

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF **LIBRARY AND
INFORMATION SCIENCE**
The iSchool at Illinois



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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN





Travis Ross, visualization laboratory manager at the Beckman Institute, recently performed a 3D scan of the Katharine Sharp Memorial, a bas-relief sculpture of Katharine Lucinda Sharp, university librarian and founding director of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (1893–1907). The sculpture was created by Lorado Taft and hangs in the Main Library.

The final 3D image was created by stitching together 40 individual scans, each capturing the rich texture of a piece that was originally sculpted in 1921. GSLIS Dean John Unsworth requested the scan, which uses advanced technology to further memorialize a groundbreaking leader, not only of this campus but in the field of library and information science. “We’re grateful to the Imaging Technology Group and the Library for helping us turn Katharine Sharp into information that can now be shared freely,” said Unsworth.



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NEIGHBORHOOD LETTER FROM THE DEAN

because in some cases they might look like community organizing, operating on global and local scales simultaneously. When we get used to living in this multiscale neighborhood, we’re going to think differently about information policy, information retrieval, information organization, information preservation, information history, information users, and information itself. That prospect calls for education, research, engagement, and practice in our field, and it calls for engagement with the world around us.

On the international end of the scale, GSLIS (and indeed, the U.S.) is not currently most strongly connected to the parts of the world that are changing most rapidly, and that is a problem, whether for understanding or for engagement. We also need to remind ourselves that the force currently at work in history is not only going to change other countries: it will also change our own. As Americans, we are accustomed to hearing that our circumstances are the ones to which others aspire, and while that is true in some ways, this perspective tends to obscure the many ways in which people in other countries are better off than we are—whether you measure this by network access, or the happiness index, or illiteracy rates, or infant mortality. And others in the world know it, by the way: they see how we live and they understand what our struggles are. And because they care, they’re sending us pizza: <http://politi.co/gPaLPW> (“From Cairo to Madison, some pizza,” Politico, Feb. 20, 2011).

Social justice, individual freedom, and the need to strengthen civil society are issues we also find close to home, and in the GSLIS community we are beginning what I hope will be an ongoing discussion of these issues in our own school and on our own campus. And while it’s true that we have access to considerable information about one another, in various forms of social media and elsewhere, we still need to look for that information in order to find it—we must want to know how the world looks from our neighbor’s perspective, and so we need to understand more about the experiences that have shaped that perspective.

The greatest challenges of the new century will be ones that cannot be solved by a single person, a single discipline, or a single profession: climate change, political and cultural upheavals, energy, water, and poverty all have significant social and behavioral components as well as scientific and technical dimensions. In order to address any of these problems, we will need to collaborate across different research cultures and different communities of practice, and that collaboration will succeed or fail depending, to a significant extent, on whether information is exchanged and understood well or poorly. Our job, I think, is to help to make sure that exchange works well, in whatever way we can.

It’s been a remarkable year—for GSLIS, the University, the state, and the world. One of the remarkable things has been the way that people seem to be connecting, on many levels, in the face of various adversities. In the broadest perspective, individuals across the world are communicating and behaving in ways that challenge authority when it doesn’t represent their interests. They’re doing this because they know a life with freedom, dignity, and respect is possible, and they want one. And they know this because people across the world, whether in the Middle East or in the Midwest, are increasingly aware of one another’s lived experiences, at a personal level—maybe not sufficiently aware, but increasingly.

I’m interested in the arguments around Chris Taylor’s recent article, “Why Not Call This a Facebook Revolution?” (<http://bit.ly/e9bor3>). Most commenters feel that courage rather than connectivity was the essential prerequisite for these uprisings, and I agree. Actually, I think Taylor does too. Courage came first—and “Facebook” here stands in (as one respondent points out) for many different sites, technologies, and communication affordances, including tweets, blogs, dating sites, and any number of others. As always, there’s also a dark side: the loss of privacy, for example—something that has had fatal consequences for some rebellious users of social media, a point too often overlooked in the press. On a more trivial scale, we’ve recently learned that our iPhones are keeping track of our every move, and reporting back to Apple—and yes, there’s an app that lets you see what your phone remembers about where you’ve been (<http://bit.ly/hPKVGu>). But even with all those caveats, it does seem as though something is changing, and that the change is good, and that it is facilitated in various ways when, across the world, more people carry networked computers in their pockets and use them to talk to (or simply observe) one another in new ways. And our alumni are involved in this change too: read more about the important work being done by Moustafa Ayad (MS ’09) in this issue.

If we believe strongly that information organizations are fundamental to civil society, then we also need to think broadly about what “information organizations” might look like today,



Helping incarcerated youth turn the page

America has the highest rate of incarcerated people in the world with 756 of every 100,000 citizens, or 2.29 million people, behind bars.¹

Even more striking is the fact that nearly 93,000² American youth are part of the juvenile justice system.

With so many young people entering the nation's prison system, detention center officials and community groups are mobilizing to provide young offenders with the tools they need to re-enter society after their release and prevent a future return to prison.

One such project is flourishing in GSLIS's backyard. Turn the Page: Extending Library Services to Empower Youth (ELSEY) is a collaboration between GSLIS, local community groups, and the Champaign County Juvenile Detention Center (CCJDC) located in Urbana, Illinois.

The project began in 2009 when the Peer Ambassadors, a local group of African-American and Latino/a youth

involved in mentoring and providing community services in Champaign-Urbana, recognized a need for literacy and library services at the CCJDC. At the time, members of the GSLIS Youth Community Informatics group were partnered with the Peer Ambassadors through a community engagement project. The Peer Ambassadors initially introduced the idea of a collaboration to Chera Kowalski (MS '09), who headed the project until she graduated.

GSLIS and the Peer Ambassadors work with other community groups, including the Urbana Free Library, as well as Books2Prisoners, a group of local volunteers who collect donation materials to mail to inmates in Illinois. Together, these groups build and maintain a library in the detention

center that contains culturally relevant materials and programming reflective of the experiences and interests of youth in the juvenile detention center.

The CCJDC, which currently houses approximately twenty boys and girls, had a working library before their collaboration with Turn the Page. Although the library wasn't staffed, it was stocked with books. Those involved with Turn the Page have weeded out irrelevant and out-of-date materials, brought in new materials, and revised the collection organization. Since January, they have started staffing the library twice a week, and are currently working with the Peer Ambassadors to develop new programming that will link the youth to libraries in the community.

“If the library is a democratic institution that seeks to promote access to information, then library services must expand beyond the walls of the library.”

*—Rae-Anne Montague (MS '00, PhD '06),
GSLIS assistant dean for student affairs*

“Often, teens that are considered to be ‘at-risk’ have been underserved by the library and other public institutions,” said Rae-Anne Montague (MS '00, PhD '06), GSLIS assistant dean for student affairs and faculty advisor for the project.

“If the library is a democratic institution that seeks to promote access to information, then library services must expand beyond the walls of the library,” she said. “Providing services to youth in the detention center not only leads to direct access to materials, it also increases the possibility that youth will be aware of community resources, such as those offered by the public library, and of the ways in which the library can serve to meet their needs and interests.” Working with Montague on the project are CAS student and Turn the Page project manager Jeanie Austin (MS '09) and master's student Joe Coyle. Austin is interested in exploring effective practices in juvenile detention center library services. Her CAS work is focusing on critical issues

in regards to representation, as well as the ways in which technology can be used (in and outside of the detention center) to develop effective practices. Coyle is pursuing the community informatics certificate and is a gender and women's studies graduate minor. He is interested in community outreach.

Turn the Page recently received a seed grant from the Community Informatics Initiative to develop collaborations across the GSLIS curriculum. They are working with GSLIS instructors to get more students involved, either through individual research, class projects, volunteer opportunities, or practicum work.

“Our work at the CCJDC gives students the opportunity to understand the connection between social justice and librarianship, and how that extends across the curriculum. And, of course, there is a nice bridge between our strengths in youth services and storytelling with the services we provide the CCJDC youth,” said Montague.

Montague is quick to point out that this collaboration benefits GSLIS researchers and students just as much as it benefits the youth in the detention center. It is also beneficial to the various community groups who have found new ways to work together toward a common goal. These mutually beneficial relationships are the hallmark of community informatics research. In fact, one important way Turn the Page differs from existing juvenile detention center library projects is its emphasis on the integration of community organizations and involvement of youth in creating and maintaining the library services in the CCJDC.

“I have learned so much from our community partners, including detention center staff and all of the youth,” agreed Austin. “I am endlessly grateful to them for their commitment to the project and their critical insights into the meaning of juvenile justice.

“This work has increased my understanding of how libraries can be a force for political and social justice. Providing library materials and programming in the JDC has immediate and long-range implications. In the short range, youth are able to practice (and potentially increase) their literacy skills while being entertained and informed. In the long term, library programming can be a site for building personal and social reflection, and can link youth to community resources,” said Austin.

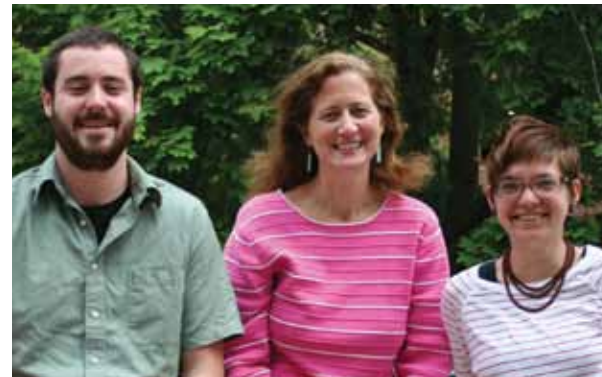
¹ According to research conducted by the International Centre for Prison Studies, King's College, London. “World Prison Population List (8th edition),” retrieved March 2, 2011, <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/depsta/law/research/icps/news.php?id=203>.
² This number is for 2006, the last year for which data is available. Retrieved March 2, 2011 from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention website, <http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/corrections/qa08201.asp?qaDate=2006>.

Montague and Austin were honored for their work with the CCJDC at a reception celebrating the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day on March 8, 2011. The event, co-sponsored by a number of campus units including the Women's Resources Center, highlighted women in the community who are working to improve the lives of women around the world.

Turn the Page was also recently recognized by the ALA Great Stories Club, a program that targets underserved and troubled teen populations. A grant from the club, as well from as the Youth Community Informatics program at GSLIS, will allow the project to participate in the program, which provides multiple copies of three high-interest books along with materials to facilitate discussion groups. Members of the Peer Ambassadors will lead these book discussions with CCJDC youth. In addition, the grant provided funds for collection development.

The project partners plan to document their experiences so that other sites interested in creating libraries in juvenile detention centers will be able to use these materials as a resource in developing their own libraries and programs.

Joe Coyle, Rae-Anne Montague, and Jeanie Austin



ILLINOIS PRISON LIBRARY FACTS

Lana Wildman (MS '87) served as chief librarian of the Illinois Department of Corrections for eight years. Here, she shares with us some facts about prison libraries in Illinois. She points out that she worked exclusively with adult populations, as the juvenile justice system in Illinois is separate from the adult system.

- Each prison library has a law collection and a general collection. The size of the general collection can vary from about 4,000 to 16,000 books, but the law collection stands at about 4,000 books for each library.
- Libraries in adult facilities function as school, public, academic, and special libraries, giving support to Adult Basic Education and GED classes, vocational and college programs, job training and drug rehabilitation, as well as assuring that legally mandated access to the courts is maintained.
- By comparing the number of active library cards held in a given institution to its total population, Wildman found library use among inmates to be between 40 to 60 percent, with one female institution at 68 percent.
- More Illinois corrections librarians hold membership in the American Correctional Association than in the American Library Association because they must put security first and library service second.



ALUMNI PROFILE LANA WILDMAN

When her love of reading led Lana Wildman (MS '87) to library school, she had no idea that it would eventually also lead her to not one, but several, prisons. No, it wasn't some grad school shenanigan gone awry that landed her in the library system of the Illinois Department of Corrections, but rather the motivation of any good librarian: the desire to help people and promote access to information.

Although Lana was often a patron of her local library while growing up in Danville, Illinois, she did not always have a burning passion to go into the field. Interested mostly in history and law, Lana eventually pursued an undergraduate degree in political science at Southern Illinois University. After her graduation in 1970, Lana worked a variety of different jobs while raising her family.

It was only in 1986 that Lana decided that her interest in books and working with the public would fit perfectly with the field of library science. She completed her master's degree at GSLIS within a year and it was shortly after graduation that she saw a job notice for a position at the Lincoln Correctional Facility—a minimum-security, all-male prison.

"Like most people," Lana said, "I never had even thought about libraries in prisons." Nonetheless, the job held great appeal for Lana. "It offered me the opportunity to do everything that I had gone to school for. I hadn't specialized for a reason, and here was a chance to begin a library from scratch and get to do a bit of everything."

Upon getting the job, Lana was surprised to discover that life inside prison was much like a "microcosm" of life outside it, even in the library. "There was a wide range of levels of literacy—some readers were extremely advanced,

pursuing college degrees while other guys were just interested in a subject or reading for recreation." Lana found herself truly running an entire library: selecting and buying materials, putting out bibliographies of recommended reading, answering reference questions, dealing with space issues, and, of course, talking about books. "It felt good to be helping people," she said. "The guys in there are human beings, and I treated them as such. And I often had plenty of good experiences because of that."

Of course, a prison library is not the same as a public library, as Lana is well aware. "You had to always remember where you were," she said. "You had to walk the line between security and service, always remembering to put the safety of yourself and others first. There were some things about librarianship that I just couldn't do in there." The practicality of life working behind bars, for example, sometimes went against the library field's philosophy of non-censorship. "There were certain things the guys just couldn't have—like books on how to make a gun or a bomb. Security sometimes trumps intellectual freedom when you work there."

Lana worked at Lincoln for over a decade until 2000, when she became the chief librarian of the Illinois Department of Corrections, overseeing nearly thirty libraries in correctional facilities across the state. In May 2008, she retired from librarianship and now produces a radio show, *The Fly Over Zone* (link: <http://flyoverzone.com>) every Saturday on WQNA 88.3 FM. Recent guests have included Dawn Wells (Mary Anne from *Gilligan's Island*), Ed Asner, and Marcia Wallace (the voice of Ms. Crabapple on *The Simpsons*). "I'm having a lot of fun right now," Lana said. "The show takes up a lot of my time, but it is worth it."



Beyond the stacks: corporate librarians facilitate R&D

Company success often depends on knowing the market. Knowing what products already exist and what can be created to fill a need makes research and development a priority in the corporate world. But research and development cannot take place without information—and a successful company relies on librarians to provide relevant materials for continued growth and opportunity.

According to GSLIS Professor Alistair Black, corporations began to take the access to information seriously when it literally could become a matter of life or death. “During World War I, the inadequacies of British science came to the fore,” said Black, “and libraries were meant to remedy that.” As technology and science advanced, public technical libraries were established to disseminate scientific and technological knowledge.

Black, a native of England, focuses his research primarily on libraries in the United Kingdom. He has authored or co-authored five books which examine corporate and public libraries as well as library buildings themselves in the social contexts in which they originated and operated.

His article, “From Reference Desk to Desk Set: The History of the Corporate Library in the US and The UK before the Adoption of the Computer,” is included in the recent book, *Best Practices for Corporate Libraries*.

Within commerce, the need to stay abreast of new technological developments became paramount for a company’s prosperity in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In firms prior to WWI, individual scientists and managers may have had their own personal libraries of materials related to specific interests. After the war, however, companies began collecting the information so that all employees could have access in order to contribute to the research and development that could assist British industry as a whole.

As library schools emerged and provided professional training for librarians, corporate librarianship was often missed in the curriculum. Corporate librarians, who may or may not have had library school training, often took on the title of “information scientists.”

This, contends Black, is the birth of information science. “Corporate librarians began drilling down into documents,” said Black. “They were responsible for unpacking documents, writing abstracts, providing indexes to the documents and the information in them, and pro-actively matching users with the materials they were organizing.”

“Librarians also took on an information management role, taking responsibility for the organization of internally generated documents, such as research and management reports, and written protocols, procedural manuals, committee minutes, and correspondence.”

Methods for deploying information have changed, but the information professional skill set remains relevant and critical in corporations today, said Roger Strouse (MS ’87).

Strouse is an independent information management consultant, and also works as an affiliate analyst for Outsell, Inc., which provides market research and advisory services to publishers and commercial information providers as well as information professionals. He has worked in corporate libraries for an insurance company and a management consulting firm and was previously a consultant with LexisNexis.

“Librarians are facilitating end users doing their own research,” said Strouse. “Since information is now largely digital and everyone has a computer on his or her desk, librarians are somewhat dis-intermediated from users’ day-to-day information gathering.” Instead of being responsible for general reference tasks, Strouse says that information professionals are now responsible for creating information dashboards and managing information so that researchers and development staff can have information at their fingertips, without necessarily physically approaching the library or librarian.

“Corporate librarians have to adopt some new competencies and proficiencies,” said Strouse. “How do you build an information platform for a corporate environment? How do you perform usability testing? These are new competencies for the information professional.” According to Strouse, today’s corporate librarians must have a close relationship with information technology folks in order to make self-service centers for accessing information.



GSLIS Professor Alistair Black

Also, said Strouse, corporate librarians need to have some business savvy themselves.

“When I started working in a corporate library in 1991, there was much less questioning about the value of libraries and information professionals,” said Strouse. “Now corporate librarians have to spend so much time justifying their budgets and managing stakeholders.”

The need to communicate value and perform cost-benefit analysis is a key skill for corporate librarians, according to Strouse. “We’re in the thick of the information age, yet we have to spend time justifying the value of information. Information is thought of as a commodity that should be cheap, but it’s not cheap.”

Master's student Hilary Meyer speaks with Eric McAllister of Caterpillar Inc. about her poster, "Social Media for Alumni Relations in iSchools: From Current Practice to Strategic Use."



As part of the Corporate Roundtable meeting on March 4, 2011, GSLIS hosted the first Applied Project Poster Session to showcase master's student projects that had potential application within the corporate sector. Additional goals were to further corporate partners' understanding of the relevance of information science to their work, to promote new internship opportunities and other collaborations, and to provide master's students with the opportunity to interact with potential corporate employers. Four student projects were selected for the pilot, and the intention is for this to be an annual event at the March CRT session.

GSLIS PROVIDES COURSES, OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT

In addition to current course offerings, GSLIS is designing a number of new courses that can help guide students who are interested in careers in corporate and government librarianship. These courses are being developed in response to the challenges facing corporate librarians as well as to the U.S. Department of Labor's forecast for growth in the information industry.

"Students are interested in developing a skill set that will make them competitive as information professionals in the corporate setting," said Meg Edwards (MS '04), advising coordinator. "Corporations are advertising jobs for 'knowledge manager,' 'research analyst,' or 'research specialist'—titles that are not traditionally used in library settings.

"We're in the process of recommending courses in our current curriculum and providing practical opportunities that can help students learn the culture of business and become fluent in corporate speak," she said.

One such course, tentatively titled "Business and Government Literacy for Information Professionals," will be led by Edwards and Marianne Steadley (MS '01), director of the Continuing Professional Development Program. "We'll be inviting our corporate partners in as guest lecturers," said Edwards. "They'll be letting the students know what competencies and skills are needed for students entering the workforce."

Some of the corporations that Edwards and Steadley will work with in developing the course come from the GSLIS Corporate Roundtable (CRT), which partners GSLIS faculty and private industry in order to find new ways to work together.

"The CRT provides a way for GSLIS and its corporate partners to present, learn, and share best practices on universal problems," said Sharon Johnson, associate director of advancement. Many of the topics discussed at the quarterly roundtable originate and are presented by corporate partners, so GSLIS faculty and staff can be apprised of real-world problems that may intersect with their research.

"The Corporate Roundtable is a wonderful forum to learn from and collaborate with others," said Dan Evans, supervisor of the Technical Information Center at Caterpillar in Mossville, Illinois. "Between the valuable information and sharing of similar challenges faced by information professionals of other organizations, the faculty members that are researching solutions to these challenges, the students that have a keen interest in learning about those challenges as they prepare to enter a career, and the guest speakers that have a deep knowledge on the topic of the day—it's almost impossible to walk away from a session without learning something of great value. It's not only our library staff that has benefitted—we have had employees from a number of different departments participate and benefit as well."



The latest in information science research. Actual case studies. Valuable partnerships.

Find your place at the table.

The **GSLIS Corporate Roundtable** brings together leaders in business with the innovative faculty and students at GSLIS to find solutions to today's most pressing information technology challenges.

Members of the Corporate Roundtable come from a broad range of industries, including finance, insurance, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, health care, government, private consulting, and agriculture. For more information on how you can participate, contact Sharon Johnson, CRT coordinator, at [sdjohnso@illinois.edu](mailto:sjohnso@illinois.edu).

Recent topics include:

- Text Mining in a Complex World
- Information Practices During Turbulent Times
- Cloud Computing
- Corporate Libraries in Transition: What's Next for Information Management and Librarians?
- Crisis Information Management
- Enterprise Search
- How Your Company Can Profit from Social Media
- Valuing Information and Return on Investment in Information Services and Technology

Upcoming meetings in 2011: September 9, November 11
www.lis.illinois.edu/about-gslis/corp/programs/crt

Digitizing History project uses Flickr to make historic images available to all



Emmett Kelly, also known as the clown “Weary Willie” of the Ringling Circus, looks forlornly at the camera, his dirty brown tie and clothing in tatters.

In a photograph dating to 1901, the Thomas family—formally dressed in long dresses, tall boots, and holding straw hats—“camps” on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State.

Forever captured in sepia, coal miners in Mount Olive, Illinois, are lifted to daylight as they emerge from a day spent in the mine.

A single photograph has the power to capture a moment in history. A collection of photographs brings that history to life as it tells our unique American story: from immigration to innovation, the ordinary to the extraordinary.

An exciting project is making historic images from museum and library collections available on Flickr. With funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Digital Collections and Content (DCC) project in the Center for Informatics Research in Science and Scholarship (CIRSS) at GSLIS is investigating services for providing cultural heritage digital collections in the Web 2.0 environment to increase their visibility and evaluate the user engagement with the content. The IMLS DCC Flickr photostream highlights collections from the DCC aggregation, which provides a single point of access to nearly all of the digital collections funded by IMLS National Leadership Grants and selected LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act)-funded material.

“We’re investigating how aggregation can add value to the collections,” said Katrina Fenlon (MS ’09), project coordinator. “Many libraries and museums don’t have the capacity and resources to put collections on Flickr at this scale. The aggregation helps to put the collections in the context of other related materials, and to reduce the barriers to participation for libraries and museums.”

The project began in October 2009, with researchers analyzing how historical images were being displayed on Flickr. They developed a prototype image record, including methods for uploading large quantities of digital images and incorporating metadata for individual images and entire collections.

Managing the intellectual property rights for images has proven to be the biggest concern for participating cultural heritage institutions and the DCC. An end goal for the project is to place many of the images on Flickr Commons, which seeks to increase access to photographs in the public domain.

“Some images are used to generate income for the institution, so institutions are unwilling to release high-resolution versions on Flickr,” said Fenlon. “In other cases, expressing the intellectual property rights for photos within Flickr’s standard framework of Creative Commons licenses can be a complex negotiation.”

Bringing these images to Flickr, a popular public resource, has dramatically increased their visibility. The study has shown that the rate of interaction with DCC images on Flickr is more than four times as high as with content on the DCC site. The DCC Flickr photostream averages about 300 hits per day, versus approximately forty-two hits per day for the entire DCC aggregations of over 1,000 collections and more than a million items. This is likely due to the sheer volume of users that browse through Flickr’s content each day compared to users of cultural heritage sites like DCC.

The DCC images are of particular interest to highly specialized history and popular culture communities. Users have repurposed individual photos or small subsets of original collections into new collection-like entities representing niches of interest, such as groups and galleries for “Ford Fairlane/Torino,” “Historical Steamships,” “Bitterlake Seattle,” and “Old Tandems.”

“When the DCC aggregation was first launched in 2003, we were focused on metadata and interoperability problems—how to bring together diverse collections from libraries and museums, large and small, into a single resource,” said Carole Palmer (PhD ’96), professor of library and information science and principal investigator on the project. “As the DCC became established, we turned to exploring how to make this fascinating and rich base of collections more accessible and meaningful for users. The Flickr experiment has demonstrated that our hidden cultural heritage treasures are of tremendous interest to the public, and we are now exploring how best to expand the photostream to meet demand.”

The project is a joint initiative between the Graduate School of Library and Information Science and the University Library. A full list of co-principal investigators and participating researchers is available on the DCC website: <http://imlsdcc.grainger.illinois.edu/bios.asp>.



“Bob Hultgrem playing accordion at Swedish picnic, Bellevue, 1949,” University of Washington; “Woman riveting plane at Boeing, Seattle, 1951,” University of Washington; “Boeing bomber B-17E in flight, 1941,” University of Washington; “Saito family, probably in Auburn, 1934,” University of Washington; “Richmond Beach School picnickers outside Umbrite’s Drug Store, Richmond Beach, 1920,” University of Washington; “South from 42nd + Sixth Ave New York City,” Indiana University; “Scarff Ford Motor Company Lube Station, interior, Auburn, 1948,” University of Washington; “Maryknoll School students dressed for pageant, Seattle, 1942,” University of Washington; “William Maxwell and his wife, portrait possibly taken in Maple Valley, ca. 1885,” University of Washington; “Buddhist priest with children, Seattle, 1930,” University of Washington; “Motorcyclist in helmet, probably in Seattle, ca. 1913,” University of Washington; “Native American children outside a window, possibly on the Olympic Peninsula, date unknown,” University of Washington by IMLS DCC on Flickr, used under CC BY 2.0 license.

www.flickr.com/photos/imlsdcc

The IMLS DCC photostream currently has nearly 4,000 photographs, from six different institutions: the Cushman Collection at Indiana University; King County Snapshots from the University of Washington; Olympic Peninsula Virtual Community Museum at the University of Washington; the Charles Overstreet Collection from the Flora Public Library, hosted by the Illinois State Library; Mining and Mother Jones in Mount Olive from the Mount Olive Public Library, hosted by the Illinois State Library; and the Springfield Aviation Company Collection at the Lincoln Library—the Public Library of Springfield, Illinois, hosted by the Illinois State Library.



“The Flickr experiment has demonstrated that our hidden cultural heritage treasures are of tremendous interest to the public, and we are now exploring how best to expand the photostream to meet demand.”

—Professor Carole Palmer is principal investigator on the Digital Collections and Content (DCC) project. She is also director of the Center for Informatics Research in Science and Scholarship (CIRSS).

SODA GROUP FORMS AT GSLIS

A new research group has formed at GSLIS, drawing upon a rapidly growing strength in data analytics. The faculty, researchers, and students in the Socio-technical Data Analytics group (SoDA) design, develop, and evaluate new technologies in order to better understand the dynamic interplay between information, people, and information systems.

Faculty involved in the group include Catherine Blake, J. Stephen Downie, Miles Efron, Jerome McDonough, Vette Torvik, Michael Twidale, and Dean John Unsworth. Brant Houston, professor in the College of Media and GSLIS affiliated faculty member, is also a participant.

“Socio-technical data analytics (SoDA) has a strong history at GSLIS. We formed the group in part to highlight the synergy between our shared research interests, but more importantly, we now have the momentum to increase the depth and scope of research and teaching in this area,” said Blake. “Recent events in the Middle East and Japan certainly highlight how important it is to understand what happens when people, information, and technology intersect.”

Members of the SoDA group conduct research that spans a range of genres from the humanities and everyday life, to journalism and scientific literature. Faculty and researchers analyze methods in information retrieval, data and text mining, knowledge discovery, and collaboration. In addition to text analysis, they explore multimedia such as games and music, and new kinds of data such as Twitter feeds.

RECENTLY FUNDED PROJECTS

Towards Evidence-Based Discovery (funded by the National Science Foundation) aims to understand both human and automated methods to synthesize evidence from text. Principal investigator: Catherine Blake

Defining and Solving Key Challenges in Microblog Search (funded by Google) explores both theoretical models and prototype search systems to address core problems in microblog search. Principal investigator: Miles Efron

Expand SEASR Services (funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation) explores text-mining as a tool for understanding the humanities. Co-PI: John Unsworth

Structural Analysis of Large Amounts of Music Information (funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities) creates a framework for analyzing musical audio data and uses the framework to process songs from a range of online sources. Principal investigator: J. Stephen Downie

Collaborative Research: The Impact of Scientific Funding (funded by the National Science Foundation) links MEDLINE articles and U.S. patents using state-of-the-art name disambiguation algorithms. Principal investigator: Vette Torvik

Preserving Virtual Worlds II (funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services) focuses on determining properties for a variety of educational games and game franchises in order to provide a set of best practices for preserving the materials through virtualization technologies and migration, as well as provide an analysis of how the preservation process is documented. Principal investigator: Jerome McDonough

The Investigative Journalism Education Consortium (funded by the McCormick Foundation) develops the next generation of investigative journalists who can make the best use of the new digital tools. Coordinator: Brant Houston

Meeting the Challenge of Language Change in Text Retrieval with Machine Translation Techniques (funded by Google) converts a query in contemporary English to English terms used in text from Medieval times to the present. Principal investigator: Miles Efron

Text Mining in Environmental Literature (funded by the Environmental Change Institute) develops text mining methods that resolve contradictory and redundant evidence from text. Principal investigator: Catherine Blake

VETLE TORVIK AND JANA DIESNER JOIN GSLIS FACULTY



GSLIS is pleased to announce the addition of assistant professors Vette Torvik and Jana Diesner to the GSLIS faculty.

Diesner is currently completing her PhD in the Computation, Organizations and Society program (COS) at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), School of Computer Science, Institute for Software Research. She received her MS in COS from CMU and her MA (Magister Artium) in communication science from Dresden University of Technology in Germany. She will join the GSLIS faculty in January 2012.

For the past three years, Torvik has held a visiting appointment at GSLIS, teaching and conducting research in the areas of data/text mining, information processing, bioinformatics, literature-based discovery, and author name disambiguation. Prior to coming to GSLIS, Torvik served as research assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He earned a BA in mathematics from St. Olaf College in 1995, an MS in operations research from Oregon State University in 1997, and a PhD in engineering science from Louisiana State University in 2002.

Diesner's research mission is to contribute to the computational analysis and better understanding of the interplay and co-evolution of information and the functioning of socio-technical networks. Her research focuses on networks from the business, science, and geopolitical domain. She is particularly interested in factors that impede the sustainable development of networks and their wider context, especially conflicts and crime, and in covert information and covert networks.

HATHITRUST RESEARCH CENTER LAUNCHED BY ILLINOIS, INDIANA



A new collaborative research center created by the University of Illinois and Indiana University, along with HathiTrust Digital Repository, will develop software to foster computer access to the growing digital record of knowledge.

The HathiTrust Research Center (HTRC) will enable open access for nonprofit and educational users to published works in the public domain (as well as limited access to works under copyright) stored within HathiTrust, an extensive collaborative digital library of more than 8 million volumes and 2 billion pages of archived material maintained by major research institutions and libraries worldwide.

The HTRC will draw on computing resources at Illinois and data storage at Indiana and create a secure computational and data environment for scholars to perform research using the HathiTrust Digital Repository. It will give scholars the opportunity to use the HathiTrust Library while preventing intellectual property misuse within the confines of current U.S. copyright law.

“I’ve been working in digital humanities since 1990, and up until now, we haven’t had the kind of watershed event that really changes the way people do research in text-based humanities and social science disciplines. The opening of the HathiTrust Research Center is that watershed event—the equivalent of the Sloan Digital Sky Survey for astronomers,” said John Unsworth, dean of the Graduate School of Library

and Information Science at Illinois and interim director of the Illinois Informatics Institute, who will serve as a member of the executive committee leading the HTRC project.

“The opening of the HTRC marks the first time that researchers will have the ability to do computational work with our digital cultural heritage on a really large scale. This opportunity will be transformational for scholars in the humanities and social sciences, but it will also be important to those in computer science and other fields who are interested in natural language processing, image recognition, optical character recognition, and other areas of research,” he continued.

In addition to Unsworth, other members of the HTRC executive committee include the co-author of the grant and lead investigator at Illinois, Scott Poole, I-CHASS director and professor of communication; Beth Plale, D2I director and professor in the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana; and Robert McDonald, associate dean of libraries at Indiana.

Contributing partners in HTRC at Illinois include the Illinois Center for Computing in the Humanities, Arts, and Social Science (I-CHASS); Illinois Informatics Institute; and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications. Indiana partners include the Pervasive Technology Institute—Data to Insight Center (D2I); Office of the Vice-President for Information Technology; Office of the Vice Provost for Research; and IU Libraries.

HAYKAL JOINS HISTORYMAKERS



Aaisha Haykal (MS '11) has been awarded a fellowship from the HistoryMakers, a non-profit organization that captures the rich history of African-Americans through collecting and preserving thousands of oral histories.

Haykal will begin her fellowship in Chicago this summer. "In Chicago, I will receive more archival training in Encoded Archival Description (EAD) and then use what I learn to create finding aids for the oral histories that HistoryMakers staff have already digitized and created transcripts for."

In September, Haykal will travel to Charleston, South Carolina, to begin her work at the Avery Research Center for African-American History and Culture. She will process their collections and rotate through their departments so she can experience a variety of aspects of the field. Part of her fellowship includes outreach, so while Haykal is working at the Avery Research Center, she will also have to prepare and deliver a program based on one of the collections with which she works.

"This fellowship relates directly to what I want to do, which is to be an archivist in an institution that is dedicated to preserving Black history, both national and local/community history. I believe that these institutions are important because historically Black history has been underrepresented and/or misrepresented in academia and in places that preserve the historical and cultural record of America's history. This has encouraged me to pursue a career where I will be able to collect the counter-narratives that are present in the records of Black communities and families," she said.

Haykal would like to work with community organizations and members to help them preserve their own history either for their own use and needs, or for future donation to the archive. "I see this as a part of being an archivist—archivists cannot just wait for organizations to come to us for help, but we have to go to the community. It is especially important to reach out and be more accessible to those who do not come to the archive," she said.



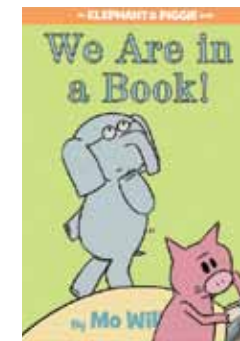
This year's Gryphon Lecture was given on March 4 by Dr. Dipesh Navsaria (MS '04), a doctor and librarian who has worked to promote reading through his medical practice. His lecture was titled, "Books Build Better Brains: Wanderings at the Intersection of Children's Literature and Early Brain Development."

Navsaria has been instrumental in expanding the Reach Out and Read (ROAR) program in Wisconsin, which trains doctors and nurses to advise parents about the importance of reading aloud. In addition, ROAR gives out books to children at pediatric checkups from six months through five years of age, with a special focus on children growing up in poverty.

The Center for Children's Books also hosted a brown-bag lunch before the lecture where Dr. Navsaria and a group of GSLIS students discussed how librarians can reach out to other professions and public institutions, and how doctors and librarians might work together to put books in the hands of children growing up in poverty.



WILLEMS WINS 2011 GRYPHON AWARD



We Are in a Book!, written and illustrated by Mo Willems and published by Hyperion Books for Children, is the winner of the 2011 Gryphon Award for Children's Literature.

The Gryphon Award, which includes a \$1,000 prize, is given annually by the Center for Children's Books.

The prize is awarded to the author of an outstanding English language work of fiction or non-fiction for which the primary audience is children in kindergarten through fourth grade, and which best exemplifies those qualities that successfully bridge the gap in difficulty between books for reading aloud to children and books for practiced readers. "Most of our committee have been involved in this award since its inception," said Deborah Stevenson, director of the CCB, "and we think of it as a way to contribute to an ongoing conversation about literature for inexperienced readers and to draw attention to those titles that offer originality, accessibility, and high quality for that audience."

According to Stevenson, *We Are in a Book!* "brings back two favorite beginning-reader characters, Gerald the Elephant and Piggie the Piggy, and gives them an adventure unlike anything they've experienced as they suddenly look out at the viewer and realize they're characters in a book that's being read. Kids will be familiar with this kind of

self-referential comedy from cartoons, but here it's a book-centered humor that cleverly and quietly congratulates youngsters for reading by making their participation key to the jokes."

Three Gryphon Honors winners also were named.

- *Bink & Gollie* (Candlewick Press, 2010), written by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee and illustrated by Tony Fucile
- *Princess Posey and the First Grade Parade* (G. P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers, 2010), written by Stephanie Greene and illustrated by Stephanie Roth Sisson
- *The Dancing Pancake* (Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2010), written by Eileen Spinelli and illustrated by Joanne Lew-Vriethoff

The Gryphon Award was established in 2004 as a way to focus attention on transitional reading, "which includes all kinds of wonderful books for different levels of readers, and yet which often gets overshadowed by the popularity of older children's and young adult materials," Stevenson said.

The award committee consists of members drawn from the youth services faculty of GSLIS, the editorial staff of the *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, local public and school librarians, and the library and education community at large.

BOOK ROUNDUP

NEW AND RECOMMENDED

BY SUE SEARING, LIS LIBRARIAN

Electronic books are increasingly in demand for teaching and research at GSLIS, so we provide access to thousands of them. Some we license in packages from publishers like Wiley, Springer, and IGI-Global. Others we order through aggregators like eBrary and NetLibrary. Still others are available on the web as open-access publications. For all types of ebooks, we add records to our local online catalog or the Online Research Resources database to help readers discover and link to them. See www.library.illinois.edu/lis/findit/Ebooks.html for more about our ebook collection.

But even the most tech-savvy GSLIS students and professors admit that they prefer reading printed books to squinting at a screen. And since traditional publishing still flourishes in the field of LIS, the library shelves continue to fill with the latest LIS works in print. I've chosen a few of my favorite new printed books from the past year to share with you. For updates, check out "New LIS Titles" on the LIS Virtual Library website: www.library.illinois.edu/lis.

The Accidental Taxonomist

Heather Hedden. Medford, NJ: Information Today, 2010. 442p. ISBN 978-1-57387-397-0.

"Taxonomies? That's classified information." But not since the appearance of this thorough handbook which demystifies the subject. Hedden starts by explaining clearly what taxonomies are and what taxonomists do, and then instructs the reader on creating terms and relationships, choosing software, and building structures and displays. She distinguishes between taxonomies for human versus automated indexing and addresses practical issues of planning and implementation. Hedden's information about taxonomy as a vocation is not based solely on her own experience, but on a survey of practicing taxonomists. Since the publication of *The Accidental Systems Librarian* by Rachel Singer Gordon in 2003, Information Today has expanded its popular series to include such positions as webmaster, library marketer, and fundraiser. This latest one is a strong addition to the line-up.

Librarians Serving Diverse Populations: Challenges & Opportunities

Lori Mestre. (ACRL publications in librarianship, no. 62) Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, 2010. 211p. ISBN 978-0-8389-8512-0.

Lori Mestre, head of the Undergraduate Library and adjunct associate professor at GSLIS, surveyed diversity coordinators at ARL libraries, followed up with interviews with self-selected respondents, surveyed LIS schools, and examined ARL library websites. This book distills her findings into a very useful and thorough overview of positions designated "diversity coordinator," "multicultural librarian," and the like. Quotations from librarians in the field back up Mestre's recommendations regarding hiring, training, and management. Chapters titled "The Realities of this Position" and "Getting Started," as well as the extensive resource lists, will be invaluable to any librarians newly appointed to such positions.

Handbook of Research on Children's and Young Adult Literature

Shelby A. Wolf, Karen Coats, Patricia Enciso, and Christine A. Jenkins, eds. New York: Routledge, 2011. 555p. ISBN 978-0-415-96505-7.

Collaborating with colleagues from the fields of education and English, GSLIS Associate Professor Christine Jenkins co-edited this first-of-its-kind multidisciplinary research handbook. Thirty-seven essays are grouped into three sections focusing broadly on "the reader," "the book," and "the world around." Brief, engaging commentaries by well-known authors and illustrators accompany many of the essays. Among the contributors with a GSLIS connection are Deborah Stevenson, director of the Center for Children's Books ("History of Children's and Young Adult Literature"); Professor Emerita Betsy Hearne ("Folklore in Children's Literature"); alumna Robin Brenner (MS '03) ("Comics and Graphic Novels"); former CAS student and adjunct instructor Kathleen Weibel ("Public Libraries in the Lives of Young Readers"); and Jenkins ("Censorship"). Doctoral student Damian Duffy served on the editorial board. By breaking down disciplinary silos, this comprehensive handbook makes a significant contribution to the study of youth literature.

How Green is My Library?

Sam McBane Mulford and Ned A. Himmel. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited, 2010. 176p. ISBN 978-1-59158-780-4.

Co-authored by an architect and a librarian, this book is packed with advice on developing sustainable library buildings and operations. Chapter 1, "What is 'Green?'," includes a 14-page glossary and identifies organizations that evaluate green products and practices. Subsequent chapters make the case for greener libraries, provide a checklist for assessing a library's current practices, present information about LEED certification, and outline a process for setting goals. Many ideas, large and small, are offered for "greening" new and existing facilities. Another recent book on the same topic is *Public Libraries Going Green* by Kathryn Miller (ALA, 2010).

The Expert Library: Staffing, Sustaining, and Advancing the Academic Library in the 21st Century

Scott Walter and Karen Williams, eds. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, 2010. 373p. ISBN 978-0-8389-8551-9.

Change is rampant in academic libraries, bringing with it new roles and new expectations for library staff. Scott Walter (associate university librarian and GSLIS adjunct professor) and Karen Williams (University of Minnesota) have gathered thirteen papers on varied aspects of professional competencies and training, including a number of case studies from leading institutions. Beth Woodard (MS '79) and GSLIS adjunct associate professor Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe (MS '94), in a chapter titled "Teaching the Teachers," recount the programs and workshops organized by the University Library to provide in-house professional development for librarians with instructional responsibilities. Janice M. Jaguszewski (MS '90) describes a process for assessing the knowledge, skills, and abilities of librarians in newly re-structured positions. Other chapters address such topics as library publishing, liaison work, and metadata librarians. Taken as a whole, the chapters reveal the kinds of expertise needed in a forward-looking academic library and suggest managerial strategies for recruiting, developing, and deploying such experts.

Productivity for Librarians: How to Get More Done in Less Time

Samantha Hines. Oxford, UK: Chandos, 2010. 158p. ISBN 978-1-84334-567-1.

Samantha Hines (MS '03) has written the ultimate self-help book for busy librarians. Dotted with exercises and questions and featuring an excellent annotated resource list, *Productivity for Librarians* synthesizes the best available thinking on motivation, procrastination, and time management. Hines reviews seven major productivity systems and provides additional advice for those who manage others. Best of all, the book's tone is refreshingly personal. Every reader will come away encouraged to lead a fuller, more productive life at work.

AT THE CENTER OF A REVOLUTION
MOUSTAFA AYAD



The recent uprisings in Egypt and throughout the Middle East have highlighted the growing role of social media and digital media in political discourse and social change. Moustafa Ayad (MS '09) has not only seen the effects of the "digital revolution" firsthand, but he is working to ensure that activists and journalists continue to utilize progressive means of information sharing and access as they work towards a more just world.

As an independent subcontractor specializing in social media and networking training for journalists, Ayad works on a variety of projects funded by the U.S. government that aim to enhance Internet freedom and technology development in the Middle East and North Africa. Working with a number of NGOs and media academics in the region, Ayad trains young people and independent journalists how to use applications such as Facebook, Twitter, and Blogger to educate the local population and disseminate information.

“It is best to allow those with knowledge of their communities to lead the charge on projects rather than imposing some top-down structure developed outside of their environments.”

“Each and every social media and networking tool has its own space within the Internet ecosystem,” Ayad said. “It is Facebook that organizes events. It is blogging sites that give insightful and in-depth commentary. It is Twitter that gives continuous live updates. It is SMS (Short Message Service) and now MMS (Multimedia Messaging Service) that primes the instantaneous social media chain that begins turning its gears to free a captured compatriot, report a crime, or pen an anti-government chant.”

Ayad’s interest in the development of the Middle East and North Africa goes beyond simply a sense of professional duty. Born in Egypt but raised in the U.S., Ayad believes that his dual nationality puts him in a unique place to provide contextualization both to Americans looking to understand the regional conflicts of the Middle East, and to Egyptians looking to utilize democratic principles to enact social change.

Ayad received his undergraduate degree in mass communication from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where he was editor-in-chief of the campus newspaper, *The Daily Egyptian* (yes, he is aware of the various puns such a title could and did lead to). Following graduation, Ayad worked as a reporter for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, writing stories on crime and court cases. His desire to utilize his journalism skills while contributing to the greater community eventually led him to pursue a degree in library science.

“Using libraries or information centers, Internet cafes—any place with wifi for that matter—to launch campaigns and utilize the web as a means to produce and disseminate local content, has always intrigued me,” he said.

While at GSLIS, Ayad worked on a Youth Community Informatics project, an experience, he says, that allowed him to understand how technology can be used in marginalized communities. Also important was the lesson that community context is the key to development work.

“It is best to allow those with knowledge of their communities to lead the charge on projects rather than imposing some top-down structure developed outside of their environments. ... You have to understand the populations you work with and allow them to lead the process rather than be led,” he said.

This insight has come in handy as Ayad collaborates with those on the frontlines of change in the region: bloggers in Cairo working on electoral monitoring in Sudan, Iraqi journalists risking their lives by being the eyes and ears of their society, and development practitioners coordinating efforts to empower their countrymen are just a few of the populations Ayad has had the honor of working with.

Although the work and travel can be taxing, Ayad is inspired by the people he meets and their passion for justice and political change. One of his most profound experiences was meeting a female journalist from Mosul, one of Iraq’s most dangerous cities. She had been the only female

journalist on hand during the historic election night in the city’s polling place and had an archive of photographs from that night that had not yet been published.

“She was so proud to learn that she could post these photos on a blog for the world to see,” Ayad said. “Moments like that make the work meaningful.”

One of the reasons that Ayad returned to the Middle East after receiving his degree at GSLIS was to dispel myths that the Middle East is a harsh environment in which to work and live. “Like every place it has its problems—only issues

in the Middle East and North Africa are always magnified because of the region’s strategic importance to the world’s natural resources,” Ayad said. “These are the people of the Middle East and North Africa, working to change their lives and their environments.”

DOWNES AWARD GIVEN TO COMIC BOOK LEGAL DEFENSE FUND



For their dedication to the preservation of First Amendment rights for members of the comics community, the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund (CBLDF) was awarded the 2010 Robert B. Downs Intellectual Freedom Award given by the GSLIS faculty.

It is often taken for granted that the expressive freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment apply to all works of art and authorship, and that the protections accorded to texts, images, and musical compositions aren’t limited to specific genres or expressive media. But a review of problems faced over the last two decades by creators of comic books, graphic novels, and games doesn’t bear out this common-sense expectation.

The CBLDF is being honored for their consistent dedication to the active defense of First Amendment rights. Highlights of their recent work include:

■ In 2006, the CBLDF issued a letter supporting the retention of Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home* (a *Time Magazine* book of the year) and Craig Thompson’s *Blankets*, which were the subjects of reconsideration by the Marshall (MO) Public Library after a patron complained they were pornographic.

■ In 2010, CBLDF joined with the American Booksellers Association and other groups to challenge a new Massachusetts law that holds website operators or anyone communicating through listservs criminally liable for any transmission deemed harmful to minors. Also in 2010, CBLDF joined with the Alaska Library Association and other groups to challenge a new Alaska law similar to the Massachusetts law described above.

■ CBLDF filed a brief in 2010 supporting the video game industry in the case of *Schwarzenegger v. EMA*, heard this fall before the U.S. Supreme Court: in this case, California seeks to ban the sale or rental of violent video games to minors.

The award was presented to the CBLDF during the January midwinter meeting of the American Library Association. ABC-CLIO, a publisher of reference, contemporary thought, and professional development resources, provides an honorarium for the recipient and co-sponsors the reception.

The Downs Award was established in 1969 by the GSLIS faculty to honor Robert Downs, a champion of intellectual freedom, on his twenty-fifth anniversary as director of the school.

Q&A WITH STUDENTS



**RENATA
SANCKEN**

- BA, Grinnell College, English and history
- MS student
- Currently works at the ACES Library

What made you decide to pursue a degree in library and information science?

Specifically, I decided to pursue the degree when I realized I wanted to be a children's or young adult librarian. I decided I wanted to be a youth librarian because of my experiences working with kids through Girl Scouts and the Peace Corps. I like planning activities for kids and working with them, but in informal settings. I'd much rather host a story time than be a classroom teacher.

What surprises you the most about the field of LIS?

I suppose I'm surprised by just how much variety there is here. I have peers in the program who are interested in jobs I had never even realized were jobs, like medical librarian and law librarian. Librarians are everywhere!

What do you hope to do with your degree?

I'd like to be a children's librarian in a good-sized public library. I want to spend my days reading YA books, helping with homework, and painting Harry Potter scars on kids' faces.

What made you decide to pursue a degree in library and information science?

I love learning new things and helping others do the same, and the library environment has always been a natural fit for me.

What surprises you the most about the field of LIS?

The wide range of intriguing career opportunities it makes available, since information impacts every area of our lives.

What do you hope to do with your degree?

I'd like to work in an academic library. So far I've really enjoyed my experiences with reference, but a setting like this seems to offer lots of additional opportunities and openness to new ideas.

What one technology do you wish were available now?

Definitely teleportation. I'd love to be able to travel anywhere in the blink of an eye. Also, it would make interlibrary loans come much faster!

Where is your favorite library in the world?

Every library I've ever gotten a book from has a special place in my heart, but I think my favorite library is the one in the Peace Corps office in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. It's not a formal library, just a huge shelf of English-language books (and the occasional highly-coveted celebrity gossip magazine) donated by previous volunteers. But I've never appreciated a good book more than when I was far from home and surrounded by people who didn't speak English. The Peace Corps library was a nice little slice of home—and no late fees!

What one technology do you wish were available now?

As a movie buff, I'd love to see a labor- and time-saving leap in the efficiency of film restoration technology, which could save many important and currently unavailable films from obscurity and deterioration.

Where is your favorite library in the world?

Castlewood Public Library in Centennial, Colorado. I grew up attending this library, worked there in high school, and I'm still a faithful patron whenever I'm home in Colorado.



**NATHANIEL
MOORE**

- BA with honors, The Ohio State University, African/African-American studies and history
- MA/MS joint-degree student, African studies and library and information science
- Currently a LAMP scholar teaching assistant with the Center for African Studies

What made you decide to pursue a degree in library and information science?

The joint degree program at the University of Illinois offered a great opportunity for me to combine my interest in Africa with an expansive and emerging discipline.

What surprises you the most about the field of LIS?

How expansive it is. Before I applied to GSLIS, I wasn't really sure what library and information science actually was, and I definitely didn't know about all the different things you can do with a MLIS degree.

What do you hope to do with your degree?

I plan on using my skills to focus on reorienting librarianship on the African continent to make

libraries more relevant to local and national concerns, and provide African patrons with a fuller and more culturally sensitive library experience.

What one technology do you wish were available now?

Teleportation.

Where is your favorite library in the world?

My favorite library in the world is probably Bertram Woods Branch Library in Shaker Heights, Ohio. I grew up down the street from this library and frequently utilized its materials and services. Although small, this library definitely played an enormous role in my development as an individual.



**JORDAN
RUUD**

- BA, English
- MA, University of Tulsa, English
- Currently a graduate assistant at the Literatures and Languages Library

What made you decide to pursue a degree in library and information science?

When I was in high school, my sister was considering pursuing an MLS, which introduced me to the possibility—I had no idea you needed a master's degree to work in a library. I then pursued an hourly position at my community college. The librarian, Charlotte Bruce, was a great mentor who took time out of her busy schedule to introduce me to librarianship—the challenges, opportunities, and diversity, and I was smitten.

What surprises you the most about the field of LIS?

The variety within the field, as well as the different types of technology we get to experiment and work with.

What do you hope to do with your degree?

I hope to work as a reference and instruction librarian at an academic library.

What one technology do you wish were available now?

I wish we had a device to "beam" us to any destination. Then we could travel, or visit family and friends whenever we wanted.

Where is your favorite library in the world?

Booth Library at Eastern Illinois University is my favorite library. The layout and style of the building is really unique, and I have yet to find another library quite like it.

MARTHA CHILDERS



Harold and Rose Marie Ames did not work in library science and never attended the University of Illinois, yet the Harold and Rose Marie Ames Scholarship to Promote and Enhance International Communication and Understanding was established at GSLIS as a legacy to their achievements.

“Harold was a kind, compassionate person. He cared about everyone, and he cared about the world,” said Martha Childers (MS ’81), who established the fund. “The Ames loved international students. They devoted their lives to promoting international peace and understanding.

“I’m grateful to the University of Illinois for my excellent training in library science, and I felt it would be an appropriate blend to create this endowment to help students and honor Harold and Rose Marie.”

Childers, a government documents librarian at Johnson County Library in Kansas, befriended Harold Ames prior to her studies at GSLIS, when they both worked at Padegan Military Academy in Rasht, Iran. Harold had taught in the U.S. public school system in Washington state, and then taught overseas in Italy, Libya, Tunisia, and Iran. When both eventually returned to the States—Harold to rejoin his wife in the D.C. area and Childers to study at GSLIS—they stayed in contact. Throughout the years, Childers would visit the Ames family, even staying for a six-week period, as she did when she returned to the U.S. after serving as head of cataloging for the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law in Lausanne, Switzerland, for three years.

“They converted the upstairs of their house into an apartment, so young women from all over the world

could stay with them,” remembered Martha. “Rose Marie organized tours for the State Department for dignitaries from all over the world, so they had quite a lot of international contacts.”

Harold worked with an international community through the Refugee Services Program of Montgomery County, Maryland. He retired in 1982, but, with Rose Marie, continued to work with the Vietnamese and Cambodian immigrant communities in the D.C. area. Harold died January 16, 2011.

“We knew each other for 34 years,” said Martha, “and I miss him. Because Rose Marie and Harold were such loving and kind people, and because they impacted the world in so many ways, I wanted to honor them in some way. Even though I don’t make that much, I can do something significant by creating an endowment to help students in their name in perpetuity.”

“The endowment will be there forever in recognition of this extraordinary couple,” said Diana Stroud, assistant dean for advancement and alumni relations. “I had met Harold and Rose Marie and they were thrilled and so surprised by this.

“Martha has combined her friendship with people she treasured and her invaluable education at GSLIS to benefit others. Both had a significant impact on her life, and the scholarship will be given to a student who expresses a commitment to promote peace and enhance international communication and understanding,” said Stroud.

For more information on the Ames scholarship, or for information on establishing a scholarship, contact Diana Stroud at (217) 244-9577, or dstroud@illinois.edu.

BRILLIANT FUTURES



We have entered the final months of the Brilliant Futures Campaign, the largest and most ambitious campaign in the history of the University of Illinois, with the goal of raising \$2.25 billion for students, faculty, research, and the campus environment.

Our goal for GSLIS is \$15 million, and with the dedicated support of our alumni and friends, we are close to achieving our goal.

In these final months before the campaign wraps up on December 31, 2011, we would like to remind you of two special funds for which we are seeking support:

History of Libraries and the Information Professions Endowed Chair

We are very near our goal of raising \$2 million for the Endowed Chair—to date we’ve raised \$1.25 million. In addition to supporting part of the salary of the faculty member who holds the chair, it will also fund a graduate student fellowship and relevant library collections and services. With its long, distinguished history of excellence in LIS education, GSLIS is the perfect home for a Chair that recognizes how the history of the field is critical to progression in library science.

Library School Alumni Association (LSAA) Endowed Professorship

Endowed professorships attract and retain the finest faculty in a competitive academic environment. LSAA provided \$100,000 toward the \$1 million needed to endow a professorship, and LSAA President Mary Jane Petrowski (CAS ’94) asks that alumni and friends join her in making a tribute gift in honor of a GSLIS faculty member.

In addition to traditional gifts, your pledge or bequest for GSLIS will count toward our campaign goal and is a welcome way to show your support. If you would like to make a gift or learn more about the many ways you can support GSLIS, please contact Diana Stroud at (217) 244-9577 or by email at dstroud@illinois.edu.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF **LIBRARY AND
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The iSchool at Illinois

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