

## SCHOOL LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES ONLINE NEWSLETTER

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### From Doris Dorwart

It is time for me to say goodbye to all of you again. Yes, that's right, I am retiring once more. While I will miss all of you very much it is time for me to join the rest of my senior citizen friends, put my feet up on the couch, and watch the rest of the world go by.

In the meantime, I am pleased to turn the reins over to our Interim Chair, Larry Schankman, who will guide our program until a full-time Program Director is hired. The interviewing committee is hard at work and we are hopeful that the new director will be on board before too long.

Starting on January 1, 2006, advising duties will be split among the faculty. Debra Kachel ([dkachel@mansfield.edu](mailto:dkachel@mansfield.edu)) will be the advisor for scholarship students, Cindy Keller ([ckeller@mansfield.edu](mailto:ckeller@mansfield.edu)) will advise her own 5560 students and the new students for summer and fall 2006, and Larry Schankman ([lschankm@mansfield.edu](mailto:lschankm@mansfield.edu)) will serve as the advisor for everyone else. I encourage you to bear with us and very shortly things will be back to "normal" if there is really such a thing.

Words can not express how much this program and all of you mean to me. I think of all of the students as "mine" and I feel like a parent letting go. On one hand I am proud of your accomplishments, but on the other I don't know if I can get along with you! Good luck to all.

### **Schankman Family Scholarships Announced**

The Schankman Family donated \$6,500 to be awarded to currently enrolled students who are not receiving other scholarship support.

This is the second year that the family has generously donated funds to support our students. Based on an essay entitled "How I

will make a difference in the lives of my students when I become a school library media specialist," the Scholarship Committee, headed by Chris Vaughn, Director of New Student Financial Aid, has selected the following 2006 winners.

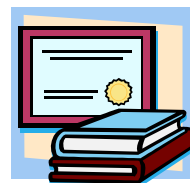
#### \$2,000 Tuition Scholarship Recipients:

- Denise Harlon
- Susan Pizer
- Jennifer Sturge

#### \$100 Book Award Recipients:

- Katherine Butler
- James Furiosi
- Nancy Galusha
- Lydia Hale
- Emily Paladin

Congratulations to all the winners!



### **LAPIS Scholarship Brings in New Students**

With the receipt of another prestigious IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) federal grant, Mansfield University's School Library department was able to award 44 LAPIS (Librarians and Principals in Sync) Scholarships. The scholarships reduce tuition to qualifying students by 50, 75, or 90 percent depending on financial need.

Through very aggressive advertising and recruiting efforts aided by Dr. Larry Nesbit, our official volunteer in charge of recruitment and publicity, as well as Brian Barden, MU's Admissions Director, students receiving LAPIS

Scholarships represent 18 states and include 14 minority students. States represented are PA (13), WA (7), OH (4), CO (3), ME (2), NY (2), WY (2), and one each from AK, AL, AZ, CA, GA, KS, MI, MO, NE, TX, and VT. 18 of these students are working in school libraries without proper certification. 6 of the LAPIS students were previously enrolled in our program.

We would especially like to welcome the 7 Antioch Seattle University students from Washington. Antioch University is just opening a School Library program and, in a special arrangement, we are offering their students three courses—Legal Issues, Cataloging, and School Library Advocacy--that they cannot offer at their University. In addition, we would like to welcome the six new students from the Harrisburg School District (PA) and the three Colorado students. Harrisburg SD and the state of Colorado signed on as partners in the IMLS grant. Each state's department of education is adding \$5,000 to the grant in support of their students.

All LAPIS students will receive \$500 per year to purchase textbooks at the Mansfield Book Store. Each student may recruit a school administrator to enroll in the summer school library advocacy course for administrators offered each summer. The course will be free to scholarship student's administrators; in fact, they earn a \$500 bonus for completion to be used to improve their local school library.

The Scholarship Committee evaluated over 70 applications this round and we expect as many in March. The next and final application for LAPIS Scholarships will be March 15, 2006. Many of the applicants remarked that they had seen the article in October 2005 issue of NEA Today where we will continue to advertise. Please welcome our new students!

## IMPORTANT DATES

**1/17 Spring semester begins**  
**1/24 Last day to drop a course**  
**1/25 Last day to add a course**  
**3/24 Last day to withdraw**  
**4/3 Registration summer/fall 06**  
**5/5 Spring semester ends**  
**5/13 Spring Commencement**



### From Larry Schankman

Greetings students. Since the holiday season should give us all pause to count our blessings and reflect on the past, I would like to express on behalf of the faculty and staff of the SL&IT program our profound gratitude to Dr. Doris Dorwart. For the last few years Doris led us brilliantly and passionately, even after her first well earned—though brief—retirement, from which we had to press her back into service!

Needless to say, we all love Doris and wish her all the best in a most well-deserved retirement. Hopefully, she'll now have time to devote to writing true crime mysteries and poetry, improve her already wickedly cunning poker hand, and dote more on her husband, Ken.

Meanwhile, the faculty are hard at work to find a worthy replacement, and we hope to continue her legacy with a new director by March. If you plan to attend Residency this summer, make sure to e-mail Doris and beg her indulgence to join us ([d.dorwart@worldnet.att.net](mailto:d.dorwart@worldnet.att.net)). We also hope to see her and you too at the PSLA conference (May 4-6) in Hershey, PA. Our big, wild party is usually held on Friday, so stay tuned for details.

Until next time, enjoy a great, merry and/or happy holiday season!