



COLLEGE of  
INFORMATION

The intersection of **People**, **Information**, and **Technology**.

# call number

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Fall 2011

Alumni Magazine for the Departments of Library and Information Sciences and Learning Technologies

## Keeping Up With Digital Natives

## Learning Technology & the Rise of Information

## Places & Spaces: A Scientific Visualization Exhibit

## Now Online: Educational Computing PhD



# UNT<sup>TM</sup>

# CALL NUMBER

## Volume 70, Number 2

Alumni Magazine for the Departments of Learning Technologies and Library & Information Sciences

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### Editor's Column

The theme of this issue, "Current and Future Technology," addresses an important topic for us all. It is interesting to look back at developments over the last several decades. When I first taught a course called "Bibliographic Searching" in the late 1970s, we used a small terminal about the size of an old fashioned portable typewriter that utilized a roll of paper for both input and responses. The information retrieved was bibliographic only, not the information itself. Both the students and I were in awe of this wonderful new technology. Students who come to us now have used computers and developing technologies over the years and are fluent in today's digital society. LIS Chair Dr. Hawamdeh terms them "digital natives" in his excellent column on pg. 7 of this issue.

Articles in the FEATURES section deal with different aspects of currency during these rapidly changing times. An article, titled "Aids in Staying Current," is especially designed for alumni who feel the need to update or to learn about some specific area. We hope that the information will be helpful to those attempting to keep pace with technological advances.

I have not received any information about the activities of alumni who are graduates of ATPI and CECS programs of the current Department of Learning Technologies, which only a few years ago was a part of the College of Education (see the information below). We are interested in reporting your positions, whether new or not, and your honors and other accomplishments. We also would like you to send a photograph to use with the information.

*Call Number* has been published since 1939 by the Department of Library Services which later became the School of Library and Information Sciences. Since the establishment of the College of Information, which includes the Departments of Library and Information Sciences and Learning Technologies, *Call Number* has been its official alumni magazine. Please let me hear from you at nichols2514@verizon.net.

**Margaret Irby Nichols**

LIS Emeritus Professor  
Editor, *Call Number*

A couple of years ago the ATPI and CECS programs ended their long tenure in the College of Education and now comprise the Department of Learning Technologies in the College of Information (COI). That means that all ATPI and CECS graduates are alumni of the College of Information. We hope that you will enjoy receiving worthwhile alumni information, such as this college magazine, titled *Call Number*, from your new college. Please send us information about your job and other accomplishments along with a photograph for inclusion in your alumni magazine.

AA/ADA/EOE: It is the policy of the University of North Texas not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability (where reasonable accommodations can be made), disabled veteran status or veteran of the Vietnam era status in its educational programs, activities, admission or employment policies. In addition to complying with federal and state equal opportunity laws and regulations, the university through its diversity policy declares harassment based on individual differences (including sexual orientation) inconsistent with its mission and educational goals. Direct questions or concerns to the equal opportunity office, 940-565-2737 or the dean 940-565-8164. TTY access is available at 940-369-8652.

## The Changing and Challenging Times in Which We Live

Communication systems are continually changing the way people access information. Every device we are using today will go away and be replaced by something else. Telephones, telegraphs, phonographs, radios, fax machines, televisions, and computers each were important steps in communication. In a span of 40 years, we added color televisions, email, cell phones, palm pilots, the internet, iPads, and much more. We have gone from dialup phones to push button to cordless to cell to smart phones, and now voice command search capabilities. 8-track tapes were replaced by cassette tapes that were replaced by CDs, which are currently in the process of disappearing all together. E-mail, texting, and social networks are factors in what appears to be the demise of the U.S. Postal Service, at least as we know it. Newspapers are finding it difficult to compete with instant news delivery via Google and other sources.

We are in the midst of rapidly changing times technologically and challenging times economically. Professional journals are filled with articles reflecting a different world from that of libraries and classrooms only a decade ago and signaling drastic changes in the future. Following are a few statements gleaned from the Internet:

- Within the next decade, the ink-on-paper industry will not be a sustainable economic model.
- Over time we will be transitioning to a verbal society.
- The demand for global information is growing at a rapid rate.
- Due to the Internet and technology, brick and mortar libraries are becoming inefficient.

We have witnessed many changes in libraries and education in recent times. In the

last ten years, we have seen distance education either supplement or replace the traditional classroom settings in higher education. Academic libraries are developing learning commons or collaboration and learning centers (LC or CLC) within and outside the library proper. These spacious, wireless, and largely bookless areas are comfortable spaces where students can discover, create, and collaborate with peers. They consist of computer work stations as well as group work areas with moveable whiteboards designed for group work. UNT Libraries has opened two such facilities and has plans for two additional CLCs at locations around the campus. Professional journals report that school libraries are beginning to create their own versions of learning commons.

At an age when we use technology to customize every other form of information delivery, experts around the country believe we are seeing means of transforming education. "Filling schools with laptops and Smartboards alone is not the answer," says one visionary. ("New Tec Tools in Classroom Can Be Game Changer" by Charles Pacenti, in *Opinion*, Miami Herald, Oct. 2, 2011 <http://www.miamiherald.com.2011/10/02/2433747/new-tech-tools-in...>) "It is in knowing how to harness their power to advance learning that will make a difference," he continues. "An ever growing inventory of educational software and online content can help teachers be more effective, make their jobs more fulfilling, and produce more deeply engaged students who may already have rich digital lives outside the classroom." He sees a day when every child moves at his/her own pace, when lesson plans are customized to every student's strengths and weaknesses, and when data on student progress makes standardized tests obsolete.

Public libraries, hard hit by budget cuts resulting in staff layoffs, reduced hours of service, and fewer dollars for collections, are repurposing roles, services, and facilities in order to meet public needs. Many predict that public libraries will transition from centers of information to centers of culture. In addition to ranks of computers, some are giving way to multipurpose community centers featuring multimedia resources, cybercafés, and other nontraditional offerings. Library outposts are being placed at strategic locations such as shopping centers, transportation hubs, and business districts. The Dallas Public Library has a highly successful children's library branch located in a large shopping center. Most public libraries place emphasis on use of their computer services for job seekers, even setting up special departments geared to this specific area with support services in resume writing and job interview training.

Contemporary professional publications are filled with articles carrying titles such as "No More Pencils, No More Books: Instead iPads," "Reaching Students with Special Needs through E-Learning," "Libraries in a Post-Print World," and "The Future of Libraries, with or without Books." Times are changing and those of us in libraries and education must change with them. We must keep open minds and continue to keep abreast of technological advances and how they can be used to strengthen our professions. Another article in this feature section will address ways in which we can remain current and in pace with a fast changing world. See also LIS chair Suliman Hawamdeh's column, "Technology and the Rising of Information," on pg. 7.

## Aids in Staying Current

Staying current is essential in all professions, especially in library and information science and in education. Professionals may need further knowledge in their field in order to provide needed services in a current position, quality for advancement, move into another specialization or related field, or become more marketable. Some professionals are self-taught in technologies and need broad based training in the area. Some find that they need to acquire or sharpen skills in a specific area such as project management or evaluating the needs of students/clients or services currently provided. Some may need to know how to provide online services to distance learners, or to compare technologies and determine which will meet the needs of a situation. All professionals need to acquire skill sets for tomorrow's technologies.

There are various means in which these needs can be met. A specific need may be met with a simple search of current literature. Basic knowledge about a topic might be gained by

accessing a webinar or online tutorial. When additional training is required, returning to an educational setting for certification in an area may be a solution.

The Internet, of course, is the first place to turn when seeking knowledge on almost any topic. Articles or other materials that report research or the experiences of others are always useful. In many instances, however, tutorials, classes, or more extensive training are needed. Following are suggestions that may help to become more current or to meet specific needs.

### Continuing education

#### Webinars or online tutorials

These sources of computer generated offerings each pertain to a specific topic and may contain either basic or advanced treatment of the area. Some are free while others charge a small fee.

#### Library and Information Sciences

- Webjunction (<http://www.webjunction.org>)
- Emerald (<http://www.emeraldinsight.com/help/librarians/index.htm>)
- Virtual Learning Laboratory for Digital Reference (<http://vll.ipl/repository/index.html>)
- Lifelong Education at Desk Top- LE@D (<http://www.leadonline.info>)
- Texas State Library – Archived Webinars <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/workshops/webinars/archived/html>
- Many other such sources are available.

#### Learning Technologies

- eSchool News provides free webinars on the hottest topics in education technology free, such as "Becoming a Tech-savvy Educator" <http://www.eschoolnews.com/events/webinars?>

CURRENT, continued on page 2



# FEATURES

## CURRENT, continued from page 1

- *Education Week* offers free webinars on a variety of topics. A recent offering – “Reaching Students with Special Needs through E-Learning” <http://www.edweek.org/marketplace/webinars/webinars/html>
- Other sources of technological webinars include *PBS Teacher* and *Classroom 2.0 Live*

## Workshops

Inquire about offerings from the sources

- Professional association pre-conferences
- Associations, regional organizations, and state libraries workshops
- Professional conference attendance

Conference programs focus on updating attendees by offering sessions dealing with the latest developments and innovations. Conference exhibits include the latest devices with personnel on hand to answer questions and demonstrate usage.

- Networking at conferences is an excellent way to learn what others are doing and how they solved a particular problem

## Certification – Library and Information Science

Certification programs are generally offered by educational institutions. Many are online while others are onsite or partially onsite.

### *Graduate Academic Certification in Digital Content Management*

This certification prepares information professionals to meet the challenges of managing the life cycle of digital assets regardless of their types and formats or their method of delivery. The courses provide theoretical foundation and conceptual tools through structured learning experiences and supervised class projects. Students will learn basic knowledge and technical skills necessary to manage digital content, build applications, and develop services that respond to institutional and individual user needs. The program is designed for (1) masters degreed library and information science professionals who want to develop expertise in managing digital information by taking additional graduate level courses to receive an academic credential; (2) other professionals who hold bachelor's or masters degrees who want to enhance their knowledge and skills of managing digital information by taking graduate level courses to receive an academic credential. The 12 hours of required courses are offered in blended format and have class web sited in UNT's online learning system – Blackboard. Course content will be taught online as well as through face-to-face meetings. For additional information, contact Dr. Jiangping Chen at [Jiangping.chen@unt.edu](mailto:Jiangping.chen@unt.edu) or see <http://www.lis.unt.edu/main/ViewPage.php?cid=215/>

### *Graduate Academic Certificate in Advanced Management in Libraries and Information Agencies*

This certificate provides the student with a comprehensive working knowledge of the fundamental principles of library and information agency management, public awareness, human resources, and financial operations. Graduates will develop knowledge and skills to effectively lead their organizations; utilize the latest research and practices in the areas of management, partnerships, budgeting, and public preservations; and foster external relationships. They also will learn to effectively organize their library or information agency's internal resources for improved accessibility and productivity. The 12 hour program is designed for potential or practicing librarians who foresee being in a management position, and information managers who want to update their management skills. Contact [lis-chair@unt.edu](mailto:lis-chair@unt.edu) or <http://www.lis.unt.edu/main/ViewPage.php?cid=77> for more information.

### *Certificate of Advanced Study in Health Informatics*

This program, which builds on the nationally recognized master's program in medical librarianship at the UNT Department of Library and Information Sciences, enhances the range of professional and technical skills and competencies of health informatics professionals and explores more sophisticated medical informatics applications. Also, the program addresses the need of health professionals interested in exploring the management of medical knowledge from an information science perspective. The program also provides an opportunity to discover new approaches to information management that have been made possible by current developments in information technology, networking, and telecommunication. The certificate requires a minimum of 24 graduate credit hours. Up to 12 graduate hours may be substituted with courses taken from Houston area informatics programs in health education institutions with approval of the program advisor and the institutions involved. Career opportunities exist in medical libraries, hospitals, nursing facilities, government agencies, corporations, clinical settings rural medicine, telemedicine, and especially in the public health sector. Contact Dr. Ana Cleveland at [ana.cleveland@unt.edu](mailto:ana.cleveland@unt.edu) for more information.

### *Graduate Certificate: Interactive and Virtual Digital Communication*

To help professionals achieve ingenuity in new media, UNT's Mayborn Graduate Institute of Journalism and the College of Information have teamed up to offer an interdisciplinary certificate program. Media professionals, including those in public relations and advertising professions, must be fully versed in new tools to

reach audiences in innovative ways. This 18 hour academic certificate program provides students with written, visual, and technical competencies required to successfully communicate in modern environments. Students in the program take specified courses in journalism, library & information sciences, and computer education and cognitive systems. (See <http://www.ci.unt.edu/main/news/newspage.php?nid=340> for additional information)

### *Graduate Academic Certification in Youth Services in Libraries and Information Settings*

LIS was the first in the nation to offer the certificate in youth services. The program offers master's-level courses focused toward establishing core knowledge in literature, services, programs, and information organization for youth. The four courses required for certification are offered year-round and are taught by a team of full-time graduate professors who specialize in courses targeted to the youth population. This certificate is not the same as School Library Certification and should not be taken by teachers seeking state certification for school libraries. Contact Elizabeth Figa at [Elizabeth.Figa@unt.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.Figa@unt.edu) or <http://www.lis.unt.edu/main/ViewPage.php?cid=80> for further information.

## Certification – Learning Technologies

### *Program Certificates in Computer Education & Cognitive Systems*

This MS in Computer Education and Cognitive Systems is a 36 hour program, available online, designed for students to gain a foundation in learning and educational technologies to enhance and deliver the learning experience. Courses focus on the study analysis, design and integration of the use of technology to deliver instruction in various settings. In addition, several Graduate Academic Certifications are available with 9 to 12 hours of study.

Graduates of the program are prepared for dynamic roles in Instructional Technology and Educational Computing in both academic and corporate settings. Instructional technology is widely used in both of these environments today. This program provides tracks in Instructional Systems Technology (IST), Instructional Systems Design (ID), Teaching and Learning Technology (TLT), or Learning and Assessment Technologies (LAT).



Several program certificates are available and include:

- Distance, Distributed and Virtual Learning
- Emerging Technologies
- Instructional Systems Design
- Technology Integration
- Technology and Autism
- Technology and Cognition
- Web Development and Management
- SBEC Certification

For more information, call 940-565-2057 or visit [http://lt.unt.edu/masters/cecs\\_program\\_details](http://lt.unt.edu/masters/cecs_program_details) for MS program information or [http://lt.unt.edu/cecs\\_certification](http://lt.unt.edu/cecs_certification) for program academic certificates

## Program Certificates in Applied Technology & Performance Improvement

The Department of Learning Technologies offers students a Master of Science or a Master of Education in Applied Technology & Performance Improvement (ATPI). Both are 100% Internet-based degrees: there are no on-campus classroom sessions!

The Master of Science degree with a major in Applied Technology and Performance Improvement is designed for those professionals who are seeking careers in the field of training and development. The 36-hour program consists of coursework in needs analysis and training analysis, introduction to training and development, facilitation skills, research, diversity, curriculum theory, and program evaluation. This degree is 100% online.

Several certificates are also available that include:

## Training Certificates

The mission of the program is to establish a learning community of professionals who are committed to high standards of people and organizational development through effective education and training of the world's workforce. *Basic Corporate Training Certificate* consists of 12 hours (four courses). The *Advanced Corporate Training Certificate* requires completion of the basic requirements with a GPA of 3.0 and six additional credit hours (two courses). Work experience in corporate training and development must be submitted in order to obtain the certificate once the coursework has been completed. These courses will be offered via the Internet on a rotating basis. Courses taken as part of the Basic and Advanced Corporate Training Certificate program can be utilized for the Master of Science degree in Applied Technology and Performance Improvement. Certificate titles include Basic Corporate Training

and Advanced Corporate Training. *Professional Certificate* requires a bachelor's degree and one year of approved wage-earning experience in the area of corporate training and development. An internship is required of those without experience. Courses taken as part of the Basic and Advanced Corporate Training Certificate program can be utilized for the Master of Science in Applied Technology, Training & Development. Certificate titles include Advanced Corporate Training and Corporate Training, Digital Content Management. For more information see [http://www.lt.unt.edu/training\\_certification/](http://www.lt.unt.edu/training_certification/)

## Career and Technical Education Certification

UNT assists teachers in completing certification requirements; however the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) makes the final decision on all teacher certification in the State of Texas. In most cases this decision is made after completion of a minimum one-year teaching internship. UNT only makes a recommendation for certification to the SBEC; SBEC makes the final decision. For more information, see [http://www.lt.unt.edu/ete\\_certification/](http://www.lt.unt.edu/ete_certification/)

## COI PhD Programs

- Interdisciplinary Information Science PhD
- Doctor of Philosophy with a major in educational computing
- Doctor of Education or Doctor of Philosophy with a major in applied technology & performance improvement

The Toulouse Graduate School has announced new Academic Achievement Scholarship guidelines. The scholarship is a one-year \$1,000 tuition scholarship, beginning during the fall semester only, that allows both international and non-resident recipients to pay Texas resident tuition during the term of scholarship. If all scholarship requirements are met, the student will automatically receive a one-time renewal of the scholarship. For more information, contact <http://www.tsgs.unt.edu/>

## Other Types of Training

Developing leadership skills is another approach to growth and self-improvement. Following are suggestions for obtaining training in the area.

### Leadership Development Institutes for Librarians

The *TALL Texans Program* is designed for Texas Library Association members. The participants are mid-career library and

information science practitioners (degreed and non-degreed) who are currently employed in the field and have at least five years of experience in a professional level position in library and/or information science. In addition to highly trained facilitators for the institute, top library directors and administrators also serve as mentors for the participants. In addition to a week of intensive training, scheduled in the summers, participants will continue leadership development activities. There will be a two-year commitment on the part of each participant through a Personal Action Agenda, which will begin at the Institute with the aid of a mentor.

Each year, 25 of those who apply are selected for the TALL Texans Institute. The cost for instruction, room, board, and related planned activities is \$650. Participants are encouraged to seek funding to defray costs. Employing institutions may be willing to fund or partially fund participants, as well as local Friends or other groups. A number of TLA units also make funds available. See <http://www.tsla.org/?q=node/1084> for additional information.

Other library associations that sponsor leadership institutes include: California (Eureka! Leadership Program), Virginia, and Mountain Plains.

*ALA Emerging Leaders Program* is a leadership development program which enables new library workers from across the country to participate in problem-solving work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity. The program kicks off with a daylong session during the ALA Midwinter Meeting. Afterward, it grows and develops in an online learning and networking environment for six months. The program culminates with a poster session presentation to display the results of the project planning work of each group at the ALA Annual Conference. Those who apply must be under 35 years of age or be a new library professional of any age with fewer than 5 years of experience at a professional or paraprofessional level in a library, be able to attend both ALA conferences, work virtually in between the two conferences, and be prepared to commit to service on an ALA committee, taskforce or workgroups, or your state or local library organization upon completion of program. Seventy-five of those who apply are chosen each year. See <http://www.ala.org/ala/educationcareers/leadership/emergingleaders> for additional information. See also "Emerging Leaders: Pointing to the Future," *American Libraries*, September/October, 2011, pp. 56-57.



Linda Schamber

## Dean's Column

Hard as it is for me to believe, in my 20 years at UNT, an entire generation has been born and graduated from college. That makes these young people, in contemporary jargon, digital natives and me a digital immigrant. That would be an unsettling thought if I didn't also know that we—the faculty—have been growing along with them.

For all of the fast and flashy advancements in technology in those two decades, one thing has remained the same: our reputation for being technology-savvy. I was pleased to see that validated on at least four occasions this fall. One was an inquiry from a dean at another university about that university's students taking our technology courses. Another was questions to COI from a newspaper reporter seeking expert opinions about online instruction. Two more examples were the choice of COI researchers by UNT to test new research software applications, and the starring role of COI as primary sponsor of Places & Spaces, a large touring exhibit of scientific visualizations (see pgs. 12-13).

One aspect of the technology theme of this issue is distributed learning. Both College of Information departments were pioneers in distributed learning at UNT, putting their first courses online in 1997-98. Library & Information Sciences jumped in with Dr. Philip Turner at its helm (see pg. 8) and Learning Technologies with its computer-based approach to

instruction. COI is consistently the top producer of online delivery at UNT, with 24% (3,787) of Internet enrollments in Fall 2011. Faculty members use at least two dozen systems and applications for instruction, from learning management systems (Blackboard, Moodle, Sakai) to communication and collaboration tools, to grading and course-specific tools. And that doesn't count the research software used by faculty outside their courses.

Unfortunately, distributed learning is still misunderstood, even by some digital immigrants. As anyone who has taken online courses knows, the content and rigor are comparable across delivery modes, but the human interaction level is typically higher, with daily emails and discussions instead of lulls between classes. Undoubtedly the most appealing feature for students is the convenience of online, and that in turn appeals to the college, because it allows us to attract and serve more students in the U.S. and abroad.

But online is hardly the whole picture. We continue to offer web-based, blended, and traditional classroom courses, with elements of video, social media, and even virtual reality in the mix. And all that is in addition to extracurricular events such as speakers and workshops to boost students' professional knowledge and networking. In short, the departments share a culture of innovation and variety in teaching and a commitment to providing a mix to suit students' needs. This kind of leadership is just one of the ways our college does us proud.

Linda Schamber  
COI Acting Dean

## Information and Research Analysis Lab Received Sponsor

**Dr. Kim Nimon**, director of the Information and Research Analysis (IRA) Lab, and **Victoria Martinsen**, College of Information Development Associate, are pleased to announce that FISH Technologies, Addison, TX, has agreed to be a sponsor of the Lab. FISH Technologies works with brands, and agencies that support brands, to deploy immersive media technologies that collect real-time actionable data. This data is leveraged to strengthen brand relationships, drive return on investment, and understand the impact of experimental marketing.

In recognition of their financial contribution, the IRA Lab will be supporting FISH Technologies by researching the value of social media marketing and its relationship to

information behavior. The partnership between the IRA Lab and FISH Technologies is the first of many such relationships to be developed in the future.

For more information about the IRA Lab or to sponsor the Lab, please contact Kim Nimon at kim.nimon@unt.edu or Victoria Martinsen at victoria.martinsen@unt.edu

The mission of the new Information Research and Analysis (IRA) Lab is to advance best practices in research and analysis methods and to facilitate the interdisciplinary research endeavors of the faculty, staff, and students within the College of Information. In addition, reach is extended beyond COI by way of a web-based repository of best practices and techniques by offering fee-based services to non-profit and for-profit organizations.

**Dr. Kim Nimon**, an assistant professor in the Department of Learning Technologies, serves as lab director. A corporate veteran of the high-tech industry, Dr. Nimon is committed to teaching and applying methods that bridge the gap between research and practice. Her research agenda focuses on improving human performance through the practice of workplace spirituality,

the measurement and evaluation of employee attitudes, and the development of quantitative statistical methodologies to evaluate human performance technology interventions. Her work has been published in journals such as *American Journal of Evaluation*, *Behavior Research Methods*, *Human Resource Development International*, *Human Resource Development Review*, *Human Resource Development Quarterly*, *Journal of Management, Spirituality & Religion*, and *Multivariate Behavioral Research*. She provides leadership for several national professional organizations and serves on the editorial review board for a number of peer-reviewed publications.



**Amanda Kraha**, Amanda Kraha

who is serving as the research consultant for IRA Lab, is a doctoral candidate in experimental psychology at UNT. She double majored in psychology and sociology at Arkansas Tech University, where she received her bachelor's degree in 2007. Amanda is active in psychological advocacy and is currently serving a two-year term on the science committee of the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students. Her research interests include prejudice and discrimination, autobiographical memory, and quantitative methods. Her research has been featured in various news outlets including msnbc.com and *The Today Show*.



FISH sponsors IRA Lab.



## COI Hosts Visitors from China

COI welcomed seven visitors from Hang Zhou Normal University, China, for a month's visit, October 19-November 17. The group included a Professor Xue-hong Tian, dean of School of Education Science, and graduate students Dandan Zheng, Min Hu, Miaofeng Gu, Jingjing Hu, Wenwen Cai, and Qing Xie. The students lived on campus and shared rooms with UNT students during their time on campus.

Visits of these six students followed an earlier trip from the president and five deans of HNU to UNT, when they met President Rawlins and Provost Warren. At that time the two presidents signed a General Agreement on Co-operation Programs. This collaborative effort was initiated by **Dr. Gerald Knezek** and **Dr. Herman Totten**, and is being coordinated by **Dr. Lin Lin** and **Dr. Bill Elieson** of the Department of Learning Technologies, and assisted by Jennifer Rogla of the UNT International Office.

During the month, the students attended seminars led by College of Information faculty members, sat in on classes from the College of Education, and learned about how to apply to a U.S. university for graduate studies. They attended recitals and concerts in the College of Music, did community service as part of UNT students' observation of Make a Difference Day, and went to UNT sports events. The students also took trips to the Dallas Art District and West End, Fort Worth museums, Sundance Square, and the Stockyards. They went to malls in Allen and Grapevine, to a COI faculty member's

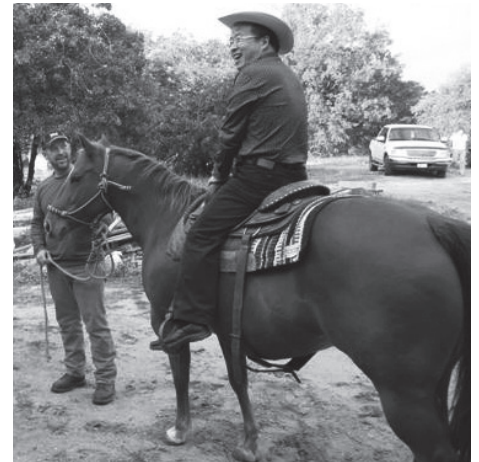


*Visitors from Hang Zhou Normal University, China, doing the UNT Eagle claw.*

parents' farm, and to the small Collin County town of Celina for a hot air balloon festival.

The students were introduced to two American holidays—Halloween by carving pumpkins and an early Thanksgiving by attending American Thanksgiving for International Students. The Thanksgiving dinner was hosted by Global Interact, a group of Denton residents that plans community events for international students at UNT and Texas Woman's University.

On November 9, Professor Tian presented "Teacher Education Trends in China: Statistical Analysis." The students presented an overview of graduate systems in China and discussed their experiences. They also responded to questions from the audience.



*Professor Xue-hong Tian at Allen Ranch.*

## UNT Receives Two IMLS Grants

It is unprecedented for a university to receive two grants in the same year from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Laura Bush program, but that is the case for UNT in 2011. The program awarded 24 grants to libraries, organizations, and universities after receiving 119 applications; UNT was the only recipient of more than one award.

The two grants, totaling \$866,172, aim to 1) investigate research data management policies nationally, and 2) build a certificate program in digital curation at UNT. **Dr. Martin Halbert**, dean of libraries and associate professor in LIS, will serve as the primary project investigator on the first grant, and **Dr. William Moen**, COI associate dean for research, will serve as primary project investigator on the second grant. Drs. Moen and Martin will be working together on both grants.

The first grant of \$226,786, supplemented **Martin Halbert**



with a \$28,350 UNT subcontract with the Council on Library and Information Resources funded by the Sloan Foundation, will fund a two-year investigation of the new roles, knowledge and skills that will be required of library and information science professionals to successfully manage research data cited in articles in scholarly journals. Dr. Halbert will conduct two national surveys of officials at the National Science Foundation and other funding agencies; college and university vice presidents for research and campus research officers; faculty of library and library and information science programs; academic librarians; campus IT managers; provosts and chief academic officers; and key researchers at universities and publishers of faculty research. The surveys will focus on college and universities' current data management plans; policies and practices; expectations and beliefs about data management; and preparation needed to archive data.

The second grant of \$624,663 is for a three-year project to create four graduate-level courses in digital curation and data management. The first two courses will be taught during the summer of 2012. All four courses will be taught



*William Moen*

beginning in the summer of 2013. The courses will make up the curriculum of a proposed Graduate Academic Certificate in Digital Curation and Data Management, which COI plans to submit for approval by the spring of 2014.

The UNT Libraries has been recognized as a national and international leader in developing digital content and in digital preservation. UNT Libraries are one of only three college and university libraries designated as Affiliated Archive of the National Archives. The designation recognizes UNT's creation of the nation's only CyberCemetery, which preserves defunct websites of federal agencies, including the White House.

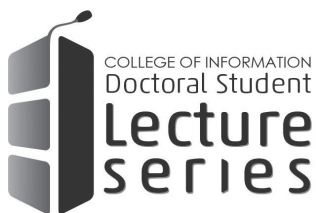
See a description of the grants in the IMLS announcement at [http://www.imls.gov/news/2011/062111a\\_list.shtmlTX/](http://www.imls.gov/news/2011/062111a_list.shtmlTX/)



## COI News Notes

A recent state report recognizes UNT for offering the most affordable public research university education in Texas. According to the report, UNT's resident cost of attendance is lower than cost to attend the state's two public research universities and six other emerging research universities.

UNT's incoming freshman class for fall 2011 not only increased in size by more than 300 students, but also represents one of the most academically talented and degree-focused freshman classes. Many freshmen came from the top tier of their classes, earned higher SAT test scores than past classes, and are already demonstrating a strong commitment to earn their degrees within four years by taking more credit hours.



The IISPhD colloquium series has been renamed the COI Colloquium Series. See more information at <http://infosciencephd.unt.edu/colloquia-and-lectures>. At the colloquium in September, Dr. Vish Prasad, UNT Vice-President for Research, presented a discussion about the research plans of UNT and COI. The you tube presentation is available at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILhEb\\_Vg-PO/](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILhEb_Vg-PO/)

The speaker for the October COI Colloquium Series was **Dr. Michael Nelson**, an associate professor of computer science at Old Dominion University. Prior to joining ODU, he worked at NASA Langley Research Center from



**Michael Nelson**

1991-2002. He also spent the 2000-2001 academic year as a post-doctoral at the School of Library & Information Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is a co-editor of the OAI-ORE specifications and is a 2007 recipient of the National Science Foundation CAREER award. Dr. Nelson has developed many digital libraries, including the NASA Technical Report Server. His research interest includes repository-object interaction and alternative approaches to digital preservation. The title of his presentation was "Time Travel for the Web".

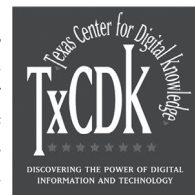
The COI Research Fridays brown bag sessions, are held on the first and third Fridays of each month in the LT Agora. The meetings are to promote better understanding of COI research activities of faculty, students, and staff and to offer opportunities for sharing ideas and potentially developing new collaborations.

Of special interest to current and prospective ITT PhD students: at the end of spring 2011, a completely new doctoral program website was released, located at <http://infosciencephd.edu/>

Six doctoral students were awarded vouchers valued at \$599 to attend the No Magic World Conference, in Dallas, September 25-28. No Magic is a leading global provider of integrated modeling, simulation, and analysis services and solutions, based in Allen, TX. The students attending were **Jacob Dankasa, Xuequn (Della) Pan, Hong Xu, Donnie Hooks, Rita Nix, Kathy**

**Masten** (all LIS doctoral students), and **Pamela Scott-Bracey** (LT doctoral student).

UNT and TxCDK, in conjunction with the National Cancer Association, hosted the Biomedical Informatics Health IT Summit held on May 24, 2011 with some 50 top hospital administrators and faculty members in attendance. Kenneth Buetow, PhD associate, director, Bioinformatics and Information Technology, National Institute of Health, National Cancer Institute, gave the keynote address.



COI is already preparing for the conference, the eighth annual gathering of scholars, researchers, and professionals who share an interest in the critical information issues of contemporary society, to be held at the Renaissance Worthington Hotel in Fort Worth in 2013. The conference will include peer-reviewed papers, posters, alternative events, and workshops, all intended to push the boundaries of information studies, explore core concepts and ideas, and create new technological and conceptual configurations. The four-day event for the current academic year will take place in Toronto, Canada, February 7-10, 2012. The conference theme is: Culture \* Design \* Society. COI Associate Professor **William Moen**, associate dean for research and director of the Texas Center of Digital Knowledge, is serving on the Program Committee.

## Dr. James R. Miller

1926-2011

Dr. James R. Miller, long time associated with the UNT College of Education where he first served as professor and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, beginning in 1977, and later Dean, 1985-1991, died December 5, 2011. He mentored many



**James R. Miller**

doctoral students and participated in numerous doctoral dissertation reviews. After retirement, he served briefly during 1996 as Acting Dean of the School of Library & Information Sciences.

Dr. Miller's signature achievements included writing the proposal and gaining legislative approval of funding for establishment of the Texas Academy of Math and Science (TAMS), a \$1.1 million Federal Teacher Corps Grant, the NTSU Quality Assurance Program for Teachers, The Denton ISD Grand-parents program, and UNT's highly successful Emeritus College.

Dr. Miller received the B.S. degree in social studies from Purdue University, the M.A. in

history from Bowling Green State University, and the PhD in social studies/education/political science from Kent State University. He served in the U.S. Army in the Pacific Theater during World War II.



## Chair's Column

Department of Library & Information Sciences

# Technology and the Rising of Information

*Suliman Hawamdeh*

Technology has had a profound impact on society, the modern work environment, and the way people learn and interact with each other. Technology has made the world seem much smaller and brought people closer together in a global village. Furthermore, technology has dismantled geographical boundaries and changed the way people seek, process, and use information. Today, information is growing at an exponential rate, faster than ever previously imagined. This widespread information explosion is primarily due to the increased availability and extensive usage of Mobile devices such as smart phones, digital cameras, tablet PCs, and PDAs. A growing majority of the world's population are using these types of devices to create, communicate, and exchange information. Due to the broad societal usage, it is now easier than ever to upload or publish digital content from mobile devices to the web instantly. While mankind does benefit from the vast availability of instant information, it can lead to a strong sense of overwhelming, anxiety and confusion.

The continued exponential growth of information is a phenomenon that not only poses challenges to individuals, but to organizations and business at the same time. Organizations both small and large are facing with the challenge of managing the growing amount of internally as well as externally generated information. Businesses all over the world are beginning to recognize the importance of managing information as a key competitive factor. Information and knowledge are quickly becoming the global currencies of the 21st century. In order to ensure a place in the growing knowledge economy, organizations must continue to innovate, improve services, and effectively manage information, and intellectual property. To facilitate this process, companies across the globe are seeking a new generation of information professionals who have a sound technical background, effective analytical and communication skills, and strong business sense and awareness.

Library and information science schools are also faced with the challenge of addressing growing technology trends in their curriculum in order to

accurately prepare students for these types of professional positions. While the drive to integrate more technology into the LIS curriculum is not a new discussion, it is becoming more important and relevant in today's shifting employment market, especially with the growing presence of a younger generation of information professionals. The majority of the younger people who will be joining the LIS schools in the coming years are considered digital natives. Digital native refers to those individuals who were born and grew up with the digital technologies. These individuals are highly fluent in the digital world and comfortably use digital information throughout their daily lives for communication, education and entertainment. As digital natives are highly grounded in technology and the everyday use of digital media, they expect a more rigorous and a creatively charged LIS education. As a result, LIS schools must revise their curriculum to cater to the increased number of digital natives in their programs. Educational administrators must also be aware of and ready to address the cultural tensions that are likely to arise as a result of the growing presence and encounters between digital natives and digital immigrants. Digital immigrants are not only those born prior to the existence of digital technologies, but also include those individuals included in the disparity between digital access and usage.

Technology trends provide us with the opportunity to rethink our approach to preparing the information professionals of the future. The transformation of the work place atmosphere, shifts in market needs, and increased emphasis on a highly skilled workforce are just a few of the things that we must consider when addressing concerns about job security, skills obsolescence, and educational quality. The world is clearly becoming more and more knowledge driven and this shift will continue to give rise to societal and economic challenges. As educators and information professionals alike, we must be prepared to face these types of challenges head on in order to stay current, while at the same time be prepared to take advantage of the accompanying opportunities that these same changes will make way for.

**Suliman Hawamdeh**

Chair

Department of Library & Information Sciences

## LIS Web Institute Held in Guam

The LIS LEAP (Library Education for U.S. Affiliated Pacific) Web Institute took place on the island of Guam at the Outrigger Resort in Tumon in a nine-day session held August 10-19. The thirty-four students embarked on a two-

year academic program that will culminate in a graduation to be held in Saipan in August 2013.

The Web Institute included orientation, technical training, and instruction in the Master's program core courses, as well as time to socialize with Institute colleagues and faculty. The cohort also toured libraries in Guam including the University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library, the Micronesia Area Research Center, and the Guam Public Library.

The cohort includes 23 scholarship recipients from the IMLS funded LEAP Scholarship program and 11 additional students. The scholarship program is funded through a grant received by the collaboration of three institutions: The Pacific Resources for Education and Learning, University of North Texas Libraries, and the UNT Department of Library and Information Sciences.



*Cindy Bateman, Dean Linda Schamber, and Dr. Yvonne Chandler with Director of Guam Public Library, (second from right)*

Those involved in presenting the Institute included: **Dr. Yvonne Chandler**, LIS faculty, and Beth Avery, UNT Libraries, co-directors of the cohort; **Charlotte Thomas** (LIS MS '06), Web Institute coordinator; **Cindy Batman** (LIS MS '04 and PhD student), UNT Libraries; and **Dr. Larry Enoch**, LIS faculty. COI Acting Dean **Linda Schamber**, was also present for a portion of the Institute.



*LEAP students in Guam*

## Dr. Philip Turner Retires



Dr. Philip Turner

Dr. Phil Turner, who has been associated with UNT since 1996, retired on August 31, 2011. From 1996 until 2004, Dr. Turner served as Dean of the School of Library and Information Sciences and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs for Distance Learning. After leaving the deanship, he served from 2004

to 2008 as UNT Vice Provost for Academic Affairs. In 2008, he returned to the College of Information as Special Assistant to the Dean for Distributive Learning.

Substantial changes took place in LIS during Dr. Turner's years in the deanship. He brought experience in distance learning to UNT from the University of Alabama where he formerly served as dean of the School of Library and Information Studies. He and the faculty recognized that developments in information and telecommunication were changing higher education in fundamental ways, and that it must, therefore, discover and employ the best use of these technologies in the teaching and learning process. He joined forces with the LIS faculty in 1996 in leading the program into the forefront of the emerging trend toward video and web based course offerings.

Course offerings in electronic format increased rapidly over the early years of the 21st century. One of the first major accomplishments in the area came in 1999 when UNT became the first in the nation to offer the school library Learning Resource Endorsement online, a program that met with immediate success. In

spring 2001, enrollment increased 40% over the previous spring due to the popularity of the web based courses, and in spring 2004, enrollment in master's students totaled 827, an increase of 45% over the previous spring.

In 1999, the school began offering the master's degree in out-of-state locations in partnership with local institutions. The first was offered in Minnesota when the school entered into an agreement with St. Cloud State University. Second and third cohorts were launched in 2001 and 2004 respectively when agreements were renewed with the University of Minnesota Law Library. In 2001, the school formed a partnership with the University of Nevada Las Vegas, and began the first Nevada cohort in 2002. Other cohorts followed in 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009. These out-of-state grant-based cohorts have continued to thrive with programs in Virginia, Georgia, California, four states in the northwest, and most recently in the Pacific Islands (LEAP, see pg. 7).

In answer to the needs of students pursuing all or part of their program in distance learning mode, Dr. Turner and the faculty launched the first Web Institute in June 2001. These institutes, a part of the learning experience for students in the cohort programs, consist of two three- or four-day sessions held at designated locations. At the first institute session, students are introduced to the program and the profession, software, procedures, and the UNT learning management system, and begin work on their first course. At the second, they begin work on the next basic course and are offered advisement in making degree plans and in deciding program specializations. This unique feature of the distance learning program has resulted in national prominence for the LIS distance learning program.

Other developments during Dr. Turner's deanship include the establishment of the Texas Center for Digital Knowledge (TxCDK) in 2000 and the Capital Campaign launched in 2001. TxCDK, a research and development center, is designed to stimulate and support interdisciplinary research encompassing theoretical frameworks and practical applications that can enhance the creation, storage, organization, retrieval, use, and evaluation of information in a wide variety of digital formats.

For the Capital Campaign, UNT set the LIS goal of creating an endowment of \$1.1 million which was met with a total of over \$1.4 million. During the endeavor, alumnae **Linda Allmand** (LIS BA '61) pledged to match up to \$100,000 in gifts, which was of major importance in creating many contributions and a number of scholarships and other endowed funds. One of the efforts begun during the campaign resulted in the establishment of the Hazel Harvey Peace Professorship in Children's Library Services. At about the same time, it was announced that Emeritus Professor Sarah Law Kennerly (1951-1977), who had died in 2002, had left \$2.5 million to the school.

When Dr. Turner returned to the COI as Special Assistant to the Dean for Distributive Learning, he created a master plan for progress in the area which in turn qualified the College for membership in WISE, a learning environment where students examine real world evidence and analyze current scientific controversies. He also served as director for programs in Virginia and Los Angeles, cohorts he has agreed to continue directing.

We wish Dr. Turner many happy years in retirement.

## Beta Phi Mu Inductees

The UNT Beta Beta Nu Chapter of Beta Phi Mu, the international library and information sciences honor society, extended invitations to 46 Master's students in summer 2011.

Elaine Abdur-Razzaaq, Benjamin Baron, Christopher Brown, Cherish Burnside, A Andrew Cameron, Tressia Carr, Jeanne Carter, Stephanie Carter, Claudia Chirinos, Lisa Clark, Letrice Davis, Rebecca Day, Carla Delgado, Abby Dozier, Jacob Etter, Chris Foster, Eduardo Garcia, Scott Harris, Elizabeth Henson, Jacqueline Higgins, Erich Holcombe, Meghan Hollingsworth, Billy Hoya, Gena Jankovsky, Charissa Jefferson, Kristina Lambright, Christopher McDougal, Meredith McGowan, Jonathan McLaughlin, BreAnne Meier, Diana Meiser, Amy Miller, Kristen Mitchell, Shannon Morrison, Xuan Pang, Rhonda Pinter, Jeanette Sewell, Veronica Silva, Taylor Spraktes, Lisa Taffoy, Matthew Thiesen, Edward Warga, Lisa Westbrook, Cindy Wilhelm, Nichole Wilson, Michelle Zamora

## Virginia Library Association Fall Conference Volunteers

Wini Ashooh  
Amanda Costigan  
Zoe Dellinger  
Megan Hodge (MS'10)  
Kristi Jerome  
Joan Laderberg  
Celina Williams  
Hayley Wozny



## LIS News Notes:

The new chapter of the UNT Beta Phi Mu, the International Library and Information Sciences Honor Society, was formally installed at the 2011 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. Selection to membership is based on academic performance and professional promise. (See pg. 8 for a list of the latest inductees) **Drs. Yunfei Du** and **Janet Hilbun** have been appointed as the new Beta Phi Mu advisors. **Dr. Elizabeth Figa** served as advisor for the past ten years.

Michelle Malizia, associate director of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine/ South Central Region (NN/LM SCR), and Deborah Halsted, senior associate director of operations, Texas Medical Center Library, and adjunct faculty in the Houston Program, visited the LIS Department on September 20, 2011. The purpose of the meeting was for them to tell LIS about NN/LM SCR and the programs that they have and to learn how they can enhance their support of educational programs and students.



*Dr. Elizabeth Figa, with BPM Past President, John M. Budd, receiving charter*

On August 26, 2011, the California cohort had what was termed by director **Dr. Phil Turner** as an “amazing” and “awesome” completion celebration. The program included the performance of a song composed and sung by **Jared Brown**, one of the graduates, with an

interpretive sign language performed by Evelyn Keolian.

The Tarrant County College Library Associate Degree in Technology Program at the Trinity River Campus is off to a great start. The advisory committee members were told that twenty students enrolled for the first class, Introduction to Library Technology, in fall 2011. Students in the program can transfer to UNT for either a BAAS in Learning Technologies or a BS degree in Library & Information Sciences.

**Jurhee Curtis**, COI External Affairs and Alumni Affairs, and Advancement Officer **Victoria Martinsen** treated a group of LIS alumni to lunch at the UNT Health Science Center Library in Fort Worth on October 26, 2011. The group included: **Emily Rhodes** (MS '10), **Tim Mason** (MS '01), **Mike Pullin** (MS '98), **Jesse Milligan** (MS '10), **Laura Gutierrez** (MS '09), **Lisa Smith** (MS '92), **Michele Whitehead** (MS '11), and **Kathy Broyles**.



*Michelle Malizia and Deborah Halsted (back row center), National Network of Libraries of Medicine - SCR visits COI.*



*California Cohort completion celebration, Summer 2011.*



Bill Elieson

## Chair Column

Department of Learning Technologies

# How to Keep Learning

I was recently asked to make a presentation to a student group. The assigned subject was "Things I Have Learned About ...." I suppose everyone agrees that it is a good thing to continually increase our learning and understanding. This invitation caused me to reflect on some of the valuable things I have learned in just the last few years, in a variety of topics. And that led me to reflect about how to keep learning throughout one's life. I would like to pass on a few of these thoughts to you. In the interest of space and time, I will limit myself to just two aspects of this question.

### Mechanics of brain maintenance.

I'll start with the mundane matter of trying to stay mentally sharp as we age. It is always sad to see a loved one whose brain has aged, perhaps more quickly than the rest of their body, to the point where they are no longer independent or able to function as they once did. And "senior moments" occur to all of us more often than we wish, and at a younger age than we might expect. So what can we do about this normal ageing process? I will not pretend that it can be halted and, of course, everybody has a different genetic inheritance. But I do believe in the research that says it can be slowed down.

How? The research seems to say that mental games and puzzles help, as do reading, writing, and conversations that involve higher-order thinking. Building new neural connections and reinforcing existing ones seem to help maintain good mental functioning in general.

I am also persuaded by the findings that say that physical exercise has a beneficial impact on mental functioning. You might recognize the name of Jack LaLanne, who was the first of the TV exercise gurus. He recently died at the age of 96. He had strenuous 90 minute workouts until the very end. Referring to his daily workout, he said, "I hate it. But I like the results. Exercise is something you've got to do the rest of your life." I confess that I do not enjoy working out as much as I did when I was a teenager. But I am convinced that I am both physically and mentally better off, and better able to learn because of my exercise routines.

### Friends.

Some people are very independent-minded. They are content to study alone, work in isolation, and do not seem to need socialization. But there are benefits of interacting with others. Possible social benefits aside, certain types of interactions can help us learn.

How does that work? The human mind is built for consistency, not for truth. That is, once we get an idea about something, right or wrong, it is very

difficult to dislodge it. We tend to accept new information that is consistent with that idea, and reject anything that is not consistent with it. That can box us in and limit our ability to learn.

Likewise, we know that committees that are very homogeneous are more likely to collectively follow a bad idea than a more heterogeneous group. An acquaintance of mine has told the following story (slightly edited) on himself.

I was a relatively young and recent appointee to a major administrative position at a university. I had great admiration for the university president and was very anxious to please him. On major issues I would anticipate the position that he was most likely to take and make my comments accordingly. I began to notice that he didn't ask for my opinion very often.

Then an issue arose where the president and all the other members of his council were united in how best to solve a particular problem. I felt strongly that their position was wrong, and I mustered the courage to express my contrary view. A sudden and very awkward silence fell over the room. The president said, "Well, this apparently deserves more thought before we make a decision." I left the meeting only to have the president follow me to my office, closing the door behind him after he entered. You can imagine what I thought was coming. He said, "You may have noticed recently that I have not asked for your opinion very often. You typically have accurately thought out what my position is most likely to be on the issues before us, and then you have taken that position. Not until today has your opinion been of real value to me. I know what I think on issues. What I need in the decision-making process is to know the contrary opinion. Only then can we make knowledgeable and well-reasoned decisions. Thank you for your comments today." My position on that issue was adopted and is still in place 30 years later.

It is a pleasure to work with someone who welcomes a variety of opinions, and with a group whose members can constructively and pleasantly disagree while being in harmony over common purposes. And how valuable it is to have friends who can help us recognize possible errors in our thinking, or present different approaches to a problem, and thus help us continue to learn.

I hope that each of us will choose activities and attitudes that will help us have a long and productive life, and be continually helpful to those around us.

Bill Elieson

Interim Department Chair  
Learning Technologies Department



Dr. Michael Spector

# Dr. Michael Spector Named Learning Technologies Chair

Dr. Michael Spector will begin his responsibilities as chair of the Department of Learning Technologies on January 2, 2012. Dr. Spector, currently a professor in the Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology at the University of Georgia, is one of the leading figures in the field, nationally and internationally. His impressive listing of publications and presentations is some 20 pages

in length. He has just completed a term as president of the Association for Educational Communication Technology (AECT), one of the leading professional organizations in the field. He holds the PhD in Philosophy from University of Texas at Austin, and the B.S. in International Affairs from the U.S. Air Force Academy. He has also served on the faculties at Florida State University, Syracuse University, and University of Bergen (Norway). We look forward to the arrival of Dr. Spector and will provide a more substantial article about him in the Spring issue of *Call Number*.



## Online Doctoral Degree in Educational Computing

In response to the needs of corporations and educational institutions for experts in the areas of digital instruction and instructional technology, the UNT Department of Learning Technologies has expanded its doctoral degree program in educational computing to include an online degree



*Dr. Greg Jones*

option. The online program, recently approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is intended to serve students living outside the North Texas region. The new distance-delivered option will begin in the summer of 2012.

UNT's educational computing doctoral degree program was established in 2001 as an extension of the master of science program in computer education and cognitive systems that was established in 1985. Students in the doctoral program focus on understanding and expanding the synergy of technology and learning/instructional systems theory for careers as technology coordinators, directors of distance education, instructional designers, teachers and

faculty members, and other learning technology positions in academic and corporate settings. Students have the option of completing the master's degree in computer education and cognitive systems while working on the doctoral degree in educational computing.

**Dr. Greg Jones**, UNT associate professor of learning technologies and director of the doctoral program, stated that "Educational and instructional technology is a fast-growing field, and having the distance option will greatly expand the ability for students outside the North Texas area." He explained that not every student can afford to move to Denton or North Texas area to enter the residency PhD program. Online delivery will enable the program to reach more students from across Texas, as well as nationally and internationally. More than 200 students in 20 states and from Europe, Mexico, and Canada have expressed interest in an online doctoral degree during the last several years.

Students in the new program will complete 57 academic hours of Internet-based courses and 12 academic hours of dissertation research. While taking courses, students will build portfolios of academic writing, creative work, and service that will be used to assess their capability prior to

starting the dissertation.

Mentoring will be an important aspect of the program. Student will each be assigned to both a faculty member in the Department of Learning Technologies and a doctoral mentor, a professional in the field who will oversee the student's work toward the dissertation. The faculty member and doctoral mentor will work with the student during coursework and dissertation stages, focusing on student-centered research and writing to guide the student to successful completion of the program.

Cohorts of students organized around geographic locations or with shared mentors will be formed. Each summer, the cohorts will come together for an annual meeting to be held in conjunction with the annual conference of the International Society for Technology in Education. During the annual meeting, students will present research, meet with their dissertation committees, and later defend their portfolios and dissertations.

Applications to the online doctoral program are being accepted until April 10, 2012. For more information, visit the program's website at <http://lt.unt.edu/ecmp>, or contact the Department of Learning Technologies at 940-565-2057.

## Department of Learning Technologies Names First Outstanding Alumni Award Recipient

**Dr. Todd Fore** has accepted the Learning Technologies Department's first Outstanding Alumni Award. COI Alumni Society Board members on the LT Outstanding Alumni Committee requested nominations from faculty and others.



*Dr. Todd Fore*

From those nominated, Dr. Fore was chosen as the first recipient.

Dr. Fore is Executive Director of the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, TX. The center's primary focus is to ensure that commanders around the world have the right number of skilled Air Force people in the proper grades and specialties to complete their missions. AFPC has a diverse workforce of nearly 2,800 Air Force military, civilian, and contractor personnel responsible for implementing personnel policies, developing personnel programs, and conducting worldwide personnel operations

for 1.25 million Air Force military and civilian personnel and retirees. The center also manages the Air Expeditionary Force schedule and tracks the execution of delivering versatile air and space power to combatant commanders. AFPC implements comprehensive programs covering all aspects of the personnel life cycle for military and civilian personnel, to include accessions education and training, assignments and deployments, promotions and evaluations, and retirements and separations. Additionally the center provides support for readiness and contingency operations.

Dr. Fore entered federal civil service in 1989 as an intern at Sheppard AFB, TX. He has served in a variety of assignments at base, major command, and Air Staff levels. Assignments include aircraft maintenance, training administrators, command mission planner and technical training programming and administration division chief. In April 2006, Dr. Fore joined the Pentagon Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower and Personnel and served as Chief of the Education and Training Requirements Division. Prior to his current

assignment, Dr. Fore was the Deputy Director of Force Management Policy, Deputy Chief of Staff of Manpower and Personnel, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C. Additionally, Dr. Fore periodically serves as adjunct faculty in graduate and undergraduate programs.

Dr. Fore received the BS degree in political science and communication from Texas Christian University, the MA degree in political science/public administration, Midwestern State University, and the PhD degree in applied technology, training and employee development – human resource management, from UNT in 1998.

On December 2, 2011, Dr. Fore received the award and spoke to the doctoral students and faculty on what he calls, "Your Academic Pursuits Become the Blueprint of Executive Decision Making and Leadership Success." He also met with the LT faculty. On December 3, he attended the UNT football game along with members of the faculty.





## PLACES & SPACES MAPPING SCIENCE

scimaps.com

mappingscience.unt.edu

### Grand Opening Celebration

On the evening of Friday, September 30th, UNT's Discovery Park campus was transformed into a happening place, with the College of Information serving as host to the official opening of the Places and Spaces: Mapping Science exhibit, which will be at UNT until January 24, 2012. An estimated 130 people attended the event, including faculty, staff, and students from across the UNT campus, and visitors from other area universities and schools, librarians, businesses, and the general public. The evening festivities included live music in the courtyard furnished by Brian Clancy Band jazz ensemble, refreshments, and opportunities to chat with UNT information visualization scholars. The highlight of the evening was an informative talk and exhibit tour by Dr. Katy Borner, the Places & Spaces exhibit curator from Indiana University where she is a professor of library & information science and founding director of the Cyberinfrastructure for Network Science Center. Geoff Gable, Interim Senior Vice Provost, introduced Dr. Borner. Welcoming remarks were made by Drs. William Moen, Director of TxCDK, Herman Totten, Vice President for University and Community Affairs, Linda Schamber, Acting Dean of COI.

Places & Spaces is a worldwide effort, now in its 7th year, intended to inspire cross-discipline discussion by demonstrating different ways to visualize information. Each year, ten new maps are added to the exhibit, resulting in a total of 100 maps by 2014. The exhibit has been in a number of places including Stanford University and the New York Public Library. This year, UNT premiered the 7th iteration of 10 maps titled "Science Maps as Visual Interfaces to Digital Libraries." All 70 maps, as well as three world processor globes and an illuminated diagram display, are now dispersed throughout the first floor of Discovery Park. A companion children's exhibit was at Emily Fowler Public Library in Denton this summer and is now at the Elm Fork Education Center on the main UNT campus.

COI is hosting the exhibit for several reasons: to promote interdisciplinary information visualization research underway at UNT, to serve as a backdrop for workshops and discussions designed to enhance the information visualization and geospatial literacy skills of faculty and students; and to foster awareness, connections, and new research collaborations between UNT scholars, the local Denton community, and the greater North Texas region.

The program also included posters presented by UNT faculty, staff, and students: Srinivasan Srivilliputhu, Niraj Gupta, Shivraj Karewar, "Atomistic Simulation of Nanosphere Deformation;" Jenny Vogel, "Last Words;" Jackie DeMeritt, Jesse Hamner, "Options in the Arsenal: Disaggregating Repression;" David Stout, "Particle Drawing Environment for Aesthetic Exploration and Real-time Visualization of Chaotic Systems;" Irene Klaver, Brian C. O'Connor, "Reclaiming Infrastructure—Retrieving Specificity;" Jesse Hamner, Cullen Hendrix, Idean Salehyan, "Representing Social Conflicts Across the African Continent;" Armin Mikler, Tamara Schneider, Marty O'Neill, Chetan Tiwari, "Risk, Rates, and Fuzzy Mountains: Challenges of Mapping Population Data;" Andrew J. Torget, "Voting America: United States Politics, 1840-2008;" Jincheng Du, Leopold Kokou, Yun Li, "Change Trapping in Cerium Containing Phosphate Glasses;" Richard L. Anderson, Melody J. McCotter, Brian C. O'Connor, "What Makes a Movie? Digigraphic Visualization of Differences that Make a Difference."

Co-sponsors of the exhibit include: TxCDK, UNT Libraries, Office of Research & Economic Development, Center for the Study of Interdisciplinarity, Center for Student Affairs, College of Visual Arts & Design, Department of Geography, Research and Visualization Environment (RAVE), and Elm For Education Center.

See <http://mappingscience.unt.edu> for further information or to schedule a visit.



## Partnering with Indiana University

The Exhibit Curator is Dr. Katy Börner of Indiana University. Dr. Börner holds an MS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Technology in Leipzig and a PhD in Computer Science from the University of Kaiserslautern. Her research focuses on the development of data analysis and visualization technique for information access, understanding, and management. She is particularly interested in the study of the structure and evolution of scientific disciplines; the analysis and visualization of online activity; and the development of cyberinfrastructures for large scale scientific collaboration and computation. She is the co-editor of *Visual Interfaces to Digital Libraries* and of a special issue of *PNAS* on Mapping Knowledge Domains. Her new book is titled *Atlas of Science: Visualizing What We Know* by MIT Press, 2010. At Indiana, she holds several titles: Professor of Library and Information Science, Adjunct Professor at the School of Informatics and Computing, Adjunct Professor at the Department of Statistics in the College of Arts and Sciences, Core Faculty of Cognitive Science, Research Affiliate of the Biocomplexity Institute, Fellow of the Center for Research on Learning and Technology, Member of the Advanced Visualization Laboratory, and Founding Director of the Cyberinfrastructure for Network Science Center at Indiana University.



Places & Spaces is exhibiting at UNT Discovery Park now through Jan. 24, 2012.  
For group or guided tours contact [Kathryn.masten@unt.edu](mailto:Kathryn.masten@unt.edu) or 940.565.4552.



# FACULTY

## FACULTY UPDATE

### Library & Information Sciences

**Dr. Jiangping Chen**, together with two visiting Chinese scholars, Ren Ding and Shan Jiant, published a referred paper titled, "Metadata Records Translation: The Case of the Portal to Texas History," in *Library and Information Service*, a core LIS journal in China. Her poster, coauthored with **Olajumoke Azogu**, **Wenquan Zhao**, and Miguel Ruiz, "HeMT: A Multilingual System for Human Evaluation of Metadata Records Machine Translation," was accepted by 2011 Annual Conference of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) and will be published in *AMC Digital Library*. A referred paper authored by Dr. Chen, Ren Ding, **Ryan Knudson** (MS '11) and Frank Braun, "What Matters? An Investigation of Student Collaborative e-Learning," was published in the Proceedings of *International Workshop on Education Technology*.



**Jiangping Chen**

Dr. Chen presented her IMLS-funded research project "Enabling Multilingual Information Access to Digital Collections: An Investigation of Metadata Records Translation" to faculty and students in five organizations during summer 2011 and fall 2011. These organizations included School of Information Management at Wuhan University (China), Department of Information Management at Beijing Normal University (China), Department of Information Management at Nankai University (China), Library of Chinese Academic of Science, and the Autonomous University of the State of Mexico (UAEM). Dr. Chen was invited to present a talk on "Instructional Design Strategies for Teaching Technological Course Outline" at UAEM College of Education 1<sup>st</sup> International Colloquial for Educational Technologies on September 28, 2011.

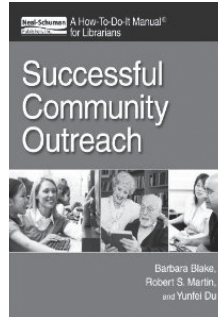
**Dr. Ana Cleveland** has continued her work on the Medical Library Association/National Library of Medicine project to develop a Disaster Information Specialization. In addition she presented the contributed paper, "Getting to the Heart of the Matter: An Overview of Research Data Collection and Analysis," at the Medical Library



**Ana Cleveland**

Association Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, May 2011. She also co-authored the contributed paper, "Rethinking Our Roles: Genomics and Translational Medicine for Information Professionals," with Dr. Kristi Holmes, Washington University School of Medicine, and **Jodi Philbrick** (MS '01). Dr. Cleveland worked with **Xuequn (Della) Pan** (PhD student) and Jodi Philbrick on the 2011 TLA Conference session, "Creating an Online Health Information Pathfinder for a Diverse Population." She, with LIS Emeritus Professor **Dr. Don Cleveland**, is currently writing the 4th edition of *Introduction to Indexing and Abstracting*

**Dr. Yunfei Du, Barbara Blake, and Robert Martin** (MLS '79) published a book titled *Successful Community Outreach: A How-To-Do-It-Manual for Librarians*, in August 2011. The book is the primary planning guide for the LIS PEARL project to enhance public libraries' role in rural communities in Texas. The PEARL project is a three-year, \$1.6 million grant funded by the Robert and Ruby Priddy Charitable Trust. Dr. Du was the Texas Library Association August Member of the Month. His photograph and information about him was included on the TLA homepage at <http://www.txla.org/Du-Yunfei>.



**Elizabeth Figa**

Library & Information Sciences. At the summer 2011 National BPM meeting held at ALA in New Orleans, the new chapter was inducted and a plaque was presented to **Dr. Suliman Huwameh**, department chair.

During the current year, Dr. Figa served as chair of the Association for Library and Information Education (ALISE) Award for Teaching Excellence in the Field of Library and Information Education. She was recently appointed as chair of the ALISE 2012 Eugene Garfield Dissertation Award competition. At the 2011 ALA Conference Young Adult Library Services Association (YALTA) Research Symposium, Dr. Figa revealed preliminary results of research on trends in library and information sciences curricula and courses related to graphic novels and comics. She also presented on an ALA panel discussing "Virtual Collaboration for Teen

Librarians." She continues in her role as associate editor of *Storytelling, Self, Society Journal*.

**Dr. Suliman Hawandeh** delivered an invited talk about "The Evolution of an Emerging Discipline: KM Education" on April 12, 2011, as part of the Webinar series on Knowledge Management Education organized by Kent State University and George Washington University.



**Suliman Hawandeh**

On May 5, 2011, at the First Annual Summit on Knowledge Management Education Forum organized and hosted by George Washington University, he participated at a panel on "What Competencies Do Today's Knowledge Professionals Need to Lead Knowledge Organizations in the 21st Century?" At a panel organized by DFW Health Libraries Information Network (HealthLINE), held on July 21, 2011 and hosted by Texas Woman's University, Dr. Hawandeh and Gerald Perry, 2011-12 president of the Medical Library Association, discussed "Opportunities in Medical Librarianship." On July 26, 2011, he delivered an invited talk on "The Professionalization of KM" at the Knowledge and Project Management Symposium, organized by the Knowledge and Information Professional Association (KIPA) and hosted by Oklahoma State University. Dr. Hawandeh was the founding president of KIPA and the founding chair of the KPM Symposium.

**Dr. Jeonghyun Annie Kim** presented "Students as Research Subjects: Issues and Recommendations" during the Library Research Round Table chair's Research Forum at the 2011 ALA conference. She served as a reviewer of the ASIS&T



**Annie Kim**

conference as well as a moderator/organizer of the ASIS&T Webinar "Transforming our e-Learning 'Worst Practices' into Excellent Teaching." Dr. Kim is currently working as a Co-Principal Investigator of the ICAMP project recently funded by IMLS.



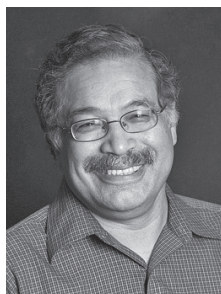
**Shawne Miksa**

**Dr. Shawne Miksa**, who is acting associate director of the COI Interdisciplinary Information Science PhD Program, is serving as guest editor for a special issue of *Journal of Library Metadata*, to be published in June 2012. She has



received some 30 paper proposals for the special issue that is entitled "Functional Future for Bibliographic Control." Dr. Miksa is writing a chapter titled "Social Cataloging" for inclusion in *New Directions in Information Organization*, J. Parks and L. Howarth, eds., Emerald Library and Information Science Book Series, to be published sometime in 2012. On May 5, 2011, she gave the Closing Keynote entitled "Training the Cataloger of the Future" at the Good Practices for Great Outcomes: Cataloging Efficiencies That Make a Difference OCLC events series, held at the University of Dallas.

**Dr. Guillermo Oyarce** accompanied a delegation of UNT representatives, led by Provost Warren Burggren, on a visit to Ecuador and his native country Peru to meet with authorities of major universities. The visit included more than a dozen universities in four of the main cities. The conversations examined areas of common interest for student and faculty exchange, research collaboration, and the development of academic programs.



**Guillermo Oyarce**

**Dr. Barbara Schultz-Jones** was elected secretary for 2011-13 of the School Libraries and Resources Centers Section for the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). At the 2011 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans in June, she presented the session "RDA Meets ILS" at the ALCTS preconference. She presented the session "Access Your School Library Learning Environment" at the Education Service Center, Region 10 Library Resources Roundup, San Antonio, TX, September 23, 2011. With **Dr. Shawne Miksa** and doctoral student **Ric Hasenyager**, she presented "Working with RDA: Cataloging Advances for School Libraries" at the American Association of School Librarians National Conference in Minneapolis, October 2011. Dr. Schultz-Jones published a book chapter titled "Assessing School Library Learning Environments" in *Global Perspectives on School Libraries: Projects and Practices* (Berlin/Munich: De Gruyter Saur. IFLA/IASL joint publication). She successfully completed the Peru study abroad program along with **Toby Faber**, **Dr. Janet Hilbun** and **Claudia Wayland** (LIS MS '06), youth librarian Frisco Public Library, and 24 students. Submissions and winners of the photo contest can be seen at <http://course.unt.edu/bjones/BSFJPeruLinkPage.html/>



**Barbara Schultz-Jones**

**Dr. Daniella Smith** and **Dr. Demetria Ennis-Cole** (LT) published "Assistive Technology and Autism: Expanding the Technology Leadership Role of the School Librarian," in *School Libraries Worldwide*, 17(2) 2011. Dr. Smith and Dr. Ennis-Cole are jointly conducting research on school librarians to determine what they know about autism. Dr. Smith received an ALA Diversity Research Grant for her Diversity in Technology project in which she seeks to document the leadership potential of school librarians who are often catalysts for technology integration in schools and the impact of diversity (age, gender, and ethnicity) on the effectiveness of technology integration in Texas.



**Daniella Smith**



**Demetria Ennis-Cole**

**Dr. Oksana Zavalina** presented a paper titled "Role of Collection-Level Subject Metadata in Subject Access to Digital Collections in Aggregations" at the 18th International Conference "Libraries and Information Resources in the Modern World of Science, Culture Education and Business" in Sudak, Ukraine, in June 2011. She also worked on the "Role of Collection Metadata in Information Retrieval in the Portals that Aggregate Digital Collection," a research project funded by the UNT Office of Research and Economic Development Junior Faculty Summer Research Fellowship. In September 2011, at the International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications in The Hague, The Netherlands, Dr. Zavalina presented a paper titled "Free-Text Collection-Level Subject Metadata in Large-Scale Digital Libraries: A Comparative Content Analysis"



**Oksana Zavalina**



**Jeff Allen**

## Learning Technologies

**Dr. Jeff Allen** has received three grants totaling \$751,000 for 2010-11. The grants include the following:

Amount: \$300,000  
Title: Career & Technical

Education Cluster Grant – Architecture & Construction, STEM, Manufacturing  
Funding Agency: Clark Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act Fund, U.S. Department of Education through the Texas Education Agency

Amount: \$300,000  
Title: Career & Technical Cluster Grant – Business, Management & Administration, Marketing Sales & Services, and Finance  
Funding Agency: Clark Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act Fund, U.S. Department of Education through the Texas Education Agency

Amount: \$150,000  
Title: Online Professional Development in Statistics and Risk Management  
Funding Agency: Clark Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act Fund, U.S. Department of Education through the Texas Education Agency

Dr. Allen has published two book chapters: Jeff Allen, P. Bracey, & L. Pasquini (2012). "Learning and Performance Innovation," in V.C. Wang, ed., *Encyclopedia of E-Leadership, Counseling and Training*, pp.48-64. Doi:10.4018/978-1-61350-068-2.ch005

Jeff Allen, A.J. Gojer, M. Gavrilova-Aguilar, & D. Philpot. "Sustaining Organizational Innovation." In V.C. Wang, ed., *Encyclopedia of E-Learning, Counseling and Training*, pp. 514-531. Doi:10.4018/978-1-61350-068-2.ch038

**Dr. Greg Jones** has continued to work on 3D virtual environments research. With **Dr. Scott Warren** (LT) he completed a research project with 200 middle school students in Maryland who used the virtual literacy environment; data analysis will be completed in the next few months. In addition, the journal article on K-12 educator's use of 3D multi-use virtual environments in formal classroom settings was published in the *International Journal of Games and Computer Mediated Systems*.



**Scott Warren**



**Adriana D'Alba**

**Dr. Jones** and doctoral candidate **Adriana D'Alba** (LT) have completed their grant research on Measuring the Effectiveness of a 3D Virtual Museum. This

**FACULTY UPDATE, continued on page 16**

# FACULTY

## FACULTY UPDATE, continued from page 15

joint research project between UNT and the Autonomous University of the State of Mexico (UAEM) examined the effectiveness, usability, and knowledge acquisition between the real Leopoldo Flores Museum at the UAEM and a 3D online virtual museum replica. The primary results show a) students using the virtual environment first and then visiting the museum exhibited higher discourse with the guide and better knowledge acquisition about the museum, and b) that the virtual museum experience when used alone was a comparable experience to the actual museum guided tour in both knowledge gained and satisfaction. The full research outcomes, report and movie on the project can be found at <http://courseweb.unt.edu/gjones/museum/>

**Regents Professor Gerald Knezek** has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Specialist appointment to the University of Twente, The Netherlands, to carry out collaborative research and writing, and to conduct three two-week seminars during the 2011-12 school year. The collaborative research will be to extend the work



Gerald Knezek, center, with doctoral candidate Kassimu and his wife.

begun with European colleagues while serving as co-chair of the International Summit on ICT in Education at UNESCO, Paris, in June 2011. The three seminars will be for doctoral candidates and junior faculty in the areas of psychometric instrumentation, scaling methods, and research symposium presentation design. Dr. Knezek is currently (early October) on the first of the three, two-week visits, as this edition of *Call Number* is in preparation. He previously served as a Fulbright Scholar to Japan in 1993-94 and a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Educator during 2006-07

**Dr. Lin Lin** has published three refereed journal articles, three book chapters, and presented four papers at three national/international conferences. The refereed journal articles are: Lin-Lin, J. Lee & T. Robertson (2011), "Reading While Watching Video: The Effect of Video Content on Reading Comprehension and Media Multitasking Ability," *Journal of Educational Computing Research*, 45(2), 183-201; Lin Li & C. Bigenho (2011), "Note-taking and Memory in Different Media Environments," *Computers in the Schools*, 228(3), 200-216; J. Lee, Lin Lin, & T. Robertson (2011), "The Impact of Media Multitasking on Learning," *Learning, Media and Technology*, 36(3), 1-11.

**Dr. Kim Nimom** published, with others, "A Preliminary Field Test of an Employee Work Passion Model" in *Hyman Resource Development Quarterly*.



Lin Lin

# STAFF

## Staff News Notes

PLEASE SEND STAFF NEWS TO Editor Margaret Irby Nichols, [Nichols2514@verizon.net](mailto:Nichols2514@verizon.net)

**Landon Ellison**, recruiter for COI since September 2011, has strong ties to UNT. His father and two sisters received degrees here, and his mother, a TWU graduate, is employed at UNT. He received his own UNT degree in General Studies with a focus on Marketing



Landon Ellison

and Advertising in Fall 2010. As a student, he was involved in several organizations, including Omega Psi Phi fraternity where he served as president and was named Omega Man of the Year in 2009. He reports that he has taken on many roles in the first month of his new job and is beginning to schedule and meet with library directors in the DFW area.

**Myrna Orbock**, school media advisor, who works with **Toby Faber**, did some tandem skydiving over the 2011 Labor Day weekend at Skydive Lake Elsinore, CA, home of Southern California's largest natural lake and next to the beautiful Ortega Mountains.



Myrna Orbock, skydiving in California.

# COI GIFTS

## Victoria Nelson Martinsen

### Featured Staff Member

Victoria Nelson Martinsen, COI's newly appointed development officer, came to UNT in April 2011 from Austin College, Sherman, TX, where she served as director of alumni and parent relations. She came to Texas from southern California where she worked for a number of years as an analyst for the Walt Disney Company before serving as associate director of alumnae

relations for Scripps College, her alma mater. She holds a degree in theatre from Scripps College and a master's degree in arts management from Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College of Public Policy and Management. Her areas of expertise include program management, volunteer leadership development, and major gift fund raising.

Victoria lives in Argyle with her husband David and their two cats, Homer and Johnny

(named after David's grandparents). Her favorite color used to be blue, but now it's green, of course. She likes cooking, hiking and traveling; she also likes movies and the theatre.

Victoria Martinsen





## Spectrum Scholars

The ALA Office of Diversity awarded five of the fifty five 2011 Spectrum Scholarships to UNT students. The awards (\$5,000 scholarships plus more than \$1,500 worth of pre-professional development activities and ongoing leadership training and career placement services) are provided to selected American Indians/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African Americans, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students pursuing graduate degrees in library and information science. UNT adds \$1,000 to the scholarship package of each Spectrum Scholar, as well as out-of-state tuition waivers. The mission of the program is to improve service at the local level through development of a representative workforce that reflects the communities served by all libraries. Those receiving scholarships are: **Wai Yi Ma**, **Casey Ann Mitchell**, **John Parker**, **Johana Orellana Cabrera**, and **Rhea Watson**.

**Wai Yi Ma** of Mangilao, Guam, who has entered LEAP, the U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands program (see pg. 7), received a bachelor's degree in political science and communication studies in 2008 and a master of arts degree in



Wai Yi Ma

Micronesian studies in 2011 from the University of Guam.

**Casey Ann Mitchell** of Los Angeles entered the COI Greater Los Angeles Cohort distance education program in fall 2011. Casey, who holds a bachelor's degree in history from the State University of New York's Purchase College and a library technology certificate from Pasadena City College, is currently the acquisitions supervisor at Pepperdine University's library.



Casey Ann Mitchell

**Johana Orellana** entered the master's program in library science in January 2011, after receiving the bachelor's degree in English and certification in translation studies from the University of Texas at Arlington in December 2010. She has worked for the City of Irving (TX) Public Library since graduating from high school in June 2007.



Johana Orellana

**Rhea Watson**, who entered the Nevada-

Utah Cohort distance learning program in fall 2011, is currently a literacy coordinator for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District. She holds a bachelor's degree from Morris Brown College in Atlanta and a master's degree in experimental psychology from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.



Rhea Watson

**John Parker**, originally from Memphis, TN, has been working for the Las Vegas-Clark County District since 2004. While serving in the U.S. Air Force from 2000-2004, he earned an AAS degree in information systems technology from the College of the Air Force. He also holds a BS degree in management from National American University, and an MBA in human resource management from the University of Phoenix. He is a student in the LIS Nevada-Utah Cohort distance learning program.



John Parker

## Student Wins American Council of the Blind Scholarship

**Samuel Muwanguzi** has been awarded a \$2,500 American Council of the Blind (ACB) Floyd Qualls Memorial Scholarship as an outstanding student in pursuit of excellence in education. ACB will fly Samuel to Reno, Nevada to receive the award in July during the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Council's national convention. ACB will also sponsor Samuel's stay at the week-long convention, at which he will make presentations to the



Samuel Muwanguzi

ACB Intercultural/International Committee and to the ACB Education Committee. His first presentation will address coping with blindness in a foreign culture; the second will detail the challenge of being an international blind student in graduate school.

Two years ago, NT-International named Samuel the Outstanding International Student. He is in the PhD Program in Information Sciences, with a concentration in Information Policy and Management, and is benefiting from the mentorship of **Dr. William E. Moen**. In the process of applying for the ACB scholarship, Samuel was supported by letters of recommendation from Dr. Brian Richardson (Department of Communication Studies),

**Dr. Florence Mason** (Department of Library and Information Sciences), and **Dr. Lin Lin** (Department of Learning Technologies). Among others who have championed Samuel are Dr. George Musambira (University of Central Florida), and at UNT, **Dean Linda Schamber**, **Dr. Maurice Wheeler** (Department of Libraries and Information Sciences), and (in the UNT Office of Disability Accommodations) Ms. Rebecca Cagle and student assistant Hillary Dias.

Congratulations to Samuel for this most recent achievement, and kudos to all who have been part of his many success stories and outstanding intellectual journey at UNT.

Job seekers: networking is an essential part of the job seeking process.



# STUDENTS

## All School Days and Other Activities

### Houston Program

Dr. Ana Cleveland and Jodi Philbrick (LIS MS '01) hosted a Houston All School Day on April 2, 2011 with the theme, "Navigating Political Waters: A Primer for Information Professionals." Many Houston area professionals shared their expertise on the topic with the students and graduates in attendance. They also held a new Houston area student orientation and hosted the Back to School Bash in conjunction with Dr. Larry Enoch's SLIS 5200 Web Institute. A record number of students and graduates attended the Bash to celebrate the new academic year. A joyful event!

The fall 2011 Houston All School, titled "Repurposing the Library for the Digital Age," was held on November 5 at the University of Houston MD Anderson Library, Elizabeth D. Rockwell Pavilion. The program included keynote speaker Wendy Heger, Assistant Director of Planning & Facilities, Houston Public Library; Pat Thibodeau, Associate Dean for Library Services, Duke University Medical Center; and Dr. Dennis Adams, Associate Professor, Decision and Information Sciences, Bauer College of Business, University of Houston. A panel consisting of Liz Philippi, Manager, Department of Library Services, Houston ISD; Meller Langford, Deputy Director of Public Services, Houston Public Library; and Alice Phillips, Senior Research Librarian, Upstream Technical



*Houston All School Day: from left, Jane Atwell, Jodi Philbrick, Alice Harrigan and Dr. Ana Cleveland.*

Information Center, ExxonMobil Upstream Research Company, discussed different ways they have repurposed library roles, services, and facilities. Department of Library & Information Sciences Acting Dean Linda Schamber also attended.

Dr. Chetan Tiwari of Geography, Dr. Armin Mikler of Computer Science, Dr. Ray Stephens, retired from the UNT History Department, and Dr. Yunfei Du (LIS faculty) and Barbara Blake who spoke on "UNT Library & Information Sciences: Using Geospatial Information Skills in the PEARL (Promoting and Enhancing the Advancement of Rural Libraries) Project."



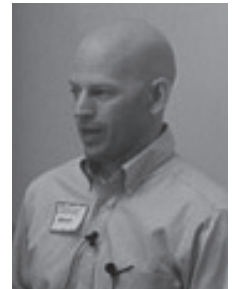
*Caroline Castillo, Houston Student Coordinator, and Tina McPherson, Houston LISSA President at the fall All School Day.*

### Denton Campus

The fall All School Day on the Denton campus was held in conjunction with the opening activities for the Places & Spaces: Mapping Science exhibit held at Discovery Park October 1, 2011, the evening after the opening ceremonies (see pgs. 12-13). Dr. Katy Borner, the exhibit's curator from Indiana University, served as a speaker and conducted a guided tour of the exhibit. Other speeches at the All School Day were presented by Hannah Tarver of the UNT Libraries Digital Projects Unit, Dr. Jesse Hamner of the Research & Visualization Environment,



*Hannah Tarver*



*Jesse Hamner*

**Job seekers: One of our graduates says that she has not found a job but refuses to cease trying. She quotes an old Chinese proverb: "Man must sit a long time with open mouth before a roast duck fly in."**

## Student News

PLEASE SEND STUDENT NEWS TO Editor Margaret Irby Nichols at [nichols2514@verizon.net](mailto:nichols2514@verizon.net)

The 2012 LIS study abroad program will take place in Russia. From May 14 through June 4, students will optimize library automation systems in the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg. They will fly to Helsinki, Finland on May 13 and then on to Moscow. In addition to implementing the projects, they will tour Moscow and surrounding area, visit St. Petersburg and tour the Hermitage, and spend a weekend in Helsinki.

**James Alexander**, an LS student, lost his home to the fires in Bastrop County TX this summer.

**Christine Carter** was given the Outstanding New Librarian award by the New Members Round Table of TLA.



Angel Durr



Arletha Ford

Angel Durr and Arletha Ford each received student scholarships from the Texas Library Association Black Caucus.

**Toby Faber**, COI academic counselor, who handled the LIS recruiting booth at the Idaho Library Association the weekend of October 7-8, 2011, had an opportunity to visit and advise various students in the SWIM cohort who were present at the conference. The group included: **Kate Baker, Coleen Bonnell, Kristi Brumley, Megan Egbert, Sonja Humphries, Thomas Ivie, Kathleen Lambert, Erica Littlefield, Teresa Lucas, Gena Marker, Fiona May, Jill Mitchell, Beth Swenson, and Jessica Tueller.**

**Farrah Lokey** served as the on-site coordinator for volunteers to meet and greet guests of the Texas debut of the Places and Spaces Exhibit, which opened at Discovery Park on September 30, 2010. See pgs. 12-13 for exhibit information.



Maria Ornes with President Obama

**Maria Ornes**, a student in the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands Cohort, (LEAP), who is a science teacher at Marianas High School, Northern Mariana Islands, was named a 2010 National Teacher of the Year by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The program focuses on bringing public attention to teaching excellence. The Pearson Foundation hosts a special day-long workshop in New York City for each year's honorees. During the 2010 workshop, President Obama hosted a dinner for the Teachers of the Year.

LIS students **Gayle Prybutok** and **Rayne Vieger** have been chosen to serve on the Discovery Park Advisory Board.

**Celina Williams**, a student in the UNT/Madison University Virginia Program, has been awarded the UNT Beta Pi Mu Scholarship. She is employed at the Virginia Commonwealth Libraries in Special Collections and Archives.



Gayle Prybutok



Rayne Vieger



Celina Williams

The April issue of the *Idaho Librarian* is filled with articles and reviews by students in the UNT COI SWIM cohort.: **Kristine Brumley, Megan Egbert, Tom Ivie, Erica Littlefield, Bev McKay, Gena Marker, Fiona May, Jill Mitchell, Holly Mortimer, and Lizzy Walker.**

**Tekeisha Zimmerman**, LT ATTD PhD student, has been hired as the Training Director for Ascension Capital Group (ACG) in Arlington TX. ACG is the industry leader in providing bankruptcy processing services for some of the country's largest banks and financial institutions. In this role, Tekeisha will be responsible for creating, coordinating, and facilitating training initiatives across all stages of support for 3000 ACG employees located in the United States and India.

**Elvis Zodiactal**, who is a faculty member in the Social Sciences Department of the American Samoa Community College (ASCC), has been accepted into Library Education for the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific (LEAP) consortia. He will retain his position at ASCC while participating in the long-distance learning program working toward the MS in Library Science in the LEAP cohort. Elvis holds the BS from the University of Guam and the MA from San Diego State University.



Elvis Zodiactal

Those who received the 2011 Library Student Outreach Award that provide funding to attend and participate in National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South Central Region activities at the South Central Chapter of the Medical Libraries Association meeting in May 2011 in Baton Rouge, LA include: **Misou DeWeese, Donna Elich, Claire Gonzales, Caroline Griffin, Bette McDowell, Maryam Salehezadeh, and Porcia Vaughn.** Those who received the award in 2010 include: **Sharon Lee, Joyce McFadden, Andrea Spencer, Jennifer Strayhorn, and Joy Yeh.** Only ten awards are given each year; UNT students received seven of the awards in 2011 and five of the awards in 2010.

Job seekers: we must constantly sell ourselves  
when seeking employment.



## Newly Elected COI Alumni Society Board Members

**Becho Arnold** (LIS MS '06) has been director of the Weslaco (TX) Public Library since May 2010, having previously served as head librarian at South Texas College. Arnold was a fellow in The Rio Grande Initiative Grant, January 2005-December 2006, the UNT/IMLS grant to assist border librarians in attaining the Master of Library & Information Science degree.



*Becho Arnold*

**Angie Blank** (LT CESC '07), is coordinator of graduate information systems for UNT's Toulouse Graduate School, where she has worked for twenty-six years. As an IT specialist, she is responsible for the coordination, implementation, and maintenance of software systems and databases pertaining to recruitment, admission, and retention of graduate students.

**Kristen Burgess** (LIS MS '10 with specialization in Health Informatics) has completed her first year as a National Library of Medicine Associate Fellow. She will spend her second year as an Associate Fellow at the Donald C. Harrison Health Sciences Library at the University of Cincinnati. While completing the Master's degree, she worked as the senior administrator at KDH Research & Communication, a public health and public policy research institution. During that time, she interned with the MetaArchive Cooperative and the Morehouse School of Medicine Library in Atlanta, GA.



*Kristen Burgess*



*Gayla Byerly*

**Gayla Byerly** (LIS MS '99), UNT Libraries instruction coordinator, started her librarian career at the University of Dallas Library serving as head of reference and electronic services. She has taught in the library science and technology area at both UNT and TWU as well as published and presented about her areas of interest which include library instruction and assessment of library instruction.

**Alaina Doyle** (LT BAAS '08) serves as a training director at JP Morgan Chase in Default Home

Lending where she leads and directs a team of people across the country that support new home lending strategic initiatives. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in Human Resource Management at the University of Texas at Arlington.



*Alaina Doyle*

**Kathleen Edwards** (LIS MS '06) retired October 1, 2010 after serving 20 years in public libraries. Her last position was as director of the William T. Cozby Library, in Coppell, TX, a position she had held for some 11 years. Kathy also served as assistant library director for the Carrollton (TX) Libraries and as a branch manager for the Plano (TX) libraries, as well as in the Science and Engineering Library at Southern Methodist University.



*Kathleen Edwards*



*Megan Hodge*

New Members Round Table, and was selected as an ALA Emerging Leader in 2011. With another 2010 UNT COI alumnae, **Nicole Spoor**, she presented the findings of a survey they conducted at the ALA annual conference and at IFLA.

**Michele Lucero** (LIS MS '04, UNT MBA), has a new position as director of communications, LA Law School Library; she also serves as local coordinator for the UNT - California State University of Northridge MLS Program, working closely with faculty and students and also organizing professional development activities. She was formerly with West, a Thomson Reuters business in Los



*Michele Lucero*

Angeles, where she managed library relations in Southern California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii, Colorado, Iowa, and Nebraska. Michele is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership and a Master of Dispute Resolution from the Straus Institute, Pepperdine University.

**Tera McAmis** (LIS MS '09 and Certificate of Advanced Management of Information Centers), is manager of operations for the Del City Library, Metropolitan Library System, Oklahoma City, OK, and is the 2011-2012 Oklahoma Library Association Social Responsibilities



*Tera McAmis*

Roundtable chair. She is a member of ALA and PLA and an OLA Gold Leadership graduate 2010. When she accepted a job as an assistant director of a public library system in order to "get out of the house", the firsthand experience of public libraries empowering citizens and improving lives motivated her to alter her career path.

**Carolyn Peterson** (LIS MS '99) has been director of the Learning Resource Center at Odessa (TX) College since 2002 and has served as director of LRC and Student Success Center since January 1, 2011. She has served on campus committees on her campus and participated in organizations both on campus and in the community.



*Carolyn Peterson*



*Mary Jo Venetis*

**Mary Jo Venetis** (PhD '08), formerly associate library director for technical services, University of Texas at Dallas and now director, Academic Catalogs at UTD, is active in both ALA and TLA serving on and chairing a number of committees and task forces. She also has made numerous presentations and conducted workshops for both associations as well as other groups. (See Alumni Update, 2006-10, pg. 24 for more information.)

## TLA Officers and Chairs 2011-12

UNT-LIS alumni and faculty hold a number of leadership positions in the Texas Library Association. **Jerilynn Williams** (MLS '79) is serving as president, **Sherilyn Bird** (MS '70) as president-elect, and **Maribel Castro** (MS '03) as immediate past-president of the Association.

Those chairing committees include: **Maribel Castro**, Budget; **Kathy Hillman** (MLS '76), Bylaws and Resolutions; **Linda Shaw** (MS '07), Disaster Relief; **Mary Jo Venetis** (PhD '08), District Planning; **Victoria Kemp** (MS '99), Intellectual Freedom; **Dr. Herman Totten** (faculty), Nominating; **James Karney** (MS '84), Scholarship and Research; and **Willie Braudaway** (MS '03), Tocker Foundation. **Karen Wielhorski** (BS '77) is co-chairing the Conference

Program Committee. **Dreanna Belden** (MS '03) is chair and **Victoria Kemp** is vice-chairs of the Lariat Adult Fiction List Task Force. Vice-chairs of committees include: **Gayla Byerly** (MS '98), Bylaws and Resolutions; **Michael Pullin** (MS '99), Disaster Relief; and **Jeanne Pyle** (MS '85), Scholarship and Research. **Laura Heinz** (MS '98) chairs the College and University Division, and **Stephanie Fulton** (MS '93) chairs the Special Libraries Division. Round table chairs include: **Mary Jo Venetis**, Acquisitions and Collection Development; **Willie Braudaway**, Archives, Genealogy and Local History; **D.L. Grant** (MS '05), Black Caucus; and **Laura Heinz**, Supervision, Management, and Administration. **Karen Vargas** (MS '97) chairs the CE Providers

Interest Group. **Donna Kearley** (MS '97) chairs District 7.

**TLA members alert!** A faculty member plus two alumni are candidates for Texas Library Association positions: **Dr. Yvonne Chandler** long time member of the LIS faculty, for President-Elect; **Corinne Hill** (LIS MS '95) interim director of the Dallas Public Library, and **Doug Ferrier** (LIS MS '78), director, Texas A&M International University, for Representatives-at-Large members of the Executive Board. Corinne and Doug are not running against each other, but for different slots on the Board.

**Remember to vote when ballots become available in February.**

## Association of Rural and Small Libraries

The Association of Rural and Small Libraries, designed for library staff, trustees, and volunteers of small libraries, met in Frisco, TX at the Embassy Suites and Frisco Convention Center, September 8-11, 2011. **Dr. Yunfei Du** and **UNT Vice-president Herman Totten** provided opening remarks. A number of UNT graduates were in attendance including: **Jerilynn Williams** (MLS '79), president of the Texas Library Association and director of the Montgomery County (TX) Library System; **Carolyn Bogardus** (MS '00), COI Alumni Society chair and director, Port Isabel (TX) Public Library; **Cecilia Barham** (MS '00), director, Decatur (TX) Public Library;

**Bonnie Case** (MS '79), director, Highland Park (TX) Public Library; **Laura Cleveland** (MS '01), director, Columbia County Library, Magnolia, AR; **Cheryl Lawson** (PhD '09), Sulphur Springs (TX) Public Library; **Tracy Luscombe** (MS '01), Van Alstyne (TX) Public Library; **Phyllis**



Sam Passey



Phyllis Macmillan



Tracy Luscombe

**Macmillan** (MS '05), district librarian, Pauline & Jan Chilton Memorial Marlin Public Library; **Carolyn Manning** (MS '06), Wimberley, TX; **Jessie Milligan** (MS '10), outreach librarian, UNT Health Science Center, Fort Worth; **Suzanne Moore** (MS '10), Mineola (TX) Memorial Library; **Sam Passey** (MS '06), Uintah County Library, Vernal, UT; **Carolyn Peterson** (MS '99), Washington State Library; **Peggy Rudd**, director, Texas State Library and Archives Commission and LIS Board of Advisors; **Kay Sappington** (MS '02), Union County Library director, New Albany, MS; **Shanda Subia** (MS

'03), Lampasas Public Library; **John Trischitti** (MS '09), Midland (TX) County Library; and **Carrie Valdes** (MS '06), Grand County (TX) Public Library.

Do you wonder whether metadata is some form of cataloging or something else entirely? Are you confused by the term digital curation? There are excellent online sources such as *ABC Clio* Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science at <http://ABC-Clio/ODLIS/odlis-m.asp> or TechTerms.com at <http://techterms.com/>



From left to right: Barbara Blake, Jessie Milligan, and Dr. Yunfei Du

## In Memoriam

Norma Mae Carper Hastings Beckman, mother of former LIS faculty member **Dr. Samantha Hastings**, died in spring 2011. Dr. Hastings is director of the School of Library & Information Sciences, University of South Carolina.

**Lori Bull Dodds** (LIS MS '07), Collin County Law Librarian, McKinney, TX, died in Peru on June 10, 2011, while on a hiking trip in the Andes mountains with her husband and son.

**Valerie Colby** (LIS MS '08), who accepted a job with Verizon earlier this year, died suddenly on August 20, 2011, Farmers Branch TX.

**Margaret A. Gibbs** (BS '57) died October 4, 2011. She served as head librarian at Decatur Baptist College 1958-1965 and at Dallas Baptist College 1965-1979.

LIS has learned of the deaths of **Mary Baxter** (LIS BA '61) Searcy, AR, 04/23/11; **Shirley Carter** (LIS BA '50) Columbus, GA, 03/04/10; **Jane Gandy** (LIS BA '77) Granbury, TX,

06/01/05; **Martin Hellmann** (LIS MS '07) Cincinnati, OH, 10/19/10; **Norma Helstrom** (LIS BA '70) Carrollton, TX, 02/09/11; **Gloria Kinnaird** (LIS BS '40) Houston, TX, 12/27/10; **Susan Lovell** (LIS MS '91) Lenexa, KS, 06/25/11; **Abbas Mazaher** (LIS MLS '67) Great Falls, VA, 11/22/09; **Carolyn Murray** (LIS BA '40) Sherman, TX, 06/01/11; **Susan Scoble** (LIS MS '03) Houston, TX

LT has received word that **Carolyn N. Parsons** (LT BAAS '95) died 12/14/10 in Houston.



# ALUMNI

## Alumni Update

Attention all alumni! Please send me updates. We wish to know what positions you hold and news about your activities. Send to Editor Margaret Irby Nichols at [nichols2514@verizon.net](mailto:nichols2514@verizon.net)

When **Jurhee Curtis**, External Affairs & Alumni Relations, and **Landon Ellison**, COI recruiter, attended the Texas Library Association District



**Carin Galanter**

#6 fall meeting in El Paso on September 23rd and 24th, they were pleased to meet **Carin Galanter**, 3rd semester online student in school media; and alumni **Cindy Williams** (LIS MS '04), Lancaster Elementary, Ysleta ISD; **Angela Lucero** (LIS MS '11); **Lucy Diaz** (LIS



**Angela Lucero**



**Lucy Diaz**



**Adrian Morales**



**Virginia Rey**

MS '89); **Virginia Rey** (LIS MS '89), coordinator of library media centers (some 57 librarians), Ysleta ISD; and **Adrian Morales** (LIS MS '09), who teaches at the Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss.

### Early Years

**Glenn Musser** (MLS '70), who retired from Worcester (MA) Public Library as associate librarian in 2001, (with 43 years in libraries in all) says he has found his "true niche in life, doing nothing." It does not sound that way.



**Glenn Musser**

He reports that he is involved with Civitan International, river and stream water sample collecting, the local community college's Lifelong Learning program as president, and recently as president of the Hendersonville Little Theatre. He directed the organization's first play of the 2010 theater season, *Visiting Mr. Green* by Jeff Baron. He and his wife Betty live in Hendersonville, NC.

### 1990s

**Carisse Berryhill** (MS '90), who is a renowned scholar of Restoration movement history, received the Distinguished Christian Service Award on May 4, 2011 at Pepperdine University's 68th Annual Bible Lecture. She spoke on "Here Is Water: Baptistry Paintings and Spirituality in Churches of Christ."



**Carisse Berryhill**

**David Bigwood** (MS '93) was interviewed for two recent books: *Blogging and RSS: A Librarian's Guide* by Michael P. Sauers (Information Today, 2010) and *Working in the Virtual Stacks: The New Library & Information Science* by Laura Townsend Kane (American Library Association, 2011).



**David Bigwood**

**Elizabeth Brackeen** (MS '92), who has been a senior librarian in the Law Learning Center, the cancer consumer health library at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center since June of 2004, is the spokesperson on an outstanding video describing her customer service philosophy, produced by M.D. Anderson. (<http://www.youtube.com/user/mdandersonorg?feature=mhee#p/search/0/xngdyPDET4C>). Liz serves as an adjunct faculty member for the LIS Houston Program. In her free time, she enjoys giving presentations to professional groups on searching for cancer information and on creating more engaging presentations.



**Elizabeth Brackeen**

**Sian Brannon** (MS '99), UNT libraries' first assistant dean for collection management, heads the newly created Collection Management Division. The division is responsible for developing and strengthening the number of

databases, monographs, ebooks, and eJournals that support UNT programs.

**Abby Goodrum** (PhD '97) has been named Vice-President: Research at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, where she leads the Office of Research Services, providing vision, strategy and support for Laurier's overall research endeavors. She formerly served as the Velma Rogers Graham Research Chair in News, Media and Technology at Ryerson University and as Associate Dean for Research in the faculty of the Communication & Design. She also is the Director for Social Science and Humanities Research in the nationwide network of centers of excellence in Graphics, Animation and New Media (GRAND), and is a Senior Research Fellow at the Knowledge Media Design Institute based at the University of Toronto.



**Sian Brannon**



**Abby Goodrum**

**Nan Hadley** (MS '90) is law librarian for the City of Lubbock, TX.



**Corinne Hill**

**Corinne Hill** (MS '95), Interim Director of Libraries at Dallas Public Library, has been named public library representative to the TexShare Advisory Board that is charged by statute to establish and maintain the TexShare library resource-sharing consortium. Corinne replaces **Larry Justiss** (LIS BA '73), director, Tom Green County (TX) System. Corinne is a candidate for a Representative-at-Large member of the Texas Library Association Board of Directors.



**Connie Moss**

**Connie Moss** (MS '92) is now an assistant director of the Nicholson Memorial Library System in Garland, TX. She was formerly coordinator of the North Texas Library System (NETLS), also in Garland.

**Adam Wright** (MS '95) left his post as executive director of North Texas Library Partners on October 21, 2011, to become assistant director of the Fort Worth Public Library. In his notice announcing his position change, he stated that he was saddened by leaving an organization he helped to build over the last ten years. During the last six months, Adam has positioned the organization for the transition from being a Library System of the Texas State Library to one of being a member-driven nonprofit library organization. "With the recent changes to its



**Carolyn Brewer**

governance and revenue structure," he stated, "I feel confident I have given the organization a very realistic chance at success. I am encouraged by the recent commitments made by the area library directors and I am sure that the North Texas Library Partners will be a business for many years to come." **Carolyn Davidson Brewer** (MS '96) has been named to replace Adam as executive director of North Texas Library Partners.

## 2000-2005

**Cindy Batman** (MS '03) and co-author Janet Denny published an article titled "Librarians in the Brave New World of Today's Job Market" in the summer 2011 issue of *Texas Library Journal*.



**Cindy Batman**

**D.L. Grant, Jr.** (MS '05), assistant branch manager, Carver Branch, San Antonio Library System, is the Texas Library Association Member of the Month for October 2011. In the write up on the TLA home page, he states, "I started at SAPL as a library assistant, and then decided to go to library school. It has been one of the best decisions I ever made." D.L. has served as chair of TLA District 10 and is in his second term on the executive board of the ALA Black Caucus.



**D.L. Grant**

**Jodi Philbrick** (MS '01) has been busy presenting papers at the Medical Library Association and Texas Library Association conferences with **Dr. Ana Cleveland** and **Xuequn (Della) Pan** (PhD student). She currently serves as the chair of the Medical Library Education Section of the MLA and is a member of Section Council as well as the Janet Doe Lecture jury. She is involved in Section



**Jodi Philbrick**

Program Planning for MLA 2013, which will be a joint international meeting. For the 2011 MLA Annual Meeting, she co-taught a continuing education course titled "Rethinking Connections with our Users: Incorporating Mobile Devices into Library Services." During summer 2011, she was invited to serve on the panel "Opportunities in Medical Librarianship" at the HealthLINE meeting. She and **Dr. Suliman Hawamdeh** hosted Jerry Perry, director of the Health Sciences Library at the University of Colorado at Denver and MLA President, at the College of Information.

**Abebe Rorissa** (PhD '05) has received tenure and promotion to associate professor at the Department of Information Studies, College of Computing and Information, State University of New York at Albany. Congratulations, Abebe!



**Abebe Rorissa**

## 2006-2010

**Melody Boren** (MS '06) has been the Technical Services Librarian at Amarillo (TX) Public Library for three years. She is active in the Texas Library Association on both the district and state levels. "I was lucky enough to be a 2011 TALL Texan and am grateful to UNT for the opportunities it has allowed me to pursue," she says.



**Melody Boren**

**Dan Compton** (MS '08) is the new director of the Summit County Library System in Park City, Utah.

**Megan Hodge** (MS '10) has accepted her first professional position as an Assistant Branch manager for Chesterfield County (VA) Public Libraries. Megan and **Nicole Spoor** (MS '10) presented the findings of their survey "Congratulations! You've Landed an Interview: What Do Hiring Committees Really Want?" at the ALA conference in June 2011, at IFLA in August, and at the Virginia Library Association Annual Conference in October.

**Starr Hoffman** (LIS MS '06), head of government documents at UNT Libraries, is off to the Ukraine to join her husband who leads his DFW-based company's branch at that location. While there, she plans to work on her dissertation full time in order to complete the PhD in Higher Education. "I'll be continuing to publish and be active professionally, and am sure that at some point in the next 2-3 years I'll have my degree in hand and be re-entering academia and librarianship," she says. She invites those interested in learning about her adventures living in Eastern Europe to check her blog.

**Elise Lewis** (PhD '10) is an assistant professor at the School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina.



Three librarians at Duncanville (TX) ISD, all 2007 MS degree graduates of LIS, received the Spirit of a Champion Award from their district: **Blanca Patlan**, **Jeni Tahaney**, and **Karen McQuaid**. They were the first group ever selected for the recognition. The release stated: "Duncanville ISD is proud to announce the Duncanville High School Library Staff as a 2011 Spirit of a



**Spirit of Champion Award recipients.**

Champion Award recipient. Nominated by their peers, these distinguished individuals exemplify the characteristics of positive mentors, exemplify professionals and positive role models who continuously demonstrate their support for public education. They are well-respected by their peers for their countless contributions to Duncanville ISD and have demonstrated expertise and leadership in their educational fields."

**David Minchew** (MS '10), a member of the Georgia cohort and now at Georgia Perimeter College, presented "Searching for Treasure in Georgia's Virtual Vault" at the Georgia Council of Media Organizations 2011 conference.

**Shaneka Morris** (MS '10), Statistical Editorial Assistant, Association of Research Libraries, Washington, DC, is co-editor of three recently released ARL publications, *The 2008-09 ARL*

*ALUMNI UPDATE, continued on page 22*



# ALUMNI

## ALUMNI UPDATE, continued from page 21

*Statistics, The 2008-09 Academic Law Library Statistics, and The 2008-09 Health Sciences Library Statistics.* The statistics describe the collections, expenditures, staffing and service activities for ARL member libraries.



*Shaneka Morris*

**Diane Neal** (MS '96, PhD '06 in IS) has been elected a director-at-large of the American Society of Information Science & Technology. She also was named 2011 ASIS&T SIG Member of the Year in recognition of her work to revitalize SIG Classification Research (CR), and particularly for her workshop at the 2010 Annual Meeting. She is a member of the Information & Media Studies faculty of the University of Western Ontario, Canada and holds the permanent title of Visiting Scholar at the University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia.



*Diane Neal*

**Jolanta Radzik** (MS '10), who was a member of the Georgia Cohort, recently accepted a position as cataloger-reference at Chattahoochee Valley Libraries. She was elected vice-chair of the Technical Services Interest Group for the Georgia Library Association.

**Anne Simpson** (MS '06) reports that the library she directs at Black River College Pocahontas (AR) campus was badly flooded in April 2011, when there were two breaks in the levee along the nearby Black River. Her campus was shut down for the remainder of the semester. She says that "There was a great rally to assist the library." **Toby Faber**, who saw Anne while attending the Arkansas Library Association conference, says she has quite a story to tell.

**Pamela Thompson** (MS '08), librarian at Colonel John O. Ensor Middle School, El Paso, TX, now has a young adult novels review column in the Sunday issues of the *El Paso Times*. Her blog, "Young Adult Novels—What We're Reading

Now" at <http://booksbyamelathompson.blogspot.com>, is listed as a featured blog on the Texas Library Association webpage, <http://www.tla.org/member-blogs>, and as a featured resource on A Book and a Hug at <http://abookandahug.com/resources/young-adult/>

**Linh Uong** (MS '10), a member of the Georgia cohort and now cataloger-reference librarian at Chattahoochee Valley Libraries, presented "Fundamentals of RDA" and participated on a panel discussion on the impact of RDA on Georgia Libraries at the Georgia Council of Media Organizations 2011 conference.



*Linh Uong*

**Mary Jo Venetis** (PhD '08) has recently been promoted to director, Academic Catalogs, at the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD). She assumed the position of October 17, 2011, overseeing the production of both graduate and undergraduate catalogs. Prior to the promotion, Mary Jo was associate library director of technical services at UTD's McDermott Library. Mary Jo will remain active in ALA and TLA. She is currently serving as one of the co-leaders for the "Champions Connections," one of the six projects under Molly Raphael's ALA Presidential Diversity Initiatives, and is a member of the "Leaders Video Series" project. She also is serving as chair of the TLA's District Planning Committee and the Acquisitions and Collection Development Round Table.

## 2011

**Karen Braeuler** (MS May '11) got a job as the librarian at Holy Cross of San Antonio, a Catholic middle and high school, shortly after she graduated. She reports that "Some of the factors that helped me, I believe, were my 5 years of experience as a library assistant, a varied resume (this is my second career) and volunteering and networking with libraries/librarians in the areas in which I was interested, for the past few years." The factors Karen lists were among those discussed in the spring issue of *Call Number*, the theme of which was "Jobs, Jobs, Jobs." See a copy at <http://www.ci.unt.edu/main/viewpage.php?cid=257/>

**Abby Dozier** (MS '11) has received an appointment to a position at the Decatur (TX) Public Library.

**Jane Holt Freese** (MS '11), who presented a workshop titled "Storytelling Techniques for Job Seekers" at Paseo Verde Library in Henderson, NV, says she was inspired by what she learned in her last course in the master's program, Storytelling.



*Jane Holt Freese*

**Denise Jamison** (MS '11) has a position as a substitute library assistant at the Davis County Libraries, Utah. "I'm looking forward to advancement with the county as a full time librarian in the future," she says.



*Denise Jamison*

A grant that **Rhonda Pinter** (MS '11) and **Amanda Hawes** (LIS student) wrote in SLIS 5345 was awarded a \$3,000 Dollar General Literacy Foundation Back to School Grant. The grant was written for Amanda's elementary school in Galveston to create a professional literacy library which would contain both professional development and literacy/technology classroom resources.

**Karen Snow** (PhD '11) has accepted an assistant professor position at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Dominican University. She will begin work in the spring 2012 semester. Karen and her husband, Robby Bartholomai, welcomed daughter Eleanor Lisbeth Bartholomai on September 21, 2011.

**Job seekers: Interviewing is a skill that requires practice. Even though you may not get the job, each interview better prepares you for the next one.**

# Dean's Circle of Excellence: September 2010-August 2011

Welcome to the newest members of the Dean's Circle of Excellence! The Dean's Circle was created to recognize those individuals who have demonstrated their support for the vision and excellence of the College with a leadership gift or pledge of \$1,000 or more.

Learn more about the Dean's Circle and how to become a member, please contact Victoria Martinsen, development associate, at 940-369-5274 or [Victoria.martinsen@unt.edu](mailto:Victoria.martinsen@unt.edu)

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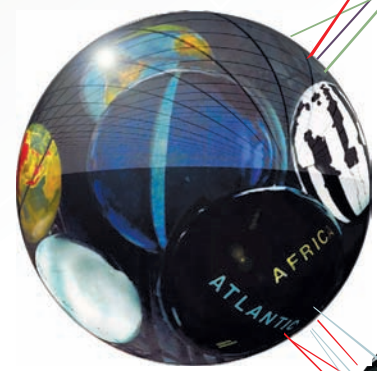
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