FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFORMATION BEHAVIOR RESEARCH

Call for Participation

Researchers embarking on a research project in information behavior (IB) are often not aware of the grants available to them, while funding agencies may not know about the pertinent research in IB. The objective of this symposium is to bring both sides together to discuss the nature of IB research and relevant funding opportunities.

The symposium will begin with an introductory presentation about research areas and funding trends in IB by Gary Marchionini, Professor, School of Information and Library Science, UNC Chapel Hill.

Representatives from major funding agencies, such as IMLS, NIH, NSF, OCLC, and DLG, will then present their programs and learn from the participants about research conducted in IB. After introducing their agencies, the funding representatives will engage in an open discussion with the participants about the structure of funding institutions, current grant policies, projected trends in funding, and will provide other highly useful but not readily available information about the funding process. Participants will also have a chance to discuss funding ideas for IB research with successful research grant recipients, who will participate in a panel.

Formal papers are not expected; the symposium will focus on professional development in a seminar format designed for novice and experienced researchers alike. Those who wish to participate in the symposium need to submit a paragraph (100-150 words) to June Abbas (abbasjm@buffalo.edu) no later than September 15, 2004, with description of their IB research (topic, RQs, user population, theory, methodology) and the names of funding agencies of interest. Important: Upon receiving an email confirmation from the symposium organizers the participants should register for the symposium via ASIST annual meeting registration site (http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM04/registration.html).

Confirmed participants can register until the early-bird deadline of October 1, 2004, at a reduced rate: $40 SIG-USE members; $50 ASIS&T members; $65 non-members. Registration is limited to the first 40 participants. Space allowing, registration will continue until the final deadline of October 15 at regular rates: $50 SIG-USE members; $60 ASIS&T members; $75 non-members.

Symposium organizers: June Abbas, School of Informatics, SUNY at Buffalo, abbasjm@buffalo.edu; Rafael Kasprowski, University of Houston Libraries, rkasprowski@uh.edu; and Ruth Palmquist, GSLIS, Dominican University, rpalmq@dom.edu.