

2009 Awards

2009 SLA Fellow: Tony Stankus

“The designation of Fellow of the Special Libraries Association is given to individual members of SLA, who are at or near the mid-point of an active professional career and who are not presently serving on the Board of Directors, in recognition of their leadership in the field of special librarianship and for their outstanding contributions and expected future service to the association. Fellows are called upon and expected to advise the association’s Board of Directors, to prepare necessary documentation, and to alert the membership to issues and trends warranting action. Individuals receiving this honor will be able to use the title Fellow of the Special Libraries Association. No more than five members will be selected as Fellows each year. This honor was inaugurated by the SLA in 1987.” (From SLA’s Web site)

Following are excerpts from the nomination packet prepared by the DBIO Awards Committee, leadership, and member nominators.

“Tony’s primary leadership in SLA has been at the Division and Chapter level. Tony has undertaken two recent major initiatives for DBIO—the “DBIO Top 100 Journals Poll” and the DBIO blog. In the following paragraphs, these two initiatives will be described in more detail.

As part of DBIO’s celebration of the Association’s Centennial, Tony envisioned and implemented the “DBIO Top 100 Journals” poll. The DBIO executive board authorized Tony to recruit an international panel of experts from DBIO to draw up a ballot of potential “top” journals in the life sciences. The experts chosen included three DBIO members from each of the division’s three major branches: medicine and health, molecular/cellular/ biotechnology, and natural history. An online survey listing the contending journals has been sent to all DBIO members so that they may rank them. The finalized list of “Top 100 Journals” will be sent to DBIO members prior to annual conference. However, the identity of the specific “DBIO Top 10” as well as the “Top DBIO Journal of SLA’s First 100 Years” will be announced in an Academy Awards style portion of the Annual DBIO Business Meeting and Luncheon at the conference in Washington, D.C. Division members are very excited at the prospect of seeing the results of this project—the top journals in our disciplines of interest, determined by over 700 subject specialists from DBIO.

Tony has also made a huge impact on our division (and anyone who runs across the DBIO website) by creating and maintaining the DBIO Blog, a librarianship-related evidence-based blog. Fifty four postings have generated over 10,000 hits in the less than a year and a half of the blog’s existence. Again, there is a deliberate attempt to provide posts from each of the three main DBIO constituencies: medicine and health, molecular/cellular/biotechnology, and natural history. Each posting is a review of the facts and evidence concerning major topics of concern, drawn primarily from a synthesis of recent articles in research and professional journals in biology and medicine. More than 1,000 professional publications have been recommended as readings pertinent to the topics over the course of the year.

Tony is the current DBIO Director (an elected position), and as such, keeps the division on its toes and following the guidelines of the association and the division. He has served in DBIO leadership positions as an elected officer and on numerous committees. He is an excellent teacher, having recently developed and taught a CE course —“How Knowing the Realities of the Way Science and Science Publishing Works Enables You to Make Sense of the Present and Helps You Negotiate the Future”—for the Division at the Seattle Conference that received rave reviews from those who were fortunate to attend. Tony is a voice of wise counsel. The division has always looked to Tony for his advice on important issues that affect the division.

At the chapter level, Tony's leadership has also been recognized. In June 2007, he was named Special Librarian of the Year by the Rhode Island chapter of SLA. The award recognized Tony's "25 years of service to special librarianship in New England." A glance at his CV demonstrates such service in both the Rhode Island and the Boston chapters, serving on Professional Awards Committees, the Program Planning Committee, and the Student Awards Committee. For six years Tony served as the host of the annual joint Rhode Island SLA/URI GSLIS Banquet and Colloquium.

Tony has also been recognized at the Association level. In 2005 he received the Rose Vormelker Award for "beyond exceptional services in the area of mentoring students and/or working professionals." In March of 2006 Tony was the subject of a cover story in *Information Outlook*—"Tony Stankus: A Positive Influence on Young Information Professionals."

Tony's scholarly contributions to librarianship are matched by few. He has authored or edited 10 books, many dealing with the issues of collection development in science libraries, the movement from print to electronic resources, and important resources in science librarianship. His 1991 "Biographies of Scientists for Sci-Tech Libraries: Adding Faces to the Facts" remains a useful text for those of us in science reference. From 1999-2001, his "Journals of the Century" project brought together a panel of expert librarians from multiple subject areas to "offer their views of what they each regarded as the most influential journals in their respective fields over the last 100 years." In 2002, Tony edited and contributed to a book of rankings and reviews that resulted from these efforts—"The Journals of the Century." He has contributed to the literature by authoring or co-authoring over 100 articles (most in peer-reviewed journals). His article in *Collection Management* "Handle with Care: Use and Citation Data for Science Journal Collection Management" has been cited in the literature 33 times; his article in *College and Research Libraries*—"Publication Quality Indicators for Tenure and Promotion Decisions – What Can the Librarian Ethically Report" has also been cited a substantial number of times. Since 1982 he has been a contributing editor to *Science and Technology Libraries*, and served in the role for *Reference and User Services Quarterly* (1988-1997) and *Library Acquisitions: Practice and Theory* (1987-1989).

2009 DBIO Distinguished Member Award Recipient: Peggy Jones

Peggy Jones received the 2009 Distinguished Member Award. The Biomedical and Life Sciences Division's Distinguished Member Award is given annually by the DBIO Awards Committee to a DBIO member who has demonstrated distinction and exemplary service to the division and the profession.

Peggy has been extremely active in the division; in fact, no year since at least 1996 has passed without her serving on a committee or in a leadership position for the division. She has served on the DBIO contributed papers committee (a four year commitment), as a member of our conference program planning committee three times (once as chair), on our Governing documents committee, as secretary of the division, as division chair (a three year commitment), and as medical section chair. Peggy has also served for so many terms on the fund development committee or as liaison to that committee, that it seems a lifetime commitment!

In addition to all of the DBIO work mentioned above, Peggy has also been active in the Medical Library Association, particularly through the Pediatric Libraries Special Interest Group and various committees and juries. She has been active at the SLA chapter level, and has published widely in the chapter newsletter.

Beyond this list of achievements and accomplishments, Peggy Jones also displays a sunny personality, positive outlook, and obvious energy that make her a pleasure with which to work. Generous with her time, happy to give her fellow DBIO members credit for the work that they perform – she is the ideal leader. In addition to the work cited above, she has recently co-chaired DBIO's Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee.

2009 Chair's Award Recipient: Nancy Dickenson

2009 Chair's Award Recipient: Tony Stankus

Nancy Dickenson and Tony Stankus received the 2009 Chair's Awards from DBIO Chair, Jean Crampon. Below we reproduce the text of Jean's tribute to each of them:

I invited to serve because I had a	N	Need
I had to find someone who would	A	Answer my call
Who should I ask? I had a	N	Name
The person I called	C	Considered thoughtfully
Then said	Y	Yes!
For service to the Division with	D	Dedication
Kept me	I	Informed
Performed their responsibilities with	C	Calm and courtesy
Freely shared their	K	Knowledge
Never seemed to lose their	E	Enthusiasm
Always responded promptly to my	N	Numerous calls and emails
For wonderful	S	Support
For boundless	O	Optimism
I present this award to	N	Nancy Dickenson
This person approached with a	T	Thoughtful suggestion
The suggestion opened an amazing	O	Opportunity
That would recognize	N	Name of DBIO and SLA
This person said	Y	Yes, I'll follow it through
They have served the Division by	S	Sharing the responsibility
Always showing appreciation and	T	Thanking everyone involved
Throughout the project they	A	Always kept enthusiasm
I appreciate	N	Never being blindsided
They always made sure I	K	Knew what was happening
That I	U	Understood where we were
For their wonderful	S	Support and terrific idea
I award this to Tony Stankus.		