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Interface Newsletter

School of Information Sciences

2013

Interface, Fall 2013

School of Information Sciences

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Fall 2013

Interface

 **iSchools**



In-ter-face: *noun* - a thing or circumstance that enables separate and sometimes incompatible elements to coordinate effectively.

Director's Message

Year-end greetings!

We enjoyed another beautiful fall season in Knoxville, the gateway to the Great Smokies. You'll find this fall issue of *Interface* informative, entertaining, and very heartwarming. This time around I want to take the opportunity, as we gear-up for our 2016 accreditation visit by the ALA Committee on Accreditation, to highlight our *2013 Biennial Narrative Report* to the Committee. (The link to the report is at www.sis.utk.edu/about).

The fall 2013 retreat debuted the new CRISP evaluative framework for continual quality improvement, which is now guiding the School's systematic preparation for ALA reaccreditation, and for the current University-level SACS reaccreditation. CRISP is a dual-purpose acronym, standing for the Continuous Review for Improving Systems and Performance process map, but also for its five foundational modifiers for achieving future success, reminding SIS to—focus on being Competitive, Relevant, Innovative, Strategic, and Productive. These five modifiers are then applied to each of the six ALA Standards, emphasizing outcomes assessment. The CRISP approach will ensure that SIS is maximizing the return on taxpayer investment in higher education, while performing to the highest possible standard in all of the dimensions that must interact to support the delivery of quality education in our field. Instead of a finite event, CRISP presents accreditation compliance as a continuing cycle of needs identification, planning processes, program responses, and assessment measures, leading to the redefinition of needs, and so on. At the 2013 retreat, faculty-staff committees identified unit-level performance outcomes and assessment measures for each standard.

The biggest news of the year comes with SIS gaining its iSchool designation. The iSchool organization is an international group of colleges and universities dedicated to advancing the understanding of the relationships between information, people, and technology. Founded in 2005, the organization's mission (iSchool.org) is to promote an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the opportunities and challenges associated with information, through innovative research and teaching. iSchools lead the information field as well as work to-



Dr. Cortez with Jazz



Allard Receives National LJ Teaching Award

Suzie Allard, associate professor and associate director of the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has received a national teaching award. Allard was given the 2013 LJ Teaching Award from *Library Journal*, one of the nation's top library and information science trade publications.

The award recognizes people who excel at educating the next generation of information professionals. The award, co-sponsored by digital publisher ProQuest, honors Allard for a decade of work building a specialty in science information and science data management and for creating a true classroom-practice science library education program.

In the announcement of the award, editors from *Library Journal* praised Allard for her "talent, passion and energy" in advancing scholarship and education in library and information science.

"The 2013 LJ Teaching Award is a testament to Suzie's innovative work in educating the next generation of library and information science professionals," said CCI Dean Mike Wirth. "We are very proud of her accomplishments and greatly appreciate her many contributions to the School of Information Sciences, the College of Communication and Information, and the University of Tennessee."

Allard was nominated by Carol Tenopir, Chancellor's Professor in the School of Information Sciences and director of research and director of the Center for Information and Communication Studies in the College of Communication and Information.

The editors selected Allard after reviewing nominations from across the United States. According to the publication, she stood out for her forward-thinking approach to building relationships and forging nontraditional partnerships with institutions such as Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Getty Museum, and the U.S. Geological Survey, to create connections between students' coursework and professional scientific field work. These partnerships push boundaries, fuel new courses, create true practice-classroom experiences, and open the door for a flow of information in scientific communities.

Beyond building courses and partnerships, Allard is known for nurturing one-on-one relationships with her students: recruiting them, mentoring them in many ways, and helping them get jobs as science librarians, data librarians, and other science information professionals.

"Mentoring is so important to me," Allard said. "As the field of information science moves forward, it is crucial that we help our students prepare for future challenges and opportunities, and mentoring is a great way to do that."

Allard has produced or co-produced many reports and publications, including "DataONE: Facilitating eScience through Collaboration," "Data Sharing by Scientists: Perceptions and Practices" and "Building Bridges: Information Science Skills to Leverage the Power of Environmental Information." She has received support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for the following projects: "Cybersecurity for Science Information: Developing Workforce Proficiency," and "SciData: Science Data and Information Professionals for the Future."

For more information on the award, visit <http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2013/11/awards/suzie-allard-lj-teaching-award-winner-2013>.



Allard receives 2013 Library Journal Teaching Award

The award is co-sponsored by ProQuest

Past winners: LJ Teaching Award

2012 Lilia Pavlovsky, Rutgers University, NJ

2011 Martin B. Wolske, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2010 Steven MacCall, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

2009 Rebecca Knuth, University of Hawai'i, Manoa

2008 Rick Block, Columbia University Libraries, NY; Pratt Institute, NY; Long Island University, NY

2007 Toni Samek, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada

Finding a Home: SIS Alumni Lead the Way

Each year in the fall, SIS hosts a special Homecoming Brunch to reconnect alumni and friends. Last year's Homecoming celebrated the 40th anniversary of UT SIS's ALA accreditation of the program. This year we celebrate our coming of age by highlighting the interesting, diverse and accomplished alumni scattered across the country that are forging new paths, realizing dreams and making a difference in their communities.

The Annual Homecoming Brunch even had a different atmosphere this year. In addition to the always fabulous food and warm and friendly faces, H.A.B.I.T. dogs were also included. Dr. Ed Cortez and his faithful companion and H.A.B.I.T. dog Jazz were accompanied by H.A.B.I.T. staffers Patti Frost, her husband and their dog Frosty. Together they represent the significant service work SIS has undertaken in recent years. (More about that work in another article in this issue.)



2013 Homecoming Brunch

Attendees were also encouraged to bring prospective students as guests to this year's brunch. Many students tell us the deciding factor in their selection of UT as their ALA-accredited graduate school program was the relationship they witnessed between SIS faculty, staff, alumni and students. Many remarked they felt they would get more individualized attention and they would be able to tailor their studies to match their career goals. Also in this issue are stories of exactly how well that has worked for many SIS alums.

"It is in the interest of all SIS alumni to help recruit the next generation of UT SIS students," said Dr. Cortez. "We all have a stake in the program's continuing to thrive, grow and expand. The more we expand the program, the more pathways we can offer students. With growth, we hope to build a continuing education program as well. Referrals from graduates, current students and SIS friends are far more effective than any advertising or marketing efforts we could muster to attract new students. We hope every SIS graduate will take a vested interest in helping to recruit new students."

In this edition, several SIS alumni have shared their stories. Have you shared your story? Contact SIS Communications Specialist Donna Silvey, dsilvey@utk.edu, if you would like to share your story or know an SIS alumnus who is too modest to tell their own story. Prospective students tell us the personal accounts of our alumni are often the inspiration behind their career choices.

An Aussie Summer with a Great Britain Chaser

Carol Tenopir has a long list of titles: Chancellor's Professor, CCI Board of Visitor's Professor, Director of the Center of Information and Communication Studies, American Association for Advancement of Science Fellow, Director of Research, and John Metcalfe Visiting Research Fellow at the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia. It was in this latter capacity that Tenopir spent the spring semester in Sydney. She worked with the UNSW librarians and faculty at the Australian School of Business to conduct research and share her knowledge of the international use, value, and outcomes of scholarly publications.

Academics utilize articles, books, and other sources to inform their work. Studying the reading patterns and use of those materials produces data that can be analyzed to guide academic publishing and subscription decisions. The goal of Tenopir's work in Australia was to gather data about Australian academics and compare that data to United Kingdom and United States patterns of reading and sourcing. One noticeable difference was the higher rate of e-resourced material use in Australia. Many universities there have e-only policies for publications. Print material is usually considerably more expensive in Australia because of the added expense of importing the materials used in printing or the cost to import the publications.

Tenopir gave many talks during the spring semester and traveled to other university locations such as the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australian National University in Canberra, and Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga, home of the Information Sciences distance education program.



Left: Tenopir's corner office overlooking the 'quad' at the University of New South Wales

Right: Tenopir with husband Dr. Gerald Lundeen in front of the iconic Opera House in Sydney Harbor



Tenopir traveled from the new world to the old world during the summer. She led a group of UT students as they joined students from Pratt University

in a collaborative summer study abroad course on e-publishing. The course is a series of summer school programs organized by Anthony Watkinson of the Ciber Research Group and in collaboration with Kings College London and the Pratt School of Information and Library Science.

The Scholarly e-Publishing course gives students an understanding of how publishing is responding to opportunities presented by the Internet and it also offers an international perspective on scholarly publishing. Students toured Oxford University Press and learned how this historic printer is finding new ways of utilizing electronic press. By meeting directly with publishers such as Thomson Reuters, ProQuest, SAGE, and Elsevier, the students gained a perspective on publishing they could not have achieved without traveling to the UK. They were able to establish relationships and an understanding of the scope of international scholarly publishing.

While the classes were based at Kings College London, the students also visited the University of Oxford and Cambridge University. Of the twenty students in the class, many were first-time international travelers. Finding their way around London, Oxford, and Cambridge and utilizing local transportation offered interesting highlights for the students as they made their way to the different meeting places for the classes.



Above: Tenopir’s students enjoyed their studies in historic academic settings while in England.

“This study abroad course was a very rich experience for our students, with an enormous amount of high-value information,” said Tenopir. “The cultural and historical experience is no small part of student learning.” London continues to be one of the more expensive travel destinations. “Students struggle to find the funds for study abroad opportunities like this class,” said SIS Director Ed Cortez. If corporations or individuals are interested in providing underwriting for a group of SIS students to participate in this course in 2014, contact CCI Development Director Patrick Powell at ppowell@utfi.org.

The course will again be based in London, from June 22-July 5, 2014.



Dr. Tenopir with the London SIS Study Abroad Students

Service: Putting Our Best Foot Forward – All 4 of Them

Crowdfunding has become increasingly popular with the rise in social media. It uses electronic media to communicate the needs of individuals or groups and allows interested people or organizations to fill those needs. The University of Tennessee's Alumni Association launched a new initiative for offering alumni and friends the opportunity to contribute to creative ideas and solutions on a smaller, more intimate scale. The new crowdsourcing program is called **Impact Big Ideas**.

For the inaugural set of projects, twelve projects were selected. Of those twelve, SIS Professor and Director Ed Cortez sponsored an idea for instituting a UT Comfort K-9 volunteer program. The project would provide funding to train a select group of dogs and their handlers as stress and emotional relief workers to be used in instances of natural disasters and other catastrophic emergencies within Tennessee and surrounding states. These types of dog-handler teams have been extremely effective working with first responders after tragic events such as Sandy Hook, the Boston marathon bombings and the recent Moore, Oklahoma tornado. This project is seeking a total of \$7,500 to fund the training and establishment of the program. The giving link for this project is www.volconnect.com/k9.

Dogs have an amazing capacity to serve as emotional relief workers. As Johnny Depp said, "The only creatures that are evolved enough to convey pure love are dogs and infants."



Newtown, CT - Sandy Hook

K-9 comforters stayed for an extended period because the dogs proved to be so valuable in helping the little ones heal from the trauma.



Boston, MA - Marathon Bombings

The K-9 comfort dogs went to Boston to comfort survivors of the bombings.

Moore, OK

May 2013, once again the canine comforters were deployed into action. Many first responders were the ones most in need of comfort after their initial frantic efforts to save lives.



On August 2, SIS hosted the first **Dog Days of Summer** event to benefit H.A.B.I.T., the UT Vet School's community volunteer program. Volunteers and their dogs serve as comforters in hospitals, assisted living facilities and even reading therapy dogs in local schools. The children take turns reading to the non-judgmental dog and learn that reading can be really fun!

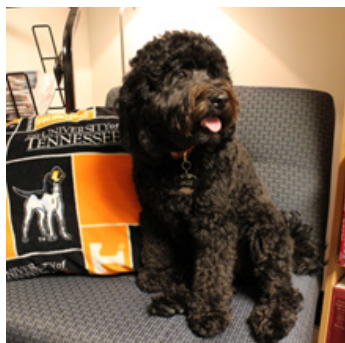
Information professionals have long been aware that many students have little or no access to books in their homes. SIS wanted to help change that with the Dog Days event by raising funds for Ruff Reading books. Approximately 2,000 students have access each week during the school year to a Ruff Reading dog and SIS wanted to raise money to provide the much needed Ruff Reading books.

Three valuable information sessions were hosted at the event to educate attendees about related topics. UT faculty and staff were also introduced to the new Canine Comfort Days program at the College of Communication and Information during the event.

"We have an obligation of service to our community as information professionals," said Director Dr. Cortez. "We understand the Tennessee tradition on volunteerism and we are using our best assets, our beloved dogs, to demonstrate our commitment to the greater UT community."



**Dog Days of Summer
HABIT guests**



Cortez' Big Idea: CCI Comfort Dog Trio - Jazz, Oreo, Boudreaux

Dr. Cortez' **Big Idea** continues to expand its foot print (or should we say paw print) on campus. The use of Comforting K-9's began last year with de-stress sessions in Hodges Library. The program expanded to seven locations, libraries and other campus sites, during the most recent exam time. H.A.B.I.T. dogs were once again present at freshman Welcome Week.

To provide a time for faculty and staff, Dr. Cortez initiated the Comfort K-9 de-stress sessions in the new Gary Purcell reading room every other week on Wednesday. UT employees have been known to trek across campus just to spend a little time with a H.A.B.I.T. dog on Comfort Dog Days.

Many librarians have seen first-hand the difference a comfort K-9 can make when it comes to helping children relax and enjoy reading more. Now, the expanding role of comfort K-9s on the UT campus is not only helping more students and faculty become aware of the SIS program, it also provides a meaningful and real service.

"This campus community outreach program not only provides a form of therapy," said Cortez, "it provides a clear view of the caring and compassionate SIS faculty and staff. We intend to continue to provide this service to our colleagues as we look to expand our service to the greater Knoxville community and beyond through the Impact Big Idea."

Conference News

SIS students, faculty and alumni are continuing to help support the School with their presence at industry conferences. Since June 2013, SIS has had a presence at the following conferences:

Dates	Event	Location
Jun. 27 - Jul. 2	ALA summer conference	Chicago, IL
Aug. 7-11	National Conference of African American Librarians	Covington, KY
Aug. 11-17	Joint Meeting of the Council of State Archivists and the Society of American Archivists	New Orleans, LA
Sept. 25-27	Virginia Libraries Association Conference	Williamsburg, VA
Oct. 3-5	Tennessee Association for School Libraries Conference	Murfreesboro, TN
Oct. 6-7	Arkansas Libraries Association Conference	Hot Springs, AR
Nov. 1-6	ASIS&T Annual Meeting	Montreal, Canada

SIS Assistant to the Director Kitty McClanahan (Ph.D. '11) met up with several SIS alums at ALA this summer. Among them were Sarah McClung ('12) who is in a new position as Collection Development Librarian for the University of California, San Francisco; Rachel Kirk (Ph.D. '11), who just made full professor at Middle Tennessee State University library and has published a new book, *Balancing the Books: Accounting for Librarians* (ISBN-10: 1610691113); and Debra Andreadis ('01), who is Assistant Director for Education & Research Services at Denison University in Ohio. Stopping by the SIS ALA exhibit were Steve Bales ('03, Ph.D. '08), Allison Sharp Bolorizadeh (doctoral candidate), and Monica Colon-Aguirre ('10, Ph.D. '12), to name a few.

Alumni News

CALLING ALL SIS ALUMNI

The School wants to invite all alumni interested in mentoring current students, speaking to classes or willing to provide their biographical information for a potential highlight to get in contact with us. We need you! Call or email Becca Hefti (bhefti@utk.edu or 865.974.2148) with the following:

Name:

Preferred email contact:

Preferred phone number (indicate if it is text enabled):

Place of employment:

Job title:

_____ willing to mentor students in _____ subject areas.

(ex: Collections development, web development, database management etc.)

_____ willing to speak to classes on the following topics: _____

_____ I have an interesting job/ career track and/or history of exceptional achievement.

Alumni Accomplishments

Professor, Associate Dean and Director of the Medical Library at the James H. Quillen College of Medicine at East Tennessee State University **Suresh Ponnappa** (MS/IS '84) was honored for his service to ETSU on Sept. 23 in recognition of his retirement. Ponnappa is an emeritus member of the School of Information Sciences' Advisory Board and a current member of the CCI Board of Visitors.



Suresh Ponnappa



Martha Earl with Eric Altmyer

At the annual meeting of the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association, SIS student **Eric Altmyer**, a SciData scholar, won the poster contest! The other posters were by practicing professionals. The poster titled, "A closer look for a clearer picture: Analyzing in-house article requests," looked at in-house article request at UT's Preston Medical Library. **Martha Earl** ('85) and **J. Michael Lindsay** ('02) from Preston Medical Library are co-authors on the poster. Statistics were already being kept on electronic use and other usage areas, but this area was not being tracked at the time. The subject headings for the journals being requested were recorded and compared to usage of the library's electronic resources to look for patterns of use in the different subject areas and departments. Findings will possibly affect outreach and collection development in the future.

Other UT alumni recognized at the annual meeting were **Rick Wallace** ('94) and **Nakia Joye (Cook) Woodward** ('03). Their citation is below.

PAPERS 1st Place (\$300) – "A Sketch of the Future of Libraries"

Authors: **Rick Wallace** ('94), AHIP, Assistant Director; **Nakia Joye Woodward** ('03), AHIP, Senior Clinical Reference Librarian; Katherine Wolf, Clinical Librarian; Quillen College of Medicine Library, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN



Hulen Bivins

The South Carolina State Library’s Board of Trustees has appointed **Hulen Bivins** (**’72**) director of the South Carolina State Library.

Bivins has over 30 years of experience working at the Alabama Public Library Service and was most recently the director of the North Dakota State Library. He holds degrees from Lipscomb University (B.A. History), University of Tennessee (M.S.L.S.), and Faulkner University’s Jones School of Law (J.D.).

“I am honored by the confidence placed in me by the Board of the South Carolina State Library and I am excited about the challenges that the position of Agency Director brings,” said Bivins. He also stated, “Knowing of the quality and dedication of the SCSL staff, I look forward to a team approach to both sustain present services and to embrace new services, all which shall be to help serve the information, research, and enrichment needs of the citizens of South Carolina.”

Clinical Assistant Professor Cindy Welch hosted a visit by alums **Patty (IS ’86) and her husband John (CCI ’71) Williams** in August. When they came to campus, Patty took the time to speak to several of our current SIS youth services students. “We had a lovely conversation about what it takes to make a long career in school librarianship,” said Welch. “Our students really appreciated the words of wisdom and we hope other alumni will make a trip to visit soon.”



John and Patty Williams met with SIS

Andrew T. Sulavik (’09), ThD, MLIS, Head of Metadata & Resource Description Services at Howard University Libraries, and his co-authors have been awarded an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant. The press release read in part:



Andrew Sulavik

“Howard University Libraries received \$200,000 from the IMLS to create the Portal to the Black Experience. Using emerging metadata practices, this internet portal will identify creators of published and archival materials, through filtered searches of individual attributes such as race, gender, and occupation. The project will use Howard Universities Libraries and Moorland-Spingarn Research Center catalog records to construct the portal. The project will last eighteen months and will be completed by June 1, 2015.” The IMLS grant proposal was authored by Andrew T. Sulavik, Th.D. (Head of Metadata and Resources Description Services, Howard University Libraries). Seth Kronemer (Archivist, Howard University School of Law) and Sean Varner (Metadata Librarian, Howard University Libraries).

“This discovery portal is expected to fundamentally re-shape the way searches for materials about the global Black experience will be conducted,” says Sulavik, the project director. The project will be supported by in-kind contributions from the OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc., the Library of Congress, the Social Networks and Archival Context Project, the Washington Research Library Consortium, and the Schomburg Center

for Research in Black Culture.

In commenting on the recently awarded National Leadership Grants for Libraries, Maura Marx, Deputy Director for the IMLS Office of Library Services, said, “reviewers identified these proposals as examples of the types of highly innovative projects we seek to fund through this program, with broad potential impact for other libraries and archives across the nation.”

Sulavik was the recipient of the H. W. Wilson Fellowship when he attended UT.

Class Notes

1975

- Claudia Schauman has retired as Branch Manager from the Nashville Public Libraries. Congratulations Claudia!
- Robert Thomas Stevenson, P.C., CPA has been re-elected to the Spring Branch Independent School District Board of Trustees in Houston, TX

1976

- Gail Cottrell Campbell has retired after 36 years at the Johnson City Public Library. Congratulations Gail!

1977

- Cecilia Gill Wetzberger retired from Northrop Grumman in 2010 and began working for General Dynamics AIS the same month as a Systems Engineer.

1992

- Jeff Barry has accepted the position of Associate University Librarian at Washington & Lee University in Virginia. Barry is also a member of the SIS Advisory Board.

1993

- Anne E. Langley is the Head Librarian, Science and Technology Libraries and Director of Scholarly Communications at Lewis Library at Princeton University.

1997

- Sarah Beasley is serving as Coordinator, eResources at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, PA

2002

- James Michael Lindsay is now Associate Professor at UT's Preston Medical Library.
- Christina Mosley is now the Director of the Morristown-Hamblen Library (2011).

2003

- Katie Lantrip Archambault is now the Director of Research at the Emma Willard School in Troy, NY.
- Kelly Leu is Copyright Librarian at University of Texas – Pan American.
- Cheryl McClure works at the Vanderbilt University Library.
- Tina Metzger is Library Assistant Branch Manager at the Chesterfield County Public Library in Richmond, VA.

2004

- Susanne Dalton Dupes is the Principal of Dalton Dupes Agency.
- Sarah Sewell is the Staff Development Coordinator for the Central Arkansas Library System.
- Karyn Storts-Brinks is the School Library Media Specialist at Knoxville's Fulton High School.

2005

- Jeannine Hunter is the Online Specialist at Children's National Health System in Washington D.C.

2006

- Grover Baker is the Visual and Performing Arts Librarian at the James E. Walker Library at Middle Tennessee State University.
- Reuben A. Madson is Branch Manager for the Knox County Public Library System.

2007

- Sarena Kay Burgess is Electronic Resources Librarian for the U.S. Federal Government.

2009

- Andrew Thomas Sulavik is Head of Metadata & Resource Description Services at Howard University.
- Nancy Williams is an Acquisitions Librarian at South College.

2010

- Christa Lauren Cordrey is the Librarian and Media Specialist at Greenbrier Middle School in Goodlettsville, TN

2012

- Amber McKee is Reference and Instruction Librarian at the Doris and Harry Vise Cumberland University Library in Lebanon, TN
- Greg Stoner is Librarian at McGuireWoods, LLP in Richmond, VA.
- Amanda Yother is Children's Services Coordinator for the Putnam County Library in Cookeville, TN

2013

- Melanie Allen has accepted a position at Virginia College, School of Business and Health as a Librarian.
- Tara Bergfeld is a Legislative Research Analyst for the State of Tennessee comptroller's offices of Research & Education.
- Jennifer May has accepted a position as School Library Media Specialist for Central High School in Knoxville.
- Nakia Woodward is a Senior Clinical Reference Librarian at East Tennessee State University's Quillen College of Medicine Library.

Facts About Alumni Support

1. Some national rankings include alumni participation as a factor.
2. Participating with your time, talent and gifts helps protect the value of your degree.
3. Referring prospective students to SIS shows school pride.

Faculty News

Suzie Allard

During Dr. Tenopir's spring sabbatical in Australia and Great Britain, Associate Professor and Associate Director Suzie Allard served as Acting Director of the CCI Center for Information and Communication Studies.

Allard along with JEM Associate Professor Bob Legg, conducted a science communication workshop in Ankara, Turkey in early summer. TUBITEK, which is the equivalent of the National Science Foundation for Turkey, hosted the workshop and invited the participant scientists who produce material for the popular science magazines and books published by TUBITEK for the nation. The four-day workshop included sessions on science writing, science communication through video, interviewing scientists, big data, writing for children, and information seeking. The two other workshop team members were Arsev Aydinoglu, currently a post-doctoral researcher at NASA and a CCI doctoral alum, and David Brill, retired director of communications for the UT Energy, Environment and Resources Center, who is currently a freelance writer. During the team's tenure in Turkey, the protests were raging at night, but Turkish hospitality was excellent.

Allard was invited to be an expert panelist at the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE) 2013 International Workshop at the Crossroad of Earth Information, Technology and Social Sciences entitled "Information for Innovation and Socioeconomic Development." The workshop was held in Florence, Italy, on June 23. INSPIRE is a "horizontal environmental policy instrument" that supports knowledge-based environmental policy making and implementation in Europe. Allard discussed "Identifying and Talking with Science Stakeholders."

Allard was also invited by the Howard H. Baker, Jr. Center for Public Policy to be a panelist on their Constitution Day Panel Discussion. The topic was "Fourth Amendment-Search and Seizure". The three other panelists were Michael Berry-Professor, UT Electrical Engineering & Computer Science; Director, Center for Intelligent Systems & Machine Learning, Brandon Prins-Associate Professor, UT Political Science, and Glenn Reynolds-Professor, UT Law; Instapundit.com.

Associate Professor Suzie Allard is collaborating with the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR), the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and MIT on a project, funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). "Closing the Gap" will identify the continuing education issues of libraries, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions in managing cultural heritage data according to federal requirements for open access. Allard and SIS grad, Chris Eaker, assistant professor in Hodges Library, will perform a content analysis of federal government open access data policies in part 1 of the one-year \$15,976 project.

On Oct. 10, Allard represented the College in the UT Mic/Nite which was themed "PechaKucha Powered." Mic/Nite is a celebration of the intellectual and academic diversity of UT Knoxville.

Dania Bilal

Professor Dania Bilal presented her paper, "Readability of text retrieved by search engines on children's search queries: The case of Google," at the Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries International Conference, held on June 3-7 in Rome, Italy.

Bilal also has a research paper "in press," "Comparing Google's readability of search results to the Flesch Readability Formulae: A preliminary analysis on children's search queries." The paper will appear in the proceedings of the 76th Annual Meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T). The Meeting was held in Montreal, Canada from November 1-5. Bilal served as an invited speaker on a ASIS&T panel on "Enabling systems for inquiry-based learning." Her talk for the panel was titled, "Designing emotionally intelligent virtual agents to enable understanding of children's information needs."

Wade Bishop

Assistant Professor Wade Bishop organized a paper session at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting titled Careers and Collaborations: Partnerships in Archives, Data Centers, and Libraries to share findings from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant "Geographic Information Librarianship"

to bolster the data curation education related to geographic information and receive feedback from a variety of stakeholders in the future of the field. Several GIL-funded students will also participate in a discussion with leading practitioners about the GIL project and next steps at the Map and Geospatial Information Round Table (MAGIRT) Education Committee during the American Library Association Annual Meeting in Las Vegas.

Bishop also published two articles concerning the roles of public libraries in enhancing community resilience as post crisis communication hubs in *Risk Analysis* and *Public Library Quarterly*.

Ed Cortez

Associate Director Suzie Allard and Director and Professor Ed Cortez presented their paper, “Key issues in STEM specific education: Lessons learned at the University of Tennessee, USA” at the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) World Library and Information Congress held in Singapore in August. The session included five other presenters from around the world and finished with a panel discussion that responded to questions from the audience.

Allard, Cortez and Frank Aviles (doctoral student) had their paper, “An intercultural e-toolkit for STEM field mentoring,” accepted for presentation at the 6th Annual Mentoring Conference held at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque in October 2013.

Kimberly Douglass

Dr. Kimberly Douglass received the Bonnie Carroll and Roy Cooper Enrichment Award for promising faculty. She received the award at the SIS Hooding Ceremony in May 2013.

On October 10, Assistant Professor Kimberly Douglass presented her research, “Empirically separate but nominally equal: Is there a political economy of STEM schools in Tennessee?” at the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting in San Diego, California. Her presentation was part of the Experts-in-Training: Professional Socialization in Medicine & STEM session.

Short Article

10 Go-to Federal Government Information Sources

1. FDsys.gov: “provides free online access to official publications from all three branches of the Federal Government”
2. FDLP.gov: Federal Depository Libraries - “disseminates U.S. Government information to the American public through libraries across the nation”
3. Budget.gov: “contains the Budget Message of the President, information on the President’s priorities, budget overviews organized by agency, and summary tables”
4. usgovernmentmanual.gov: “is the official handbooks of the Federal Government”
5. Fedstats.gov: “provides access to the full range of official statistical information produced by the Federal Government without [the user] having to know in advance which Federal agency produces which particular statistic”
6. USA.gov: “U.S. government’s official web portal, USA.gov makes it easy for the public to get U.S. government information and services on the web”
7. childstats.gov: “federal forum on child and family statistics”
8. kids.usa.gov: “links kids, parents and teachers to U.S. government information and services on the web from government agencies, schools, and educational organizations, all geared to the learning level and interest of kids”
9. loc.gov: Library of Congress - “supports the Congress in fulfilling its constitutional duties and to further the progress of knowledge and creativity for the benefit of the American people”
10. <http://ctasgis02.psur.utk.edu/credapopulation/>: state and local governments’ technical services agencies such as University of Tennessee’s County Technical Advisory Service in the Institute for Public Service. The partial shutdown of the Federal Government rippled far and wide, even across some SIS courses such as Government Information Sources that depend upon Federal websites. Also, state and local governments themselves provide alternate routes to Federal data and information.

Rachel Fleming-May

In June Rachel Fleming-May made a presentation at the American Library Association Annual Conference on behalf of the Value, Outcomes, and Return on Investment of Academic Libraries (LibValue) Project, helmed by Dr. Carol Tenopir. The program was sponsored by the ALA Committee on Research and Statistics (CORS) and was selected as a Library Journal “Editor’s Pick” Program.

Dr. Fleming-May has also been busy conducting research for her IMLS National Leadership Planning Grant, entitled “Virtual verse in the library: Surveying the e-poetry landscape.” Over the summer and fall, she and her Co-Principal Investigator (Harriett Green, Assistant Professor of Library Administration at the University of Illinois) have conducted three national surveys and a number of one-on-one phone interviews with poets, librarians, and literary journal editors and publishers. As of this writing, Dr. Fleming-May is preparing to present selected findings at the Charleston Conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

Carolyn Hank

Assistant Professor Carolyn Hank’s article, “Communications in blogademia: An assessment of scholar blogs’ attributes and functions,” appears in the most recent issue of *New Review of Information Networking*. She reported on another on-going blog-related study, “The tenacity of orphaned blogs,” at the Society of American Archivists (SAA) Annual Meeting as part of the 2013 SAA Research Forum program (she also is on the program committee for the Forum). At the Annual Meeting, held in New Orleans in August, she also took part in the panel, “Working on your perfect pitch: Elevator speeches from the field,” drawing from her experience in advocating and promoting digital curation adoption and awareness. She also participated in the meeting of the Archival Educator’s Roundtable (AERT), to which she was recently appointed to the AERT’s steering committee.

Her focus on archival education was further advanced through her participation in the 2013 Archival Education and Research Institute (AERI), held in Austin TX this past June. While there she presented a white paper, “Evolved roles, evolved curricula: The who, where and what in digital archiving graduate education.” She also served as the chair and commentator for the Social Media and Identities paper session.

Dr. Hank is a member of the recently funded research partnership, InterPARES Trust (ITrust). ITrust is a multi-national, interdisciplinary research project exploring issues concerning digital records entrusted to the Internet. As a co-applicant on the project, with the School of Information Sciences serving as a partner organization, Dr. Hank is a member of the Team North American and co-chair of the Regional Cross Domain for Education. ITrust is based at the Centre for the International Study of Contemporary Records and Archives (www.ciscra.org), School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, and is led by Dr. Luciana Duranti (UBC), Project Director and Co-Director of Team North America.

Dr. Hank continues to serve on the faculty of the Digital Curation Professional Institute, hosted at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<http://ils.unc.edu/digcurr/institute.html>). The institute celebrated its five-year anniversary this past May. She also served on the program committees for iPRES 2013 (International Conference on Digital Preservation), and the 2013 TPDL workshop, Moving Beyond Technology: iSchools and Education in Data Curation. Is Data Curator a New Role? .

Bharat Mehra

Associate Professor Bharat Mehra was given an Award for Excellence by QScience.com, a collaborative, peer-reviewed online publishing platform developed by Bloomsbury Qatar Foundation Journals. His article co-authored with Dr. Vandana Singh entitled “Strengths and weaknesses of the information technology curriculum in library and information science graduate programs” has been published in the *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*, 45(3). His article co-authored with Donna Braquet and Calle M. Fielden entitled “A website evaluation of the top 25 public universities in the United States to assess their support of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people” is forthcoming in *Expanding the Circle* edited by Dr. John Hawley and published by SUNY Press. In the same monograph his article co-authored with Dr. John E. Haley and Dylan Lane entitled “Culturally appropriate information support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) South Asians: Representing

multiple shades of identity based on sexual orientation and ethnicity” is also forthcoming.

Mehra is serving as Guest Editor for a special issue of the *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*, tentatively scheduled for June 2014 entitled “A gender-based inquiry of library and information science education.” Mehra (with Dr. Kendra S. Albright from the University of South Carolina) is co-chairing the ALISE Planning Committee of the 2015 Centennial Conference tentatively titled “Mirrors & windows: Reflections on social justice and re-imagining LIS education” scheduled for January 27 - 30, 2015, in Chicago, Illinois. Mehra has been invited to join the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science* and the *Pakistan Journal of Library & Information Science*.

His 2011 article co-authored with Dr. Devendra Potnis and Jennifer Morden entitled “An exploratory study of the nature and composition of current library and information science programs in Indian state universities” is the second most downloaded article (301 downloads from 2010-2012) published by *Perspectives in International Librarianship*. The editor of *World Journal of Aids* (WJA) also shared that Mehra’s 2011 paper “The role of library and information science education in the development of community health information services for people living with HIV/AIDS: Perspectives of directors/managers of public libraries” has been downloaded 981 times making it “one of the most popular papers in the journal.”

Devendra Potnis

Assistant Professor Devendra Potnis’ research article titled “Cell-phone-enabled empowerment of women earning less than \$1/day” is assigned as a required reading for CIS 8050 Business Communications and Networks, a core course in Master of Science in Information Systems Program offered by the Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University, Atlanta.

Potnis is currently working on the following two research projects: (a) “IBM’s Spoken Web for Development” in collaboration with Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technologies, India, and School of Business, University at Albany, State University of New York, Albany, New York; and (b) “Adoption of Social Media and Information Behavior of Small Businesses in Silicon Valley” in collaboration with Tennessee Small Business Development Center and Knoxville Chamber of Commerce, which is funded by College of Communication and Information, University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

He was invited to give a research presentation on “IT to Create Value for Small Businesses, Microfinance, & Society” at the Coles College of Business, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia. He has also been made a member of the Program Committee for Mobile Communication for Development (M4D) 2014 Conference to be held in Dakar, Senegal April 8-9, 2014. He has also been made a member of the Editorial Board for the *International Journal of Technology Diffusion*, an IGI Publications, for Fall 2013.

Potnis reviewed research manuscripts submitted to (a) 47th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS), Big Island, Hawaii, 2014, and (b) 2013 International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS), Milan, Italy, and (c) American Society for Information Science and Technology Annual Meeting 2013, Toronto, Canada. He was reappointed as an InfoShare Officer for ASIST – Special Interest Group on International Information Issues for AY2013-14. And finally, Potnis will be offering a newly developed graduate course titled “Social Informatics” which covers various effects of digitization on the society and its implications for information professionals in Spring 2014.

Line Pouchard

Adjunct Associate Professor Line Pouchard was invited to the Center for Research Computing at the University of Notre-Dame to present her seminar “Improving Data Discovery for DataONE” in Spring 2013.

Her DataONE student from Summer 2012 won the Best Student Paper award at the Joint Conference on Digital Libraries in Indianapolis, IN, July 2013, for the paper “Automatic annotation of metadata using probabilistic topic modeling” Suppawong Tuarob, Line Pouchard, Lee Giles.

She also co-authored: “A linked science investigation: Enhancing climate change data discovery with semantic technologies,” which appeared in the June 2013 issue of *Earth Science Informatics*.

Vandana Singh

This summer and fall have been very exciting for Dr. Singh. She submitted her tenure dossier and wrapped up the Early Career Research Grant from IMLS. The grant was on Open Source Integrated Library Systems and was active for four years (2009-2013). This project resulted in several publications and the development of an information portal for use by anybody interested in Open Source ILS: www.OpenSourceILS.com. This portal also has a list of publications resulting from this project. Dr. Singh looks forward to keeping the inquiry and research area active. She also submitted another research proposal to National Science Foundation in collaboration with a Dr. Elizabeth Hendrickson from the School of Journalism and Electronic Media, it will look at the publishing industry's transformation as a result of the adoption of mobile platforms.

In spring and summer 2013, Singh served as the acting Associate Director for School of Information Sciences overseeing staff evaluations, student admissions, and fall orientation planning.

Dr. Singh and Dr. Cortez conducted a webinar Oct. 24 on "Open source ILS portal: An information portal for librarians" for the Graduate School of Information Sciences and Technologies at University of Puerto Rico to Celebrate their "Open Access Week".

Carol Tenopir

Chancellor's Professor Carol Tenopir is glad to be back in Knoxville after her research leave at University of New South Wales in Australia and summer school teaching in London. Nine UT students joined students from Pratt University at King's College, London, for a wonderful summer school experience on scholarly e-publishing.

This semester she is working with research teams on grants from the National Science Foundation (DataONE), IMLS (LibValue, SciData, and others), and the Sloan Foundation (trust in scholarly communication). Recently she has given presentations about these research projects at the Fiesole Retreat in Singapore, BYU library forum in Provo, Utah, and CONCERT library consortium meeting in Taiwan.

Tenopir was elected to the Board of Directors for Dryad (science data repository) and is serving a second term on the Board of Directors for Project COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of NeTworked Electronic Resources).

Cindy Welch

Assistant Clinical Professor Cindy Welch attended the mid-summer annual American Library Association conference in Chicago, where she listened to many sessions about the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and how to implement them. As a student, she attended the May Teaching Professor Conference in New Orleans, LA where the sessions covered technology and various pedagogical approaches to learning.

CCSS was also a topic in a session during the Tennessee Association of School Librarians (TASL) Camp, in Pittman, TN. Welch took the Volunteer State Book Awards list for middle and high school students and showcased connections to the CCSS. Other presentations by Welch have focused on: bibliotherapy for elementary school students (Grief Outreach Initiative, Nov.); and for youth in general (SIS HABIT fundraiser in Aug.); Teen Read Week (Sept./Oct., for the Tennessee Library Association, TASL, and the State Library of TN); and integrating technology into youth services classes (Office of Information Technology (OIT), Communities of Practice).

The OIT presentation was the result of Welch's Faculty First Grant award, which allowed her to explore various software applications and technology assignments for the youth services classes. As a result, she was able to incorporate several assignments into fall term: a book trailer (electronic book talk) and advocacy video for IS 573 – Programming for Children & Young Adults; an assignment to choose and use a software application for the IS 551 – School Library Media Centers class; and infographics as a way to convey information about the Dewey Decimal categories for the IS 590 – Nonfiction for Youth course. Early indications are that the youth services students have embraced the technology with a little trepidation in some cases, but excitement and creativity in general.

The IS 590 – Nonfiction for Youth class is being taught for the first time this spring, and is timely in view of the increased interest in promoting and developing nonfiction reading as part of STEM and CCSS initiatives. For the IS 551 – School Library Media Centers class, Welch called on several SIS alums to help prepare their future

colleagues. Rebekah Ellis ('11) was part of an experienced librarian panel, which was followed by a “newbie” panel composed of Travis Tidwell ('13), Jennifer May ('13), and Rachel Steiner ('12), who talked about their first year's experiences. As a result of assembling these panels, a re-connection was established when Welch contacted the Virginia School Library Association (VAASL) and asked Julie Tate ('77), the immediate past president, if she was willing to join the panel. She indicated that she is also a SIS alum!

This fall, Welch worked with the UT College of Education, Health & Human Sciences on their NCATE/NAEP and State of Tennessee reaccreditation (which means that our K-12 School Library endorsement is in fine shape), to creating advising pathways in youth services and school librarianship with the help of Dr. Dania Bilal.

Welch has been chosen or elected to the following groups and looks forward to working with practitioners and academics at all levels on these projects:

- Library History Round Table (LHRT), ALA, Board, Member at Large
- Young Adult Library Services Association, ALA, Frances Henne Award Jury, YALSA/ALISE Fellowship Working Group, Student Member Engagement Task Force
- Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), ALA, May Hill Arbutnot Honor Lecture Award Committee
- Tennessee Library Association (TLA), Frances Neel Cheney Award Committee

Alumni Society News



(l-r) Dobbs, Lindsay, Durman, Martha Earl and Madson

The SIS Alumni Society continues to serve as the active community of graduates who provide the connection between the school and its grads. The newly elected officers of the executive board are:

Aaron Dobbs '94	President
J. Michael Lindsay '02	Vice-president, President-elect
Martha Earl '85	Past-president
Nancy Williams '09	Secretary
Jamie Osborn '08	Member-at-large (Yr. 2 of 2 yr. term)
Susan Earl '85	Member-at-large (Yr. 2 of 2 yr. term)
Chris Durman '05	Member-at-large, (Yr. 1 of 2 yr. term)
Andy Madson '06	Member-at-large, (Yr. 1 of 2 yr. term)

SIS Alumni: Dreams. Goals. Reality Can Be Both.

These three SIS graduates have successfully pursued very different careers. Each is finding fulfilling work anchored in their common thread of an SIS education.

Anne Langley, Head Librarian Princeton's Lewis Library



Anne Langley

Anne Langley ('93) is Head Librarian at Princeton University's Science and Technology Libraries, as well as the Chemistry Liaison. Recently she added Director of Scholarly Communications to her list of responsibilities. Langley always knew she wanted to be in administration for an academic library.

At UT, she was able to customize her studies by doing a practicum with an administrator at Hodges Library. As a result of that practicum, the first three years after graduation Langley worked as a special projects librarian at Hodges. She gained experience with collection development and management, library systems, and data collection and analysis. The project work gave her a foundation from which she has built the career of her dreams.

Prior to Princeton, Langley worked at North Carolina State and Duke Universities. Her last position at Duke was Embedded Chemistry Librarian. Her undergraduate work included Chemistry and Chemical Engineering studies. Langley has successfully melded her experiences and education to create a career that is uniquely hers.

At some universities, librarians are considered tenure-track faculty and at others they are not. At Princeton, Langley will start over with her work to attain tenure, also called continuing appointment. She considers the tenured librarianship academic position to be the best fit for her. She has co-authored three books and written numerous articles, white papers and conference papers.

Langley was able to focus her learning activities at UT to match her goals and dreams. Her advice for current and prospective students is to learn how to sell their ideas both internally and externally. Knowing how to organize and prioritize multiple projects can go a long way toward being a good administrator. Her other advice: Take a marketing course. Langley never expected that learning how to effectively 'cold call' faculty and department chairs to learn more about them, their students and their research, would be a much needed skill. She was also surprised to discover that designing marketing materials and developing ad copy would become an integral part of her responsibilities.

Looking back, Langley said finding a mentor who is already in the field is hugely important. The mentor can provide the student with coaching on interviewing skills, resume review, and career and academic guidance. "I'm glad to see the SIS Alumni Society is continuing to work with students on developing interviewing skills and providing some resume help," said Langley. "UT SIS students are very fortunate to have an active group of alumni willing to help even for the many students that do not reside in Knoxville." Langley has offered her assistance as well.

A footnote of interest to our GIS readers...

Within the Lewis Library at Princeton, the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) library service is among the busiest because it serves the entire campus, not just the sciences. The GIS librarian averages at least two 1-hour client sessions each work day. With this volume of service, it is clearly an advancing area of need within libraries. This year SIS added a new faculty member with a focus on GIS studies, Dr. Wade Bishop. With SIS ties to libraries such as the Princeton Lewis Library, possibilities exist to create collaborative learning opportunities. While these options are being developed, current and prospective students can access the network of UT SIS alums like Langley who are willing to mentor others just as they were the recipients of mentoring during their time as students.

Langley is editor of the open access blog oanow.org.

Jeannine Hunter, Writer Children's National Health System

Jeannine Hunter ('05) accepted a position as a writer for the Children's National Health System website. The hospital is located in Washington, D.C. (<http://www.childrensnational.org/>). Hunter previously worked as an online editor and web producer for the Washington Post. She still contributes stories to the paper as a freelance writer.

Hunter has also created communication materials such as white papers, reports and brochures for nonprofit organizations before joining Children's National in late September. In her new role she will write content for the website while working with the website redesign team. Why writing? Hunter's undergraduate degree in Communication Arts was earned at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C.

Working as a journalist through much of her graduate school experience at The University of Tennessee, Hunter found her way to UT through a friend's insight. Hunter's friend saw a piece in the Oak Ridge, TN newspaper about scholarship opportunities at the UT School of Information Sciences. She was keenly interested in children's literature and saw herself as a librarian.

"After looking over the website and other materials, I still didn't grasp all of the possibilities available to me with a degree in Information Sciences," said Hunter. "As I began the program, the options unfolded with each course I took." During her time as an SIS student, Hunter lived in Knoxville at first and volunteered at the Haley Farm – Children's Defense Fund (<http://www.childrensdefense.org/about-us/haley-farm/>) just outside of Knoxville. In that volunteer role, she worked with the librarian to assist with collection development and to incorporate the donations provided by Barnes and Noble. Hunter was a classmate of Theresa Venable who is now Librarian and Programs Coordinator for the Haley Farm and CCI Board of Visitor's member. Hunter also worked on a project in the newsroom library at the Knoxville News-Sentinel while a student and as a religion reporter. She also conducted media workshops for student leaders undergoing Freedom School training as well as helped set up and clean up before and after different events such as the annual Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry held at the Haley Farm.

During the latter part of Hunter's grad school experience she moved to Nashville to take a job as a reporter for The Tennessean. "Being a journalist is not a 9 to 5 job," remarked Hunter. "The distance education advantage was huge for me. It also taught me the real meaning of being a Tennessee Volunteer and it has nothing to do with sports." Hunter was assigned to follow a group of Middle Tennessee volunteers who headed to Louisiana in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. She found her professors were very understanding of her challenges in joining the class during those difficult days. Moreover, some of her classmates had been directly affected by the storm. "We rallied to support and encourage each other during those dark days. We even collected donations as a group. Seeing the compassion poured out in Louisiana and by my classmates, even though we attended class virtually, brought home the meaning of what it means to be a Tennessee Volunteer. It's a role I relish to this day."

Hunter is grateful for the IMLS grant that enabled her studies at UT. The scholarship was funded to encourage diversity students to seek degrees in Information Sciences. It also provided a laptop and other needed technology. Through her degree in Information Sciences, Hunter has gained an awareness of a whole different world. She learned the LIS field is much broader than just the Dewey Decimal System. It encompasses literacy, technology and problem solving by identifying, collecting and storing retrievable information. It transcends many disciplines.

Content management awareness was a concept introduced to Hunter through her studies. She also gained exposure to diverse authors, international experiences and found a respect for the scholarship her professors brought to the classroom.

Hunter cites some of the most impactful SIS courses as major contributors to her career path. Among them was Dr. Bharat Mehra's course on diversity literature because it taught her to be sensitive to issues new to her and she really liked the challenging class assignments. Dr. Dania Bilal's web centric class had direct application



Jeannine Hunter

to the work she was doing at the time. The technical search skills were invaluable then and now. Other classes on understanding HTML, web editors, and website creation provided skills she has used in successive roles as a web producer and editor. It gave her a good foundation and confidence to continue to grow her knowledge as Internet capabilities have expanded.

Hunter advises current SIS students to enjoy their experience and the process. She advocates stretching beyond one's comfort zone and to take classes outside of their planned program if possible. "Open your mind to new or at least complimentary paths to your planned program," said Hunter.

To prospective UT SIS students, Hunter confirms that the high ranking and ALA accreditation of the program are well deserved. The strength of the SIS faculty's experience and research, keeps them relevant. "SIS faculty are shaping the current day LIS theory and practice," Hunter noted. She felt her professors were not hand-holders but were very caring and friendly. She found value in getting to know them. The ability to customize her coursework rather than being tracked by a cookie cutter program enabled Hunter to carve out her own destiny. She encourages students to explore the courses within the program and to not prejudge a class or field.

"I chose a non-traditional IS career path but, frankly what makes the UT SIS program work is its variety," observed Hunter. "It allows folks from different fields and disciplines to find their way; the best path for them."

Want to read some of Jeannine Hunter's work? http://www.washingtonpost.com/jeannine-hunter/2012/06/28/gJQA8GtQ9V_page.html

Katie Archambault, Director of Research Emma Willard School

Katie Archambault ('03) began her IS career at the Microsoft site library in Charlotte. She has also worked as a public librarian, information specialist, independent research consultant and been a full time Mom. In 2007 she saw a unique job posting in the Times Free Press for an Assistant Librarian at Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga, TN. It was at this job Archambault found her niche in independent school libraries. In August of 2013 she became Director of Research at the Emma Willard School in upstate New York (<http://www.emmawillard.org/>). The school is one of the nation's oldest all-girl boarding and day schools in the country. She and her husband Paul and their three children, Riley (8), Jack (6), and Bryce (4) relocated to New York over the summer.

The following is an interview with Katie Archambault:

(SIS) Tell us about your current job responsibilities.

(KA) I am working in a school that is celebrating its Bicentennial this year and am in a very dated space with a massive print collection. I have been charged with reimagining the library to transform it into a 21st century space, a learning commons if you will. I am doing everything right now, including collection development, weeding, cataloging, circulation, providing reference instruction, creating book displays, collaborating with teachers, creating research guides, teaching everything from scholarly research to Googling like a librarian to the principles of intellectual property in the digital age. I have redesigned the library web site, streamlined database access, and am blogging, tweeting, and creating a digital newsletter to market library programs and services. I'm also teaching three seniors in an archival research class studying U.S. history through the lens of our amazing school archive and I'm an advisor to six



Archambault at Emma Willard School in Troy, NY

freshmen, three of whom are day students, the other three are boarders from Massachusetts, Nigeria, and Japan.

(SIS) Did you imagine yourself in this role while you were a student?

(KA) No, I thought I would be working in the corporate world. I wanted to go into competitive intelligence and I took as many courses with Dr. Tenopir and Dr. Albright as possible.

(SIS) What is unique about your job compared to public school or public library jobs?

(KA) I work in a single sex school for one thing. It's amazing to watch how girls engage and find their voice without boys in the classroom. Independent schools typically do not participate in any sort of state testing program so those super-stressed conversations that you might hear among public school folks, the binds of common core, going through rigorous evaluations, we are exempt from those. We can use them, of course, to better serve our community, but we are not bound by them. There is no "teaching to the test"; therefore, there is endless room for creativity. Our libraries are typically better funded than public schools. I have known public school librarians who have to provide their own copy paper, who rely on book fairs for their collection development funds, who have to pay for their own professional development. Not here—we typically have very healthy budgets and are encouraged to apply for any and all professional development funds. I have attended some amazing conferences in Toronto, San Francisco, Nashville, Denver, and Baltimore. I took a distance ed Programming for Young Adults class with Dr. Welch. I have taken some ALA courses online and I have traveled to roundtables and conferences, oftentimes presenting my own research and engaging in professional conversation throughout the state. I have time to be creative and I am encouraged wholeheartedly to be a leader. Teachers in my world have planning periods built into their days. They welcome me into their classroom to collaborate, but do not rely on me to create planning time, something I have heard happens in the public school world. Both independent schools that I have worked in have been college prep schools so we are using and teaching the same databases that students will use at the next level. We are not typically paid as much as public school librarians in terms of salary, but the benefits far outweigh the difference in salary.



Archambault with students

I serve a population of bright, motivated girls and an amazing, engaged faculty who genuinely

want to be here, who are passionate about their education, and who take this opportunity very seriously. The girls fill their days with not only rigorous classes, but clubs, sports, activities, and community service projects. They travel to study languages, cultures, and to serve others. Our student body is made up of 336 girls from 35 countries and 23 states. 51% of students here are on aid, which allows for some amazing diversity in the classroom. I could go on and on about the strengths of program and electives offered that you would be hard pressed to find in public schools. Personally, I will say that partnering with these bright teachers—being invited in to teach students how to be critical information consumers say, in the context of a Shakespearean Gender Benders class—it's just so much fun.

Did I mention that the school provides housing for my family? We are living in a 4 bedroom, 2 ½ bath house on one of the most scenic 137 acre campuses imaginable. The track and soccer field are adjacent to my front yard and there are 40 wooded acres full of running trails behind my house. The gothic buildings on campus, built in 1910, are like something out of Hogwarts. My colleagues are my neighbors and my students sit across from my family and me in the dining room. I'm finding that work at a boarding school is more than a job; it's a way of life.

(SIS) What is your favorite part of the job?

(KA) The fireplace in the center of the library. Just kidding, though I do love it and I think it will be amazing when winter hits this southerner for the first time. My favorite part of this job is that I'm encouraged to dream and that I can look forward to seeing that dream (or some version of it) in action one day as the library redesign progresses. I also get to enjoy school breaks and summer with my kids, a huge bonus.

(SIS) Why do you think you bring special qualifications to the job?

(KA) I love developing relationships with people. Professionally, that helps market the library. Who doesn't want to work with their friend, right? I am tech savvy and I like to play. I like making the library the intellectual hub, buzzing with activity, the 'place to be' on campus. If I don't know how to do something, I pair it with a goal for the library and kill two birds with one stone, like learning iMovie in order to create book trailers. I like to blog and experiment with social media, connecting with students, and I love creating digital library newsletters which tend to connect with the adults. I am stubborn—a great attribute for a researcher—I love reading and talking books, and I love serving others.

(SIS) What components of your degree program are helping you the most in your current job?

(KA) I think that the program was an awesome foundation for what I do now—programming and book talking for teens, web design, cataloging, collection development, the reference interview, and of course the advanced research techniques that I learned really do help in explaining advanced search features to my students. I was also a graduate teaching assistant for the communications department exposing me to the admin side of Blackboard, which has been very helpful, as well as lecturing, grading, etc. without an actual teaching degree. I also took a great Photoshop class as an elective—conveying information without using words. This has been surprisingly useful as I play with images for my newsletter, blog, etc.

(SIS) If you could give current students some advice, what would it be?

(KA) Look beyond a paycheck when you are considering your career options. Find something that you are passionate about. It will shine through your work. You cannot put a dollar value on a feeling of professional fulfillment years down the line. Utilize the practicum program—try out a variety of libraries. If you have time, interview or shadow professionals. See what a day in the life truly is like, don't just imagine it. Take courses that teach you to market your library—you are going to have to convince others of your utility in any community that you serve. Pray for a good supervisor/mentor. If you don't find it, find a mentor through the SIS program. Stay relevant, read professional journals, follow blogs, continue to take classes, learn new skills, don't be afraid to take risks, network, follow job boards and when you see your dream job but know you aren't quite there, make a to-do list of skills that you need to gain in order to get there the next time a job like it is posted.

(SIS) Likewise, what is your advice to prospective SIS students?

(KA) Do not be discouraged by articles questioning the future or relevance of libraries and librarians in the 21st century! It's been happening since the card catalog was replaced with the OPAC. Many are calling us the 'Sherpas of the Information Age'. Now, more so than ever, knowledgeable guides are needed to help people find the best information to suit their needs. Look into all of the potential fields that a degree from SIS can take you. Whether it's a traditional or non-traditional path, the technological component of the program will prepare you for jobs that quite possibly haven't even been thought of today. Cliché but true.

(SIS) What advice would you give to SIS graduates in their job search?

(KA) Create an online portfolio. Use it to show your comfort with technology and to present examples of your work. This will give you an edge over the vast majority of your competition right now. Keep your cover letter brief, showing that you read the position description and that you are qualified, and then give the URL for your portfolio. It should demonstrate your skills and show your personality. Use Dr. Robinson's interview prep materials. They work!! Do your homework before you interview and have a list of questions prepared to ask them. You will show your interest and professionalism by being prepared. Be prepared to sell yourself—no one else is going to do it for you. You'll win some, you'll lose some, but you'll learn something each time.

(SIS) Do you think it matters if a graduate receives a degree from an ALA accredited program?

(KA) I totally think it matters. The accreditation process is quality control in my mind. It is a constant reminder for program administrators to create and maintain a rigorous academic environment, to offer the most relevant courses, to hold themselves accountable year by year, and to best prepare students for the professional world. So many employers trust the accreditation process and therefore limit applicants to only graduates of ALA accredited programs. I can't imagine risking wasting my time or money on a degree that is potentially useless in the job market or one that limits my marketability.

(SIS) What is the funniest or most gratifying experience you have had in your career?

(KA) After reading “The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind” a few years ago, I was determined to get as many people in my school to read it, teachers and students alike. I came up with a marketing campaign that included a borrowed TVA 6 foot model wind turbine spinning away in the library, 7th grade windmill art sculptures made out of recycled objects inspired by quotes in the book, and an assembly speaker from a local mega-wind turbine producing company comparing his company’s design with William Kamkwamba’s homemade one. We left for winter break and I had no idea how successful my campaign might be. We returned to discuss as a community. Our group consisted of twelve teachers and fifteen students. Success! After our book discussion, we watched William’s TED talks as well as trailers for its upcoming documentary, “Moving Windmills”. It was fabulous. I thought that was the end of it.

The next year, UTC chose the book as their all-freshman read. William arrived at UTC to speak to the student body right as Hurricane Irene struck the Northeast, delaying his return to Dartmouth. UTC had heard of our reading program and called to see if we might like to host him for a half day. Would we ever?!! Best.day.ever. Getting to meet him, to hear him speak with various STEM related classes and to hear the girls question the scientific principles he used to create his windmill, and then hosting him in the library for a book discussion and book signing...it was one of the best days of my life. I’m only afraid that he might have been a little overwhelmed with my Beatles Mania-like excitement to meet him.

Library site: <http://emmalibrary.com>

Blog: <http://emmalibrary.wordpress.com>

Archambault portfolio: <http://katiearchambault.weebly.com>



Archambault with Kamkwamba

Why get a Masters in IS?

Several years ago this degree program was referred to as the “Library School” where students interested in becoming librarians came to study and learn about their profession. Today the school offers education and professional preparation for a greatly expanded list of professions and jobs in a variety of work environments.

To get a glimpse of the potential jobs and places of employment for our graduates, take a look at this site, <http://whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major/information-and-library-sciences/>.

Our website contains a great deal of information about the program, potential financial assistance and how to go about applying.

Got Questions?

Our staff Coordinator of Student Services, Tanya Arnold, is ready to answer your questions and assist you through the application process. She is best reached at tnarnold@utk.edu.

Why UT?

- Academic excellence
- Flexible all online program
- Nationally-ranked
- Top-rated faculty
- Work & attend part-time
- ALA accredited
- iSchool member

Society of American Archivists

From the Society of American Archivists conference in New Orleans, Beth Davis-Brown sent a photo of the booth. Pictured are (l-r) April Akins, Dr. Carolyn Hank, and Krista Oldham. Akins is president and Oldham is vice-president of the SAA student chapter.



Arkansas Library Association Conference



Hadi Dudley led the way for SIS at the Arkansas Library Association Conference. The School hosted a booth at the 2013 Arkansas Library Association Annual Conference in Hot Springs, AR. Photographed here are UTK SIS alumni and current student Krista Oldham who volunteered during the event.

From Left to Right: Hadi Dudley, Library Director of Bentonville Public Library; Heather Hays, Reference Librarian at Bentonville Public Library; Krista Oldham, Senior Level Archival Manager at the University of Arkansas Library; Amber Gregory, Coordinator of E-Rate Services at the Arkansas State Library

International Federation of Library Associations

Several SIS faculty members attend the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) in Singapore this past August. Dr. Cortez sent back some photos from the event. Dr. Cortez is pictured here with the convener from the program session where he and Dr. Allard presented, “Key issues in STEM specific education: Lessons learned at the University of Tennessee, USA.” The session included five other presenters from around the world and finished with a panel discussion that responded to questions from the audience. Also seen at IFLA were two other SIS Alums, Fatima and ShaLi Zhang.



Upcoming Conference Schedule

Anyone interested in helping out at the SIS exhibit for any of the upcoming conferences should contact Tanya Arnold at tnarnold@utk.edu. Plans are in the works to also attend the following:

Dates	Event	Location
Jan. 24-28	ALA Midwinter Conference	Philadelphia, PA
Apr. 28-29	Connecticut Library Association Annual Conference	Cromwell, CT
Apr. 30-May 2	Tennessee Library Association Conference	Murfreesboro, TN
May 7-9	Maryland/Delaware Associations Joint Conference	Ocean City, MD
May 18-20	Virginia Library Association Paraprofessional Conference	Richmond, VA
June 2-3	New Jersey Library Association Conference	Atlantic City, NJ
June 26-30	ALA Annual Conference	Las Vegas, NV

Student News

Special Libraries Association



Dr. Douglass and the student chapter of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) hosted “Coffee with Deb Hunt, International President of SLA” at Hodges Library in September. Pictured to the left are UT Dean of Libraries Steve Smith, Deb Hunt, and SIS Assistant Professor Kimberly Douglass.

Christensen’s Research Published

SIS student **Rob Christensen** co-authored a publication with colleagues from the University of Central Arkansas which has been made available by School Library Research, a research journal of the American Association of School Librarians. Whittingham, Jeff; Huffman, Stephanie; Christensen, Rob; and McAlister,

Tracy. “Use of Audiobooks in a School Library and Positive Effects of Struggling Readers’ Participation in a Library-Sponsored Audiobook Club.”

Omission from the spring edition of Interface pp. 26 – 27

The piece entitled, “What Motivates You” featured a photograph of a ballerina and a musician on a busy city street. The picture was taken by Paul D. Van Hoy II (www.fotoimpressions.com). In case you are wondering, the dancer is Ms. Aesha Ash who was delighted to know that we are so inspired by the photograph!

Keenan Lecture

Mary Anne Kennan, senior lecturer at the School of Information Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Australia presented her lecture, “Contributions from volunteers of ‘Little Data’ to ‘Big Data’ repositories?” on October 28. Chancellor’s Professor Carol Tenopir hosted Kennan’s visit to SIS.



Dr. Kennan teaches courses on digital environments, data management, and research methods. Her research interests include scholarly communication, institutional repositories & open access, e-research, data management, sharing, & collaborating practices, and academic library research support services. Explore her blog at <http://maryannekennan.com>.

Blackboard was used to enable distance students to participate in the lecture as well as the campus students.



Internship at State Department Provides Unique Experience

SIS second year student Inga Haugen had a very unique opportunity at the U.S. Department of State starting in July and ending in September. She even had to get a security clearance for her internship. While working for the State Department she worked with “American Spaces” around the world to help individuals in foreign countries find the information they sought.

The State Department has over 800 American Spaces around the world set up as micro-libraries. Maintenance of these small information and program spaces requires careful selection and elimination of source materials from Washington DC. Haugen admitted she had to hit the ground running as an intern. She was surprised that the work she was assigned allowed her to contribute as a key player and was not clerical or make-work assignments.

“This internship allowed me to apply the theory I learned in my classes to a live environment which will benefit many people in the future,” said Haugen. She hopes the quality of her work and the enthusiastic response she received from her co-workers and supervisors will pave the way for future UT SIS students to also do internships in the department. Sarah Shabbir, acting division chief said of Haugen, “One thing we need to always remember is that it’s not enough to just put something online. You have to make it so that your intended audience can actually find it. Inga’s knowledge of search engine optimization and tagging were invaluable to our team.”

One significant snag to the internship was the problem of housing in the D.C. area. Dr. Kitty McClanahan, SIS practicum and internship program coordinator, found a DC-area alum, Valerie Jopeak, who provided a viable, creative solution to the problem for Haugen. Jopeak helped Haugen secure an affordable short-term arrangement. “Being a distance education program with alumni scattered across the country can have hidden benefits,” McClanahan noted.

In addition to her internship, Haugen has been learning about and working with agricultural data in cutting edge applications. She perfectly demonstrates how the ag campus and UT main campus can collaborate. She came to UT from Minnesota last year to enroll in the information sciences program because she could customize her studies to incorporate her passion for the agricultural scientific data needs of the future. Prior to coming to Tennessee, Haugen ran a family dairy farm back home.

The agricultural area is growing in national prominence as people are becoming more focused on how their food is produced and partly driven by changes in climate. Sourcing and tracking food for reasons of health safety and national security are also driving the need for rational and retrievable ag data. Haugen has already had a poster representing some of her research accepted by an important ag conference!



Inga Haugen at the State Department

Internships & Practicums
A World View

Cortez Sets New Practicum Site in Vieques Puerto Rico

The last Spanish fort built in the Americas was on Isla de Vieques in Puerto Rico, <http://vieques.com/fortin-spanish-fort/>. The site is now a learning center, gallery and museum. Professor and Director Ed Cortez recently established the location as a future practicum site for SIS students to learn hands-on while working with the cultural and historical materials of the indigenous people of the island.

Bob Rabin, curator and museum director and Dr. Cortez worked through the details to establish this unique and picturesque site as a place for SIS students to learn relevant skills and techniques they can apply to their future jobs. “We have an outstanding list of incredible practicum options for our students which allows them to polish their educational experience in a very personal way,” said Dr. Cortez.



Dr. Cortez with Bob Rabin

The practicum brochure enumerates the seven great reasons for doing a practicum and the Vieques location exemplifies these reasons:

1. Obtain work experience in a particular kind of environment
2. Apply coursework knowledge to a professional setting
3. Explore which kind of information setting is the best fit
4. Learn how and why things are done in the real world from a professional mentor
5. Expand network of professional contacts in field of choice
6. Earn a positive recommendation letter to improve chances for a great job later
7. Make a great impression in job interviews by discussing professional activities & projects

The practicum program is coordinated by Dr. Kitty McClanahan. Details about the program can be found at <http://www.sis.utk.edu/practicum>. Questions can be sent to sispracticum@utk.edu.

The Digital Libraries Special Interest Group (SIGDL) of the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) recently honored **Christopher Eaker ('13)** as the inaugural recipient of the Dr. Deborah Barreau Memorial Award. With exceptional service, research and professional development activities, Eaker served in an editorial capacity for the Research Data Access and Preservation column for the *Bulletin*, the ASIST monthly newsletter.

A 2012 participant in the “Digital Liaisons” student research session, Eaker has now become the lead for organizing and managing the SIGDL Annual Meeting 2014 session entitled “Digital liaisons: Engaging with digital curation theory and practice.” Eaker has also demonstrated tremendous potential in contributions to information science research. He recently presented the award-winning poster and a lighting round talk on conducting a data management audit of a scientific research group, both of which were presented at the 2012 ASIST Annual Meeting. “Chris Eaker has set the standard for excellence in contributions to the SIGDL,” said Marisa Ramirez, SIG-DL Chair. “This award serves as a testament to the determination and exceptional commitment to members of ASIS&T and the SIGDL.”

“I’m honored to receive this award and look forward to making future contributions to ASIS&T and SIGDL,” said Eaker. He was honored during a ceremony that was held during the SIG-DL business meeting at the ASIS&T Annual Conference on Nov. 4, 2013 in Quebec, Canada.

Christopher Eaker is assistant professor and data curation librarian at the University of Tennessee. He comes to the field of library and information science after earning a Bachelor of Science degree in civil and environmental engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology in 2000, and almost ten years of successful practice as a registered civil engineer in TN and GA designing drinking water and wastewater pipelines and treatment systems throughout the southeast.

He entered the field of library and information science to embark on a new career where his technical background and expertise in scientific and engineering data, problem solving, and project management fused perfectly with the growing demand for science data and information specialists. He was chosen to be one of three students to be awarded a fellowship at the University of Tennessee in the Data Curation Education in Research Centers (DCERC) project, a grant funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services to train students from diverse scientific backgrounds in data curation and data management best practices.

Jennifer Randles ('11), media specialist at Hodges Library Studio, is editor of *The Tennessee Archivist*. **Chapel Cowden ('12)**, archives specialist at Lupton Library at UTC, was formerly the co-editor along with **Sarah Copeland ('10)**. **Amanda Carter ('12)** and **Jill Knoke-Staggs ('13)** were both student columnists. The new student columnist is April Akins. Carter recently wrote of her experiences with the History Makers Fellowship in the spring 2013 newsletter. Current and past issues can be found at: <http://tennesseearchivists.org/newsletter.html>.

Adam Cottle ('13) had an article accepted for publication in *Fashion, Style & Popular Culture*, a journal published by Intellect, Ltd. (based in the UK). The title of the article is, “From suits to robes: The use of African inspired apparel as a communication tool in the mid-twentieth century American avant-garde jazz community.” The expected publication date will be in 2014.



Chris Eaker

Alice Duncan ('91), “green” artist Frank D. Robinson Jr. and graphic designer Terry Griffin have collaborated to produce the first annual issue of the WORD WALL CALENDAR. The calendars will be available until March 2014 sell for \$7 and are available online at www.museumcreations.com. One dollar of each sale will benefit Caritas Village, an urban help center that provides free medical care to neighbors in inner city Memphis.



Alice Duncan

Duncan conceived the idea and identified the empowering words assigned to each month. Robinson illustrated the words and artwork. Griffin designed the calendar to create a very sleek black and white presentation that is iconic and memorable.

Duncan served as graduate assistant for the beloved Glenn Estes while at UT. Inspired by his love for children’s literature, Duncan started writing during her years at SIS. She has written four books for young children, published by Simon and Schuster publishing company. A mother’s praise song to her young child, the picture book *Honey Baby Sugar Child* was published in 2005 and is now in its 7th printing.

As a National Board Certified Library Media Specialist, Duncan works for the Shelby County School District in Memphis. She has served as a librarian for 21 years.



Joan Lange ('07) had a book chapter “Building literacy through media-rich projects: Slow down, look, and connect” published in *Collaborative Models for Librarian and Teacher Partnerships* by IGI Global. www.igi-global.com/book/collaborative-models-librarian-teacher-partnerships/75482

“The information sciences program was a fine preparation for this writing project,” said Lange, Librarian at Pope John Paul II High School in Hendersonville, TN.

Tara Bergfeld ('13) has accepted a position with the State of Tennessee comptroller’s Offices of Research and Education Accountability as a Legislative Research Analyst. Assistant Professor Kimberly Douglass had held this position in the past before she came to UT. “It’s a great job,” said Bergfeld. “We don’t assist others with their research so much as perform our own research to keep the members of the General Assembly informed about pertinent policy issues. We write about 10-12 briefs per year on a range of policy topics from methamphetamine use in TN to the implementation of new teacher pay schedules and evaluations. We are expected to know where to go to find relevant and unbiased information to use for our papers so an LIS background and very strong writing skills are a plus.

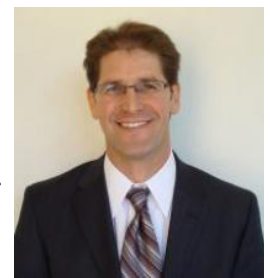


Huweiler

Cara Huweiler ('10), current outreach committee co-chair for the SIS Advisory Board, wrote the interview article (link below) about **Kevin Reynolds ('08)**, Assistant University Librarian for Learning and Access Services at the University of the South.

This marks the beginning of a series of alumni interviews conducted on behalf of the University of Tennessee’s School of Information Sciences Advisory Board.

<http://www.tnla.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=524>



Reynolds

gether on shared challenges. There are currently 46 iSchool institutions, representing 14 countries, and 15 of the top-ranked U.S. schools, including the University of Tennessee's School of Information Sciences.

Over the past two years, SIS and the Curriculum Committee have made substantial progress in several areas, including formalizing student learning outcomes and their assessment, course catalog changes and additions, the continued fruition of the e-portfolio option, and developing pathways to link specific courses to particular career options. Starting with fall 2013, the comprehensive exam format was modified to align it with the University's SACS accreditation standards

In 2013, faculty members continued to garner prestigious awards or honors in recognition of their outstanding contributions to scholarship and teaching in the LIS field. SIS' most honored faculty member is Chancellor's Professor Carol Tenopir, who was awarded the inaugural College of Communication and Information Board of Visitors endowed professorship. In January 2013, Dr. Tenopir was named a 2012 American Association for the Advancement of Science fellow. Suzie Allard was invited to speak at the National Research Council's Board on Research Data & Information in Washington, D.C. in February 2013. She was also just recently awarded the "2013 LJ Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award." (p. 2). The many other noteworthy achievements by the faculty are described under Faculty News (pp.12 - 17)

The new Passport to Success program by all measures continues to be successful. The purpose of the program is to encourage student participation in SIS' many enrichment events, such as visiting scholar lectures, Advisory Board sessions, town hall meetings, student chapter meetings, and many events at the UT Libraries. The program rewards student engagement, by tracking event attendance and tying it to prize drawings. DE students can participate online at almost all Passport events, via the Blackboard Collaborate course delivery software. Another enthusiastically-received activity is the introduction of an optional Thursday night social mixer as the initial event of the incoming student orientation. This mixer was first offered in fall 2011, and is now a regular fixture. Incoming students can mingle with each other, faculty, staff, and even some current students, in a relaxed informal atmosphere, before the intensity of the next day's orientation session.

The administrative functions that support SIS as an efficient and effective academic unit have been enhanced, including responsive student services addressing all stages of the student lifecycle, good communication and a collaborative culture among team members, and a customer service focus that anticipates the needs of faculty and students. The addition of SIS alum Kitty McClanahan (Ph.D., 2011) as Assistant to the Director and coordinator for the practicum program and undergraduate minor has proven to be one of the most important strategic appointments I have made since my tenure at SIS. We think of her as the mortar that cements the complex elements that support every administrative and academic function of the SIS program. In the summer of 2013, Jay Tucker left UT, and Ken McClain became the Program Resource Specialist. In October 2013, Becca Hefti was hired as Administrative Support Assistant, tapping into her similar position at North Carolina Chapel Hill.



Becca Hefti

Throughout the year we have continued to enhance the physical facilities of the School and are anxiously awaiting a thorough renovation of the 4th floor lobby area. A secondary office suite with some SIS faculty offices and CICS (Center for Information and Communication Studies) offices was revamped in spring 2013, including constructing an office for Dr. Hank, and carpet, paint, and furniture for the suite's anteroom and CICS offices.

In summary, a theme that you will note as you read on through this newsletter is that SIS is working hard on raising our visibility, setting and reaching our goals, and finding our best path to success. With this said, SIS' greatest strength lies in the legacy of its alums, and their impact on the information world. With your support through this lifelong connection, I'm confident SIS can achieve our vision of ongoing excellence in information education. Here are just some of the pathways for supporting SIS:

- **Reconnecting:** keep SIS up to date on your career, and encourage other alums you know to check in with us (<http://www.sis.utk.edu/alumni-update>). Our graduate's work lives form a proud library of individual stories; be sure we have your latest chapter!
- **Mentoring:** reach out to current students by hosting a practicum, volunteering as a virtual mentor, or

sharing your professional insights as an online guest speaker!

- **Recruiting:** encourage others to accelerate their careers with an SIS masters, or explain what “information science” is, and its wide range of potential career paths!
 - **Sharing:** give of your time, knowledge, and insights, and a little bit of your treasure helps a lot, too! Donations for scholarships or other kinds of gifting can be life-changing for deserving students, and sustain the good work of the School. Visit <http://www.sis.utk.edu/alumni/scholarships>
- Finally, Jazz and I wish you a happy holiday season!



Advisory Board News

The 2013 – 2014 SIS Advisory Board met Thursday evening Sept. 12 for a dinner meeting at Calhoun’s in Knoxville. Dr. Cortez gave a state of the school update to the board and recognized the members of the board who will be rotating off this year: Tiffani Conner, Julie Loder, Kevin Reynolds, Chuck Sherrill and Sandra Treadway.

During the annual meeting the next day, the board received updates on the actions taken since the last board member particularly in response to the student focus groups held during last year’s meeting. They also received information about SIS’s efforts to recruit students, updates on the school’s curriculum and the efforts toward re-accreditation procedures.



New members were welcomed to the board. They are:

Jeff Barry ('92) – Associate University Librarian at Washington & Lee University

Tim Henderson ('97) - Executive Director at Humanities Tennessee

Karen Hinton ('04)– Manager, Customer Education & Training, North American West for ProQuest

David Johnson ('93) - Executive Director for Fayetteville Arkansas Public Library

Jordan Nielsen ('12) - Assistant Professor and Business Librarian at the University of Arkansas

Line Pouchard ('98) – Staff Scientist at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

ShaLi Zhang ('88) – Dean of Libraries and Professor at the University of Montana

“The SIS Advisory Board continues to provide high-value counsel to the School and its faculty,” said Dr. Cortez. “We are flourishing in part due to the input we have received over the years from the Advisory Board.”

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