

ALUMNI

NEWSLETTER



GSLIS PLAYS INSTRUMENTAL ROLE IN DEVELOPING DATA CURATION WORKFORCE

Data curation is an emerging field that addresses the explosion of information created by scholars. Every academic field, from the hard sciences to the humanities, produces research data that need to be collected and preserved for future scholars and students to use. In addition to creating paper and other analog materials that can be filed and stored, it is becoming increasingly more common that researchers are generating digital bits and bytes that are located in computer files and on other digital storage devices.

At its root, the field of library and information science has always been concerned with collecting, preserving, and providing access to information. Specifically, data curation activities involve the ongoing management of research data through its life cycle of interest and usefulness to scholarship, science, and education.

Recognizing this need, GSLIS has created the Data Curation Education Program (DCEP)—a specialization within the ALA-accredited master of science. The focus is on data collection and management, knowledge representation, digital preservation and archiving, data standards, and policy.

“The bottom line is that very talented scientists and scholars are spending a lot of time and effort managing data,” said

Carole Palmer, professor and director of the Center for Informatics Research in Science and Scholarship (CIRSS). “Our aim is to get scientists back to doing science, where their expertise can make a real difference to society.” Palmer says that data curation is now understood to be an important part of supporting and advancing research.

GSLIS also has a strong research program in the area of data curation. CIRSS was recently awarded \$2.9 million as a partner on the Data Conservancy project, a \$20-million initiative led by the Johns Hopkins University Sheridan Libraries. The five-year award, one of the first two in the National Science Foundation’s DataNet program, will fund developing infrastructure for the management of the ever-increasing amounts of digital research data. The Illinois team will contribute to multiple aspects of the project, conducting studies of scientists’ data practices and needs, and analyzing how best to represent complex units of data in the repository.

“There’s a lot of recognition now of the value of data as assets to institutions and to the scientific enterprise, more generally,” Palmer said. “Saving only the publications that report the results of research simply isn’t enough anymore. Researchers also need access to data that can be integrated and re-used in new ways. This



STEWARDED EXCELLENCE AT GSLIS



Dear GSLIS Alumni and Friends;

As you may already know, this spring the University launched Stewarding Excellence, an initiative meant to help our campus navigate the difficult financial challenges we're facing due to the financial crisis and reduced state funding.

You may also know that GSLIS is part of a four-college academic unit review; we are being reviewed along with the School of Social Work, the School of Labor and Employee Relations, and the College of Media, in an effort to find cost savings, efficiencies, and/or synergies. The report from this review committee is due on June 1, 2010 and will be open for public comment for a two-week period following its release to the public on June 3, or thereabouts.

We will continue to provide updates about this process on our website, but I wanted to take this opportunity to assure you that there is no talk about shutting GSLIS down, and I believe the committee and the Chancellor are aware of the unique value that GSLIS represents in the State of Illinois, in the profession of librarianship, and in the education of future LIS faculty members. This committee is one among many looking at resource allocation across the campus, and it has been asked whether it makes sense for the four smallest units on campus to have the administrative apparatus of stand-alone colleges. This is a reasonable question to ask, given that these units have fewer faculty than many departments within colleges elsewhere on campus, and it's important, under the circumstances, that we take that question seriously, which we are doing. In the end, I don't think the data will support an argument that we are less efficient or less productive than our larger counterparts, but it's an exercise that we will enter into with good will and with good data.

You should also know that we are well represented at every level of this process: Associate Dean and Professor Linda Smith is on the campus-level steering committee that is designating projects and assigning committees, and she is also on the faculty advisory committee that's consulting on those projects. I'm on the Council of Deans, to which each project and its charge is brought for review, and Associate Professor Lori Kendall is representing us on the committee that's looking at small units.

If you'd like to know more or keep up with the process as it progresses, you can find my overview of the situation and any updates, including relevant documents, at <http://www.lis.illinois.edu/about-gslis/stewarding-excellence>.

Public comment will be an important part of this process, and after the report is released during the first week of June, I encourage each of you to make your voices heard. As I told our campus administration, LIS professionals are civil by nature, but they also believe in the importance of participation in shaping civil discourse and institutional outcomes, so I encourage you to keep an eye out for the report, to read it, and to respond, from the heart, with stories and perspectives that will enrich the process and inform the decision-makers. I'm sure that, if you do that, everything will work out as it should.

Thank you, as always, for your support, and please do rest assured that GSLIS will be here for a long time to come.

Dean John Unsworth

Editor's Note:

This issue of the **GSLIS Alumni Newsletter** features a fresh design that began with the launch of our new website in March. The design reflects our open and confident spirit—a bold look at our future as well as an exciting reflection of what is going on right now.

Published by the **GSLIS Communications Office** with generous support from **Continuing Professional Development** and the **Library School Alumni Association**, this newsletter offers features of interest as well as the information previously found on the annual **LSAA orange card mailing**. Please share your feedback or comments by contacting lis-dev@illinois.edu.

GSLIS PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL TEST OF RDA

GSLIS has been selected as one of three LIS schools to take part in the national test of Resource Description and Access (RDA), a new cataloging code currently scheduled for publication on June 4, 2010. Assistant Professor Kathryn La Barre will serve as the GSLIS faculty liaison and advisor to the practicum students who will participate in the testing. In addition, she will coordinate the efforts of the University Library faculty who will work with students and the GSLIS cataloging instructors who will create and oversee a series of training modules for the GSLIS test participants.

RDA is co-published by the American Library Association, the Canadian Library Association, and Facet Publishing, the publishing arm of CILIP: Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals in the UK. According to their website, “RDA goes beyond earlier cataloging codes in that it provides guidelines on cataloging digital resources and a stronger emphasis on helping users find, identify, select, and obtain the information they want. RDA also supports clustering of bibliographic records to show relationships between works and their creators. This important new feature makes users more aware of a work’s different editions, translations, or physical formats—an exciting development.”

When RDA is released, it is expected that national libraries in Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom will immediately adopt the code. The United States has decided to run a year-long test of the system to determine potential costs and usability issues. The three U.S. national libraries—the Library of Congress, the National Library of Medicine, and the National Agricultural Library—will coordinate the national test and decide jointly whether or not to adopt RDA. The broader library community will also serve as test participants in selected special, public, school, and university libraries across the nation. For more information see: <http://www.loc.gov/bibliographic-future/rda/>.

GSLIS, alongside LIS programs at Dominican University and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, serve as the only testing group that will include students, instructors, and librarians. This educator’s group will provide educational feedback about

the new code. This fall, twelve GSLIS students will learn and test the new code in a practicum setting. Some of these students will have already taken cataloging courses and will be familiar with the former AACR2 standard, and for some, RDA will be their first introduction to cataloging.

Joining La Barre on the project is Cheryl Tarsala (MS ’83), a GSLIS adjunct faculty member who will take the lead on the creation of materials and the training of test participants. She’ll be assisted by fellow cataloging instructor Faye Leibowitz. Six library faculty will also be involved as practicum supervisors including Atoma Batoma (MS ’03), Jessica Efron, Fang Gao (MS ’03), M. J. Hahn, Gail Hueting (MS ’73), and Janet Weber.

“RDA would change the way we create access to bibliographic items,” said La Barre. “We’ll move from creating monolithic records for each bibliographic item to a series of record fields that exist in a relational database structure. Those who promote RDA insist that it will save time and money while making bibliographic data more easily reusable by communities outside the library world. Whatever the national libraries decide, this is an unparalleled opportunity for students to learn about RDA, and the issues that will continue to affect the future of bibliographic control.”

Publication of RDA is currently scheduled for June 2010 with an open-access period until the end of August 2010. After September 1, 2010, users will be assessed an annual subscription fee. Formal feedback from the testing sites will be delivered to the national testing body in December 2010.

GSLIS will share all instructional materials prepared for the test with the University Library as well as instructors at GSLIS. They will also be made available to the library community.

For more information on RDA, visit www.rdaonline.org.





CAMPUS CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS OF PUBLIC COMPUTING AT ILLINOIS

At an April conference organized by GSLIS Assistant Professor Kate Williams, the campus looked back on fifty years of innovation. The conference, “50 Years of Public Computing at the University of Illinois,” was held at the Alice Campbell Alumni Center and brought back original developers and current scholars to discuss eleven important advances made at Illinois.

For decades, the University of Illinois has stood on the forefront of computing. Researchers at Illinois, along with members of the local community, have been in the vanguard, providing actual and virtual digital tools for people in their everyday lives and in civil society.

“We are amazed at what people have invented here, on campus and off, north and south of Green Street—especially in collaboration. The point now is to bring all these experiences together and use them to point a way forward,” said Williams.

Projects discussed at the conference included PLATO (1960), Project Gutenberg (1971), Urbana Free Library remote online catalog access (1984), CCNet (1993), Prairienet (1994), U-C Independent Media Center (1999), C-U Wireless Network (2001), eToysIllinois (2004), I-LLINI Partnerships (2006), Assess As You Go (2009), and Wolfram Alpha (2009).

Nearly three dozen panelists participated including Donald Bitzer, Peter Braunfeld, Greg Newby, and Stephen Wolfram.

Williams said, “We’re doing this conference when \$7.2 billion in broadband investment in communities is about to jump off. Because of this, from now into 2012, the nation is going to be experimenting with and implementing all kinds of new technologies in local communities. Quiet as it’s kept, the University of Illinois knows a lot about this. Why leave the nation to reinvent the wheel when we have done so much heavy lifting?”

The conference was co-sponsored by the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS), the Department of Computer Science, and the Office of Public Engagement. Other sponsors and supporters included the College of Education, CITES, I³, the Community Informatics Initiative, the University Library, and the Center for Democracy in a Multiracial Society.

A remembrance by Kathryn Luther Henderson, Professor Emerita

This event brings back many memories. In the early 1970s, I put lessons for my cataloging course and the new (at that time) core course onto PLATO. At that time there were no computers for course use and none in offices to speak of at GSLIS. We had to go to the engineering campus for our course sessions as well as for the programming. There were only 24 work stations and their use was tightly scheduled around the clock.



This is where many GSLIS students of that era went online for the first time. In fact, three students became ill because they didn’t want to touch a computer or because they did not type. One

woman wouldn’t type because her mother told her never to type or she would spend the rest of her life in a position where typing was required. I often wondered what became of her as we entered the computer era and now virtually everyone uses a keyboard from kindergarten on.

The old PLATO system went down in one of my classes. We had to finish the session without the computer. It was being phased out for a new system and they were trying to get it through the semester.

This was when OCLC was available only in Ohio. Bill and I had gone at the invitation of Fred Kilgour to see OCLC’s online system on the Ohio State University campus during its first week of operation in October 4-6, 1971.

I came home and simulated OCLC’s truncated search process on PLATO with considerable help from the PLATO staff to program it. It would be several years before the UIUC Library and other libraries outside of Ohio would have OCLC terminals and could make use of such OCLC services. I was glad that our students could leave GSLIS with some knowledge of these services before they became widely available. After Charles Davis came to GSLIS as Dean, GSLIS got its own OCLC terminal for our students to use.

This was one of the first online computer assisted programs for library education. For my lessons, we used a rigorous testing program with both students and librarians. This helped improve the programs. Also, the experience of working at the PLATO Lab with instructors from other disciplines on campus and the competent PLATO staff was an education in itself. We all struggled and learned together. The online system is gone but I still have my printouts!

NOT FORGETTING THE HISTORY OF THE PROFESSION: PARTNERS STILL NEEDED TO MAKE ENDOWED CHAIR A REALITY

Don Davis (PhD '72) loves history.

"History is the queen of the social sciences," said Davis, who arrived at the University of Illinois in 1968 with masters' degrees in history and in library and information science. "My experience at the University of Illinois awakened my interest in the history of libraries," said Davis. Under the mentorship of Rolland Stevens, who taught courses in the history of books and libraries, Davis finished his degree and was recruited by the University of Texas to teach history of libraries and books. For nearly 30 years he edited *The Journal of Library History*, in 1988 re-titled *Libraries & Culture*, published quarterly by University of Texas Press.

"I'm one of the only people to make a living teaching the history of libraries," continued Davis. "Most people can't spend their whole professional life concentrating on library history."

For that reason, Davis is one of the GSLIS alumni who have contributed to the History of Libraries and the Information Professions Endowed Chair, a \$2 million endowment that will provide funds to support part of the salary of the faculty member who holds the chair, a graduate student fellowship, and relevant library collections and services.

"GSLIS is currently one of only three units at the University with no endowed chair," said Diana Stroud, assistant dean of advancement and alumni relations. "For our top-ranked school, it's important that we have such a chair to support this piece of the profession that we don't want to lose.

"Thanks to generous alumni like Don Davis, Mark Tucker and Laurel Grotzinger, we're close to making this endowed chair, a priority of the GSLIS Brilliant Futures campaign, a reality," said Stroud. The Brilliant Futures campaign ends in June 2011.

Mark Tucker (PhD '83) wants to ensure that students at Illinois continue to have the opportunity to receive the historical perspective in librarianship that he did.

"Professionally, the most important thing I do

is write about the history of the profession," said Tucker, who is dean of the library and information resources at Abilene Christian University in Texas. "I learned how to do library history from Don Krummel, and he changed my life."

GSLIS has a strong tradition of providing instruction and conducting research in this area. Today GSLIS faculty including Alistair Black, Bonnie Mak, Kathryn La Barre, Kate McDowell, Christine Jenkins, and Dan Schiller, are among the nation's most noted scholars in this field.

Tucker remembers taking classes from Rolland Stevens, Kathryn Luther Henderson, and Linda Smith. "GSLIS has great faculty. They encouraged me to find the perspective that was right for me and helpful to the profession."

Contributors to the fund recognize that the history of the field is critical to progression in library science. "The professor who holds that chair will be able to attract doctoral students who will be able to maintain that interest in the history of the profession," said Davis. "As the schools in the country increasingly regard cultural history and roots of the profession as irrelevant, there should be at least one place in the nation to maintain the tradition."

"Illinois is the perfect location for this chair," said Davis. "It has a phenomenal alumni base, which is library oriented, and has the premiere collection of library research materials, including the ALA archives." Davis has also contributed his personal papers to Illinois, including material relating to *Libraries & Culture* (formerly the *Journal of Library History* and now *Libraries & The Cultural Record*).

One of Davis' hopes is that his fellow GSLIS alumni will work together to create this important chair. For more information on the fund, please contact Diana Stroud, assistant dean for advancement at (217) 244-9577 or dstroud@illinois.edu.



John Mark Tucker and Donald G. Davis, Jr. recently attended the Libraries and the Cultural Record annual symposium in Austin, Texas.

D.W. Krummel, my major professor at the University of Illinois, is a world-class writer, bibliographer, and musicologist, a "Renaissance" scholar of intellectual and cultural history. Krummel taught from the perspective of years of service in the Library of Congress and the Newberry Library in Chicago. He possesses genuine humility and abiding interest in friends and colleagues. The source of wise counsel at turning points in my career, Krummel widened and deepened my understanding of library scholarship. He told human interest stories about the colorful people who have impacted our remarkable profession. He taught me how to write the biography of an early 20th century leader, how to tell a story in ways that are cogent and transparent and, perhaps, of equal importance, how not to mix metaphors.

— Mark Tucker (PhD '83)

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26th January, 2010	
27th January, 2010	

COLLABORATION, CONNECTION, AND ... CHEESE?

Three GSLIS students attended the BOBCATSSS symposium in Parma, Italy, along with Associate Professor Terry Weech (MS '65; PhD '72) in January 2010. This year's theme was "Bridging the Digital Divide: Libraries Providing Access for All?"

GSLIS has supported student participation in this unique library and information science event for the past eight years. Over the years participant students have presented posters, papers, and workshops. This year's GSLIS participants were:

- Master's student Joe Coyle, who presented a poster titled, "Beyond Access, Beyond Literacy: Restorative Justice in a Juvenile Detention Center."
- Doctoral student Claudia Serbanuta, (MS '09) who presented a paper, "Access for all and for how long?" written together with doctoral students Tiffany Chao and Aiko Takazawa.

- Takazawa also presented "Libraries as Bridges across the Digital Divide: Partnerships and Approaches Used in the US Technology Opportunities Program," a paper written together with Assistant Professor Kate Williams and master's student Anna Pederson.
- Weech presented a paper titled "LIS competencies in the digital age: the US and the EU: two views," written with two GSLIS alumni, Eve Gaus (MS '08) and Heather Lea Moulaison (MS '02).

BOBCATSSS gave these students the opportunity not only to share their research with others but also to discover what kind of research in library and information science is being conducted throughout the world.

"It is an important time to learn about the different digital divide issues libraries are addressing across the world," said Coyle. "BOBCATSSS provided a valuable

space for LIS students to network and discuss these issues, both at the conference and at the various social events that were planned. Also important, we were given huge chunks of Parmesan cheese everyday in our lunches."

Every year since 1993, LIS students from European universities organize the symposium on current issues in the field. The name of the conference, BOBCATSSS, is an acronym representing the first letter of the cities where the universities which originally established the annual conference were located. Teams of students plan and implement both the content and the management of these conferences as a part of their studies.

BOBCATSSS 2011 will be held in Szombathely, Hungary, from February 28-March 2, 2011. The theme is "Finding New Ways."

DATA CURATION WORKFORCE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

is especially important in data-intensive science, where the power of discovery lies in applying computational approaches to large, aggregated data sets."

One role of the DCEP is to facilitate field work opportunities for students through practica and internships. During the summer of 2009, Sheena Beaverson (MS '09) participated in a practicum at the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) in Boulder, Colorado. NSIDC supports research into the snow, ice, glacier, frozen ground, and climate interactions that make up Earth's cryosphere.

Beaverson, who specialized in data curation at GSLIS, focused on drafting guidelines for formally assessing digital



data resources, with the aim of disposing of obsolete digital data. "At NSIDC, there are formalized methods for acquiring and organizing data," she said. "However, research data need long-term, active maintenance before storage media become obsolete or files begin to atrophy. We crafted a formal policy for scientists and archivists to use to routinely review digital resources."

The skills Beaverson developed in Colorado directly apply to her current job as geographic information system (GIS) specialist for the Illinois State Geological Survey, a division of the Institute of Natural Resources Sustainability at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. "We serve as the primary GIS data repository for Illinois," said Beaverson. "We also host streaming map services, one of which provides

access to a large petroleum database of over 180,000 oil and gas well records. These data are accessed in support of new exploration and increased production in southern Illinois.

"At NSIDC, I gained practical experience in long-term management of science data and digital library archival practices," Beaverson said. "In return, my host agency gained a formalized procedure for the assessment of scientific data resources. My experiences at NSIDC were a significant highlight in my graduate studies; the work I was able to deliver has been hailed by GSLIS faculty as groundbreaking."

Other DCEP field work placements include the Smithsonian Institution's Digital Services Division and the Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries. This year, interns will be at NSIDC, Purdue University Library's Distributed Data Curation Center, and the

HEARNE FUND TO SUPPORT CCB DIRECTORSHIP

One of the most renowned collections of children's literature resides at GSLIS. The Center for Children's Books (CCB) provides valuable services to the educators, librarians, students, and scholars that utilize its resources.

The Betsy Hearne CCB Directorship Fund was established in 2008 through a generous gift from Lionelle Elsesser (AB '66, MS '67) and husband James Elsesser (BS '66, MS '67). Named for former Director and Professor Emerita Betsy Hearne, the fund was established to provide support for the CCB directorship and to honor Hearne's contributions to the field.

"One of my earliest memories is hearing Robert Louis Stevenson's poems being read to me. Somehow that led to Nancy Drew and somehow that led to Shakespeare. A child who learns early to love words is blessed with a lifelong, priceless gift. Betsy Hearne knows that and has creatively led her students and the CCB as they learn to become gift-givers," said Lionelle Elsesser.

Upon Hearne's retirement, the directorship was held by Associate Professor Christine Jenkins. This summer, Jenkins will end her three-year term, and Deborah Stevenson, assistant professor and editor of the *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, will assume the directorship.



"The purpose of the fund is to not only institutionalize the role of the center director," says Diana Stroud, GSLIS assistant dean for advancement and alumni relations, "but to also secure resources for the CCB's services and creative programs as the director sees fit."

Hearne, an award-winning author and renowned scholar, believes that the CCB plays an essential role in the teaching, research, and service missions of GSLIS as a whole. "As a resource for course assignments, research, and discussion groups, the Center supports dynamic interaction among students, faculty, and professionals in the field," she says. "The director is key to these core activities, and it is the director's vision that shapes policy and fosters cooperation to meet the CCB's and the school's missions."

Under the guidance of the director, the CCB coordinates several outreach events during the semester, focusing on current research in the field of youth services. Most notable is the annual Gryphon Lecture, an event held during spring semester's LEEP weekend, which has brought in distinguished scholars from the fields of library science, education, and children's literature. The director also organizes the Youth Literature Culture Interest Group, a monthly meeting that offers both faculty members and outside

scholars the opportunity to present their ongoing research and receive feedback from fellow colleagues and researchers.

Such a resource only further solidifies the reputation of GSLIS as a leading educator in library services for children and youth. "To stimulate its continued growth and development, the Center for Children's Books depends on strong leadership as well as enthusiastic support by GSLIS and its alumni," Hearne says. "The Hearne CCB Directorship Fund offers an opportunity to fund just that kind of leadership and support."

The CCB houses a noncirculating collection of more than 16,000 recent and historically significant trade books for youth, birth through high school, plus review copies of nearly all trade books published in the U.S. in the current year. The collection also includes one thousand professional and reference books on the history and criticism of literature for youth, literature-based library and classroom programming, and storytelling.

Since last May, the CCB has seen nearly three thousand visitors, and its staff have responded to over eleven hundred reference questions.

If you are interested in contributing to The Betsy Hearne CCB Directorship Fund, please contact Diana Stroud, assistant dean for advancement and alumni relations, (217) 333-2973; dstroud@illinois.edu.

National Library of Medicine, said Melissa Cragin, research assistant professor and principal investigator for the DCEP.

The DCEP also hosts an annual Summer Institute on Data Curation, the most recent held in May, 2010, with a focus on earth and environmental sciences. "Practicing academic librarians, IT professionals, and LIS faculty attend the institute to develop personal knowledge and build organizational capacity," said Cragin. "This year we have applications from five countries, including the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical

Information (CISTI). The Institute has invited sessions from leading specialists from the NSIDC, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, Oak Ridge National Laboratories, the U.S. and Illinois Geological Surveys, and the Cornell University and Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries."

GSLIS will also co-host the 6th International Digital Curation Conference in Chicago on December 6-8, 2010. More than 200 researchers, practitioners, students, and scientists will gather to examine how data curation practices and

communities are evolving. More information on the conference can be found at www.dcc.ac.uk/events/conferences/6th-international-digital-curation-conference.

"There's a lot of new activity in data curation, but the field is still in its infancy," Palmer said. "We're just beginning to do the research needed to guide how we build large-scale, multidisciplinary data repositories and collect and manage data in ways that add value and promote sharing and integration across laboratories, institutions, and disciplines."

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Time has flown by since we began our campaign to raise funds for GSLIS. We've been encouraged by your kind notes and great generosity. We're delighted that many of the gifts have come from first-time donors. Those of you who have been donors for a long time are especially cherished for your faithful support.

As the state and the University reel from the budget shortfalls, we know that many of you are facing financial constraints as well. That makes your gifts all the more impressive. We are in the last year of this campaign and we are making significant progress toward our goal. However, there are still unmet needs. Your support of students continues to be crucial to their success, and there are many innovative ways to help support their time at GSLIS—you can contribute to scholarship funds, sponsor a student on Alternate Spring Break, or support student travel to conferences and professional meetings. You can also support our many student awards that honor the future leaders of the profession.

However you choose to support GSLIS, be assured that your gifts in this next year will make all the difference, and we will be most grateful.

Sincerely (and thankfully),

Lionelle Elsesser, Chair
Dr. John M. Unsworth
Diana R. Stroud
Susan K. Barrick
Julia M. Derden
Donna O. Dziedzic
Dr. Laurel A. Grotzinger
Dr. Elizabeth G. Hearne
Cynthia Helms
Irene M. Hoffman
Brenda Pacey
Dr. Linda C. Smith

ALUMNI PROFILES

WILLIAM R. HOLMAN

Shunted between multiple foster homes and orphanages as a young child, William R. Holman (MS '53) had no idea that the books that provided him such comfort as an orphan would eventually guide him toward an esteemed professional career in libraries and as an author.

Born in 1925, William spent his early years as a ward of the state until he was released from the Oklahoma Home for White Children into the care of the Holman family at age twelve. While these experiences were often isolating and difficult, Holman believes that books rescued him during this time. "My loneliness was softened by living with Jack London and Robert Louis Stevenson," William states, "They transported me into a more secure world of adventure."

After working at the Bizzell Library at the University of Oklahoma and obtaining his bachelor's degree, William decided to pursue a career in librarianship. While attending GSLIS, he worked as a reference assistant in the Main Library, an experience that largely determined his future. Mentored by Dr. Arthur McAnnaly, head of public services, William immersed himself in his studies, learning the fundamental principles of public services and administrative skills that would provide him with a foundation for his future work in academic and public settings.

In the ten years following graduation, William worked at both college and public libraries, until he was appointed director of the San Francisco Public Library, becoming, at age 34, the youngest librarian in its history. He inherited a disgraced institution that the *San Francisco Chronicle* once dubbed "the most infamous cultural fossils in the country" and spent his seven year tenure trying to bring the library into the twentieth century. One of his first tasks

was to reorganize the library's obsolete cataloging system, a job that while requiring him to initially work ten hour days, seven days a week, eventually paved the way for more efficient technical services. Intent on injecting an ailing institution with a dose of modernity, William also developed high professional standards for his staff while emphasizing the social value of library services and improving programs for children, minorities, and the disabled. At the end of his term, the former director of the School of Library Service at UCLA hailed William as a "cultural revolutionary" who transformed the role of the San Francisco Public Library into a community cornerstone.

William joined the University of Texas as a professor in the Humanities Research Center in 1967, where he worked to develop their rare books collection. Along with his wife Barbara, William also continued his work in handpress printing, managing the publishing company he started in 1965 and producing a series of award winning titles focused on western history and literature.

In 2008, the TCU Press published William's most personal work to date, a memoir recounting his childhood in state facilities and foster care. *Orphan's Nine Commandments* has met with critical acclaim and was recommended by *School Library Journal* as a "moving memoir" that will hold teens' and adults' attention alike.

Although his days as an orphan searching for a loving home are long passed, Holman still believes that books have the power to change and sustain people, a belief that informed his goals as a librarian and an author. He is currently working to promote his memoir to libraries and completing a screenplay based on his book.

MICHELLE CHRONISTER



When Michelle Chronister (MS '09) was growing up in Dover, Pennsylvania, she had dreams of becoming a doctor and an astronaut. She

hoped to help deliver the first baby in space.

By the time she received her BA in anthropology and gender studies from Franklin and Marshall College, her career goals were a bit more earth-bound but Michelle still wanted to work in a challenging environment. During her undergraduate years, she worked as a student assistant at the college's main library in circulation and cataloging. After spending some time at a Pennsylvania nonprofit agency post graduation, Michelle decided to pursue a master's degree in library and information science.

At GSLIS, Michelle found not only the academic program she was looking for, but also a supportive and stimulating environment. "I visited GSLIS before making the decision to enroll and really liked everyone I met," she said. "I just got the feeling that it was the place for me, and it definitely was! I enjoyed being able to get involved with student groups, gain practical experience in the library, and do original research to present at conferences."

Michelle successfully managed to balance the program's academic rigors with her involvement in various student groups and hold down a graduate assistantship at the Education and Social Science Library. As the ALA student chapter president, Michelle supervised the annual chapter fundraiser, coordinated efforts to provide

scholarships to GSLIS students attending ALA conferences, and promoted information sessions and professional development opportunities to GSLIS students. Upon graduation, Michelle received the Beta Phi Mu Anne Boyd Award for her outstanding leadership qualities and her contributions to the field through her participation in professional organizations and student activities.

After graduation, Michelle was selected as a Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) and is now working for the Office of Citizen Services at the General Services Administration in Washington, DC. The PMF program is designed to attract highly qualified persons with graduate degrees who demonstrate a commitment to leadership in federal service.

In her current position through the PMF program, Michelle serves as a content manager for the USA.gov website. She enjoys knowing that she is assisting everyday citizens navigate a seemingly overwhelming amount of government information and use it to their benefit. While her daily tasks may not be as thrilling as performing a gravity-defying medical procedure, Michelle finds the challenge of designing website content and structure with the user in mind to be just as interesting—and just a bit less precarious.

ALUMNI HONORED AS LJ MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Three GSLIS alums have been named 2010 Movers and Shakers by *Library Journal*. LJ annually recognizes professionals in the field whose notable achievements move libraries forward and promote information literacy and development.

Melissa Rice (MS '00) and Joanna Koldeno (MS '06) were named for their work toward going "Dewey free" at the Frankfort (IL) Public Library. In 2007, they began the arduous task of converting their adult non-fiction section from the traditional Dewey classification system to a taxonomic system based on subject categories.

Although not the first library system to adopt such a system, Rice and Koldeno made sure their library was the first to make the transition as transparent and user friendly as possible, using social technology to keep patrons updated on the project's progress while collaborating with users and other departments to improve access to the collection. The pair documented the trials and tribulations of the conversion on their Dewey Free blog and Koldeno used Twitter to record the last six months of the project, which allowed followers to receive updates until the very last book, *The Double Daring Book for Girls*, went Dewey free.

Manya Shorr (MS '04), branch manager of the Omaha (NE) Public Library, was also recognized for her outreach efforts focusing on adults and businesspeople. Shorr developed the popular program, "Have Laptop Will Travel," a training session that outlines the database resources available at OPL. This session has been well attended by members of the local business community, including the members of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce.

Along with OPL technology librarian, Amy Mather, Shorr has also created several popular social events that aim to bring adults back into the library and refute the idea that the library is just a place for kids. Two such programs are speed-dating for local literati called "Hardbound to Heartbound" and a game night for adults known as Board Silly. The first event drew nearly 100 people; the second, 75. Shorr and Mather hope such events help sustain community members' emotional connection to the libraries while promoting the library's resources and services.

CLASS NOTES SPRING 2010

2000s

After nine years in the Dallas (TX) Public Library's Fine Arts Division, **Catherine Ritchie** (CAS '00) is now an adult materials selector in the library's Acquisitions/Selection Services Department. She also recently co-wrote a chapter on public library services for the GLBT population in the upcoming text, *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Libraries and Archives*, edited by Ellen Greenblatt and to be published by McFarland & Co. in fall 2010.

Deb Robertson (MS '00) received the 2009 Staff Achievement from the American Library Association, presented by ALA President James Rettig in July 2009 in Chicago. Robertson was recognized for her efforts in completing the \$1 million match for the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant campaign to create the Cultural Communities Fund.

Jennifer Sackett (CAS '01) graduated from Bob Jones University (2004) with a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the School of Education. Her dissertation focused on how liberal arts faculty use library and information services. After serving as the assistant director of J.S. Mack Library and teaching research courses in education for five years, she is now the Lincoln County Public Library director in Lincolnton, North Carolina.

Teresa M. Burk (MS '02) is the head of the Atlanta College of Art Library at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Atlanta Campus.

Jinha Lee (MS '02; PhD '08) and current doctoral student Cameron Jones welcomed daughter Ariana Lee Jones into the world on March 30, 2010.

Sarah Cohen (MS '03) is an information literacy librarian at Champlain College in Burlington, VT. Sarah was the ACRL Member of the Week in November 2009.

Chris Sweet (MS '03) began a new position as the information literacy librarian at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Molly Dolan (MS '04) has accepted the position of digital initiatives and scholarly communications librarian at West Virginia University.

Merinda Hensley (MS '06) has recently started the position of instructional services librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

In December 2009, **Jason Kovac** (MS '06) completed a Ph.D. in educational administration with the Community College Leadership Program at The University of Texas at Austin. In March 2010, he joined the administration at Johnson County Community College (KS) as executive director, academic initiatives.

Mark R. Lindner (MS '06) is currently a visiting serials cataloger in the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Main Library while completing his CAS degree in GSLIS. He and Sara Q. Thompson (MS '09) will be married on the Full Flower Moon of 27 May 2010 in Urbana, Illinois.

Robin Mittenthal (MS '07) is within a year of completing a PhD in entomology with a focus on how insect pests are affected by fertilizers.

Patrick Olson (MS '07) is the Vail cataloger at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Angela Supernaw (MS '07) is director of special projects at the Foundation for the International Medical Relief of Children in San Salvador, El Salvador, Central America.

Rosalind Fielder (MS '08) recently joined several other GSLIS alumni at the Chicago State University Library as an assistant professor of library & information services and reference & instruction librarian. She serves as faculty liaison and selector for political science, law, and military science. Recently, African-American studies was added to her portfolio. In addition, she has been appointed to the Center for Teaching and Research Excellence as faculty associate for information enhancement at Chicago State. She's thrilled to be back in Chicago again.

Jake Odland (MS '08) is the new head librarian at the Olivia Public Library and the Renville Public Library.

Marijane White (MS '08) is now the media librarian at Gracenote, Inc., provider of digital entertainment information services and software in Emeryville, CA.

Harriett Green (MS '09) is the English and digital humanities librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Silvia Lu (MS '09) is an access services librarian for the University of New Mexico.

Sara Q. Thompson (MS '09) is a visiting assistant coordinator at the Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She and Mark R. Lindner (MS '06) will be married on the Full Flower Moon of 27 May 2010 in Urbana, Illinois.

Jill (Barr) Walker (MS '09) began a new position as the instruction and public services librarian at NYU Abu Dhabi in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

1990s

Lian Ruan (MS '90) is the head librarian at Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She received the 2007 Library Services and Technology Act grant award to support her "IFLODD: The Illinois Firefighter Line of Duty Deaths Digital Image Collection Database."

Lynne M. Thomas's (MS '99) book, *Special Collections 2.0*, co-authored with Beth M. Whittaker, was published in July 2009 by Libraries Unlimited.

Hollis Helmecki (MS '92) became director of the beautiful, lakeside Rusk County Community Library in Ladysmith, Wisconsin, on April 1, 2010.

Jonathan David Makepeace (MS '94), having naturalized as a Canadian citizen in 2006, recently took up a new career as a political and economic affairs officer in the Canadian Foreign Service. He graduated from the MBA program at HEC Montréal,

Canada's oldest management school, in October 2009.

Jane Chamberlain (MS '95) accepted a position as president/CEO of YWCA McLean County in Central Illinois.

Elaina Norlin (MS '96) has been named director of the Broward County (FL) Library's African American Research Center (AARLCC).

Ryan Roberts (MS '97, CAS '99) has edited *Conversations with Ian McEwan*, a collection of interviews with the author of such highly praised novels as *Enduring Love*, *Atonement*, and *On Chesil Beach*. The volume collects sixteen interviews conducted over three decades and features discussions with notable contemporary writers Martin Amis, Zadie Smith, David Remnick, and Stephen Pinker. Roberts interviewed McEwan especially for the book, which was published by the University Press of Mississippi on March 1, 2010. Roberts is also the author of *John Fuller & the Sycamore Press*, which will be published in May 2010, by the Bodleian Library & Oak Knoll Press.

Jon Mark Bolthouse (MS '99) is the new technology projects manager for the South Central Library System (SCLS) in Madison, WI.

Ruth Lindemann (MS '99) received the A.L. Webster Endowed Chair from the DACC Foundation for a project entitled "Animating the Collection and the Audience." The project incorporates graphic novels, cartooning, and animation and is one she has been thinking about for some time and targets all elements of the campus community: students, faculty, staff and the local population.

Bruce Pencek (MS '98) was named the 2010 recipient of the Marta Lange/CQ Press Award of the ACRL Law and Political Science Section (LPSS). The award recognizes his efforts to broaden professional and personal connections between LPSS members and the American Political Science Association (APSA), especially its Political Science Education and Information Technology & Politics Sections. Among other LPSS outreach efforts, he chaired the organizing committee and was a presenter in free LPSS pre-conferences for APSA annual meetings in Chicago in 2007 and Toronto in 2009. Pencek has been the liaison librarian for most social sciences and history at Virginia Tech since 2001.

Mary Van Atta (MS '99) completed course requirements for the Master of Arts in Religion at Yale University (New Haven, CT), to be conferred May 2010.

1980s

Carol Tenopir (PhD '84), a professor at the University of Tennessee, has been awarded the 2009 ASIST Award of Merit, the Society's highest honor bestowed annually to an individual who has made a noteworthy contribution to the field of information science.

After several years as the rare books librarian at the State Library of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA, **Kurt A. Bodling** (MS '88) has accepted a position in Virginia as the technical services librarian at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens. This privately-owned home of the first president of the United States is embarking on several new and exciting projects involving the library. First, Kurt is going to be guiding the conversion of the card catalog to a Koha-based online catalog. And then the Estate is planning a new library and research building to be styled the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington. Fundraising for the building and its endowment began with the announcement of a single \$38 million gift in March 2010. Plans are for a groundbreaking on February 22, 2011. Kurt is glad that lessons from his Illini education still stick, especially his cataloging under Kathryn Luther Henderson and his rare books work under Don Krummel.

Mark Scharff (MS '89) taught a one-day workshop on Basic Scores Cataloging on March 4 in St. Louis. The workshop was sponsored by the Missouri Library Network Corporation (MLNC). Participants came from the Missouri Historical Society, the Lewis and Clark Library System, the St. Louis Public Library, and William Woods College. Scharff has also been selected as the new coordinator for the NACO Music Project (NMP), replacing the late Ralph Papakhian. NMP is a funnel within the Program for Cooperative Cataloging-sponsored Name Authority Cooperative, which allows catalogers to create, contribute, and update name and name-title authority records to the LC/NACO Authority File. Around 60 institutions and catalogers are NMP members. NMP is administered by the Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG); Scharff served as MOUG Chair from 2004-2006.

1970s

In March, **Linda Houle** (MS '70) received the Westmont, Illinois, Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year award. The honor of the award from her own community was especially heartwarming as she retires in June from her 17-year position as Westmont Junior High's media center director, bringing a 24-year career in the field to a close.

Ronald Fark (MS '72) writes, "After 38 years as a librarian, I will be retiring from Brown University at the end of June 2010. My first professional position was at the University of Illinois at Chicago (1972- 1976) and at Brown University since 1976. While at C-U, I was a graduate assistant at the Undergraduate Library (1970-1971). As an undergraduate, I helped move the UG book collection from the Main Library to its current underground location."

In April 2010, **Mary Dempsey** (MS '76) became a laureate of The Lincoln Academy of Illinois and received The Order of Lincoln, the highest honor for outstanding achievement the state can bestow to those who were born or have achieved renown in Illinois.

1960s

R. Patrick Mallory (MS '62) was awarded the Montana Society of CPA's honorary lifetime membership. In February 2008, Patrick retired from the IT Corporate Support Group of Weyerhaeuser.

Marianne Williams Stowers (MS '65) retired from the public library of Springfield, Illinois, after working there nearly 21 years. She continues as the church librarian at her church and is the second vice president of the Church and Synagogue Library Association. She also volunteers at Fairview Elementary School Library in Springfield one day a week.

Former GSLIS faculty member **Susan "Leigh" Star** passed away on March 24, 2010. She served on the GSLIS faculty from 1992-1999.

At the time of her death, she was the Doreen E. Boyce Chair in Library and Information Science in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh.

Services were held in Pittsburgh Tuesday, March 30. In addition, a website was established by Leigh's doctoral students. Memories are invited at <http://rememberingleigh.wordpress.com/>.



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Spring 2010
Graduate School of
Library and Information Science

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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LIBRARY SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETING AND RECEPTION

Sunday, June 27, 2010

6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Renaissance Ballroom West
Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel
999 Ninth Street NW
Washington, DC

6:30 p.m. LSAA business meeting and recognition of award recipients

Please join GSLIS faculty and staff in the exhibit hall at our booth #933. To register for complimentary exhibit-only passes, visit <http://bit.ly/bQj5Uu>. Please note that all recipients must register online. On site registration is not available for this special offer. This link will remain operational throughout the dates of exhibition, enabling you to register online up to the last minute.

LSAA 2010 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Distinguished Alumnus Award—Carol Tenopir (PhD '84)
Leadership Award—Jessica Moyer (MS '03, CAS '04)
Service Award—Lynn Hanson (MS '90)
Student Award—Hakim Murphy (MS '10)

SLATE OF NOMINATIONS LSAA BOARD 2010-2011

President: Mary Jane Petrowski (CAS '94)
Vice President: Beth McNeil (MS '89)
Secretary: Beth Woodard (MS '79)
Treasurer: Donna Schaal (MS '00)
Past President: Cynthia L. Helms (MS '79, CAS '04)

Director, 2008-2011: Irene Hoffman (MS '81)
Director, 2009-2012: Jane Kauzlaric (MS '02)
Director, 2009-2012: James Obst (MS '04)
Director, 2010-2013: Ethan Henderson (MS '07)

OTHER UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

Sunday, May 23, 2010

Medical Library Association School Reunion

Hosted by GSLIS Assistant Professor
W. John MacMullen
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Hilton Washington, Washington, DC

Monday, June 14, 2010

Special Libraries Association Library School Alumni and Student Connect

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, LA

July 14-16, 2010

National Diversity in Libraries Conference

Princeton University Library
Meet Diana Stroud and Amani Ayad in the
exhibit hall on July 15 and 16.

September 28-30, 2010

Illinois Library Association

Navy Pier, Chicago
Alumni reception and exhibit booth to be
announced.

November 6, 2010

Beta Phi Mu New Member Initiation and Annual Meeting/Luncheon

Kennedy's at Stone Creek
Urbana, Illinois
Speaker: Fred Schlipf, GSLIS Adjunct Faculty
Member, Past Executive Director of The
Urbana Free Library (1974 to 2007), and
2000 Illinois Librarian of the Year