Jottings
and D i g r e s s i o n s

Volume 40, No. 1 Fall 2009

From the Director’s Chair: Connections

In the Director’s office, as many of you know, stands a historic “director’s chair” — a large rocker that used to belong to Mary Imogene Hazeltine, the first full-time director of the School (from 1906 to 1938). There’s also a desk and other furniture from her original office and an old photo that shows them in place. The photo and the furniture are a daily, tangible reminder of the School’s long history.

I’m doing some research into Hazeltine, so anything associated with her was already of interest to me before I became the tenth director of the School (earlier directors were George Allez [1938–50], Rachel Schenk [1951–63], Margaret Monroe [1963–70], Jack A. Clarke [1970–71], Charles Bunge [1971–1981], Jane Robbins [1981–1994], James Krikelas [1994–1997], and of course Louise Robbins [1997–2009]). In my research, I’m looking at ways in which Hazeltine influenced her students’ reading practices — practices that they in turn transmitted to library patrons all over the country. She was extraordinarily diligent in keeping in contact with alumni, and they sought her advice for years and even decades after they graduated. The importance of staying connected is a value that the School has inherited from Hazeltine, and that most recently Louise Robbins, along with other SLIS faculty and staff, have worked hard to maintain. Indeed, Louise has been as spectacularly successful as Hazeltine in her efforts at staying in contact with our alumni and other friends. I will work hard to see that connectedness continues to be a key feature of the School. We have a number of tools to help us do so: Jottings is one, of course, as well as alumni reunions at ALA and WLA meetings, generously sponsored by the SLIS Alumni Association. Some alumni are also members of the SLIS Advisory Council, while others make a point of coming to special events at SLIS such as colloquia, workshops and celebrations on retirement. This fall, the School’s Web site is undergoing a radical facelift. Once it is up please take a look at http://www.slis.wisc.edu/ and let us know what you think. We also keep in contact through Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter; you can find links to these sites at the SLIS home page.

Another feature of Hazeltine’s directorship was her emphasis on what was known at the time as “library spirit.” Wayne Wiegand defines this as “an evangelical commitment to make the public library an ‘engine of civilization’ by circulating ‘the best reading’”.

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May 6, 2010 — Alumni Association Annual Business Meeting. All SLIS alumni are encouraged to attend. Check the SLIS Web site in the spring for time and location, an agenda and the Executive Board ballot.

May 13, 2010 — Beta Beta Epsilon Chapter of Beta Phi Mu annual meeting and initiation of new members. Check the Spring issue of Jottings for details.

June 27, 2010 — SLIS Reunion at ALA conference in Washington, D.C. Check the Spring issue of Jottings for details.

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Christine Pawley, Director, School of Information and Library Studies
to the greatest number at the least cost.” According to historian Joanne Passet, Hazeltine herself took a no-nonsense approach; when students were perceived to be lacking in library spirit, she summoned them to her office for a chat, perhaps seating them in the famous rocking chair. “Library spirit” is a phrase that has gone out of fashion these days, but I suspect we understand very well what it means and feel that in many ways we can still subscribe to it. SLIS has always been a place that values and promotes the best of what libraries and archives stand for. In that sense, “library spirit” remains strong.

I feel tremendously excited and honored at the chance to occupy the SLIS directorship and to work with you all. Although I have been on the SLIS faculty only since 2006, I am not a newcomer. My MA and PhD are both from the School, and I was also a visiting assistant professor here from 1998–99. Never, though, did I imagine that I might find myself in charge of the Hazeltine chair! I appreciate the trust that SLIS and the university have placed in me and will do my very best to live up to it. One of the things that gives me confidence is the truly excellent team of faculty and staff here at UW-Madison. It is a pleasure to work with such knowledgeable and congenial colleagues.

— Christine Pawley

New Members of Beta Beta Epsilon
Molly Beverstein
Emily Buzicky
Chelsea Couillard
Carling Febry
Jean Funcke
Kristin Hamon
Amy Holcomb
John Holm
Antoni Jonjak
Lisa Muccigrosso
Paula Newbury
Jill Peters-Dagel
Catherine Phan
Brad Reel
Sarah Roberts
Brett Rohlwing
Richard Wambold
Elizabeth Wermuth
Julia Wong

Beta Beta Epsilon Update
On May 14, 2009, Beta Beta Epsilon (BBE) held its 25th annual Reception, Initiation, and Meeting at the Pyle Center along the shores of Lake Mendota, where we welcomed our newest members.

Catherine Phan was named Outstanding Student Scholar of the Year, and Kathryn Scanlyn was honored as the 2008–2009 Jack A. Clarke Scholarship. We were privileged to have Gwendolyn Prellwitz, Program Officer for the American Library Association’s Office of Diversity, give a talk on “Aspirational Leadership: Defining Diversity and Leadership for Ourselves and Our Communities.”

New board members were also elected. Joining President Leah Ujda, Past President Nikki Busch, Treasurer Dee Grimsrud, and Vice President for Scholarship Judith Louer, are: President-Elect Lia Vellardita; Vice President for Membership Anne Rauh; and Secretary Alexis Spry. Continuing to work with BBE are Faculty Adviser Christine Pawley and SLIS Liaison Andrea Poehling. Thanks to everyone who attended the annual meeting and helped make it a success!

Mark your calendars now for BBE’s 26th annual Meeting, which will take place May 13, 2010, 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 Anne Rauh at aerauh@engr.wisc.edu

New Members of Beta Beta Epsilon

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Sarah Roberts
Brett Rohlwing
Richard Wambold
Elizabeth Wermuth
Julia Wong
SLIS and our Alumni Association have had an eventful year thus far!

We have helped to celebrate our newest graduates with an after-ceremony celebration in the SLIS Laboratory Library on May 17. More than 250 attendees indulged in cake, coffee, and happy reminiscences. That same day, we honored Beverly Lynch, who was presented with the 2009 SLIS Distinguished Alumna Award.

Another festive occasion took place during July in conjunction with the ALA Conference in Chicago. Geoff Morse and Amanda Bakken planned the very fun Alumni Reunion at Brasserie Jo, which approximately 130 people attended.

On a bittersweet note, this summer we thanked Louise Robbins for her many years of outstanding service as director of the University of Wisconsin’s School of Library and Information Studies and warmly welcomed Christine Pawley as the new SLIS director and ex officio member of the Board. We wish them both the best in their new endeavors!

At the recent SLIS Alumni Business Meeting, Philip Hansen was elected vice president and president-elect, and Patricia Herrling joined the Board as “member-at-large.” Other changes included openings on the Board for both WLA and ALA reunion co-chairs. Thank you to Rhonda K. Puntney, who will be co-chairing the SLIS Reunion at WLA in October.

We are still looking for volunteers to help plan the 2010 SLIS Reunion at ALA in Washington, D.C. If you think you might be interested or have questions regarding this opportunity, please contact SLIS Student Services Coordinator Andrea Poehling at student-services@slis.wisc.edu

As always, the SLIS Alumni Association thanks you for everything you do in support of libraries, library education, and your alma mater, SLIS.

— Nikki Busch
In spring 2009, I participated in an internship that was arranged by SLIS (Louise Robbins, to be specific), the Botswana National Library Service (BNLS), and the University of Botswana (UB). As many of my friends and colleagues found out through reading my (yet-to-be-finished) blog, I tried to make readers feel as though they were right there with me.

“In my experience in Botswana comprised countless hour-by-hour, day-by-day, and week-by-week experiences, each having its own impact on my life.”

— David Mindel

In order to do this, my blog entries seemed to take on a shape resembling chapters in a book more than your typical blog post. This, along with no spell-check, became my signature for those who followed my activities.

However, when I was asked to produce a quick write-up for Jottings about my time in Botswana, the notion of describing what I gained from my experiences in a short paragraph was a bit daunting. The fact is, my experience in Botswana comprised countless hour-by-hour, day-by-day, and week-by-week experiences, each having its own impact on my life, and each created perspectives through which I now see both the world at large and the world of libraries and information professionals in a new way.

These experiences include having fresh, just-picked oranges and guava every morning with breakfast; waking to the sounds of cows, donkeys, goats, and roosters; presenting statistical findings on Mmankgodi Library to the Director of BNLS; sitting in on library courses at UB; living with a family who cared so much for me that they gave me a cow (believe it or not); and working side by side with countless colleagues in capacities ranging from volunteers to librarians to professors, all in an effort to further improve the world of information access in Botswana.

As for words of advice for future participants in this internship, I would like to stress the importance of finding a middle ground between being a teacher and being a learner. As you evaluate how you may be of service, prioritize relevant tasks, and follow through on the resulting projects, you must maintain a level of flexibility, open-mindedness, and patience. Approaching the internship in this manner provided me with tools necessary to recognize the positive impact others had on me, while, I hope, allowing me to have an equally as positive impact on those around me.

To suggest that any one experience had a greater impact over another would not be fair; rather, it is the sum of all experiences, good and bad, that make us who we are, how we act, and how we are remembered. Although I am convinced that I will see my librarian, Lucia, and host-family, the Moswangs, again, the way I remember them is based on who they were and how they acted, and as a result, the memories I hold are nothing short of great.

David Mindel is working for the Wisconsin Historical Society in the Library Archives Digital Lab. He is a 2009 graduate of SLIS.
Exploring Issues of Information Technology Policy with Google

By Sarah Roberts

The Google Policy Fellowship, just completing its second year, provides students from various backgrounds an opportunity to work in technology policy agencies and think tanks and experience information technology policy development and analysis at a high level. The program is highly competitive, so I was especially proud to represent SLIS, in particular, and the field of LIS, in general, as a fellow in the program this past summer.

I was placed in the Washington, D.C., office of ALA, in its Office of Information Technology Policy. The staff of ALA OITP are involved in virtually every technology issue of national, and sometimes international, import, from Carrie Russell’s efforts in copyright and fair use to Carrie Lowe’s work with telecom policy, and an agency-wide effort on examining broadband stimulus policy and opportunities for libraries with regard to that initiative. This was an exciting time to find myself a part of the fabric of the D.C. “policy wonk” culture, due in large part to the sweeping sense of change and potential that is imbued in the city at this time. It was an honor and a privilege to participate in the many initiatives in which ALA OITP is engaged, to offer my perspective and ideas, and to represent the Office at talks, symposia, and events around the city.

I encourage SLIS students and alums to think about the role librarians and information professionals can play in the large-scale dialogue around information technology policy issues, for these affect us both directly as well as indirectly in our work on intellectual freedom, access, and similar issues. In short, librarians have much to contribute to this dialogue. Those who are interested might begin by investigating opportunities for discussion within ALA itself, and its roundtables and committees. Annual and midwinter conferences offer numerous sessions touching on policy issues of all sorts; this is another great way to engage on these topics.

For current SLIS students, I can unequivocally report that my educational preparation in the SLIS master’s program (which I officially finished just days before I left to take up my Google Policy Fellowship post) offers a breadth and depth of academic preparation of direct relevance to policy work. Courses like “Cyberlaw,” “Policy and Ethics,” “Intellectual Freedom,” and others were immediately applicable to my work and discussions in D.C., and I frequently found myself conversing with confidence and knowledge about case law and pertinent precedents, for example, with trained lawyers in Washington. I owe it to SLIS for offering me a pathway for this type of preparation. If this is of interest to you, consider talking to an academic adviser.

A master’s degree in LIS offers many possible career opportunities, and one in technology and information policy may be an option that might not always be obvious, but certainly is there. If you are interested in this work, consider focusing your courses to this end, and look for opportunities, such as the Google Policy Fellowship or direct contact with technology policy shops, for internships and other experiences. Let’s find a way to contribute to the national dialogue on information technology policy; we have a great deal to add and the opportunity to do so at a critical moment!

Sarah Roberts is a first-year graduate student and Information in Society Fellow at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois, and a 2009 graduate of SLIS.

Continuing Great Classes

SLIS’s Continuing Education Services presents their online course schedules! Refresh your skills with our experienced instructors in a flexible, fun environment.

**Fall 2009**
- Library 2.0: 101
- Reader’s Advisory for the Adult Reader
- Basic Public Library Management
- Collection Development
- Understanding Library Technology
- What’s New in Children’s Books?
- Creating Dynamic Pathfinders
- Spanish for the Library

**Spring 2010**
- Genealogy Library Services
- Public Library Administration
- Fundamentals of Cataloging
- Basic Reference
- Connecting Teens with the Best in Teen Lit
- Library Fundraising
- Personnel Management for Libraries
- Spanish for the Library
- Preserving and Exhibiting Local History Collections (workshop in Madison)

Visit www.slis.wisc.edu/continueed for full details.
China: Sharing SLIS Ideas

By Sam Boss

Looking down through the night sky to some sparsely lit location over northeastern China, I could not help but imagine the places we were flying over. Aided by occasional, yet fantastic lightning, I was able to make out the slightly mountainous landscape of the country where we would spend the next few weeks. Shortly thereafter, we finally touched ground.

Walking in a daze through the empty Beijing airport with Professors Louise Robbins and Madge Klais, Dr. Robbins’ husband, Robby, and others from the UW library community, we met with our excellent guide and host, president of the Evergreen Education Foundation, Professor Faith Chao.

After a very short stay in Beijing, the following day we were again at the Beijing airport, this time on our way to WuXiang County, Shanxi Province, where we attended Evergreen Education Foundation’s fourth Rural Library Workshop.

The workshop, held in the only and aging high school that serves a population of about 100,000, boasted presenters from various locations throughout China, Taiwan, and the U.S. Among the presenters from the U.S. were SLIS’s own, Professors Robbins and Klais. Although many of the presentations were delivered in Chinese, EEF graciously provided translators for the few native English speakers in attendance. A couple of the translators happened to be current library school students studying in Beijing and Shanghai, which made for interesting discussions about our respective schools.

The presentations, delivered by teachers, administrators, and school librarians alike, highlighted the varied plans to not only improve library services to students, but to also engage the surrounding communities. As we were all staying at the same hotel, about a five-minute walk from the high school, every morning, afternoon, and evening, we had the opportunity to chat with the presenters about their plans over wonderful meals.

The informal discussions with the attendees included topics such as agricultural education, information literacy, and community involvement. I should note, however, aside from actually attending their presentations, some of my fondest memories came as a result of having the opportunity to talk with them and learn about their schools, communities, and experiences. It also gave me the opportunity to practice my less-than-desirable Chinese language skills with some of the most patient people I have ever met!

After a final meal and a short trip to visit libraries and schools in the area, we made our way through the mountains, which had once been home to the famed Eighth Route Army, to the airport in Taiyuan, the capital city of Shanxi Province.

The next two weeks, we spent in China’s beautiful Yunnan Province. We visited such as Shangri-La (formerly known as Zhongdian), Lijiang, and Dali, which offered beautiful sights, sounds, and cuisines that were as varied as the many ethnic groups that inhabit the region. We had the opportunity to visit a small school in rural Yunnan that EEF is currently partnered with where we had the pleasure of meeting students and touring the library and classrooms. Thanks to Professor Chao, my Chinese language skills were put to the test in front of 40 or 50 students and their teacher. After a few laughs, I think I eventually made some sense!

As a final note, I would like to thank the Robbins family for providing me with this opportunity.

Sam Boss is beginning his second year and is interested in public libraries.
“Religion in Print” Symposium Held April 2009

A high point of the spring semester was the symposium and exhibit organized by Print Culture Society SLIS student members David Mindel and Gabe Gossett. “Religion in Print” took place on April 10, 2009, in Memorial Library’s Department of Special Collections. Speakers included UW Professors Donald Davis Jr., Tom Dubois, Uli Schamiloglu, and Ronald Troxel, who spoke on topics ranging from the Septuagint as a product of the “print culture” of its day to the Prose Edda and Poetic Edda in relation to modern neo-pagans.

The afternoon ended with the Center for the History of Print Culture’s Annual Lecture. Professor Erin Smith of the University of Texas at Dallas spoke on “Reading, Heresy, and the Culture Wars: The ‘New Gnosticism’ and Spiritual Community,” an examination of how one religious reading group affiliated with a large Unitarian-Universalist church appropriated such best-selling texts as Dan Brown’s The Da Vinci Code and Elaine Pagels’s Beyond Belief to create individual and collective religious identity narratives.

Professor Smith argued that through book discussion, readers explored what it meant to be women in a patriarchal religious culture and what it meant to be embattled religious liberals in the Bible belt. These texts offered readers access to a suppressed history of women as spiritual agents, she commented, and provided a roadmap for seeking enlightenment through spiritual practice rather than right belief.

The Friends of the Libraries helped sponsor the symposium and hosted the reception that followed it. Many thanks to the Friends, and to Robin Rider, Curator of Special Collections, for hosting the symposium and facilitating the exhibition, as well as to the speakers, and to Dave and Gabe for organizing and moderating the event.

Conference Coming to UW Campus

Please mark your calendars for the Center’s 2010 conference, “Libraries in the History of Print Culture,” to be held jointly September 10–12, 2010, with ALA’s Library History Round Table’s Library History Seminar XII in UW-Madison’s Pyle Center. Keynote speakers will be Professor Janice A. Radway of Northwestern University (author of Reading the Romance and A Feeling for Books) and Professor Wayne A. Wiegand of Florida State University (author of many books about book and library history, including most recently, Books on Trial: Red Scare in the Heartland, coauthored with Shirley Wiegand).

Details of the Call for Papers (the deadline for proposals is January 31, 2010) can be found at http://slisweb.lis.wisc.edu/~printcul/.

Information about registration will also be posted at this Web site early in 2010.

Distinguished Remarks

Beverly P. Lynch, PhD’72, received the 2009 Distinguished Alumna Award and delivered the address at graduation on May 17. “I have been asked to say a ‘few words,’” she told the audience. “I think you all know that ‘few words’ is really meant to mean, ‘Be brief.’” Lynch is a professor at UCLA’s Department of Information Studies and director of the UCLA Senior Fellows Program.

Her full remarks may be found online at http://www.slis.wisc.edu/.
Michele Besant won a 2009 Academic Staff Excellence Award, the Wisconsin Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Leadership, Larger University Community. Very well deserved, Michele! See the Wisconsin Week article on the awards at http://www.news.wisc.edu/16535.

Congratulations to Greg Downey, who was promoted to Professor in summer 2009, and has begun a three-year elected term as the 11th Director of the School of Journalism & Mass Communication (where he has a 50 percent appointment).

Kristin Eschenfelder’s work on digital copyright and government Web-based information continues. She published an article entitled “Every Library’s Nightmare? Digital Rights Management and Licensed Scholarly Digital Resources” in College and Research Libraries 69(3), 2008. She and former SLIS PhD student Chi-Shiou Lin (now assistant professor at National Taiwan University) published an article on recruiting and retaining students of color. With Eun-Young Yoo (2004), Nahyun Kwon (2002), and Sei-Ching Joanna Sin (2009), Sunny will present a poster “Individual Differences in Source Selection Behavior: Profile Analyses via Multidimensional Scaling” at the ASIST conference in Vancouver, on November 11.

Stephen Paling has finished data gathering for a study comparing the ambiguity of literary and non-literary texts. The study is intended to be the first step in examining new ways to organize literary works for discovery and retrieval.

Jenny Greiber, SLIS administrative staff member, has been promoted to Financial Specialist in our department. She will now be responsible for purchasing and travel and assist in grant management. Congratulations to Jenny!

In the spring, Allison Kaplan spearheaded the development of a service learning course, “Topics in Community Engagement,” to be implemented for the first time in the Fall 2009 semester. This semester, the course will focus on literacy programming at the Allied Drive Learning Center in Madison. SLIS expects that this course will expand after this semester to include literary- and information-based projects throughout the city of Madison.

Jenny Greiber

Kyung-Sun (Sunny) Kim attended the LIS Access Midwest Program roundtable held in Dominican University and presented her study on recruiting and retaining students of color. With Eun-Young Yoo (2004), Nahyun Kwon (2002), and Sei-Ching Joanna Sin (2009), Sunny will present a poster “Individual Differences in Source Selection Behavior: Profile Analyses via Multidimensional Scaling” at the ASIST conference in Vancouver, on November 11.

Stephen Paling

Jane Pearlmutter traveled to Germany in May, along with faculty members from five other U.S. library schools, to visit LIS schools in Stuttgart, Cologne, Berlin, and Potsdam. Faculty from LIS programs in Hamburg, Hanover, and Leipzig also met with the group in Berlin. In addition, program participants toured the library of the German Parliament, Stuttgart Public Library and the American Embassy in Berlin. The study tour was sponsored by the Goethe-Institut to encourage a stronger collaboration between German and North American LIS schools and to initiate student or faculty exchange programs.

The second Archives Leadership Institute was held in Madison in July. The institute, which brings archivists from around the U.S. for a weeklong program developed by SLIS Continuing Education Services, is sponsored by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, a branch of the National Archives and Records Administration. Jane Pearlmutter recently received another $254,043 grant from NHPRC to continue this program for the next three years.

Louise Robbins has rejoined the faculty. After a fall semester research leave, she will teach in the spring semester. Her retirement plans have been put on hold indefinitely as she helps her husband, Robby, recover from a traumatic brain injury sustained in a fall while they were traveling with

Louise Robbins
the Evergreen Education Foundation in China in July. Louise would like to thank everyone who has reached out to support the Robbins family, and the faculty and administration for welcoming her back to the school and university.

■ Ciaran Trace co-taught a workshop on Ethnographic Methods with Dr. Kalpana Shankar (Indiana University, School of Informatics) at the Archival Education and Research Institute, which took place in Los Angeles in July.

■ Catherine Arnott Smith’s co-authored paper, “Consumer Health Concepts That Do Not Map to the UMLS: Where Do They Fit?” was selected for the 2009 volume of the International Medical Informatics Association’s Yearbook series. This series, published by Schattauer Verlag in Stuttgart, Germany, annually collects “the most original, excellent state-of-the-art research in the area of health and biomedical informatics.”

Professor Smith spent the summer of 2009 driving around the state of Wisconsin and visiting all kinds of communities — from DeSoto (pop. 347) through Milwaukee (pop. 1,689,572) — to talk to public library workers about the challenges of providing health information in public settings. Her research study, “Personal Health Records, Public Libraries,” is funded by the National Library of Medicine.

■ Ethelene Whitmire provided the keynote address at the Indiana University Librarians’ Day 2009 in Indianapolis on May 15, 2009. She saw several SLIS alumna at the event. She was also invited to speak at the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Reference Librarians’ Retreat on July 7, 2009. Professor Whitmire will be on sabbatical during the 2009–10 academic year. She was awarded a Feminist Scholars Fellowship from the University of Wisconsin Women’s Studies Research Center for the fall 2009 term. You can follow her progress on her research project, a biography of librarian Regina Andrews, on the blog http://harlemrenaissancelibrarian.blogspot.com/.

■ In April, Louise Robbins, Ethelene Whitmire, and Christine Pawley presented a panel titled “Resisting Racism in Segregated America: Women Librarians and the Politics of Print Culture” at the 33rd Wisconsin Women’s Studies and 4th LGBTQ Conferences in Madison. Their talks covered the lives and careers of librarians Ruth Brown, Regina Anderson Andrews, and Vivian Harsh.

Greetings — and Farewells

We are delighted to welcome three new colleagues to the SLIS community.

■ Meredith Lowe has joined the staff of SLIS Continuing Education Services as an Associate Outreach Specialist. Meredith is a graduate of SLIS, where she began her master’s in 2005 as part of the first cohort in the School’s distance degree program. She later moved to Madison to take the archives track on campus, and in 2008 served as the Interim Archivist for Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida.

■ Gayle Nimmerguth is our new Student Records Manager. Gayle came to SLIS from UW-Milwaukee where she worked for 21 years in various offices on campus, most recently in the Graduate School supporting the Associate Dean for Graduate Academic Programs and Student Services. While working at UW-Milwaukee, Gayle earned her bachelor’s degree in English.

■ Sei-Ching Joanna (Jo) Sin, a native of Hong Kong, completed her doctoral program from SLIS earlier this year. Her dissertation examined the impacts of structural information inequity and individual characteristics on high school students’ library use. She is now visiting assistant professor in SLIS for the academic year 2009–10, and is teaching Foundations of Reference Services and Digital Tools, Trends and Debates this semester.

At the same time we have to say farewell to two SLIS faculty members.

■ As most of you will remember, Professor Madge Klais retired this spring. Madge has been one of our most admired teachers, and we shall miss her expertise in school librarianship, work with children and young adults, and print culture history. However, Madge is teaching for us this fall, and we hope to persuade her to repeat this pattern in the future.

■ We are sad to be saying goodbye to Professor Ciaran Trace who has put our archives program on such a successful footing since she arrived at SLIS in 2005. Ciaran has accepted a position at the University of Texas at Austin, where she will be moving after the end of the fall semester. We hope to keep in close touch, though, and wish her the very best. We have no doubt that she will enhance the Texas program as much as she did ours.

Marjorie Skolnick ‘49, BLS’50 passed away October 21, 2008. She lived in Harwood, Maryland, and was a retired librarian.

Vern Pings ‘49, MA’55, PhD’59 of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, passed away November 11, 2008. Vern was at Wayne State University in Detroit for 25 years, first as a medical librarian and later as the director of libraries.

Edward Wagner ’52, MS’58 passed away September 8, 2008. He was a retired reference librarian at the University of Northern Iowa.

Jerome Daniels ’57, MS’65 passed away January 2, 2009.

Barbara Paul MS’68 passed away on July 18, 2009, after a three-and-a-half-year battle with multiple myeloma. Barbara was a member of the library faculty at UW-Stevens Point from 1968 to 2002, when she retired as an associate professor. She enjoyed jigsaw puzzles, traveling, singing chorale music, studying history, and putting together bibliographies, three of which were published by major presses. She was the co-author of The Badger State: A Documentary History of Wisconsin and served as librarian for the Monteverdi Master Chorale.

Walter Reandeau MS’72 died August 6, 2009. Walter served as the director of the Sun Prairie Public Library for more than 20 years.

Sandra Cartwright Schink ’64, MA’83 passed away October 26, 2008.

Barbara Conaty MA’69 is still with the Foreign Service. She made her first trip to India to provide training for American Corner coordinators serving in six countries of this region. A weekend trip to Taj Mahal was very rewarding. The U.S. State Department still operates four substantial libraries in India and the libraries are heavily used.

David Earl Hess MA’97 passed away October 20, 2008. David was the head of media services for Preston Library at the Virginia Military Institute. David previously worked for UW-Madison and served in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Carolyn “Callie” Wilson passed away February 27, 2009, at the age of 89. Callie was a part-time librarian-editor in the Women’s Studies Librarian’s Office from 1988–1999. She edited New Books on Women & Feminism and created numerous subject headings for emerging topics in Women’s Studies. Over the course of her life, Callie acted on her passion for social justice by educating labor leaders and workers, civil rights workers, and grassroots feminists. Callie completed a U.S. Office of Education post-master’s fellowship at SLIS.
1970s ............................................

Gari-Anne Patzwald MS'73 is semi-retired and currently working part time as a cataloger at a reclass (Dewey to LC) project at Tabor College. Gari-Anne never pictured herself as a catalgser and is sure that Valmai Fenster didn’t either.

Jean Bowers MS’75 retired April 30 as Director of the U.S. Department of Labor’s Wirtz Labor Library. The Wirtz Library was awarded the 2009 John Sessions Memorial Award at ALA in July.

Janice Rice MA’75, Outreach Coordinator at College Library and member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, has been selected as the UW-Madison’s recipient of the 14th annual UW System Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award. Janice is the past president of the American Indian Library Association, a member of ALA’s Council on Diversity, and co-chair of the Joint Conference for Librarians of Color 2012.

Tom Green MA’76 retired from his position as Associate Director of Libraries and Head of Public Services at Ohio Wesleyan University. Prior to joining Ohio Wesleyan in 1989, he was the Director of Libraries at the Waupun Public Library.

Paul Rux ’67, MA’77, PhD’94 was named to the accreditation team for the River Falls (Wisconsin) High School by the North Central Association — Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA-CASI).

John Stoneberg MA’77 is director of L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Connie Bakker MA’78, Dean of Libraries and Instructional Services at the College of Lake County (Grayslake, Illinois), has been elected vice chair/ chair-elect of the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) board of directors.

John Wanserski MA’78 retired from the UW Kurt F. Wendt Engineering Library in 2005. John has started his own digital content business, Creative Juice LLC. Wisconsin’s outdoor landscapes are the focus of his YouTube videos. These earth spaces can be found at http://mywisconsinspace.com. John’s iTunes podcast, Earth Spaces, can be found under the Places and Travel category.

Sonia Yaco ’78, MA’07 is special collections librarian and university archivist at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia.

1980s ............................................

Bob Blitzke ’75, MA’82, recently retired from the South Central Library System Delivery Services, received the Special Services award from the WLA Conference Awards Banquet on November 6, 2008.

Kathleen Horning ’80, MA’82, director of UW-Madison’s CCBC, has been selected to deliver the 2010 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture, a prestigious distinction that requires Kathleen to deliver a paper considered to be a significant contribution to the field of children’s literature.

Ed Hughes MA’82 is the new director of the Rhinelander District Library. He returns to Wisconsin after serving as department head at the library in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Nancy Pike MA’84 has retired from her position as Director of Sarasota County Library System. In addition to community activities, she is learning the book arts.

Diane Gurtner MA’85 received the 2008 FAN Travel Grant for New Professionals from the SLA Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division to attend this last year’s conference in Seattle. She is a co-chair for the SLA’s Wisconsin Chapter’s Archives Committee.

Cheryl Becker ’86 is the Chair-Elect for the 2009 Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Board.

Andrea Sevetson MA’86, Information Professional Consultant, LexisNexis Academic and Library Solutions, is the 2009 recipient of the James Bennett Childs Award.

Anne Moser MA’87 is the Special Library Association’s Wisconsin Chapter student liaison for UW-Madison SLIS.

Tony La Luzerne MA’89 moved to a full-time position in the Cataloging Department at the Cofrin Library at UW-Green Bay.

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

Lynn Miller-Lachmann MA’90 has published a book, Gringolandia.

Timmo Dugdale MA’91, a senior information processing consultant with DoIT, reviewed the Engage Award Program’s efforts to evaluate the rewards and risks of using third-party technologies such as GoogleDocs for award recipients.

Lisa Zwichcy ’82, MA’91 was recognized in the November 2008 cover story of Information Today entitled “J.J. Keller & Associates, Inc.: Adjusting to a Changing Market.”

Mark Ferguson ’84, MA’92 is the System Administrator for the Colorado State Library in Denver. Mark would love to hear from alums in the area (or elsewhere) and can be reached at markf@aclin.org.

Julie Schneider MA’92 was appointed Acting Director of Ebling Library in March 2009 following the resignation of Terry Burton. In addition to her new duties, Julie will continue her work in scholarly communication, publishing, collection development, and information resources.
Andrea Minniear MA’93 is the Webmaster for the SLA’s Wisconsin Chapter. Andrea and John Cherney ’94 were married in May.

John Cherney ’86, MA’94, WisDOT head librarian, has been elected as the 2010–2011 Chair of the SLA Transportation Division.

Shawn Brommer MA’95 and Kevin Kurdylo MA’95 are pleased to announce the adoption and arrival of their baby daughter, Ivy Kestrel Hyejin Kurdylo. Ivy was born in South Korea on March 3, 2008, and came home to Madison on Thanksgiving Day. Shawn is the Youth Services and Outreach Consultant at the South Central Library System in Madison and Kevin is the librarian at the Max Kade Institute at the University of Wisconsin.

Rhonda Puntney ’86, MA’96 is the Past Chair of the 2009 Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Board.

Abigail Elder MA’97 is the new library director in Tualatin, Oregon.

Marie Janz MA’99 is the new Chapter Communications Chair for Special Library Association-Wisconsin.

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


Julianne Haahr MA’92, MA’01 joined Memorial Library as the new Western European History and Social Sciences Librarian in April 2009. Julianne’s language expertise and scholarly background in European, particularly Scandinavian Studies, makes her well suited for the position.

Jenica Rogers-Urbanek MA’01 was named by Library Journal as one of the Movers & Shakers for 2009.

Paula Seeger ’01 has accepted a position as the Supervisor of Customer Service/Hotline for the Office of Classroom Management at the University of Minnesota.

Sharon Severson MA’01 is a cataloging and digital content specialist in Forsyth Library at Fort Hays State University, Kansas.

Edith Thayer MA’01 is treasurer of the SLA’s Wisconsin chapter board.

Emily Gibson Jones MA’02 is now a Lower School Library Media Specialist at Breck School in Golden Valley, Minnesota. Emily and her husband, Spencer, welcomed their first child, Evan Wellstone, on October 26, 2008.

R. Arvid Nelsen MA’00, MA’02, archivist at the Charles Babbage Institute of the University of Minnesota Elmer L. Andersen Library in Minneapolis, was featured as ACRL Member of the Week on April 27, 2009. Arvid also acts as chair for the RBMS 2009 Preconference Program Committee.

Nikki Busch ’97, MA’03 presented with Matt Mitterko of OFFR on “Finding External Funding in the Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences.”

Katharine Clark ’99, MA’03 began a new staff position at the Sequoya branch of the Madison Public Library. Katharine was assigned to the WAPL’s Personnel and Professional Concerns Committee.

Lisa Wettleson MA’96, MA’04 has accepted a position as Research Services/Special Collections Librarian at UW-Madison’s Memorial Library.

Edith Thayer MA’01 was named by Library Journal as one of the Movers & Shakers for 2009.


Lisa Saywell MA’96, MA’04 acted as a panelist on “Documenting Very Recent History: The UW-Madison Stem Cell Research Archives Project” in February 2009. Lisa is the Head of Public Services at Memorial Library.

Sarah (Schild) Cantrell ’00, MA’05 has accepted the Education Services Librarian position at Georgetown University’s Dahlgren Memorial Medical Library. She was previously a Librarian Assistant Professor at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. Sarah also serves on the ACRL Instruction Section’s Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online (PRIMO) Committee and on the ACRL Education and Behavioral Sciences Section’s Online Learning Committee.

Eric Larson MA’05 at Wendt Library has accepted a Digital Library Services Consultant position with the General Library System (GLS) at UW-Madison. Eric will work with library staff and other technologists from GLS and LIRA to design, implement, and maintain digital library services and applications.

Tessa Michaelson ’00, MA’05 started a new job as a public librarian at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library in Pagosa Springs, Colorado.


Dorothea Salo MA’96, MA’05 has published “Innkeeper at the Roach Motel” in the Fall 2008 issue of Library Trends. Her article was favorably mentioned and quoted in the article “Institutional Repositories: Thinking Beyond the Box” in Library
Journal. Salo was also named Library Journal as one of the Movers & Shakers for 2009.

Doug Mullin MA’98, MA’06 is the president of the SLA’s Wisconsin Chapter board.

Laura Keyes MA’07 is the new Library Director for the Limestone Township Library in Illinois.

Leia Verfueth MA’07 recently accepted a position as Research Intern in the CTS Acquisitions Department Information Processing Unit. Prior to this position, she managed the UW-Madison Shelving Facility.

Erika Brammer MA’08 is the Outreach Services Librarian at King College in Tennessee.

Kristin Hamon MA’08 was a finalist for Beta Beta Epsilon’s Outstanding Student Scholar Award.

Jody Hoesly ’84, MA’08 is the new Collections and Scholarly Communications Librarian at Wendt Library. Hoesly holds a bachelor’s in mechanical engineering from UW and has been working for the last few years in the New Glarus School District as a teacher-librarian.

Angela Milock MA’08 has been hired as a WiLS Research Intern. She completed her MLS at SLIS in May 2008 and worked at several campus libraries and the Wisconsin Historical Society Library prior to accepting this position.

Danika Morphew-Tarbuck ’02, MA’08 is the Web 2.0 Content Producer at TeachingBooks.net in Madison.

Lynne Noffke MA’08 is the Adult Services Manager for the Wilmington Public Library District in Illinois.

Tammy Pineda MA’08 is the coordinator for a Spanish Early Childhood Program in South Madison and has been hired by the Madison Metropolitan School District’s Birth-to-Five program.

Amanda Schnirring ’05, MA’08 is in Austin, Texas, working on a digital library project for the U.S. Geological Survey.

Bradley Wiles MA’08 is the Manuscripts Archivist at Louisiana State University.

Molly Beverstein MA’09 is a researcher for Cogdell Spencer Erdman in Wisconsin. Molly was a finalist for Beta Beta Epsilon’s 2009 Outstanding Student Scholar Award.

Jennifer Carr ’91, MA’09 is an LA II at the Middleton Public Library in Wisconsin.

Chelsea Couillard MA’09 is the Head of Youth Services at Baraboo Public Library in Wisconsin.

Hilary Hahn MA’09, outgoing SLA-SC president, was awarded the SLA Business and Finance Division’s Student Stipend Award to attend the SLA Centennial Conference in Washington, D.C. in June. She is working as a digitization intern at the Carnegie-Stout Public Library in Dubuque, Iowa. She hopes to find a permanent position in the Midwest, focusing on special librarianship.

Amy Holcomb MA’09 is a Youth Services Librarian at Fremont Public Library District in Illinois.

Stosh Jonjak ’04, MA’09 worked with the Cranberry Discovery Center of Wisconsin to create one of the largest digital collections in the state. Stosh set up relationships with the Wisconsin Historical Society, WiLS, and Wisconsin Heritage Online to get the Cranberry Discovery Center server space and a license to use CONTENTdm. He cataloged and digitized items in the collection, paired them with metadata and put them into CONTENTdm to create a digital library.

Tyler Kennedy MA’09 created “The History of 20th Century Protests and Social Action at UW-Madison,” a new Web site for the University Archives.

Chris Lay MA’09 accepted a position as the librarian for the Freedom from Religion Foundation.

Catherine Phan ’00, MA’09 is the new UW Digital Collections Center research intern. She will work primarily in the metadata unit, assisting with the creation of digital text and image projects. Cat was the recipient of the 2009 Outstanding Student Scholar awarded by the Beta Beta Epsilon Chapter of Beta Phi Mu and the Dianne McAfee Hopkins Diversity Award.

Kathryn Riel ’07, MA’09 is a Reference and Instruction Librarian for the Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia.

Sarah T. Roberts ’97, MA’09 was a recipient of the 2009 Google Policy fellowship and spent the summer working at the ALA’s Office for Information Technology Policy in Washington, D.C. Sarah started a PhD program in LIS at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in Fall 2009.

Brett Rohlwing ’94, MA’09 was a finalist for Beta Beta Epsilon’s Outstanding Student Scholar Award.

Kathryn Scanlan ’01, JD’04, MA’09 has accepted a position as Archivist for Records Management at Notre Dame University. Kathryn was the recipient of the 2009 Jack A. Clarke Scholarship.

Laura Schmidli ’06, MA’09 accepted a position of LILI Research Intern and will work in Steenbock Library, College Library, and on the CLUE tutorial.

Richard Douglas Wambold’s MA’09 site, Postcard Library and LibraryHistory.org, was selected as the featured site of the week for March 19, 2009, in American Libraries Direct.
Betsy Wermuth ‘07, MA’09 accepted a position as the Youth Services Librarian for St. Francis Library in St. Francis, Wisconsin. Betsy was selected as a finalist for Beta Beta Epsilon’s Outstanding Student Scholar Award.

Megan Wiseman ’05, MA’09 was a recipient of the UW-Madison Library Service Award for her work in Preservation at Memorial Library.

Julia Wong MA’09 was selected as a finalist for Beta Beta Epsilon’s Outstanding Student Scholar Award.

Laura Wynholds MA’09 is pursuing a PhD in LIS at UCLA. She will be working with Christine Borgman and Susan Traweek on the NSF-funded DataNet program (Sustainable Digital Data Preservation and Access Network Partners). Laura was selected as a winner of the Sci-Tech Division Free Student Membership Contest for the SLA and will be receiving a free annual SLA membership, including affiliation with the Sci-Tech Division and a chapter of her choice.

Current Students

Doctoral student Melissa Adler had “Transcending Library Catalogs: A Comparative Study of Controlled Terms in LCSH and User-Generated Tags in LibraryThing for Transgender Books” accepted for publication in the Journal of Web Librarianship. She also presented “A Collaborative Cruise Through LGBTQ Resources” and served as a panel member for “The Contested Language of Description and Access” at the 2009 joint Wisconsin Women’s Studies and LGBTQ Conference at UW-Madison and at WAAL.

Roy Brooks and two other LAMP Scholars presented “LIS Access Midwest Program: A Robust Model to Enhance and Support Multiculturalism in the Academic Library” on behalf of LAMP at the 2009 ACRL conference.

Cassidy Carr is the recipient of the 2009 Penelope and Stephen Klein Scholarship Award.

Kirstin Duffin is the recipient of the 2009 C. Berger Entrepreneurial Promise Award.

Cecelia Hutte is a 2009 LAMP scholar.

Matt Jabaily was a recipient of UW-Madison Library Service Award for his work at MERIT Library.

Doctoral student Nate Johnson had a solo article on rhetoric and information architecture accepted in JASIST.

Mai Youa Lee is a recipient of the 2009 Spectrum Scholarship awarded by the American Library Association. Lee was also selected as a 2009 LAMP scholar.

Kolap Mao is the recipient of the 2009 Beatrix Award presented by Stephen and Penelope Klein.

Shauna Masella is a recipient of the Wisconsin Alumni Association’s GLBTAC scholarship and a 2008-2009 recipient of the Frederic G. Melcher scholarship awarded by the ALA/Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC).

Omar Poler ’07 was the recipient of the 2009 Lawrence C. Zweizig Student Leadership Award.

Ellen Qualey is a recipient of the LexisNexis/John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship awarded by the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL).

Lisa Berrones Quinn MS’08 is the recipient of the Valmai Fenster Award for Outstanding Promise for Exceptional Scholarly Contribution to the Profession. The award was given to Berrones Quinn for her paper “Google Book Search: An assessment of fair use, social responsibility and copyright infrastructure.”

Easter (Smith) DiGangi started an internship with the city of Fitchburg. She is working directly with the Interim Library Director on the city’s library project and is performing myriad tasks to help establish a public library in a currently unincorporated library district.

Cristina Springfield ’08 is a 2009 LAMP scholar.

Doctoral students Brenton Stewart and Nathan Johnson’s proposal “Laboring Online: The Creation of Socio-Political Identities in Virtual Spaces” was accepted as a panel discussion for the Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) Conference, October 7–10, 2009, in Milwaukee.

William Straub is the recipient of the 2009 Larry Jacobsen Innovations in Library Science Award.

Merle Watkins and Megan Zabel took part in a study abroad program offered in London and Paris through Florida State University’s SLIS. The class allowed Merle and Megan to improve their multimedia skills through the use of Web 2.0 technologies such as blogs, podcasts, video, digital photo books, and digital video stories.

If you have a Class Note, please send it to alumni@slis.wisc.edu.
SLIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Contributions Form

Jottings is sent to all alumni. The costs for producing and mailing the newsletter are shared by the SLIS Alumni Association and the School. The association needs your support now more than ever to support its activities. Contributions to the Second Century Fund provide unrestricted support for the greatest needs. Your gifts to the scholarship program provide extremely important financial support for students. If you are considering a planned gift, please contact SLIS Director Christine Pawley. Thank you for your support!

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My contribution to the SLIS Alumni Association includes:

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UW-Madison SLIS, 600 N. Park St., Room 4217, Madison, WI 53706

TLAM Students Honored, Class Offered

The Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums project (TLAM) is preparing for a busy second year and celebrating the success of its initiators. In October, TLAM students presented at the National Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums Conference in Portland, Oregon, on their recent experiences creating a SLIS course on tribal cultural institutions. The same week, three students who began work with the Red Cliff Tribal Library were recognized for their work at the WLA Conference in Appleton. Christina Johnson, Catherine Phan ’09 and Chelsea Couillard ’09 received the WLA Special Service Award for creating a Community Needs Assessment for the Red Cliff Tribal Library.

Omar Poler, Catherine Phan, Christina Johnson, and Christina Cieslewicz presented at the conference the week of October 22 in Portland and are designing the new version of the TLAM class that will be taught in spring 2010. First- and second-year students interested in American Indian issues are encouraged to get involved.

Questions: (608) 263-2909, Fax: (608) 263-4849
Please send address changes or update your record in the Alumni Directory at uwalumni.com/directory.
Distance option expands

Since 2005, SLIS has offered a distance option for the master’s degree, in cooperation with the Prairie Area Library System in Illinois. Primarily designed for those who are working in libraries and studying part time, 20 to 25 students per year have entered the program since its inception. On-campus students participate as well, taking elective courses online when they need more flexibility in scheduling classes. Most of the online courses are also open to practicing librarians looking for professional development.

Beginning in fall 2010, the distance-degree option will no longer be geographically limited to northern Illinois and eastern Iowa, but will be available to anyone living more than 55 miles from Madison. We especially look forward to being able to reach library staff in northern Wisconsin and in Minnesota, but the program is open to residents of any state, at a tuition rate similar to that paid by Wisconsin residents.

SLIS alumni often mention mentoring staff members and encouraging them to get their ALA-accredited master’s degree. For those who aren’t able to leave a job or hometown, do encourage them to consider SLIS online. We offer a selective program with the same admissions standards and curriculum as the on-campus program and are currently taking applications for the cohort beginning August 2010.