Jottings
and D I G R E S S I O N S

Volume 42, No. 2 • Fall 2011

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Course Profile: LIS 640

LIS 640, Libraries in the Global Knowledge Society, is a seminar-style class with intense group work. LIS 640 examines policies of international organizations and engages with projects in various countries using multiple technologies. The spring semester of 2011 students, led by instructor Louise Robbins, were divided into two groups. One group worked to plan and realize a reading program in rural China; the other provided collection development services for a university library in Kazakhstan. Two students from the class were asked to reflect on and explain their groups’ projects for Jottings and Digressions.

Laura Wichert: LIS 640 asked us to apply our skills as future librarians and information technology professionals to the far-flung reaches of the globe. Our project involved implementing a reading program in rural China. We partnered with the Evergreen Education Foundation, chaired by Faith Chao.

The goal of our project was to promote reading for pleasure among elementary-school-age children. In rural China, most children use their extracurricular time to study for state exams, and do little reading for pleasure. We learned that rural Chinese children have a strong desire to learn English, particularly from native English speakers. Therefore, we based our project around videotaping ourselves reading books out loud. We purchased multiple copies of each book we filmed ourselves reading and sent them to China.

Our hope is that teachers will show these videos in their classrooms, and that children will have the books in front of them in order to read along. We hope we have made the reading

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New Year Brings New Faculty

Dear Friends,

I’m happy to report that the School of Library and Information Services (SLIS) is experiencing no shortage of excellent applicants to our credit programs. We started the Fall 2011 semester with a total of 107 new students in the MA program (77 on campus, 26 in the distance program) and two new doctoral students. We welcomed the distance students, and each other. The orientation program for campus students took place on one day and continued through a series of professional workshops, and workshops throughout the fall semester.

The biggest change at SLIS is that our long-serving associate director, Jane Pearlmutter retired at the end of July. Jane’s departure feels, as one faculty member put it, like a tectonic shift. Jane is a SLIS alumna (MA’75, archives administration specialization) who was hired in 1985 to work in our Continuing Education (CE) program. Under her leadership, the SLIS CE offered professional development classes to more than 900 librarians annually. Jane became Director of Continuing Education Services in 1999, and Associate Director of SLIS in 2002. In 2005 she spearheaded the development of our distance MA degree. Jane has also been a highly regarded instructor, teaching credit courses each semester, both to on-campus students and those in the distance program, and has supervised many students’ independent study projects. Jane has helped maintain the link between SLIS and the library profession in many ways. In addition to giving numerous professional workshops, and serving as adviser and consultant for projects off- as well as on-campus, in 1999 she was president of the Wisconsin Library Association (WLA), and has been active on several WLA committees, including the WLA Foundation. Jane’s service to the profession includes publishing; her most recent publication is a co-authored book (with SLIS adjunct professor Paul Nelson) from ALA Editions, Small Public Library Management. Jane is the recipient of the College of Letters and Science Academic Staff Excellence Mid-Career Award for 2004, and of the Wisconsin Library Association’s Muriel Fuller Award for outstanding contributions to library service in 1993.

This brief account barely does justice to Jane’s achievements but it gives you a small sense of what Jane’s retirement means to SLIS. We heartily congratulate her on her retirement and the award of emeritus status. Jane will continue to be involved in SLIS in many ways, particularly this transition year.

Our new associate director is Michele Besant (MA ’93, PhD ’03), who is best known to current SLISers as Director of the SLIS library since 2003. Michele will continue to direct the library, but will pass on some of her current duties to SLIS librarian, Sheilah Harrington, and other staff. My next jottings letter will include a profile of Michele.

In June we were sad to say goodbye to Robin Willard (MA ’91), our afternoon front office staffer. Robin is working with medical records at the State of Wisconsin’s Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center. We wish Robin all the best in her new job! On the other hand, we were delighted to welcome Assistant Professor Rebekah Willett (profiled in the Spring 2011 Jottings). This semester Rebekah is teaching LIS Multicultural Children’s Literature as well as a Freshman Interest Group (FIG), an undergraduate class that represents SLIS’s contribution to the Digital Studies program funded by the Madison Initiative for Undergraduates.

Special thanks are due to Christina Johanningmeier (now graduated), who edited Jottings for the past two years, and who did a great job of giving Jottings a new look and fresh content. Our current very capable Jottings editor is Laura Damon-Moore, who worked with Christina last year and who is assisted by Erinn Batykefer.

I want to thank all of you, too, who continue to help SLIS in so many ways, from volunteering your time to mentor current students and recent graduates, to passing on information about us to colleagues and prospective students, and to supporting us with your financial generosity.

With very best wishes from us all at SLIS,

Christine
look fun and enjoyable, and that the children will want to read for pleasure after viewing these videos. We encountered difficulties such as language barriers and technological challenges, but to the best of our knowledge the videos have been well received. We look forward to hearing more feedback from those who used them.

**Karl Schweitz:** My interest in Libraries in the Global Knowledge Society was twofold. First, I am interested in the link between libraries and activism, and this course promised the opportunity to explore various aspects thereof. Second, as someone currently working outside the information science field, I was attracted to the course’s community engagement project as a means of gaining hands-on experience.

My team’s project provided collection development services for the library of Nazarbayev University (NU), an elite English-language university which opened in Astana, Kazakhstan in August 2011. We developed print and electronic library collections in support of a first-year program in the humanities and social sciences. Though we encountered challenges, including tight timelines and communicating across time zone and language barriers, we ultimately recommended a comprehensive list of more than 1,500 titles. Our efforts saved the NU library’s minimal staff approximately 320 labor hours.

The partnership spawned inspiration and lasting friendships between our group and the NU library staff. The NU library recently launched its website and online catalog, and it has been truly satisfying to see our hard work come to fruition for the benefit of our new friends across the globe.

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**Crystal Schmidt, Web 2.0**

*by Erinn Batykefer*

This summer, SLIS student Crystal Schmidt traveled to London to pursue an intensive three-week course in Web 2.0 applications through the School of Library and Information Studies at Florida State University (FSU).

At the FSU London Study Centre, Crystal joined her study-abroad cohort and immersed herself in the Multimedia Design and Production course work, which consisted of two three-credit classes: Digital Media: Concepts and Production, and Design and Production of Networked Multimedia.

These classes challenged her to not only consider the theory and concepts behind digital media, but also to use London as the subject matter for practical design projects. Her adventures in London, including trips to the Museum of London, the British Museum and Library, and St. Paul’s Cathedral informed these projects. Crystal created a website, livingitupinlondon.blogspot.com, where she posted daily. She showcased her digital photographs and media projects for the course on the site, including a podcast review of PJ Harvey’s newest album *Let England Shake*, which she created using Audacity software, and short films created using PhotoStory, including “She Went to Harrods” about the famous department store, and “Dear Future London Multimedia Student,” which warns upcoming study abroad students to “spend lots of time figuring out your camera!”

The trip also featured excursions to Stonehenge and Paris, as well as famous landmarks featured in children’s books, like King’s Cross Station’s Platform 9 ¾ from the Harry Potter series. A trip to Oxford, which Crystal described as “the ultimate university town,” also yielded Potter gold at the Bodleian Library and Duke Humfrey’s Library reading room, where the library scenes in the Harry Potter films were shot.

Crystal’s final project was an interactive photo story created on SnapFish. “All we need is Love: Rosie Rex Goes to London” was presented as a gift to McIntyre Library and tells a charming story in words and photographs suitable for children as it follows Crystal’s “photo mascot,” a small plastic Tyrannosaurus, on her adventures around England. Crystal summed up her experience by saying, “It was the trip of a lifetime.”
By Yi Hong Sim

I believe that a fulfilling life has at least three components: service, creativity, and lifelong learning. I was in my fourth year as a double-degree student at Oberlin College and Conservatory, majoring in English and music history, when I happened upon the Mellon Librarian Recruitment Program. I had already spent summers interning in arts administration at the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and publishing at the music department of W. W. Norton & Company. Both experiences were educational and interesting, and, to me, viable choices for a future career, but I was still searching for that perfect fit.

As part of the Mellon Librarian Recruitment Program, I spent the spring of 2005 participating in an introductory course to library science and working in the Oberlin College Library Special Collections Department. Intrigued by this experience, I signed on for a summer extension of the program where I interned in various departments at the Multnomah County Library in Portland, OR. This remarkable internship experience led me to realize that librarianship was the service I wished to render to society for years to come.

I graduated with two master’s degrees, from SLIS and the music history program at UW-Madison School of Music, in May 2011. To say that SLIS was the perfect fit for my interests would be an understatement. Not only did the program support my existing interests, it also helped me discover new ones that are now a rooted part of my professional identity. LIS 826, the Library and Information Literacy Instruction (LILI) Practicum, was a bright spot in the curriculum. LIS 661, Information Ethics and Policy, opened my awareness to the implications of copyright and information ownership, and sent me down the path of being a copyright education advocate. I joined the Music Library Association’s Legislation Committee in March 2010 and am still a member today.

Pursuing a double master’s program in music librarianship had its silver linings and trials. Although I certainly had no lack of events to attend and classmates to catch up with, there were few with whom I could discuss the challenges and benefits of juggling two specializations. In February 2010, with the help of another musically inclined SLIS alumna, Veronica Alzalde, and enthusiastic leaders in the Music Library Association, I launched the Music Library Student Group (MLSG). This nationwide peer-support network is now in its second generation of elected student officers and has more than 100 members across North America. In addition to this leadership experience, my music specialty also helped me find a fruitful topic for my final paper in LIS 855. The paper, “More Than Just a Budget Label: A History of Naxos,” will be published in Music Reference Services Quarterly in the fall of 2011.

My goals in the next five years are to (a) work as a librarian, preferably in reference and instruction, (b) be an active musician, writer, and permaculturist in my free time, and (c) keep working with and learning about copyright issues and advocacy. To adapt the old adage, I think that it takes a village to raise a librarian, and I feel fortunate to have grown up with a village of talented, generous, and delightful people at SLIS and beyond.
Scholarship/Award Roundup

Dawn Wing is serving as a SLIS LIS Access Midwest Program (LAMP) project assistant for the 2011-12 academic year. She has also been selected as a 2011-12 American Library Association (ALA) Spectrum Scholar.

Katherine Elchert received the Leona Gifford Scholarship from SLIS.

Jennifer Kirmer received the Maralyn B. and George G. Babcock Scholarship through SLIS and the 2011 Rubenstein/Mason Award from the University of Kansas.

Audra Hilse and Laura Headrick were the recipients of a scholarship from SLIS funded by the Vannita L. Wesely Trust Fund.

Angele Mott Nickerson received the William R. Werk Scholarship and the Second Century Scholarship.

Dorothy M. Terry is a Gates Millennium Scholar.

Carrie Wolfson and Dana Gerber received the Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship from SLIS.

Aubrey Watson was awarded the Charlotte A. Friedman Scholarship.

Heather Johnson was awarded with the 2011 scholarship from the Olive Dornfeld Busjaeger Centennial Scholarship Fund.

Cate Redman received the Ethel M. Brann Scholarship from SLIS.

Angela Terrab received the WLA Education Scholarship.

Curriculum Update

SLIS is pleased to announce that Professor Ethelene Whitmire is now SLIS curriculum committee chair. Professor Sunny Kim, who chaired the committee for the past two years, will chair the PhD committee in the fall. Many thanks to both professors for their service!

Two new metadata classes are added to the MA curriculum for Spring 2012 to strengthen technology offerings: LIS 652: Document Structures and Metadata, and LIS 853: Metadata Standards and Applications. Two new topics classes, LIS 350 and 351, have also been created for the undergraduate digital studies program and will cover social and technological aspects of information studies.

We welcome a new cohort of archives administration students now that the archives program has been reinstated. The restructured specialization allows students to take LIS 620 for their practicum and revamps LIS 977: Archival Description and Arrangement, to include Encoded Archival Description (EAD). Archives students may also take Digital Curation, Special Collections, or Preservation as alternatives to LIS 976: Special Problems in Archives-Manuscripts Administration.

The developing SLIS/Art History dual degree will include a new course in Art Librarianship in Spring 2012, taught by Kohler Art Library’s Lyn Korenic and Linda Duychak.

New management courses will be taught by SLIS alumna and former director of the library at Notre Dame University, Jennifer Younger, who will teach Consortia and Collaborations in Spring 2012.

What Do You Want To See in Jottings?

The editorial staff of Jottings & Digressions wants to hear from you! Let us know if you have story ideas, courses you would like to see highlighted, alumni you would like to see profiled, and of course, keep us up to speed on your own news and updates. Email the editor at alumni@slis.wisc.edu.
This summer Associate Director Michele Besant participated in the Wisconsin Idea Seminar (a five-day bus tour of the state by 40 UW faculty and staff members), which included a stop at Rhinelander District Library where SLIS alum Ed Hughes is the director. At the request of library board and staff members, Besant is exploring the possibility of developing some programming that will create further ties between UW-Madison and public libraries in the state.

Tanya Cobb has been enjoying her first year as Student & Alumni Services coordinator, which included attending her first Wisconsin Library Association (WLA) and ALA conferences. She thanks all of the SLIS staff, faculty, students, alumni and LIS community members who have made her first several months on the job so much fun!

Professor Greg Downey is participating in a collaborative research study of the new Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery, an interdisciplinary, public/private scientific research center supporting work at the intersection of biotechnology, nanotechnology, and information technology. He is part of a small team of faculty and graduate students who have assembled an oral history and primary document archive which will be deposited with the university’s “Minds@UW.”

Associate Professor Kristin Eschenfelder will present the results of her research on access and use control policies of cultural institutions, “Digital Cultural Collections in an Age of ReUse and ReMixes,” written with PhD student Michelle Caswell, was published in early 2010 in First Monday.

Allison G. Kaplan, faculty associate, received the 2011 Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC) Bechtel Fellowship. This fellowship provided funds for study at the Baldwin Library of Historic Children’s Literature, at the University of Florida. Her focus was on the development of board books from toy books to tools for early literacy development. She presented preliminary findings at the 2011 SLIS/ SOIS Research Forum held on the UW-Milwaukee campus. Kaplan has been elected to serve on the L&S Committee on Academic Staff Issues. She is serving as co-chair on the program planning committee for the Wisconsin Idea Symposium: Principled Partnerships for the Public Good, sponsored by the UW Community Partnerships and Outreach (CPO) Staff Network.

With Sei-Ching Joanna Sin (MA ’09), Associate Professor Kyung-Sun “Sunny” Kim co-authored and published a paper, “Selecting quality sources: Bridging the gap between the perception and use of information sources” in Journal of Information Science, 37(2), 182–192. She also served on juried paper, poster, and dissertation scholarship review committees for (ASIST).

In May, CES Program Manager Meredith Lowe led the first Librarians’ Tour of Germany, which visited Mainz, Stuttgart, Tübingen, Munich, and Nuremberg. Participants visited many different German libraries, and met with German colleagues overseas. In July, Lowe assisted with the coordination of the fourth Archives Leadership Institute, held in Madison.

Assistant Professor Stephen Paling presented a paper, “The Cultural Impact of New Media on American Literary Writing: Refining a Conceptual Framework,” at the 2011 Digital Humanities Conference at Stanford University.

Outreach Specialist Anna Palmer continues to coordinate online continuing education courses and is looking forward to new duties with the Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture. She also completed her third year as a member of WLA’s Awards and Honors Committee in 2011.

In February, Professor Christine Pawley was distinguished lecturer at the School of Information Resources and Library Science (SIRLS) at the University of Arizona. Her talk was titled “Books and Bytes: A Détente.” This summer, she has been working with Professor Emerita Louise Robbins to edit a book emerging from the 2010 print culture conference, Libraries in the History of Print Culture. The book is tentatively titled Libraries and the Reading Public in Twentieth Century America.

Associate Outreach Specialist Omar Poler is coordinating a third Convening Culture Keepers mini-conference for tribal librarians, archivists, and museum curators, scheduled for the College of Menominee Nation in Wisconsin this October. He is also excited to welcome a new student
worker, Kelly Kraemer, who will help publicize indigenous information efforts at SLIS.

Assistant Professor Alan Rubel survived and loved his first year with SLIS. In addition to developing new courses, he presented papers at several conferences, including the Information Ethics Roundtable at University of Arizona, the Society for Philosophy and Technology annual meeting at University of North Texas, the Annual Congress for Legal and Social Philosophy (Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany), and Conference on Criminalization (University of Stirling, Scotland). His paper, “The Particularized Judgment Account of Privacy” was published in Res Publica, and his recent papers on public health surveillance and surveillance and criminal law are under review. He’s looking forward to year Number Two.

Faculty Associate Dorothea Salo spent a busy summer presenting at conferences. She spoke on digital preservation at the Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries’ One System, One Library conference in June. At the Special Libraries Association annual conference, she co-presented with chemist Jean-Claude Bradley and Don Hagen of the National Technical Information Service on research-data management, and gave a solo spotlight session on copyright. At WiLSWorld, she gave a session entitled Avoiding the Heron’s Way: Planning a Practical Institutional Repository.

Faculty Associate Debra Shapiro, SLIS Distance Program Coordinator, along with a team of faculty and staff, organized the second annual distance students’ Bootcamp/Orientation, held August 1–5. After a short hiatus following a term on the ALA’s Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) board of directors, Shapiro has taken on new LITA responsibilities, including serving on LITA’s program planning committee, and Library Linked Data Interest Group, where she’ll be contributing towards offering great LITA programming at the ALA Annual Conference in 2012.


Associate Professor Ethelene Whitmire received a campus reading seminar grant from UW System’s Institute on Race & Ethnicity for an urban fiction seminar in conjunction with the Department of Afro-American Studies. Faculty, staff and graduate students from both programs read and discussed urban fiction books. The group also read Reading is My Window: Books and the Art of Reading in Women’s Prisons, by Associate Professor Megan Sweeney from the University of Michigan’s English Department & Center for Afro-American and African Studies.

Storyteller’s Circle

SLIS Professor Emerita Anne Lundin is carrying on a tradition at an idyllic campus spot steeped in storytelling history.

In summer 2011, Lundin taught a course, “Storytelling and the Oral Tradition.” The class focused on the oral tradition in world literature for children and often met outdoors at Muir Knoll, a grassy area on the brow of Bascom Hill overlooking Lake Mendota.

Muir Knoll—named for former UW-Madison student and famed conservationists John Muir—was recently restored to its great tradition of being a place to share stories.

Through a generous gift of the Robert E. Gard Foundation, Muir Knoll’s centerpiece, Storyteller’s Circle, was revived as a gathering spot for Wisconsin’s innovative writers and storytellers.

Want to sign up for news?
slis-alumni@lists.wisc.edu

Want to send news for Jottings?
alumni@slis.wisc.edu

Want to meet with other alumni online?
Visit www.facebook.com and search for “UW-Madison SLIS Alumni Association.”
Q. What have you been up since graduating from SLIS? What is your current position?
A. After graduating from SLIS, I worked in the Wisconsin Historical Society’s Archives Department. While there, I helped process archival collections and was the program assistant for the Governor’s Archives Awards and Wisconsin Archives Month. Six months after graduating, I was hired as an assistant archivist by the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming. It is a two-year, National Historical Publications and Records Commission grant-funded position.

Q. What type of work do you do in your current position?
A. My job at the American Heritage Center is to process Depression-era archival collections. This primarily entails organizing the papers (physically and intellectually) and creating a catalog record and online finding aid (EAD) for each collection.

Q. What do you find challenging about your position?
A. Organizing someone else’s personal papers can be quite challenging, especially when they themselves were not organized and there are a couple of hundred cubic feet of materials. You have to find the balance between keeping the original order of the collection and organizing it in a useful manner. There is also the difficulty of dealing with all kinds of obsolete media. How do you describe what something is when you can’t see or hear the content?

Q. What do you find most rewarding about your position?
A. I’ve been able to process some incredibly interesting collections, including Jack Benny’s personal papers. I recently completed processing the papers of Frank Wilson, who was the chief of Secret Service in the 1940s-1950s. He played an integral role in the arrest of both Al Capone and the Lindbergh baby kidnapper. It contained some very interesting documents, and it was fun to be able to flash a Secret Service badge around the office for a day! You also never know what you’ll find in a collection—while processing the papers of a previous Wyoming senator, I found a jar of yellowcake uranium. Hazmat assured me I was fine.

Q. Were there classes/activities through SLIS that have proved to be particularly useful in your post-SLIS career?
A. All of the classes I took as part of the archives specialization track proved to be very helpful, but the 160-hour practicum at the Wisconsin Historical Society was probably most useful. The technology courses were also helpful, especially ones in which you learn XML. All our finding aids are created using XML.

Q. What advice do you have for current students as they think about entering their post-SLIS career?
A. You hear it all the time, but it’s true: Be flexible. You probably will not find your perfect job in the perfect location right out of grad school. Being willing to relocate to areas that may not be at the top of your “Places to Live” list helps tremendously. Applying to numerous jobs in all areas of the country actually got me two job offers. Neither of them was in a place I’d dreamed of living, but I’m happy with my choice and situation. Also don’t be afraid to apply for grant-funded or temporary positions. These can often lead to more permanent positions.
Beta Beta Epsilon Update

On May 12, 2011, Beta Beta Epsilon (BBE) held its 27th annual reception, initiation, and meeting at the Pyle Center along the shores of Lake Mendota, where we welcomed our newest members.

Yi Hong Sim was named Outstanding Student Scholar of the Year and was also recipient of the 2010–2011 Jack A. Clarke Scholarship. We were privileged to have Bonnie Mak, Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, give a talk entitled “Reflections on How the Page Matters.”

New board members were elected. Joining president Cynthia Bachhuber, past president Lia Vellardita, treasurer Dee Grimsrud, vice president for scholarship Kate Hull, and secretary Molly Hamm (nee Beverstein) are: president-elect Catherine Phan and vice president for membership Lisa Muccigrosso. The new faculty adviser for BBE (replacing Louise Robbins) is Ethelene Whitmire. Thanks to everyone who attended the annual meeting and helped make it a success!

Mark your calendars now for BBE’s 28th annual meeting, which will take place May 17, 2012, at the Pyle Center. Please consider helping us celebrate not only the academic accomplishments of our newest inductees, but also BBE’s great, historic tradition!

If you need to update your contact information to receive an invitation, contact vice president for membership Lisa Muccigrosso at: lmuccigrosso@uwalumni.com.

New Members — May 12, 2011

Brinna Pam Anan
Sara Andrews
Sarah Calhoun
Cassidy Carr
Kathyleen Clair
Easter DiGangi
Kirstin Duffin
Walker Evans
Anna Geurts
Elena Gleason
Autumn Hall-Tun
Wendy Hellwig
Jennifer Huck
Darcie Johnston
Rachel Lockman
Angela Manderfeld
Jessica Newman
David Otten
Kim Pittman
Sam Rudin
Yi Hong Sim
Cristina Springfield
Steel Wagstaff
Sara White

Allied Drive Grant Update

Allied Drive Literacy Time has received a grant from the Madison Gas and Electric Foundation for $2,500. The grant will help the program begin a digital literacy initiative for the children at Allied Drive Learning Center. As technology continues to play a growing role in education, Allied Drive Literacy Time hopes incorporating information technology skills into its mission will help children in the Allied Drive neighborhood succeed in school, and on the job market later in life.

The digital literacy initiative will involve the integration of a Wii game console into storytime programming, allowing volunteers to engage children while exposing them to technology. Games will promote teamwork and exercise through group play, but also help children become comfortable operating the game system.

In addition to the digital literacy initiative, this grant will also allow Allied Drive Literacy Time to continue its book giveaway program, which allows children at the learning center to choose from a selection of brand new books at the end of each semester. Children are always very excited to pick out their own books to keep and take home. Allied Drive Literacy Time is very grateful to the MGE Foundation for its continued support of the program.

Allied Drive Literacy Time was highlighted in the Spring 2011 issue of Friends of the Libraries Magazine, in the article “Allied Drive Literacy Time Helps Kids bond with Books” by Barbara J. Walsh (p. 4-5).
Class News and Notes

1970s ..............................................
Libby Hamler-Dupras, MA’77, took early retirement after a 21-year career as a teacher-librarian in the Salem-Keizer School District (Salem, OR). She will continue to serve as co-chair for the Beverly Cleary Children’s Choice Awards Committee and on the executive board for the Oregon Battle of the Books program.

1980s ..............................................
Donald Clay Johnson, PhD’80, was featured in the alumni magazine of the University of Minnesota in an article on the retirees association’s small grants program, which is intended to encourage continuing scholarship and research among the retiree community.

Kristi Tornquist, MA’82, began work as dean of Resources and Technology Services at St. Cloud State University.

Charley Seavey, PhD’87, is joining the Failed Retirement Club by accepting a position as professor, School of Library and Information Management, Emporia State University.

1990s ..............................................
Jim O’Neill, MA’91, retired from the General Library System at UW-Madison on June 30. His early years on campus were in the sciences and technical services, but in 1991 Jim moved over to the humanities and to collection support for Memorial Library.

Sharon Korbeck Verbeten, MA’91, is a children’s librarian at the Central branch of the Brown County Library in Green Bay. She is also editor of Children and Libraries, the journal of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC).

Todd Krueger, MA’94, is currently serving on the Young Adult Library Service Association (YALSA) Michael L. Printz Award Committee for Excellence in Young Adult Literature.

James Rettig, MA’95, has been selected as the library director and associate dean for Information Services for the U.S. Naval Academy. The library director and associate dean for Information Services is responsible for all aspects of the Nimitz Library operation.

Heather Muir, MA’99, earned her PhD in sport management from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, CO. This fall she will be teaching at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Muir had served as university archivist at UW-Eau Claire from 2001–2005 before changing academic fields.

Rachel Watters, MA’99, has been appointed director of Wisconsin TechSearch (WTS). Rachel has worked at WTS as a Resource Sharing Librarian since 2002.

2000s ..............................................
Susannah Johnson Benedetti, MA’00, is now associate university librarian for Technical and Collection Management Services at the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

In Memoriam

Phyllis Lucile Graham Boyle, age 87, passed away on June 4, 2011, in Monona, of causes associated with Alzheimer’s disease. Phyllis received a master’s degree in library studies from the University of Wisconsin in 1969, and worked until 1985 as an administrative assistant and in Admissions and Placement in the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin.

Bridget Zinn, MA’05, passed away in May 2011 at age 33. Bridget was a firm friend of the Cooperative Children’s Book Center at UW-Madison, serving as an active member of the Friends board and as the Center’s newsletter editor. Bridget was a positive force in the world of young adult literature: her novel for teen girls, Poison, will be published in 2012.

Lucille Alt passed away on Monday, May 9, 2011 at the age of 95. She worked for many years for the State of Wisconsin, retiring in 1981 from the University of Wisconsin Library School.
Kirstin Dougan, MA’01, was elected to the Music Library Association’s board of directors as a member-at-large. Dougan is currently Music and Performing Arts librarian in the Music and Performing Arts Library of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Erin Meyer, MA’02, was named one of Library Journal’s Movers and Shakers for 2011. She currently splits her time between managing the University of Denver’s research center and student outreach efforts.

Rachel Fewell, MA’04, has accepted the Collection Services manager position at the Denver Public Library. She will be preparing two opening day collections for new branches being built in Denver, CO.

Leigh Barnes, MA’04, completed a master’s degree in Educational Administration from the University of New England in June, 2011. Her plan is to become a district school librarian supervisor/director in the near future.

David Pavelich, MA’04, became the head of Research Services at the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library at Duke University on November 15, 2010.

Athena Salaba, PhD’05, has been promoted to associate professor at Kent State University. Her research areas include organization of information, resource description and access with emphasis on subject access to information, knowledge organization systems (KOS), conceptual modeling of knowledge organization, user information-seeking behavior and user studies.

Brendan Faherty, MA’07, is library director at Mount Horeb Public Library. He started in June 2011.

Mariessa Dobrick, MA’08, has accepted a position as an archivist for the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration.

Kathryn Rudolph, MA’08, published “Separated at Appraisal: Maintaining the Archival Bond Between Archives Collections and Museum Objects” in Archival Issues (vol. 33, no. 1).

Becky Yoose, MA’08, is now the systems librarian at Grinnell College.

Chelsea Couillard, MA’09, has accepted a position as Youth Materials selector for the Sacramento (CA) Public Library.

Catherine Phan, MA’09, will join UW Digital Collections as a digital services librarian.

Darcy Gervasio, MA’10, is the Reference & Instruction librarian at SUNY Purchase College.

William Straub, MA’10, is the Digital Services coordinator librarian for the University of Minnesota, Morris. Besides working as a reference librarian at this public liberal arts campus, he is using his system administration skills to maintain their EZproxy and SFX link resolvers, Aleph ILS, and other library systems.

Easter DiGangi, MA’10, participated in the 2011 ALA Class of Emerging Leaders from January to June, 2011. She worked on Project F, evaluating whether the program Libraries Build Communities should be expanded. Two publications are based on this work: DiGangi, E. M., Brumley, K., James, H., Leach, E., & Shiel, T. (2011, June 22). “Librarians Build Communities Progress Report” on the Website, ALA Connect; and DiGangi, E. M. (2011, April 26). “A new chapter for ALA: ‘Librarians Build Communities’ National Volunteer Program”, in the ALA Membership Blog. She currently works at Demco, Inc. in Madison. She is chair of ALA’s New Member Round Table (NMRT) Vice Presidential planning committee, member of the NMRT nominating committee, and member of the Reference and User Services STARS education and training committee.

Jiekun “Jackie” Yang, MA’11, participated in the Managing Electronic Records (MER) Conference in Chicago from May 22–25. With the support of a SLIS travel scholarship, she had the opportunity to listen to great lectures and meet professionals from various industries.

Jenna Guenther, MA’11, is the new Information Services librarian of the Juneau Public Libraries in Juneau, Alaska.

Tessa Michaelson Schmidt, MA’05, has been appointed assistant director of the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library in Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

Kathleen de La Peña McCook, PhD, is the author of Introduction to Public Librarianship. The second edition was published in 2011 by Neal-Schuman Publishers.

Amy Kindschi, MA’83, and Diana Wheeler MA’99 are 2011 Fellows of the UW–Madison Teaching Academy, along with 25 other faculty, instructors and staff.

Current students .................................

Ph.D. candidate and technology project assistant Kyle Jones has co-authored “Wordpress as a Library CMS” for American Libraries: Dispatches from the Field.

Eric Willey received the Midwest Archives Conference (MAC) Louisa Bowen Memorial Scholarship to support the graduate study of archival administration, and the Society of American Archivists (SAA) F. Gerald Ham Scholarship, which provides financial support to graduate students in their second year of archival studies. Willey was awarded the SLIS Lawrence C. Zweizig Student Leadership Award and the Valmai Fenster Award for Outstanding Promise for Exceptional Scholarly Contribution to the Profession: Honorable Mention. His article, “A Cautious Partnership: The Growing
The next print culture conference will be held on September 28–29, 2012, in the Pyle Center. Titled Protest on the Page: Print Culture History in Opposition to Almost Anything* (*you can think of), the conference will focus on dissent, and feature papers focusing on authors, publishers and readers of oppositional materials, in all arenas from politics to literature, from science to religion.

The keynote speaker will be Victor Navasky, publisher emeritus of *The Nation* and George T. Delacorte professor in Magazine Journalism, director of the Delecorte Center for Magazine Journalism, and chair of the Columbia Journalism Review. Navasky’s lecture will be open to the general public. We will be posting more information as it becomes available at the Center’s web site (http://slisweb.lis.wisc.edu/~printcul/).
Print Culture News

■ New Name for the Center
After much discussion, in the spring semester 2011 the Center for the History of Print Culture in Modern America (CHPCMA) changed its title to the Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture (CHPDC). The CHPCMA was created in 1992 to promote scholarship on the period after 1876, and to encourage research on ephemeral forms of print as well as the book. Now the name seems unduly restrictive, and in fact the qualifier “Modern America” has been largely ignored at our colloquia, conferences, and publications. The rise of digital technology during the past 20 years has also rendered the term “print culture” problematic for the center. For many people “print culture” has come to signify reading, writing, and publishing on paper rather than reading, writing, and publishing on screens. Yet digital technology is a phenomenon on which the center wants to focus. The advisory board considered several options and decided in the end that adding the term “digital” was the most effective.

■ Anna Palmer is Center Coordinator
We have excellent news: Anna Palmer has increased her work hours, and will be taking on a new role as CHPDC coordinator. Irene Hansen, who has been research coordinator for the past several years, has now graduated with her specialist certificate at SLIS (Congratulations, Irene!). We are very grateful to Hansen for all her hard work for the center, and we wish her the very best as she moves into a new phase of her life. Palmer will be taking on Hansen’s former duties, and will be adding some new responsibilities.

Distance Learning Update
Restructured Distance Program Begins Its Second Year

In early August, SLIS hosted 27 new distance MA students for the second week-long orientation called Bootcamp. SLIS has offered a distance MA degree since 2005. Originally a collaboration with Illinois’ Prairie Area Library System (PALS), the distance program enabled students to take the core courses via videoconference, and then complete the rest of the degree by taking Web-based courses. In 2010, the distance program was restructured, so that rather than traveling to a physical classroom to participate in videoconference courses, students can complete all their courses online. This online study is complemented by the week-long Bootcamp. During Bootcamp, students have opportunities to meet their classmates, faculty, and second-year students in person, receive instruction in one of the core courses, LIS 451, and learn how to use Learn@UW (the courseware used to deliver distance courses). They are also instructed on UW-Madison library resources like research databases and citation managers. One of the highlights of the week is student poster presentations about practicum placements in on- and off-campus libraries. This year’s poster session included virtual presentations from distance students for the first time. Members of the 2011 distance class come from as far away as Calgary, Alberta; Bremerton, WA; Colorado; and San Diego, CA. There are a few from the Mid-Atlantic: Washington DC; Baltimore; Virginia, while the majority are from the Midwest: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

Continuing Ed Update: Spring 2012 Online Course Preview

- Consumer Health Information
  January 23–May 11
- Basic Public Library Administration
  January 23–April 13
- Organization and Management of Collections
  January 30–April 20
- Digitization Projects for Libraries
  January 30–March 23
- Basic Reference
  February 6–April 27
- Fundamentals of Cataloging
  February 6–April 27
- Creating a Dynamic Facebook Page
  February 13–24 or March 12–23
- Personnel Management
  February 20–March 23
- Connecting Teens with the Best in New Teen Lit
  February 20–March 30
- Business Reference
  March 12–April 6
- Adult Book Discussions
  April 9–May 4

For more information and registration, please visit http://www.slis.wisc.edu/continueed.htm
Wisconsin E-Book Summit

by Erinn Batykefer

E-books are a big deal, and librarians have been asking the big question — to buy or not to buy? — for some time. If you buy, there are even more questions: How do you lend e-books, and to whom? How do you wrangle the digital labyrinth that is OverDrive? And what are you going to do when a publishing house decides that the e-book licenses you bought will expire after 26 circs?

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction’s Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning organized an E-book Summit on May 4, 2011 to generate best practices for e-books that libraries can put in motion on local, state, and national levels.

I was nominated to participate in the day-long summit, during which 40 delegates from around the state divided into working groups to address important issues, including finding better ways for libraries to lend e-books, expanding access through larger collections (like regional-or state-buying pools), and determining whether public libraries should make e-books available to all system residents. SLIS copyright guru, Kristin Eschenfelder, served as moderator for the group that scrutinized copyright and licensing issues and brainstormed ways libraries can leverage publishers and vendors for better pricing, licensing models, and more reasonable copyright and Digital Rights Management models for e-book lending.

At the end of the day, each group presented and prioritized its recommendations, which Bob Bocher of the Department of Public Instruction published as a report and presented at the ALA annual conference. A draft of the report is available here: http://dpi.wi.gov/pld/ebooksummit.html.

Seeking 2012 Nominations
The SLIS Alumni Association invites nominations for the 2012 Distinguished Alumna/Alumnus Award. This award is conferred upon an alumna or alumnus in recognition of outstanding leadership and accomplishment in library service. The award is given by the SLIS Alumni Association by vote of the board of directors on nominations submitted by its awards committee.

Nominations and suggestions may be sent by anyone who has an interest in the program. Please include the nominee’s name, year of graduation, achievements, and accomplishments. Letters of support are welcome. The deadline for nominations is October 31, 2011. Please send nominations to Catherine Phan at cphan@library.wisc.edu.
The SLIS Alumni Association encourages you to keep in touch with each other and with the school. Keep your contact information current with SLIS, update your Wisconsin Alumni Association profile and join the SLIS groups on LinkedIn and Facebook. Visit the SLIS Alumni Association at http://www.slis.wisc.edu/alumni.htm for more ideas on how to stay in touch and how you can help SLIS students and other alumni.

Lastly, as always, thank you for your continuing support of SLIS, library education and libraries.

Sincerely,
Catherine Phan, MA’09
Save the Dates

May 3, 2012  
Alumni Association Annual Business Meeting  
The annual meeting will be held at 1 p.m. in the SLIS conference room. All SLIS alumni are encouraged to attend. Check the SLIS website in the spring for an agenda and the Executive Board Ballot.

May 17, 2012  
Beta Beta Epsilon Chapter of Beta Phi Mu annual meeting and initiation of new members at the Pyle Center, UW-Madison. Check the spring issue of Jottings for more details.

May 20, 2012  
SLIS Commencement Ceremony  
(Check the SUS website in the spring for further details.)

June 24, 2012  
SLIS Reception at ALA conference, Anaheim, CA.  
Join your SLIS colleagues past and present from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Sunday, June 24, at Catal Restaurant. We’ll have hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar. All SLIS alumni, students and friends are welcome.