Family matters: a SLIS mom and daughter look back  PAGE 3
“Movers and Shakers” share inspiration  PAGE 4
Zine workshop highlights trend  PAGE 7
In last year’s *Library Journal* Placement and Salary Survey data, SLIS had the second highest LIS program job placement ranking based on the data provided. SLIS has long offered career preparation across the curriculum. For example, within the practicum course LIS 620, students receive resume and cover letter instruction and practice with professional presentations. One new initiative, led by SLIS Student and Alumni Services Coordinator Tanya Cobb (MA ’04), is to embed career planning into first-semester courses in order to get students thinking about career planning early in their program. Cobb works with first semester students in LIS 450 to map their current skills and competencies to the desired skills listed in information profession job ads. The class then discusses areas of needed skill/competency growth and strategizes how students can gain desired proficiencies through coursework, job experiences and extracurricular activities. SLIS is committed to providing both a rigorous academic experience and excellent professional preparation.

**Charting a Path**

Students in UW–Madison’s College of Letters & Science are bright, creative and hard-working. Each fall, they bring fresh perspectives and inquisitive minds to campus. But they face challenges as they prepare for life after graduation—whether it is four months or four years away. Competition for jobs is fierce and young Badgers need to articulate what they have learned, in and out of the classroom.

To help them learn how, Dean John Karl Scholz launched the Letters & Science Career Initiative (LSCI), which will engage students in personal and career development from the time they step on campus to graduation.

The LSCI is a new, coordinated approach to serving students across L&S departments and programs. The initiative will spark students’ imaginations about career possibilities, help them find majors that align with their passions, connect them with strong alumni networks, and coach them to talk about the lessons and skills they learned at UW–Madison.

In addition, the LSCI will:

- recruit and hire more academic and career advisors
- launch a new sophomore-year academic- and career-planning course
- analyze alumni data to help students plan their own career trajectories
- open doors to alumni mentors who can share tips, strategies, and opportunities

You can help. Dean Scholz is looking for alumni, friends and parents who can share valuable insights about the job market, internships, career development and more.

To get involved, visit go.wisc.edu/lsci or email the LSCI team at careerinitiative@ls.wisc.edu. You can also read more about the LSCI in this year’s L&S Annual Report at go.wisc.edu/annualreport.
I always say that I became a librarian despite my mother being a librarian rather than because of it, although that really isn’t the case. I started working in libraries when I was 14 and held student jobs all through high school and college. When I started the graduate program in English at UW–Madison, the first thing I did was get a student library job on campus. I grew up in a household that valued reading and books and library jobs were very natural.

Carrie: I didn’t really know just how well admired my mother was until someone I knew from SLIS found out that I was her daughter and exclaimed, “YOU’RE Ginny Moore Kruse’s daughter? I want to BE Ginny Moore Kruse!” This was actually the most intimidating thing about deciding to attend UW–Madison SLIS. It took me a while to feel secure enough in my own work not to worry about being judged or compared to her greatness. Of course, I’ve always been very proud of her career accomplishments so I’m glad I got over that.

Ginny: Carrie took a serious look at several other ALA-accredited library schools in order—I think—to have her own experience while launching her library career. My campus, statewide and national involvement on behalf of the CCBC had caused the CCBC and me to become quite visible. I remember mentioning to her that at UW–Madison there are students who have family members all across campus, that the faculty and staff probably pay attention to that relationship for five minutes max, if at all.

For Carrie Kruse, pursuing a degree in library science at the school where her mother, Ginny Kruse, had made such an impact was a bit intimidating. After all, Ginny Kruse was known around the state—and the country—for her work on behalf of the university’s Cooperative Children’s Book Center (CCBC), a unique non-circulating collection of books for children and young adults. But her mother persuaded Carrie that she could make her own mark—and today, the two share a camaraderie as well as mutual respect for each other’s contributions to the field.

A New Home for the CCBC

Over the summer, the CCBC said goodbye to Helen C. White Hall and moved to its new location, Room 401 of the Teacher Education Building at 225 N. Mills Street. SLIS will miss the staff and close proximity of the CCBC’s unique resources, but we are happy they will have more space to do their very important work.
People Shaping the Future of Libraries

In March, five SLIS alumni made Library Journal’s 2014 “Movers & Shakers” list. They were recognized for their creativity, innovativeness, and ability to make a difference. We asked them how their time at SLIS helped them on their path to success.

Laura Damon-Moore (MA ’12) and Erinn Batykefer (MA ’12)
“Change Agents”

Erinn Batykefer: “The Library as Incubator Project (LAIP) would not have gotten off the ground without supportive SLIS professors like Louise Robbins and Steve Paling who let us use class projects and even invent entire courses around what we wanted to accomplish.

SLIS served as our sandbox for website building, cultivating a social media presence, and connecting with librarians and artists around the country. SLIS has also sent us two practicum students who have gone on to become our Associate Editors.

The enthusiasm, cheerleading and networking by students, colleagues, and mentors has been monumental—and monumentally humbling.”

Laura Damon Moore: “Practice became a significant part of my SLIS career. I was able to do three practicum terms; one in campus libraries doing instruction, and two terms at the Hedberg Public Library in Janesville, as well as get hands-on experience with the Young Adult Literature course and the Allied Drive community-based learning course. This helped me bridge the gap between my coursework and my first professional library job. Also, our team received a travel scholarship to attend the Wisconsin Library Association conference and present the LAIP to a wider audience. I consider myself very fortunate to have attended UW-Madison SLIS!”

Batykefer (left) and Moore (right) are co-founders/editors of the Library as Incubator Project. The project emphasizes partnerships between libraries and artists, writers, and performing artists.

Amy Holcomb (MA ’09)
“Innovator”

As a Youth Services Librarian at Northbrook Public Library, Amy Holcomb has invented new ways to use current technology in libraries. Her program “Apprentices of the Book Empire,” is designed to help 6th graders create and bind their own books.

“SLIS introduced me to the world of youth services. Under the instruction of Madge Klais and K.T. Horning, I realized the power of children’s and young adult literature and how these stories can inspire and empower readers. When I entered the field, I began developing enrichment programs for children of all ages, which ultimately led me to Apprentices of the Book Empire. Everyone has a story to tell and now I get to help children share their stories . . . It’s incredibly rewarding.”
their creativity, innovativeness, and ability to make a difference.

Elizabeth McChesney (MA ’88)  
“Change Agent”

Elizabeth McChesney, current Director of Children and YA services at Chicago Public Library, leads one of the largest, and fastest-growing, youth library programs in the nation. "SLIS taught me to think independently and work ‘outside the box’.

The program gave me the theoretical foundation for my work in accelerating learning and advocating for children in a public library setting. An influential and inspirational message that I have drawn upon my entire career came from a note Darlene Weingand left on a graded paper: ‘You’re right, we can change the world for kids through libraries. We do it one brick at a time.’”

Omar Poler (MA ’10)  
“Change Agent”

Omar Poler, Associate Outreach Specialist for SLIS, teaches the Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums (TLAM) class and plans Convening Culture Keepers, gatherings for American Indian librarians and archivists in the Midwest. “I really don’t think TLAM could have happened anywhere else. SLIS’s longstanding commitment to community engagement, diversity, and social justice allowed us to imagine new classes, community partnerships, and opportunities for tribal Culture Keepers to learn together. The faculty and staff really do want the best possible learning experiences for students. And that sometimes means patiently exploring new ideas and supporting student initiatives by, as former Director Louise Robbins has said, ‘coming along for the ride.’”

2014 Awards and Scholarship Recipients

Distinguished Alumnus Award
Mirian Pollack, MA 1978

Dianne McAfee Hopkins Diversity Award
Katelyn Martens

The Penelope and Stephen Klein Scholarship Award
Zoe Elisabeth Stachel

The Beatrix Award of Stephen and Penelope Klein
Hanween Dong

James Krikelas Award for Innovative Use of Information Technology
DIY Book Scanner Project: Molly Dineen, Ryan Hellenbrand, Trevor Kuehl, Jennifer Ngyren McBurney, Sean Ottosen, Holly Storck-Post

Lawrence C. Zweizig Student Leadership Award
Karlyn Hougan

Larry Jacobsen Innovations in Library Science Award
Elliott Shuppy
Career Corner: New Grads as Wisconsin Library Directors

Did you feel prepared to take on a management role directly out of SLIS?

Cindy Fessmeyer (MA ’12), Columbus Public Library

“I had trained to be a youth services librarian with the intention of directorship somewhere down the road. Turns out I was ready to be a director straight out of library school.”

Christina Jones (MA ’12), Hudson Area Library

“Management and administration were the areas in which I had the most to learn, so I asked a lot of questions. In true librarian fashion, I didn’t always know the answer but I knew how to find it.”

Kara Blue (MA ’10), Albany Public Library

“Yes and no. No matter what background you have, you learn a lot on the job. If you learn something new every day, you’re doing what you’re supposed to be doing.”

How to Give to SLIS

Since the first classes at the Wisconsin Library School more than 100 years ago, the School of Library and Information Studies and the SLIS Alumni Association have counted on alumni and friends.

Make an online gift to SLIS at www.slis.wisc.edu/support-giving.htm.

Support the enhancement of the Commons and SLIS Library through the Charles Bunge SLIS Facilities Fund at supportuw.org/giveto/bungefund.

If you are considering a planned gift, please contact Jennifer Karlson, our UW Foundation representative, at 608-262-7225 or jennifer.karlson@supportuw.org.

Thank you for your support!
SLIS News

Outside the Mainstream: SLIS Hosts Zine Workshop

Zines aren’t a mainstream topic in popular culture, but they are an emerging topic in literary culture and library and information studies. Zines are most easily described as a self-published booklet or mini-magazine with a small print run.

On April 4, SLIS held a workshop on zines that began with a brief presentation on the nature of zines, how they can be used by librarians, and some places they can be found. SLIS student Oliver Bendorf (MA ’15) walked the group through zine-making, which is as simple as folding a single sheet of paper in a particular fashion. Then it was time to get creative. Attendees used collage-making materials to assemble the booklets.

The SLIS zine workshop was designed to expose future information professionals to a medium that can cover any and all topics. Zines allow librarians to build unique collections that are tailored to the needs of specific patrons. For instance, participants examined zines from The Small Science Collective, a collection created by scientists, artists, students, and science enthusiasts to teach scientific concepts.

Zines also lend themselves to the “maker” movement prevalent in the LIS field. Content can be generated by anyone, regardless of artistic skill level, and librarians can offer workshops like this one to give diverse populations the necessary skills to create any zine they choose.

Workshop attendees crafting their own zines!

Mary Kate Kwasnik (MA x’15) showing off My Youth at WPL.

Shannon Wilsey (MA x’15 ) and her animal-themed zine.

Carolina Hernandez (MA x’15 ) and her zine, Types of Donuts.
SLIS Well-Represented at 2014 State and National Conferences

SLIS students present the book scanner they made for LIS 644: Digital Tools, Trends, and Debates at the Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians in Wisconsin Dells, WI.

Author Marie Lu and SLIS student Rebecca Lin (MA ’15) at the American Library Association’s annual convention in Las Vegas, NV.

Willie Thurlow (MA ’15) displays: “Lewis Jacobs and Experimental Cinema at the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research” (WCFTR) at the Midwest Archives Conference in Kansas City, MO.

SLIS at the Midwest Archives Conference in Kansas City, MO.

Recent SLIS graduates Jenny Nygren-McBurney (MA ’14) and Robin Amado (MA ’14) at Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers Conference in Mt. Pleasant, MI.

SLIS staff member Omar Poler (MA ’10) being honored at the Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers Conference in Mt. Pleasant, MI.
You started out with a health science background. What encouraged you to enter the Library and Information Studies field?

I’ve always had an interest in health and medicine, but I didn’t develop an interest in library science until I took on my current role as the Health Programs Manager at the Wausau Area Hmong Mutual Association, which provides the Hmong community in Central Wisconsin with access to community services. When I first started in the position, I became concerned with the lack of an organized collection of bilingual resources. My goal is to learn how to organize and catalog these resources into an appropriate space while practicing skills such as project planning and evaluation.

Also, I am currently working with SLIS alumna Peg Allen (MA ’69) on a bilingual Hmong Family Health Guide. This guide will serve as a primary resource for bilingual health literacy curriculum.

What are your professional goals?

I hope to improve the healthcare system and fulfill my passion to educate the Hmong community and help them become more health literate.

What was appealing about SLIS?

The Distance Education Program has an outstanding reputation. Also, the program allows me to pursue my degree while continuing my work as the Health Programs Manager and being a wife and mother of three children.

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Course Profile

LIS 855: Social Media for Information Agencies

LIS 855: Social Media for Information Agencies was a one-credit course taught this summer by PhD candidate Kyle Jones. The class provided both theoretical background and practical ways to handle various social media networks, culminating in a project requiring groups of students to design a prototype for a potential social media network. The course prepared SLIS students to enter the job market with highly-desirable skills in new media and social networking.
Robin Amado graduated from SLIS in August 2013. Before SLIS, she worked as a high school English teacher with the Navajo Nation in Arizona. Her interests revolve around school and tribal libraries. Last spring she co-instructed the TLAM service-learning course. Amado also worked at the American Indian Studies Program Library and MERIT Education Library at UW–Madison. She was TLAM President during her second year at SLIS, and assisted Omar Poler (MA ’10) and others in writing a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Grant for Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers. She currently works as a high school librarian at Memorial High School in Madison. She writes, “I am so proud to be a graduate of SLIS. I feel very prepared for my career—not only the theory and the practical knowledge to complete day-to-day tasks, but to think globally about what libraries are now and what they can be.”

Holly Storck-Post (MA ’14)

Holly Storck-Post graduated from SLIS in May 2014 and received her BA in Spanish and Hispanic Studies from Earlham College. She also worked with migrants and refugees in Mexico City and served as an immigration paralegal in Madison. As a student, Holly worked with the youth services department at Madison Public Library’s Central branch, helping to plan and implement the Bubbler program as well as develop a seed library at the Goodman South Madison branch. Holly served as the Co-Chair of the REFORMA student group at SLIS, leading Spanish for Librarians workshops. She serves as the Associate Editor and Social Media Manager for the Library as Incubator project and is currently the Youth Services Coordinator at Monroe Public Library, emphasizing STEAM librarianship and bilingual programming.

Outstanding Student Scholar Winner

Robin Amado (MA ’13)
Due to the outstanding number of updates and the limited space available in Jottings, some Class News and Notes were posted online at http://www.slis.wisc.edu/alumni-jottings.htm.

1970s ............................................

Stephen H. Peters (MA ’70) was on the panel discussing Robert Traver’s (John D. Voelker) novel Laughing Whitefish at the Marquette Regional History Center in November 2013. He was the project archivist for the John D. Voelker papers in the Central Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan University Archives.

Barbara (Grochowski) Hillson (MA ’77) retired from the federal government as of February 2014. Her 25 years of service included 13 years at the Library of Congress. Her most recent position was serving as legislative research librarian at the IRS Office of Chief Counsel Library in Washington, DC for seven years. Outside of federal government service, Barbara worked as a reference librarian in several academic libraries, including George Mason University and Georgetown University. She is enjoying retirement on Florida’s east coast.

Michael J. Gelhausen (MA ’76) was named the Wisconsin Library Association’s Librarian of the Year for 2013. He has been a library director for 38 years, the last 31 serving as the director of the Jack Russell Memorial Library in Hartford, WI.

1990s ............................................

Todd Krueger (MA ’94) is currently celebrating his tenth anniversary in the Collection Development department at Baltimore County Public Library in Towson, MD. He is also serving on the 2015 YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award committee.

Laura Olsen (MA ’93) is entering her seventh year at Quarles & Brady, LLP, (Madison) as Legal Research Operations Specialist.

Felice Maciejewski (MA ‘90) has been elected Chair Elect of the Board of Directors of CARLI, the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois.

2000s ............................................

Chelsea Couillard-Smith (MA ’09) had the honor of serving on the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) 2014 John Newbery Medal Committee.

Karl and Amanda (Moss) Struckmeyer (MA ’05) joyfully welcomed baby Sophie Adrian Struckmeyer on July 14, 2014. Sophie’s nursery includes a book cart functioning as a changing table, and a card catalog in place of a dresser.

Amy Disch (MA ’04) started a new position as Database & Research Coordinator for Meriter (Hospital) Foundation in 2014.

In Memoriam

Katherine Gratke (MA ’77) passed away on May 7, 2014. She served the University of Wisconsin in the Schwertfeger Library at the Space Science and Engineering Center for several years.

John Peters (MA ’65) passed away on August 23, 2014. He worked at the Wisconsin Historical Society for 30 years, and volunteered for eleven more after his retirement.

Judith Keller Taylor (MA ’66) passed away on July 23, 2014. She served as the director of the Rochester Public Library for 16 years.

Bonnie Tijerina (MA ’03) is now a fellow at Data & Society.

Emily Wichman (MA ’02) presented “Cheap and Easy: An Introduction to Passive Programming” at both PLA and the PLA Virtual Conference in March 2014.

2010s ............................................

Crystal Schmidt (MA ’13) began working in the Cataloging and Special Collections & Archives departments at McIntyre Library, UW–Eau Claire.

Eric Willey (MA ’12) began a tenure track position as a Special Formats and Collections Cataloger for Illinois State University in Normal, IL.

Spencer Brayton (MA ’11), with a team of faculty and staff at Blackburn College, acquired a grant for $100,000 to renovate the library and implement a learning commons.

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Mary Tipton (MA ’77) passed away on March 10, 2014. She served as a librarian at the University of Wisconsin’s Memorial Library for 23 years.

Eliza Dresang (PhD ’81) passed away on April 21, 2014. She served the Madison Metropolitan School District for 16 years, which she led to being named a runner-up for the American Association of School Librarians’ National School Library Media Program of the Year Award.
Online Master’s Degree Program
2014 marks the fifth year of SLIS’s popular online master’s degree program. If you know a potential student, direct them to www.slis.wisc.edu/deprogram.

Check the SLIS website for important alumni events!
www.slis.wisc.edu