

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Samantha Hastings named editor of the ASIST Monograph Series by the American Society for Information Science & Technology and its book publisher, Information Today, Inc.**

**Hastings, a professor at the University of North Texas, will acquire and develop new titles in this  
scholarly book series for researchers, students, and practitioners in the field**

*October 31, 2005, Charlotte, North Carolina*—At the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIST) being held at the Westin Charlotte, October 28–November 2, 2005, Information Today, Inc. (ITI) announced that Samantha Hastings, MLIS, PhD, has been named editor of the Society’s professional book series. The ASIST Monograph Series has been published by ITI on behalf of ASIST since 1991.

“In recent years the ASIST Monograph Series has grown considerably in terms of new title output and sales,” according to John B. Bryans, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher of ITI’s Book Publishing Division. Bryans said, “A dedicated readership comprised of scholars, students, and practitioners in library and information science and related technical fields has encouraged us to continue building the series. ASIST and ITI have been looking for an editor with the background and energy to bring it to the next level—I am thrilled to announce that Samantha Hastings has agreed to assume this role.”

Current ASIST President Nicholas J. Belkin—Professor at the School of Communication, Information, and Library Studies (SCILS) at Rutgers University—described Hastings as “an outstanding educator, practitioner, and advocate for the library and information science professions.” Belkin said that under her guidance ASIST expects the series “to improve, expand, and continue to gain prominence within the information science and technology community.”

Samantha Hastings has been a member of the faculty at the University of North Texas (UNT) in Denton since 1995, serving as interim dean from 2004–2005. As an educator she integrates real world experiences in all her classes, from indexing and abstracting to telecommunications. In the private sector she has worked as a consultant

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and built full-text and image databases for accounting, medical, and legal firms, as well as for county and state governments. Hastings has helped public libraries and museums connect to the Internet and share their cultural objects in a digital environment, and currently directs the digital image management program at UNT's School of Library and Information Sciences. She is author and co-author of numerous published articles and reports, many of them covering issues related to the retrieval, management, and preservation of digital images. She has presented dozens of papers and workshops at professional meetings and conferences. She is the immediate past president of ASIST ([www.asist.org](http://www.asist.org)) and a fellow of the Texas Center for Digital Knowledge ([www.txcdk.org](http://www.txcdk.org)).

Hastings has already begun accepting and reviewing book proposals on topics for scholars, students, and practitioners in the field of library and information science and technology. She is also interested in hearing from readers in the field about their professional needs and interests. Hastings can be reached by e-mail at [Hastings@unt.edu](mailto:Hastings@unt.edu).

The ASIST Monograph Series is a line of scholarly books designed principally for academic and professional readers in the field of information science and technology. Comprising a range of practical, theoretical, and historical topics, and including both individually authored works and multi-contributor, edited volumes, the series has been published by ITI on behalf of ASIST since 1991. The two October 2005 releases in the series are *Covert and Overt: Recollecting and Connecting Intelligence Service and Information Science*, edited by Robert V. Williams and Ben-Ami Lipetz, and *Theories of Information Behavior*, edited by Karen E. Fisher, Sanda Erdelez, and Lynne (E. F.) McKechnie.

Samantha Hastings's role involves the book series only and not the *Annual Review of Information Science and Technology (ARIST)*, which is also published by ITI and has for the last five years fallen under the editorial aegis of Blaise Cronin, Rudy Professor of Information Science and Dean of the School of Library and Information Science at Indiana University, Bloomington.

The American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIST) has worked to keep information professionals on the cutting edge for more than 65 years. ASIST provides high-quality conferences and publications for information systems developers, online professionals, information resource managers, librarians, records managers, and others who "bridge the gap" between the present and the future, between research and application, and between developer and user.

Information Today, Inc. (ITI) is a leading publisher and conference organizer in the library, information, content, and knowledge management industries. The company publishes numerous journals and newsletters, as well as books, directories, blogs, and market research. For more information visit the company's Web site at [www.infotoday.com](http://www.infotoday.com).

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