Carol Lepzelter Berry, DBIO Webmaster Emerita with retire after 12 years of uninterrupted service

Carol’s accomplishments as webmaster fill me with a profound sense of admiration and respect for her commitment to our Division. The foundation of the present DBIO Website, http://units.sla.org/division/dbio/, has been built by Carol, single handily over many years. It is true that our present website is more beautiful and easier to navigate, due to the work of a professional web designer, and the dedicated Ad-Hoc Web Site Redesign Committee who worked relentlessly over a period of a year. It is also true that our website has more content now, since it is supported by a large team of involved volunteers <http://units.sla.org/division/dbio/inside/officers/officers.html#/prsub>, but it was Carol who started it all. It was Carol who first embraced Hypertext Markup Language, Mozilla, and Netscape. It was Carol who placed us into cyberspace. It was Carol who moved us from HTML to XML. Carol did all these and much more with a relaxed and friendly demeanor. Her even temperament and sense of humor cannot shroud that she is a consummate professional. For Carol being a webmaster was a “labor of love”. We will miss her.

Claudia Lascar, Website Content Manager

“I joined SLA DBIO in 1997. My superior from my first position at the University of South Carolina, Jan Cambre, pushed me into volunteering for SLA. On the DBIO Listserv there was an announcement that an assistant was needed for the Division website. Even though I had left USC position, I decided to follow Jan’s advice and volunteered to assist Margaret Henderson, the DBIO webmaster. At that time DBIO was hosted on the Cold Spring Harbor website. We used Notepad, and hand coded the website content. After I received training in Dreamweaver, I began using it on the DBIO website and continue to use it, ever since.

There has been a synergistic relationship between my work position at the Argonne National Laboratory and my volunteer work for DBIO, which has resulted in my receiving two promotions. Each promotion enabled me to continually learn the emerging Web 2.0 technology. The DBIO website provided me with the opportunity to practice my new learned skills, make few inevitable mistakes, and slowly get the hang of things. Meanwhile I continued improving my web development skills, thus increasing my marketability. I do not believe that I would now be a senior electronic resources librarian for The Argonne Research Library without my volunteer work in DBIO.

Some highlights of my long career as DBIO Webmaster:
---I began adding Biofeedback to the website, starting with 23(3) Winter 1997 issue, which I had to convert to html documents.
---In the Summer of 2004, I was able to add the Biofeedback as PDF files, thus saving a great deal of time.
---Starting in 1997, I put up the DBIO program for the SLA Annual Conference.
---In the spring 1998 issue of Biofeedback, Margaret Henderson and I put in an announcement asking for input for new content for the website. As a result of our inquiry we added new pages, such as a favorite site page (no longer extant), and a few forms.
---The first awards pages were added to the website, and the Officer’s pages were started in 1999 (beginning with 98-99).
---At the beginning of 1999, I transferred the website to the SLA’s server from http://nucleus.cshl.org/CSHL/BLSD/
---The Division Procedures Manual was added in 1999, as was a membership longevity list.
---In 1999 I made several changes to the “look and feel” of the website, to make it more professional, such as changing the fonts for the entire site.
---In 2001, again, I made changes to the website to tighten up its appearance, and I started separating out sections into more subdirectories, such as the Annual Conference and Awards. These changes had improved the overall appearance, organization, and the navigation of the website.
---In 2002, I put up a subdirectory for the 2001 DBIO Budget Plan, and created a new page to highlight our Annual Conference sponsors.
---In 2004, I changed the SLA logos throughout the website, as requested by SLA.
---In 2005, I created a new subdirectory for the medical section; then Chris Hooper Lane provided the content for it, including the templates.
---In 2005, I created and designed a new subdirectory for the "Systems Thinking Perspective Project." Lorri Zipperer & Jan Sykes had added the content to it.

---In 2005 until mid 2007, made back up CD ROMs of the website

---In 2006, the DBIO Board has allocated money to hire a designer to professionally redesign the website, and create logos for the Division and the Medical Section. This decision was based upon the results of a membership survey which uncovered the need to create highly personalized content and better communications channels with members.

---In 2006-2007 I actively participated in the redesign process.

---Since 2007, I am no longer the only person managing the website. In previous years, before the redesign (1997-2007) I pulled most of the information used on the website from Biofeedback. This was especially true regarding the Annual SLA Conference. From mid-99 until 2007, I created all the webpages, stylesheets, and templates (except for the medical section). The content, of course, came mainly from Division Chairs, the Chairs of the Public Relations Committee, Division officers, and/or I swiped information from Biofeedback.

---Since 2007, I became part of a team, although I remained in charge of the technical aspects, such as adding content to the website, and training. I had to use Dreamweaver, Contribute, Photoshop, and Fireworks to accomplish these tasks. The content was supplied by Claudia Lascar, who assumed the position of website content manager.

---We had recruited some wonderful volunteers to update the content using Adobe Contribute

---I do not plan to completely "retire" from this position, since I would be willing to help anyway possible. 

Carol Lepzelter Berry, June 2010