

SLIS Faculty News

Gel "Good Experience Live" 2006 in New York City



SLIS faculty member **Katy Börner** was both a speaker and an exhibit host for the Gel 2006 conference, May 4-5 in New York City. Elisha Hardy, IU Fine Arts major and graphic designer on projects with Katy Börner, attended the conference with Börner as a guest. "Elisha Hardy has done a marvelous job on design work for the Places & Spaces exhibit," stated Börner. The **conference website** is fun to explore, and showcases a gathering of creative people and ideas.

What is Gel?

"Short for "Good Experience Live", Gel is a conference, and community, exploring good experience in all its forms -- in business, art, society, technology, and life. The goal of the conference is to create an environment that allows our multi-disciplinary community to explore the idea of "good experience" in a variety of contexts." (<http://www.gelconference.com/whatis.php>)

The **Boston Globe** (April 26, 2006 - Business Filter) featured an interview with Katy Börner by the founder of the Gel Conference, **Mark Hurst**. The Boston Globe article "Building a Macroscope" was first posted on Mark Hurst's **www.goodexperience.com blog** (April 24, 2006).

"Katy Börner of Indiana University is an expert in **information visualization**, the field of displaying **large amounts of data** in ways that allow us to **unlock** the meaning hidden inside. While the web provides an ever-rising flood of information, our brains can't digest it all and our tools, like search engines, are **too primitive** to grok patterns and trends and outliers in data, or communities within a social network. So **her lab is building macroscopic tools** to manage the big picture...such as maps not of geospatial spaces, but of **semantic spaces**. "Imagine a map about nanotechnology, showing how it grew out of different areas of research and how it evolved over time, and how other groups joined." If you think **Google** changed everything...just think how it would be to **layer this on top of it**." (Boston Globe, 4/26/06)

Gel Tour of Places & Spaces: Mapping Science Exhibit

"Katy Börner, Associate Professor of Information Science, Indiana University and Brad Paley, interaction designer will take attendees on a tour of the **'Mapping Science' Exhibit** at the New York Public Library Science and Business branch. Attendees will learn how the power of maps help us understand, navigate, and manage both physical places and abstract knowledge spaces." (<http://www.gelconference.com/c/gel06.php>)

The New York Public Library "Places & Spaces" Exhibit has received national press recognition including:

- N.Y. exhibit shows a new take on maps, USA Today, April 9, 2006
- N.Y. Exhibit Shows a New Take on Maps, ABC.com, April 8, 2006
- N.Y. Exhibit Shows a New Take on Maps, YAHOO News, April 8, 2006
- Charting a course into the wilds of science, San Diego Tribune, April 8, 2006
- N.Y. exhibit shows a new take on maps, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, April 8, 2006

Related SLIS News Story:

Places & Spaces Exhibit Opens at The New York Public Library: 4/3/06

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