

Student and Professional Organizations

The following organizations encourage the participation of SLIS students. Joining one or more of these is a great way to make friends, develop professional contacts and expand your own professional development.

ALA (American Library Association) Student Chapter

ALA is the largest professional organization in the field of library and information studies. There are numerous divisions, committees, and interest groups within the organization. Student membership is at a greatly reduced price and includes a subscription to American Libraries, and member rates for other publications and services. ALASC (American Library Association Student Chapter) organizes opportunities for professional development, social functions, and fundraising events. Such events include the t-shirt design contests, biannual pub crawls, and resume workshops. UW-Madison ALASC strives to enhance the student experience within the field of librarianship through activities which foster growth professionally, academically, and socially, and we invite all SLIS students to join.

SLA (Special Libraries Association) Student Chapter

The SLA is an international organization of librarians and information specialists who work in libraries, information agencies, or technical information centers that serve a particular client group or have a specialized subject orientation. There are many subject-oriented divisions and geographically-based chapters that members can join. The student chapter hosts colloquia, tours (both physical and electronic), and discussions, and sometimes carpools to SLA Wisconsin Chapter meetings in the Milwaukee area. More information is available at <http://slisweb.lis.wisc.edu/~SLA/aboutus.html> or at <http://www.sla.org/>.

SAA (Society of American Archivists) Student Chapter

Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists (SAA) is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association. The SAA offers many sections and roundtables devoted to different aspects of archival work, professional publications, a mentoring program, and continuing education. The SAA Student Chapter provides opportunities for students who are interested in the documentation of the human experience to discuss issues concerning archives develop contacts amongst working archivists and peers, and become involved in professional activities. Student chapter activities include field trips to archival institutions, speakers, social interactions, and fund-raising activities.

JLG (Jail Library Student Group)

The Jail Library Student Group provides educational, recreational and community resource reading materials to the inmates of the Dane County jails. The group operates two libraries, one in the City County Building (CCB) Jail and one in the Public Safety Building (PSB) Jail. The libraries' collections consist entirely of donated materials acquired by student group members. Group members are asked to make a one-year commitment to the program and to volunteer for one or two shifts per month. Other ways to participate in the Jail Library Group include fundraising, volunteer recruitment and collection development. This is a unique opportunity to work with an underserved population and gain valuable experience in readers' advisory and reference service, collection development, and fundraising.

LITA (Library and Information Technology Association) Student Group

The LITA Student Group is a student chapter of the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) at the School of Library and Information Studies, UW-Madison. The group aims to complement and extend the curriculum by providing opportunities for hands-on experience with technologies in this field. Emphasis is placed on self-directed learning, and all SLIS students who are motivated to improve their skills with technology are encouraged to join, regardless of previous experience.

Allied Drive Storytime

SLIS students and librarians from across campus provide book based programming to high energy and lap loving Kindergarten and First Grade children. Programs take place at the Allied Drive Learning Center, which is run by Madison School & Community Recreation (MSCR), a department of the Madison Metro School District (MMSD). Great experience planning and executing youth service and outreach programming. These programs are not only a lot of fun and great experience, but also a great benefit to the kids by increasing their exposure to books and other types of literacy activities. If you like kids and books, this is the place for you!

Friends of the SLIS Laboratory Library

The Friends of the SLIS Laboratory Library is a group of SLIS students, faculty, and staff established to stimulate interest in the growth, enrichment, and public awareness of the Laboratory Library serving SLIS. The Friends work with staff on programming and fund-raising. A National Library Week Silent Auction, book sales, and movie nights are some past activities.

Print Culture Society

The Print Culture Society is an interdepartmental association that provides UW undergraduate and graduate students with educational opportunities to expand their knowledge of topics such as book history, manuscript studies, bibliography, as well as to increase international opportunities and exposure relating to various aspects of print culture. This many include any combination of the following: - providing information on print culture resources and educational opportunities on and off-campus (list of courses about print culture, seminars, travel opportunities, etc.) - securing letters of recommendation/introduction from faculty and network contacts for students who wish to visit prestigious libraries - planning international seminars and visits to historical print culture sites (Europe trip, Newberry Library, American Antiquarian Society, etc.) - form liaisons with language departments, history departments, the art department, journalism and communication departments. The Print Culture Society is open to anyone with the desire to learn more about various aspects of print culture or a general interest in print culture, and is willing to participate in group projects and events.

WEMTA (Wisconsin Educational Media and Technology Association)

WEMA is a professional association serving school library media and instructional technology professionals. WEMA provides leadership and professional growth opportunities to promote quality learning. The organization offers a very affordable student membership rate and funds a scholarship for practicing teachers who want to become media specialists.

WLA (Wisconsin Library Association)

The Wisconsin Library Association is a statewide organization representing all types of libraries, library workers, trustees and friends. As a chapter of ALA, the members strive to improve library services and resources. WLA provides a strong voice in support of library issues in the political process. The organization offers students the opportunity to attend its conferences at reduced prices a great way to meet a lot of librarians working in libraries all around Wisconsin - and also funds scholarships for library education. You may become a dual member of ALA and WLA through a special, discounted membership of only \$28 per year for both organizations. It's a great way to connect with prospective employers and learn more about the profession.

WWLW (Wisconsin Women Library Workers)

WWLW is a feminist organization committed to improving the status of women in the library field and to the elimination of sex role stereotyping and sex bias. WWLW sponsors a variety of events, including programming at WLA and an annual retreat. The group also contributes to scholarships for library education.

SLIS Alumni Association

The School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS) Alumni Association provides advocacy, financial, and professional support to SLIS, enhances the education and training received by students, and facilitates networking opportunities for alumni. The Alumni Association sponsors various events at the School and helps host the graduation ceremony in the spring. The Association also collects contributions for various scholarship funds. Graduates of UW-Madison SLIS are automatically members of the Association. Anyone currently enrolled in SLIS, or has earned credits or is interested in libraries or librarianship can be an Affiliate.

Graduate Student Collaborative (GSC)

Connecting Grad Students to One Another, the University, and the Community

The Graduate Student Collaborative is dedicated to enhancing the involvement, personal development, and quality of life of Wisconsin graduate students by acting as a resource, a voice, and a link within the Graduate School. GSC is engaged in outreach, professional development and social programs. Involvement in GSC as a graduate student offers a chance to meet new people from a wide variety of disciplines across campus. Come to our socials every Friday from 5-7 p.m. to meet other grad students! To get started, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter by sending an e-mail to gsc@bascom.wisc.edu with "join list-serv" in the subject line. For more information about GSC, visit our Web site at <http://www.grad.wisc.edu/gsc/>.

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