



BETA PHI MU | OMICRON CHAPTER

International Library and Information Science Honor Society

Find Us Online

We have a new website:

<http://bit.ly/bpmomicron>

Follow us on Facebook:

<http://facebook.com/betaphimuomicron>

Stay in Touch

If you've moved or have changed email addresses, please contact this year's chapter secretary, Meaghan Darling at meaghandarling@gmail.com.

Have News?

We'd love to hear about your new job, retirement, publication, or presentation so we can share it in the next newsletter.

Send announcements to Melody Townley at meltownley@gmail.com.

Show your BPM Pride

Beta Phi Mu has an online shop where you can purchase honors cords, insignia pins, and more. Find the shop online at: <http://beta-phi-mu.org/merchandise/>

Happy spring, Omicron members! We had another active and successful year thanks to your participation and support. This issue of the newsletter includes your annual renewal form and scholarship donation request.

Whether you are renewing or are a lifetime member, please consider making a donation to our scholarship fund, which last year awarded two exceptional students \$1,000 each in recognition of their outstanding scholastic achievement.

We hope to see you at this year's annual meeting and dinner!

2017 Omicron Annual Meeting & Dinner

This year's annual induction, meeting, and dinner will be on Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 6:00pm at the Rutgers Club. Our guest speaker, **John M. Budd, PhD**, is a noted scholar, award-winning author, former BPM National President, and editor of the BPM Monograph Series. He is also Professor Emeritus at the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies, University of Missouri. He will give the after-dinner talk "**What is Information?**"

At the dinner, we will also be recognizing the newest class of BPM inductees, as well as this year's scholarship winners. Hope to see you there, see attached RSVP form!

Report of 2016 Annual Meeting & Dinner

The Spring 2016 annual meeting and dinner was held on Tuesday, April 5, 2016. Our speaker, Leslie Burger, former ALA President, former director of the Princeton Public Library, and partner at the consulting firm, Library Development Solutions, gave a presentation titled, "Wonder. Risk. Imagine: (Almost) Everything You Need to Know to be a Successful Library Leader."

2016 Scholarship Recipients

The Omicron chapter is especially proud of its mission to provide scholarships for current MI students at Rutgers iSchool. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide \$1,000 scholarships to two worthy recipients:

- Helen Busness
- Carla Harwood

Omicron Chapter Officers 2016 – 2017

Acting President: Jennifer Hunter,
Reference & Instruction Librarian,
Penn State Abington

Acting Vice President: Melody
Townley, Educational Media
Specialist, Woodbridge Township
Schools

Secretary: Meaghan Darling, Youth
Services Librarian, Long Hill
Township Public Library

Treasurer: Cassidy Charles, Digital
Services Librarian, Santa Barbara
Public Library

Past President: Maureen Smyth,
Librarian, South Hunterdon Regional
High School

Faculty Adviser: Marie L Radford,
PhD, Professor, Department of
Library & Information Science;
Director, Ph.D. Program

In Memoriam

With profound sadness, we regret to inform you of the passing of Louise Miller, 1984 initiate, and Dr. Patricia Reeling, 1986 initiate and former LIS faculty member and MLIS Director. We honor their service and lifetime membership in Beta Phi Mu.

Report on the 2016 Annual Meeting & Dinner, ctd.

CONGRATS to Omicron Chapter 2016 Initiates

The Omicron chapter also inducted 13 new initiates at the dinner:

- William Bejarano
- Jennifer Bigioni
- Melissa Ciotti
- John Daquino
- Kathleen DiGiulio
- Genevieve Hewson
- Manuel Jusino
- Amanpreet Kaur
- Elizabeth Lien
- Kristin Lepping
- Anne Lonergan
- Lisa Nazzaro
- Khusboo Rana

Emily Drabinski Delivers Fall 2016 Lecture:

“Librarians as Labor: Lessons from the LIU Lockout”

This year’s BPM Omicron Chapter’s fall lecture was presented by Emily Drabinski on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 7:15pm in the Alexander Library Scholarly Communication Center.

Ms. Drabinski is Coordinator of Instruction at Long Island University, Brooklyn. She sits on the board of *Radical Teacher*, a journal of socialist, feminist, and antiracist teaching practice, and is series editor of *Gender & Sexuality in Information Studies* from Library Juice Press/Litwin Books.

Her talk highlighted the lessons learned when Long Island University locked out the entire Brooklyn faculty on September 2, 2016. As unionized staff, the librarians at LIU would not ratify the terms of the new contract suggested by the university and were subsequently locked out just before the start of the new semester. After twelve days, with classroom instruction led by scab workers and uncertified members of administration, their contract was renewed through the end of the school year.

Ms. Drabinski discussed the role of librarians during the lockout as leaders with organizational and communication skills. She advocated for the importance of educational work and celebrating the wins earned along the way.

The lecture was co-sponsored by the MI Colloquium Series, New Jersey Center for the book, Rutgers University Libraries, the SC&I Alumni Association, and the SC&I Department of Library and Information Science.

Meaghan Darling
280 River Road, Apt 29A
Piscataway, NJ 08854