

inFIRE Conference 2001

Short Bio on Conference Speakers

Nuala A. Bennett, Visiting Special Projects Librarian, Visiting Assistant Professor of Library Administration, Digital Imaging and Media Technology Initiative, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

As Visiting Special Projects Librarian, Nuala Bennett coordinates the "Teaching with Digital Content--Describing, Finding and Using Digital Cultural Heritage Materials" project (<http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/tdc>). She holds a B.A. in Computer Science, Linguistics and German from the University of Dublin, Trinity College (Ireland) and a M.S. in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Scott G. Nacheman, LZA Technology/BPRI

Mr. Nacheman graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies, Master of Architecture, and Master of Science in Civil Engineering Construction.

After working as a Project Manager for Turner Construction Company in Chicago, Scott returned to New York where he was employed as an Architectural Designer/Engineer with LZA Technology, a New York City based multi-discipline firm specializing in building investigations, failure analysis as well as restoration/remedial design. In the Spring of 2000, he relocated to the Chicago office of LZA Technology.

Mr. Nacheman interest in fire-safety is a result of his over 9 years experience as a Firefighter with the Jericho (NY) Fire Department, where he served as a firefighter and Lieutenant assigned to Engine Company No. 2. As a firefighter he has had the unfortunate but educational opportunity to observe the effects of fire on buildings and their occupants.

These experiences have fostered a keen understanding of the importance of fire prevention and fire protection in building design, in addition to the need for improved fire safety for building occupants and firefighters. As a result of this, Scott has dedicated the majority of his professional career to improving the safety of the built environment.

Mr. Nacheman is an Associate Member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and a member of the AIA Building Codes and Standards PIA/Fire and Life-Safety Task Force. Moreover, he is an adjunct Director of the Building Performance Research Institute, which is currently undertaking a program to investigate building performance relative to the effects of fire, through post-incident investigation and documentation.

Mr. Nacheman is a Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator and also a Member of the National Fire Protection Association (Principal Member, NFPA 241: Technical Committee on Construction and Demolition; Principal Member NFPA 5000: Structures and Construction Technical Committee) and an associate member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and Society of Fire Protection Engineers (Fire Service Committee, Task Group on Design Performance Criteria, Design Liaison Task Group). Other professional affiliations include ASTM (Technical Committee Member, ASTM E06.55.08 Performance of Buildings) and the Rescue Engineering Council.

Richard Jaehne, Director, Illinois Fire Service Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Richard Jaehne was appointed as the Director, Illinois Fire Service Institute on August 21, 1997. The Institute is the statutory State Fire Academy and the Director is the Illinois State Director of fire service training. The Institute delivers over 250,000 student hours of training to some 25,000 firefighters annually, a \$2.5 million annual budget, 200 full and part-time faculty and staff, \$5 million training facility. Statutory missions include development of new curriculum across the spectrum of fire service training, research, development of training facilities, and representation of Illinois in national fire service forums.

He is the co-developer of the seminar entitled "Where the Battle Begins," which relates leadership in high-risk situations between the military and fire service. He created and implemented a Memorandum of Agreement with the Russian Interior Ministry for cooperative fire science education, training, research and exchange. He was awarded a faculty appointment in the Russia and East Asia Institute in 1999. He is a member of the Illinois State Fire Commission, the Vice President of the North American Fire Training Directors, an international association of the state and Canadian directors of fire training, a member of the National Fire Service Leadership Summit, a member of Illinois Governor Ryan's Blue Ribbon Fire Service Committee and State Terrorism Task Force.

His association with crisis management included operating the Marine Corps Crisis Action Center, coordinating Marine disaster relief assistance with FEMA, mutual support efforts with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other Federal agencies. He also established a mutual support program in civil-emergency operations training, sending NATO training teams to Russia and hosting Russian instructors at the NATO School. On September 30, 1997, he retired after more than 29 years of active service as a U.S. Marine Corps officer around the world.

His formal studies include: B.S. in Business and Financial Management from the University of Utah (1968) and a M.S. in Systems Management from the University of Southern California (1979). His publications include: "Illinois Volunteer Fire Service Summit", "Basics begin but shouldn't end with Firefighter I", "NATO School Vision 2000" presented to the Supreme Allied Commander, Allied Powers Europe, "Traumatic Stress,

A Personal View From Combat," numerous articles for professional journals and hundreds of speeches of note to international and U.S. crisis management and security forums.

His military awards and decorations include: the Navy Cross, (3) Defense Superior Service Medals, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with Combat "V", Purple Heart, (2) Combat Action Ribbons, German Honor Cross in Silver (the highest peacetime military award presented by the German government) and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star.

Patrick Johnson, Marketing Manager, RJA Inc.

Mr. Patrick Johnson is the Marketing Manager of The RJA Group, Inc., a global leader in fire protection and security engineering consulting. In addition, Mr. Johnson serves as Director of Sales & Marketing for Protection Knowledge Concepts, Inc., training consultants of fire protection and security programs.

Lian Ruan, Director/Head Librarian, Illinois Fire Service Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Ms. Ruan is Director/Head Librarian of the Illinois Fire Service Institute, which is part of the University at Urbana-Champaign. She serves on the inFIRE Committee from 1996-2001. She has been very active in improving the Illinois Fire Service Institute Library (FSI Library) through grant projects and developing innovative library programs. Under her leadership, the Library provides no cost library services to Illinois firefighter (42,675), fire departments (1,293), and the general public in cooperation with the state's twelve regional libraries systems. The Library has developed a comprehensive Library Home Web Page, searchable Online Public Access Catalog, integrated distance learning library service with the Institute's online courses and action-oriented research projects. Ms. Ruan received her MA from UCLA (University of California at Los Angeles) in African history in 1988 and her MLS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1990. Her experience in libraries includes a stint as both the Newspaper Project Cataloger and the OCLC Manuscript Cataloger for the Illinois Historical Library in Springfield. Ms. Ruan's introduction to the fire service came while working as a research intern for the Illinois Champaign Fire Department Library.

Linda Smith, Professor, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Linda C. Smith is Professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) where she joined the faculty in 1977. She has been Associate Dean of the School since January 1997, with administrative responsibility for LEEP3, the distance enrollment option for the School's MS program. Dr. Smith holds a PhD from the School of Information Studies, Syracuse

University; an MS in information and computer science from Georgia Institute of Technology; an MS in library science from Illinois; and a BS in physics and mathematics from Allegheny College. She held positions at Washington University School of Medicine Library and Price Gilbert Memorial Library of Georgia Institute of Technology prior to beginning study for the PhD. She has held offices in several professional associations including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society for Information Science, Association for Computing Machinery, Association for Library and Information Science Education, Medical Library Association, and Special Libraries Association. She is the author of several journal articles and conference papers and co-editor of the textbook *Reference and Information Services: An Introduction* (3rd edition, 2001), used in several schools of library and information science.

James Stedman, Battalion Chief, Chicago Fire Department

Battalion Chief Jim Stedman is a 26 year veteran of the Chicago Fire Department. He is a field instructor for the University of Illinois' Fire Service Institute, specializing in tactics and strategy, management, and instructor development. He is also an instructor for the Illinois Fire Chiefs' Association, Chicago City-Wide Colleges, and Moraine Valley Community College. Chief Stedman holds a Bachelors degree in Fire Service Management from Southern Illinois University and a Masters degree in Public Administration from Governors State University. He is married, with two children, and resides in the Beverly community on Chicago's south side.

Sara Tompson, Past President, Illinois Chapter of the Special Libraries Association (SLA-IL) and Library Director, Packer Engineering Inc.

Sara Tompson has been on the board of the Illinois chapter of the Special Libraries Association (SLA-IL; <http://www.sla.org/chapter/cill/>) for the past 5 years, currently as Past-President (2000-2001). She has been a physical sciences or engineering librarian since receiving her M.S. in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois in 1987. Currently she runs the library at Packer Engineering, Inc., a multidisciplinary consulting engineering firm in Naperville, IL. Tompson is one of the co-authors of the 4th edition of "Special Libraries: A Guide for Management" (Washington, DC: Special Libraries Association, 1997) and numerous articles in the library field. She is an adjunct faculty member of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University in River Forest, IL, teaching LIS 774, Special Libraries Administration. She and her husband Kevin Williams are avid fans of Terry Pratchett's Discworld series, and especially his orangutan librarian!

Dan Williams, Deputy Director, Illinois Office of State Fire Marshal

Dan Williams has served as the deputy director of the State Fire Marshal's Office since 1988. He has worked in the executive and legislative branches of state government since 1975. At the OSFM, he is responsible for the operating divisions, heads the Arson Investigation Division, and serves as liaison to the Governor's Office and General Assembly.

Mr. Williams serves on various state and national level organizations including the National Fire Protection Association, International Fire Chiefs Association, and the Hazardous Materials Committee of the National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board. In Illinois, he is chairman of the Illinois Juvenile Firesetters Task Force, chairman of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Reimbursement Panel, and is involved with the various boards and committees within the agency. He is a member of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force and Illinois Clandestine Drug Lab Task Force. Since 1990, he has been active in a sister state program with government officials in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

He received his B.S. Degree in Law Enforcement Administration from Western Illinois University in 1974. He was previously a volunteer firefighter with the Petersburg, Illinois Fire Department.