series of panels by leading researchers and implementers of large-scale data repositories will address technical and policy issues. This summit represents the digital echo of ASIS&T's origins as a documentation society devoted to access and preservation of scholarly information and promises to be the linchpin that connects large-scale digital management research to institutional and corporate practice. These two events will take place April 7-11 in Phoenix.

Plans are underway for the 2010 Annual Meeting, chaired by Elaine Toms and Cathy Marshall. Significant changes are planned for this year's meeting so please stay tuned to the ASIS&T website and associated social media. This year we will be using topical tracks for full and short papers, which will provide in-depth reviewing by experts on those topics. The new short paper submissions will allow researchers with late-breaking or preliminary work to share more details than is possible with posters. We are planning for much later submission dates to get the most recent results to the conference. The SIGs are working on a series of sessions that are interactive and build bridges between innovative practice and research. Alternative tracks such as video and mixed time/space events that leverage social media are encouraged, and we welcome ideas for innovative ways to involve ASIS&T members before and after the conference. The Pittsburgh venue will provide a great opportunity for meeting and sharing ideas.

As I noted in the last issue, I am promoting the theme of participation in information science and by information science. I challenged each of you to commit to doing one specific participatory act this year. Some of you have made oral commitments and a few have sent me statements or

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suggestions for how ASIS&T can take more leadership in promoting information science. I welcome your ideas and suggestions and hope you will continue to expand your own participation. One event that I joined in December illustrates a small step in this direction. The Council of Scientific Society Presidents represents 60 scientific societies with 1.4 million scientists and science educators, and ASIS&T is one of those member societies. In addition to an active conference that draws leaders in science research and policy from academe and government, various committees address issues and make recommendations, and ASIS&T has long been an active participant in the Information Technology and Scholarly Publishing committee. In addition to participating on that committee, I joined the Environment and Energy Committee, which is developing a campaign to reduce energy consumption by 20% in 20 weeks. This was a challenge issued by Representative Brian Baird (D-WA) in his talk and taken

up in subsequent discussions. The final call and action plan was not completed by the time of this writing, but I believe this is the kind of action we can all take and ASIS&T can promote, so look for details soon. In addition to our individual efforts to use resources wisely, the ASIS&T Board will take one tangible action by holding the spring meeting via teleconference rather than face to face. This mode will not only save Board members travel expenses but also reduce the ASIS&T carbon footprint.

One other initiative that the ASIS&T Board is taking is to create an annual ASIS&T lecture. The Board will support one lecture a year, and a committee of past presidents will select the lecture from proposals submitted. Details will be announced after the April virtual board meeting, and ASIS&T members are encouraged to work with their institutions to consider innovative information science lectures that will enlighten attendees and promote information science to broad communities. ■