Personal Privilege—A Reminiscence

Writing this feels a lot like writing an end-of-year letter to friends and family. Indeed, you ARE my friends and family in some very real ways. I have spent more time on the 4th floor of Helen C. White during the past 18 years than I have spent anywhere else, and I have formed strong and lasting relationships with many of our faculty, staff, students, and alumni past and present. I hope, for this reason, that you will indulge me as I think back over these past years.

I am still a bit in wonder that a career-changer who spent 24 years in a town of 30,000 or so in southeastern Oklahoma and finished a Ph.D. at the age of 47 should end her career as a tenured full professor and director of an excellent library and information studies program in arguably the finest public research university in the country. UW-Madison is twice the size of Ada, Oklahoma, and more than once I have thought I was in way over my head. The faculty in 1991 took a big risk when they hired me; I am thankful that they did so. I started to include my personalized thanks to each of them in this message, but there would be no space for anything else if I did so.

Peggy Siegel, however, has to be thanked publicly. I was hired as the Faculty Administrator of the Laboratory Library, with a nine-month appointment. That meant that Peggy kept everything going in the summer when I was trying to do research and writing. It also meant that we shared an office and many ups and downs. Peggy was the person I could always talk with. Thanks, Peggy.

I am especially thankful that I have managed to combine scholarship, teaching, leadership, and community engagement in a way that I have found personally satisfying. I am grateful to have been named Wisconsin Library Association Librarian of the Year and an Oklahoma Library Legend on the occasion of the Oklahoma and OLA centennial. I am proud and humbled that my research into The Dismissal of Miss Ruth Brown led to her being "brought back" in 2007 to the Bartlesville Public Library from which she was fired in 1950. The Bartlesville
Nominate a Distinguished Graduate

The SLIS Alumni Association invites nominations for the 2010 Distinguished Alumna/Alumnus Award. This award is conferred upon an alumna or alumnus of the school in recognition of outstanding leadership and accomplishment in library service. The award is given by the SLIS Alumni Association by vote of the Board of Directors on nominations submitted by its Awards Committee. In making the award, the Committee will consider such activities or accomplishments as the following:

- community betterment through broadened scope and quality service;
- contribution to any area of services benefitting library users or members of the library community;
- distinguished service to the profession;
- outstanding participation in activities of professional library associations;
- notable publications and productions;
- leadership in education and in-service training for librarians;
- extension of library services through cooperation;
- improvement in library techniques or management;
- development of library facilities;
- service to UW SLIS and/or its Alumni Association.

The Award is commemorated by a plaque that is permanently displayed in the main hallway at the School. The plaque includes a photograph and brief statement of achievement of the honoree.

Informal nominations, recommendations and suggestions may be sent by any individual who has an interest in the program. External recommendations should include basic information about the nominee (name, year of graduation, accomplishments and achievements). Letters of support of the nominee will be enthusiastically accepted. The deadline for such nominations is October 31st of each year. Send nominations and recommendations to Awards Committee Chair Nikki Busch, nbusch@library.wisc.edu, 608-262-6431.

Red Cliff Project Update

In December, SLIS students Chelsea Couillard, Christina Johnson, and Catherine Phan, accompanied by new recruit, student Omar Poler, Michele Besant, and Louise Robbins appeared at the meeting of the Red Cliff Tribal Council in support of tribal members Larry Balber and Beth Paap, who were requesting that a new library committee be appointed and the library be reopened. The Council voted to name a committee and subsequently did so. A tribal member has begun the process of becoming a certified Grade 3 public librarian.

Motivated by their experience, Phan, Johnson and Poler recruited additional students and proposed a group independent study. Assisted by Michele Besant, they have developed a semester’s course, invited speakers, and written and received a second Kauffman Entrepreneurship Community Internship Program grant to continue to work with Red Cliff. Job well done!
Beverly P. Lynch, PhD ’72, is the recipient of the 2009 Distinguished Alumna Award. Lynch is a professor at UCLA’s Department of Information Studies and the director of the UCLA Senior Fellows Program. She previously served as dean and professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at UCLA from 1989-1994.

Lynch earned a BS in Music and English from North Dakota State University (1957), a MS in Library Science from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (1959), and a PhD in an interdisciplinary program concentrating in Organizational Studies and Library Science from University of Wisconsin-Madison (1972). Following her time at SLIS, Lynch first worked as the Executive Secretary for ALA’s Association of College and Research Libraries (1972-1976) before taking on the role of Library Director at the University of Illinois at Chicago (1977-1989).

Active in numerous professional organizations, Lynch has exercised exceptional management and communication skills and proven to be a leader in the field. While at University of Illinois at Chicago, Lynch developed and led a program that linked scholarship in the humanities to the library. Her directorship of the library and her innovative approach to programming helped to strengthen the reputation of the library at UI- Chicago and the reputation of the university itself.

She has since been involved in evaluating and accrediting library education programs and agencies. For over two decades, Lynch has been a member in LIS-related accreditation groups and has taken on some forty consultancies on a host of ACRL, ALA, IFLA, and Center for Research Libraries committees. Over the course of her career, she has presented at more than two hundred invitational conferences on issues ranging in scope from preserving the nation’s print archive to human resource development. Lynch’s continued efforts to improve information access, preservation, and other facets of the Library and Information Studies field can be found in her impressive grant writing abilities. In 2005, Lynch addressed the development of one of her long-standing interests in librarianship, rare books, by securing grants from the Book Club of California and IMLS to establish the California Rare Book School.

Whether in her role as ALA president from 1985-1986, in her directorship of the UCLA Senior Fellows Program, or in her other professional endeavors, Lynch has consistently used her experiences to provide effective mentoring and encouragement to junior members of the discipline. Her dedication to mentoring students and fledgling professionals is one of many compliments found in the nomination letters for Lynch. The letters also speak to Lynch’s superb writing and editorial skills, extensive publication record, commitment to colleagues, and long-standing contributions to professional organizations and academic institutions. Numerous accolades, addresses before Congress, and countless publications detailed on Lynch’s curriculum vitae further attest to her prolific contributions to Library and Information Studies. We are proud to recognize the breadth of Beverly P. Lynch’s contributions to the profession in her role as an educator, mentor, leader, and scholar of Library and Information Studies.

Scholarship to be established

Felice Michaels Levin, a bachelor’s and master’s degree graduate of the College of Letters & Science has established through a deferred gift the Harry Levin and Felice Michaels Levin Scholarship fund for graduate students in the School of Library and Information Studies. The fund honors her late husband, a lover of libraries and reading. Harry Levin “had no connection to the UW, but he just loved libraries. He spent many happy hours in libraries from the time he was a little kid being raised in Cleveland,” she said. “He kept that interest throughout his days.” Harry died, at age 91, in 2000. Ms. Levin will be visiting the School in May.

Ms. Levin spent her professional life in media and communications. During her career she wrote commercials for WISC radio in Madison, worked for the Wisconsin State Journal, was director of publications for UW Extension, worked in publications for the Wisconsin State Historical Society, served as a writer and program evaluator at the Ford Foundation and finished her career as senior writer for the UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in New York.
An Interview with Penelope J.M. Klein

At least once a year, Jottings will try to catch up with a graduate for a short interview about that person’s career path and current position. Current student Shauna Masella recently interviewed Penelope Klein ’97.

Let’s start with the basics: what did you do after you graduated from SLIS?
Soon after graduating from SLIS, my husband and I moved to Reading, Pennsylvania. My first professional job was as Government Documents and Reference Librarian at the Reading Public Library. I originally thought that I would be an academic librarian, but I soon realized that I was a public librarian to my soul. I loved the questions, the patrons, and the materials. I even loved Government Documents! Since then, my career has focused on public libraries and library systems. I am still as passionate about libraries as I was when I graduated, and I am a true believer in library systems.

Where are you currently working? Are there any projects or upcoming conferences that you’d like to highlight?
I am currently the Executive Director of the Central New York Resources Council (CLRC), a 52-member, multi-library type consortium in central New York. There are nine such Councils throughout New York State. The job is an interesting mix of innovation, cultivation, and diplomacy! Despite the dire economic climate, this is a very exciting time for libraries, and CLRC is trying to deliver innovative services to academic, public, school, hospital, and special libraries with a limited budget. The Council recently offered virtual reference service throughout the region, by partnering with another Council, and it is now working on a regional digitization project.

How has your education at SLIS shaped your professional endeavors? Were there particular elements or experiences that resonated with you?
I graduated from SLIS with a thorough grounding in practical and theoretical librarianship, and a belief that I had a responsibility to risk and innovate. My SLIS education convinced me that I could make a positive contribution to the profession. I remember how generous the faculty was to me, and how accessible they were. Do they still cook pancakes on Shrove Tuesday?! What I particularly liked was the accessibility of the school, contained within the incredible resources of the entire campus. I particularly missed all the library resources when I left Madison.

What inspired you to start the Penelope J.M. and Stephen M. Klein Scholarship at SLIS?
My two years at SLIS were very happy ones, and the school was very generous to me. When I graduated, Stephen and I wanted to give something back, and we knew that it sometimes is more difficult to find funds to support second-year studies. The scholarship is designed for a second-year student interested in public librarianship. We just awarded our tenth scholarship, and it is so gratifying to know that we have helped some librarians on their way. We also created another award for an international student that is awarded at the discretion of the Director. I encourage all alums to contribute to SLIS in some way!

What advice would you give to SLIS students and/or recent alum who are interested in pursuing a career as a Library Director? Are there particular courses you would recommend or less obvious skill sets that students should start developing now?
My advice to any graduating student is to volunteer as much as your time and job will allow. If you join your state professional association, or ALA, volunteer for committees or other duties and always fulfill your obligations, you
As a professional librarian, it is likely that you will find yourself supervising personnel at some time during your career. Personnel management, conflict resolution, and basic library administration are necessary skills that you will use constantly. You will also find that personnel management takes far more time than you ever imagined! I believe that all librarians need to understand organizational dynamics and how they can affect a library culture. In addition, if you plan to be a library director, you need to understand money and advocacy! I am always surprised by how many librarians do not understand basic accounting, or do not see themselves as political, especially when they rely upon public funds.

**Donor Report**

Thanks to our many donors, past and present, we have been able to provide modest scholarships, hire students to assist faculty and provide some support, and to support student travel to conferences. We’ll try to post recipients of these awards in the Spring Jottings from here on out.

**Scholarships funded by or on behalf of alumni and their recipients:**

- Kathryn Eye Bading Scholarship — William Straub
- Ethel Brann scholarships, provided by Elizabeth Hendrickson, to honor her mother — Jaclyn Moreno and Cecilia Hutte
- Olive Dornfeld Busjaeger Centennial Scholarship provided by Maralyn and George Babcock — Easter Smith
- Jack Clarke Scholarship, given by Beta Beta Epsilon Chapter of Beta Phi Mu — Anna Cianciara-Labourel
- Sally Davis Scholarship — Nichole Chisolm
- Valmai Fenster Scholarship — Yi Hong Sim
- Friedman Trust Scholarship — Lauren Nickel
- Leona Gifford Trust Scholarship — Amanda Bolland
- Marguerite Hasse Scholarship and Signe Ruh Otterson Scholarship — Carla Alvarez
- Lawrence Jacobsen Innovations in Library Science Award — Laura Wynholds
- Penelope J.M. and Stephen J. Klein Scholarship — Kristin Hamon
- Penelope J.M. and Stephen J. Klein Beatrix Award — Kolap Mao
- SLIS Second Century Scholarships — Valerie Higgins and Jessica Gile
- William Werk and Vannita Wesely Scholarships, SLIS scholarship provided by Beacher Wiggins — Erin Dix
- Vannita Weseley Scholarships — Chelsea Couillard, Darcy Gervasio, Amanda Lanyon-Lesage, Kolap Mao, Kara Miller, Lisa Muccigrosso, Tara Radniecke, and Sara White

**Travel Funds**

- Linda Richardson Memorial awards for student travel to professional conferences — Nathan Johnson, Irene Hansen, and Peter Wehrle
- Susan Brynteson Travel Fund award — Betsy Wermuth, Sarah T. Roberts and Catherine Phan
- Additional awards for conference attendance were made from the Second Century Fund, to which many alumni contribute.

The John J. and Ruth S. Boll Fund and the Jean Deus Fund made possible the hiring of several students for various projects, among them Irene Hanson and Kate Vo-Thi Beard.

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**SLIS Grads Shine at Conference**

So many SLIS grads presented at the Wisconsin Library Association conference that we gave up on listing each grad separately. Among those presenting in some way were Elizabeth Amundson ’98, Steven Baumgart ’00, Bob Bocher ’79, Barbara Dimick ’79, William Doering ’87, Meagan Eggers ’94, Jennifer Friedman ’95, Peter Gilbert ’89, Christine Jenkins (PhD ’95), Mary Knapp ’75, Mark Luetkehoelter ’92, Carrie Kruse ’91, Nancy McClements ’77, Terrance Newell (PhD ’06), Casey Peterson ’08, Gretchen Revie ’94, Toni Samek (PhD ’98), Bob Shaw ’97, and Heather Weltin, ’01. If we missed you, let us know.
Horning Honored

Kathleen T. Horning, ’82, director of the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Cooperative Children’s Book Center (CCBC), will deliver the 2010 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture. The announcement was made by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, during the 2009 Midwinter Meeting.

“I am struck by the clarity of Horning’s thought processes as well as her ability to express those thoughts gracefully,” stated Arbuthnot Committee Chair Kristi Jemtegaard. “She will make a distinguished addition to the already distinguished list of Arbuthnot Lecturers.”

Three threads clearly run through Horning’s long and distinguished career: freedom to read and open access to information for young people; the continued struggle to produce a body of authentically multicultural literature for young people in the United States; and the need to provide clear practical training for both new and experienced librarians, especially with regard to evaluating (and setting high standards for) literature for young people.

As director of the CCBC, Horning coordinates a non-circulating examination, study, and research library for books, ideas, and expertise in the field of children’s and young adult literature. In addition Horning is a reviewer, lecturer, and author of books on evaluating and understanding youth literature. She is the author of From Cover to Cover: Evaluating and Reviewing Children’s Books, which School Library Journal called “an excellent guide to analyzing books.” Horning is the immediate past-president of ALSC and a past president of the United States Board on Books for Young People. She holds a B.A. in Linguistics and a Master’s Degree in Library and Information Studies, both from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The lecturer may be an author, critic, librarian, historian or teacher of children’s literature, of any country, who shall prepare a paper considered to be a significant contribution to the field of children’s literature. This paper is delivered as a lecture each April, and is subsequently published in Children and Libraries, the journal of ALSC. Once the name is made public, institutions wishing to host the lecture may apply. A library school, department of education in a college or university, or a public library system may be considered. Applications to host the 2008 lecture will be available online from ALSC at www.ala.org/alsc this spring.

Block Receives Award

Rick J. Block MA’82 is the proud recipient of Library Journal’s Teaching Award for 2008. As part of the award, Block was honored with a reception at the ALA 2009 Midwinter Meeting in Denver, a $5,000 prize, and an article in the November 15th issue of Library Journal.

Block came to SLIS after having received a Master’s degree from UW-Madison’s Political Science Department. Following some advice, Block ceased his doctoral studies in Political Science and began graduate work at SLIS. It was in John Boll’s introductory cataloging class at SLIS that Block found his life’s calling. Block found John Boll and his teaching truly inspirational; Boll made what could have been a dry topic into an interesting one. To this day, Block uses information taken from a mimeographed handout from his first class with John Boll in his own introductory class, Knowledge Organization. In “I’m not going to be a cataloger, so I don’t need to know how to catalog,” Block uses a light tone to explain why students and professionals in LIS need to know about cataloging.

After his introductory course, Block took advanced cataloging and government documents with Professor Boll. Boll’s mentorship, professionalism, and personality left a positive impact on Block. Rick fondly remembered how “in one class [Boll] apologized for a stain on his crisp white shirt; he thought it happened on the bus.”

Block is head of special collections and metadata cataloging at the Columbia University Libraries, and a professor at the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at Long Island University, and at the School of Library and Information Science at Pratt Institute. Block loved his time at UW-Madison SLIS and found the students and faculty to be outstanding.
The School of Library and Information Studies is the recipient of three grants to help the ongoing support of the Allied Drive Story Time program. Madison Gas & Electric Foundation, Target, and the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries have provided funds to purchase new books for the story times; additional instructional materials including flannel board materials and a stand; non-book materials to support alternative ways of learning including puppets and audiobooks; craft materials; and new books to distribute to the Allied Drive Learning Center and the children themselves. They also help to support a student coordinator for the project. Betsy Wermuth is the current coordinator.

Botswana internship begins

Sarah Smith and David Mindel, both prospective ’09 graduates of SLIS, on February 2 became the first students to intern in brand new public libraries in Botswana. They will earn six credits for three months of work in the villages of Kopong and Mmangkodi, close to the capital city of Gaborone. They will be supervised by the Botswana National Library Service and the University of Botswana Department of Library and Information Studies and will keep in touch with the School through their blogs, http://sarahelsewhere.blogspot.com/ and http://kosmik-debris.blogspot.com/

The School set up the internship at the request of the Robert and Sarah Rothschild Family Foundation, which is building two public libraries per year under contract with the Botswana national government. Louise Robbins is the SLIS supervisor; she visited the students in Botswana in March.

Allied Drive Wins New Support

The School of Library and Information Studies is the recipient of three grants to help the ongoing support of the Allied Drive Story Time program. Madison Gas & Electric Foundation, Target, and the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries have provided funds to purchase new books for the story times; additional instructional materials including flannel board materials and a stand; non-book materials to support alternative ways of learning including puppets and audiobooks; craft materials; and new books to distribute to the Allied Drive Learning Center and the children themselves. They also help to support a student coordinator for the project. Betsy Wermuth is the current coordinator.

This past fall, the Allied Drive Story Time program was incorporated into the curriculum of the SLIS class, Library Services to Children and Young Adults, taught by Allison Kaplan, which enabled SLIS students to get some practical experience working with children in grades K-3 and allowed for additional story time sessions for the children at the Allied Drive Learning Center.

Allied Drive Story Time is part of a Wisconsin Idea program initiated by the Wisconsin’s Water Resources Library in 2005. As a partner, SLIS students have volunteered to participate in monthly story time programs at the Allied Drive Learning Center in Madison through the Madison School and Community Recreation.
Professor Greg Downey and his five graduate student teaching assistants had a wonderful time putting together and delivering our newest undergraduate SLIS course, “LIS 201: The Information Society,” in Fall 2008. The 150 undergraduates practiced their writing, speaking, researching, and critical thinking skills through a combination of web-based discussion, wiki-based writing, and digital video podcasting. Many of the students expressed interest in taking the second SLIS course in this undergraduate sequence, “LIS 202: Informational Divides and Differences in a Multicultural Society,” designed and taught by Professor Ethelene Whitmire.

Downey has recently finished a commissioned article for the latest edition of the Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science on “Cyberspace and the geography of information,” to be published in 2009. He also finished an 80-page contracted manuscript for an undergraduate guide to “Technology and communication in American history,” to be published in 2009 in a joint effort between the American Historical Association and the Society for the History of Technology.

Professor Kyung-Sun (Sunny) Kim’s co-authored paper entitled “Task-oriented information organization and retrieval in online learning” has been published in Encyclopedia of distance learning, 4: 2023-2031. With Sei-Ching Joanna Sin ’02, a doctoral student at SLIS, Sunny co-authored “Use and non-use of public libraries in the information age: A logistic regression analysis of household characteristics and library services variables,” in Library and Information Science Research. Sunny and Joanna also presented the key findings at the Wisconsin Library Association Annual Conference in November.

Sunny and Eun-Young Yoo (Ph D 2004), Professor at the North Carolina Central University, presented findings of their study on undergraduates’ source selection behavior at the American Society of Information Science and Technology (ASIST) Annual Meeting in October.

Greg Downey, Ethelene Whitmire, and Christine Pawley presented papers at a library history session at the Wisconsin Library Association conference in November.

Professor Kristin Eschenfelder is on sabbatical leave for Spring semester.

Professor Stephen Paling recently presented at ASIST and chaired the Digital Humanities SIG there. In addition, he recently won a UW Digital Humanities grant and was awarded summer funding for his research from the Graduate School.

Professor Christine Pawley’s paper “Beyond Market Models and Resistance: Organizations as a Middle Layer in the History of Reading,” appeared in the January 2009 issue of the Library Quarterly.

Rick Pifer, an adjunct assistant professor, presented an April 30 pre-conference, “Practical Approaches to Archiving” at the Spring conference of the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries.

Professor Louise Robbins presented on a SLIS collaboration with the Red Cliff Tribe with master’s students Catherine Phan, Chelsea Couillard, and Christina Johnson at the fall WLA conference held in Middleton.

Michele Besant is also a participant in the collaboration. The Librarian Spies: Philip and Mary Jane Keeney and Cold War Espionage, co-authored by Robbins and Rosalee McReynolds, will be published by Praeger sometime in 2009.

Books by Robbins and Emeritus Professor Wayne A. Wiegand were featured in the University of Oklahoma Libraries’ 2008 “Books That Inspire” pamphlet.

With Christine Pawley and Ethelene Whitmire, Robbins presented in April at the UW system-wide conference on women’s studies.

Professor Catherine Arnott Smith was part of a panel on “Issues in the Transformation of Health and Medical Information” at ASIST 2008 in Columbus, OH. Her paper, “I never trained to be a physician,” examined the state of information needs research in the healthcare fields as contrasted to the library and information studies fields. In November 2008 she presented another paper, “PatientsLikeMe: Consumer Health Vocabulary as Folksonomy” at the annual meeting of the American Medical Informatics Association in Washington, DC, and in January 2009 gave a talk on the same subject to the Decision Systems Group of the Harvard University medical informatics training and research program.

Smith was awarded a research subcontract by the Specialized Information Services of the National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, MD, for a study centered in public libraries, and additionally was a winner in the Graduate School Fall Competition open to tenure-track faculty across the UW-Madison.

Professor Ciaran Trace has just had an article that she co-authored accepted for publication in JASIST. The article joins a small but growing body of research that marries the study of serious leisure pursuits with library and information science’s interest in people’s use, need, seeking and sharing of information. Charlotte P.

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**Beta Beta Epsilon Celebrates 25 Years**

Help us celebrate our 25th Anniversary by attending the Annual Meeting and Initiation on May 14, 2009, at the Pyle Center! If you are in the area, we would highly encourage you to attend the event and support our newest inductees to the Beta Phi Mu Library Honor Society!

Ms. Gwendolyn Prellwitz, Acting Director of the American Library Association Office for Diversity, is scheduled as our featured speaker, discussing such significant topics as recruitment and retention, personal and professional leadership, and organizational change in libraries.

The winner of the 2008 Jack A. Clarke Scholarship, as well as this year’s Outstanding Student Scholar, will both be honored. As always, the evening will feature tasty hors d’oeuvres and desserts, great conversation, and the opportunity to network with friends and colleagues.

The annual meeting is an important step in launching our new members into the greater library community; the more members in attendance to see them off, the merrier!

Have you lost touch with BBE? Please send your updated info to Terri Ross at tdross@matcmadison.edu.

Not a member but wish to attend this exciting event? Please RSVP to Dee Grimsrud at Dee.Grimsrud@wisconsinhistory.org by May 1, 2009, for a special event rate!

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**SLIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Contributions Form: 2009**

There are many opportunities to support activities of the School.

To make your gift online go to the SLIS homepage [www.slis.wisc.edu](http://www.slis.wisc.edu) and click on MAKE A GIFT.

If you are considering a planned gift, please contact Jennifer Karlson at the UW-Foundation at 608. 262.7225.

Name _____________________________________________________

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**My contribution to the SLIS Alumni Association includes:**

- _____ SLIS Alumni Association Activities ($20.00 suggested): Jottings, reunions, distinguished alumnus/us, student activities, etc. $________

- Scholarship Funds:
  - _____ Rachel K. Schenk
  - _____ Valmai Fenster
  - _____ Jack Clarke (Beta Beta Epsilon/Beta Phi Mu)
  - _____ Directors
  - _____ Second Century Fund (areas of greatest need)
  - _____ SLIS Laboratory Library
  - _____ Other purpose (please specify)

- **Total Amount Enclosed** $________

- _____ Check here if you would like a SLIS pin.

Please make check payable to University of Wisconsin Foundation and mail to: UW-Madison SLIS, 600 N. Park St., Room 4217, Madison, WI 53706

**News for the next issue of Jottings:**

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**Questions:** Andrea Poehling, Student Services Coordinator (608) 263 2909, student-services@slis.wisc.edu

Please send address changes to Andrea or update your record in the Wisconsin Alumni Association (WAA) online directory at: uwalumni.com/directory
Emeritus News

Barbara Arnold ’73 published an article in The One-Person Library’s September 2008 edition reporting on the Special Libraries Association’s 2008 conference. Barbara reports on a panel on “Embedded Librarianship: Background and Overview.”

Roger Couture and Darlene Weingand are taking a 107 day World Cruise. They leave from Ft. Lauderdale. Their itinerary includes stops in: Panama, Peru, Easter Island, Tahiti, New Zealand, Australia, Papua/New Guinea, Guam, Japan, South Korea, China, Vietnam, Thailand, India, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Greece, Italy, France, Spain, and Ireland.

In Memoriam

K. ‘Jane’ Bruere ’66 was a librarian with the Madison Metropolitan School District for more than 22 years. She was active on book committees for children and involved in maintaining the quality of school experience for fellow educators. She was especially fond of her time leading the Gifted and Talented Club and organizing horseback outings for interested students, both while teaching at Thoreau Elementary School.

Jerome P. “Jerry” Daniels ’65 was long-time director and employee of the Karrmann Library of UW-Platteville. Station manager for the first student-run radio station at UW, Jerry served in the Army from 1957 to 1959 and worked for the Wisconsin Historical Society from 1960 to 1965. A lifetime member of the ALA and WLA, he served a term as WLA president. Memorials may be given to UW Paul P. Carbone Cancer Center, Jamison Museum Association and UW-Platteville Foundation Nancy Curtis-Jerome Daniels Scholarship Fund.

Shirley Johnson ’56 was the librarian at UW-Extension for her entire career; she gifted SLIS with many archival materials as she closed that library. Shirley has asked that memorial gifts be made to SLIS. Shirley was named instructor in 1957, granted tenure in 1962, and named assistant professor in 1973. She became director of the UW-Extension Library Services in 1977 and extension historian in 1994. She retired in 1996 as assistant professor emerita. In her retirement she continued to volunteer as historian, developing the impressive UW-Extension history database, www.uwex.edu/history, with the help of technical staff. Shirley received the 2006 UW-Extension Wisconsin Idea Award for her major role in providing specialized library service to all citizens of Wisconsin. She was also elected as a member of the International Library Science Honor Society, Beta Phi Mu.

Kathryn Sayles ’47 graduated Phi Beta Kappa from UW-Madison with bachelor’s degrees in English literature and library science, and went on to work for the libraries as a rare books cataloger. She worked with the Dane County 4-H, was the organizational leader of the local 4-H club, a member of the League of Women Voters. Kay served on the Dane County Natural Beauty Council, the Town of Montrose election board, and on the church council of Zwingli United Church of Christ in Paoli.

Sandra Cartwright Schink ’83 died in Scottsdale, AZ. Sandy worked several years at the Racine WI Public Library. She later worked many years at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Space Science and Engineering Center. She moved from Wisconsin to Arizona in April 1999 and started work for Scottsdale Health Care.

Frank Stoll ’66 was a librarian at Madison Memorial High School from 1971 until 1987. He passed away in December 2007.

Emily Anne Phelps Woodward ’33 graduated cum laude with a B.A. in English and Library Science and a Library Science Certificate. She died in Guelph, Ontario, on July 24, at the age of 98. She had been a college librarian for most of her professional life, retiring from the University of British Columbia in 1975.

Class Notes

1950s

Barbara Kelly ’57 is conference chair for the October 2009 WLA Conference to be held in Appleton at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel.

1960s

Leslie Foster ’69 has retired from her position as head of the government publications department at UW-Eau Claire’s McIntyre Library. Over the course of her career she has been active in university and library committees, state and national organizations. She served on the committee that established Wisconsin’s plan for federal depositories, and on the advisory committee that established Wisconsin Depository Library Program. She was involved in the formation of what would become the Government Information Round Table of the WLA, and its newsletter, the Eagle Press.

1970s

Loretta Harmatuck ’70 has retired from her position at the Department of Public Instruction. She joined DPI as a reference librarian in 1971; she worked on the Wisconsin Dissemination Project, the Wisconsin Documents Depository Program, and the “What’s New in Government” newsletter.

Willeen Tretheway ’70 has retired from the Reference and Loan Library of the DPI. Her 39 years of service included cataloging, collection development and management, and audio-visual materials selection and services.

Lorene Byron Brown (Ph.D. ’74) recently lost her husband.

Marg Whalen ’74 retired from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Library. She had worked in the Government Publications Department for 31 years, the last 23 of which were as the head of the department. She has been a leader in the area of electronic government resources and whooping crane recovery.
Emily Wixson ’74, along with Kathy Myers, will prep a white paper on Communities of Practice for the leadership conference of WLA.

Kris Stabo ’75 is a member of the Advisory Committee for the Campaign for Wisconsin Libraries.

Mike Gelhausen ’76 is secretary for the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Library Association Foundation.

Jim Buckett ’77 has been elected the WAAL Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect in the 2009 WLA elections.

Mary Ellen Christensen ’77 has celebrated 65 years of marriage to the same man, Andrew Christensen.

Sarah Pritchard ’77 is now the editor of Portal: Libraries and the Academy (Johns Hopkins University Press), effective with the 2009 volume.

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

Robert Koehler ’80 won the spring 2008 election for Area Rep for South Central for the WHSLA.

Clair Schulz ’80, a radio historian and former archives director of the Museum of Broadcast Communications in Chicago, is author of Fibber McGee and Molly on the Air 1935-59.

Mary Jo Boland ’81 accepted the 2008 Jean Williams Sayre Innovation Award at the 2008 Midwest Chapter/Medical Library Association meeting for the Gunderson Lutheran Library and Health Information Services Department’s work on the GLine Database of Publications and Research.

Rick J. Block ’82 has been awarded the Library Journal Teaching Award 2008. See article in this issue.

Bob Blitzke ’82 has received the Special Services Award from the WLA for his work at the South Central Library System developing a statewide delivery network.

Alberto Herrera, Jr. ’82 is Vice-President/President-Elect of WLA.

Patrick Losinski ’83 has been elected chair of the Urban Libraries Council executive board. He has been executive director of the Columbus Metropolitan Library since 2002, and an active member of the ULC’s board since 2005.

Jane Colwin ’84, State Law Librarian, was involved in several programs last fall. The Fourth Judicial District (headquartered in Oshkosh) implemented the state’s Public Library Initiative (PLI), an effort to help educate Wisconsin librarians about resources available to assist self-represented litigants. Jane spoke at programs held in Sheboygan and Fond du Lac in September.

Tasha Saecker ’84 presented “Have You Heard About...” at the spring 2008 Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries convention.

Cheryl Becker ’86 was elected the WAPL Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect in the 2009 elections. As Conference chair, she was applauded for her contributions to the 117th Annual WLA Conference. Cheryl and Shawn Brommer ’95, both South Central Library Services consultants, presented “Reel to Real: Facilitating Film Discussions at Your Library” with Lynne Blinkenberg of Wisconsin Public Television at the spring 2008 Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries convention. She also presented “Where are We Going?: Strategic Planning for Results” at WAPL. The May 2008 issue of SupportLines included her article “Resource Sharing Roundtable Participates in May Conference.”

Prudence W. Dalrymple (Ph D ’87) was named the Director of the Institute for Healthcare Informatics at Drexel. Dalrymple plans to encourage collaboration, multidisciplinary participation, and increasing the national and international profile of the IHI at Drexel.

Anita Doering ’87 has been elected the Wisconsin Genealogy & Local History Newsletter Editor.

Anne Moser ’87 has been elected 2009 Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Association of Wisconsin Special Libraries.

Jennifer Nelson ’87 is partnerships coordinator for digital inclusion at the Minneapolis Public Library, where she manages projects to increase access to digital resources for English language learners, teens, and other groups.

Dawn Bergacker ’88 is the half-time reference librarian at the Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs.

Mary Driscoll ’88 presented “Playing to Learn, Learning to Play” on the Dane County Library Service’s Play Literacy programming at the spring 2008 WAPL convention.

Glen Cook ’89 is the new Alaska State Archivist, the official custodian of the archival resources of Alaska state government. As such, he oversees all records that document the State of Alaska’s policies, decisions, and actions, and ensures the services that make them available to Alaska’s citizens, researchers, and state agencies in the future. This position also heads the Alaska Historical Records Advisory Board, which is appointed by the Governor. “I am very excited to have the opportunity to work with the preservation of, and provide access to, the records of the State of Alaska,” Cook said. “Following several extended vacations in Alaska, my wife and I were looking for an opportunity to relocate to this wonderful Last Frontier.”

Peter Gilbert ’89 has been elected to the WLA Foundation Board of Directors. He is also chairman of the Advisory Committee for the Campaign for Wisconsin Libraries.

Barbara Huntington ’89 and Leah Langby ’94 presented “Hispanic Outreach: Best Practices from the Gates’ 2007-08 Training Workshops” at the spring 2008 WAPL convention.

Nancy Knies ’89 serves as editor for the newsletter of the Government
Information Roundtable of the Wisconsin Library Association, the Eagle Press.

Jill Lininger ’89 presented “Dynamic Children’s Departments” at the spring 2008 WAPL convention.

Cindy Severt ’89 was choreographer for the Mercury Players Theatre production of “The Full Monty” in September 2008.

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

Nancy Anderson ’90 is now a School Library Media Consultant with the Department of Public Instruction’s Instructional Media and Technology Team. She is continuing her work with the Wisconsin Reading First team.

Amy Easton Bingenheimer ’90 has started a new position as the Technology Coordinator Librarian at the Medical College of Wisconsin Libraries. She will be working with emerging information technologies, web-based applications, and online instructional technologies.


Jean Ruenger-Hanson ’90, Subject Liaison at Steenbock Library, has joined the Libraries Website Team to bring a broader perspective to the discussions regarding the Libraries Web Site. This will be a two-year appointment.

Steven Herro ’90 joined the steering committee for his community reads program, “One Book, One Community.”


Laura McDermott ’90 works for Ramsey County Library System, MN, in the Roseville branch - the busiest library in the state!


Robin Rice ’92, EDINA and Data Library reports that the Edinburgh University Data Library is celebrating 25 years of support for staff and students in their discovery, access, use and management of research datasets. In December 2008, following the Digital Curation Centre international conference held in Edinburgh, friends and colleagues from near and far gathered in the afternoon at the EDINA offices to celebrate the milestone with short speeches and to cut the cake. Earlier in the day, about 45 professionals and academics gathered to consider the significant changes that the Data Library has been part of and might look forward to in the future.


Julie Schneider ’92 was elected ALA Chapter Councillor in the 2009 WLA elections.


Gerri Wanserski ’93 was featured in the summer 2008 issue of DiscoveRx, the magazine of the Pharmacy School, on the occasion of her retirement as Pharmacy librarian.

Pete Boll ’94 Acquisitions Librarian at the Wisconsin State Law Library, who also serves as a Lieutenant Junior Grade in the Navy Reserve, received recall orders to Active Duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Pete will be mobilized with Navy Cargo Handling Battalion SEVEN as a part of the Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Group out of Williamsburg, VA. Following training and exercises at Norfolk and Williamsburg, Pete and his unit will depart for the Middle East in November, where they will be stationed for 9 to 10 months.

Chris Grugel ’94 was elected a Library User Education Section member-at-large in the 2009 WLA elections.

Val Edwards ’97 is a member of the Advisory Committee for the Campaign for Wisconsin Libraries.

Beth Harper ’98 was elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Government Information Roundtable of the Wisconsin Library Association. Beth has also established a new discussion list for federal depository workers in Wisconsin, fdlpwi-I.

Kirstin Houtman ’98 and Sara Van Cleef ’07 presented “Tell Me More about WILS” at the spring 2008 WAPL convention.

Michele Matucheski ’98 won the spring 2008 election for Area Rep for Fox River Valley for the Wisconsin Health Sciences Library Association.

Michael Venner ’98 has announced the launch of a new Blog Newsletter for Ebling Library (http://ebling.library.wisc.edu/blog/), which features an RSS feed. This format will allow more timely updates, so that everyone may be better informed of events at Ebling. At the Midwest Chapter-MLA annual meeting in 2008, he presented a poster titled “Building an Info-Commons Culture: Increasing Our Visibility, Variety, and Vitality.”

Amy Wolfe ’98 is at Pratt Institute Library in Brooklyn NY.

Marie Janz ’99 and the Ministry Health Care Librarians held highly successful open houses and an “I Love My Library” contest for National Medical Librarian Month.

Heather McCullough ’99 recently accepted the position of Head of Public Services at the Boulder Laboratories Library (U.S. Department of Commerce, including the agencies of NOAA, NIST and ITS). Prior to that position she was the Reference & Outreach Librarian for the Boulder Labs Library until 2008, and the Digitizing and Reference Librarian at Wendt Library until 2001. “I’ve been taking advantage of outdoorsy Colorado for nearly 8 years (I still miss Madison!).”

2000s ……………………………..

Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm ’00 is on the Conference Committee for the October 2009 WLA Conference to be held in Appleton at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel.

The W.S. Hein Co. has announced the publication of Legal Research in Wisconsin, 2nd edition. Authors are Ted Potter, University of Iowa Law Library (formerly at Marquette Law Library); Mary Koshollek, Godfrey & Kahn; Bill Ebbott and Sunil Rao ’00, both at UW Law Library; and Jane Colwin ’84, State Law Librarian. The first edition was written by Richard A. Danner ’75 and published by the University of Wisconsin Extension Law Department in 1980.

Karen Eckberg ’01 has been the campus librarian at Rasmussen College in Green Bay, WI for just over a year.

Mary Hitchcock ’01, as part of the Marketing Team, helped with the launch of a new Blog Newsletter for Ebling Library (http://ebling.library.wisc.edu/blog/), which features an RSS feed. This format will allow more timely updates, so that everyone may be better informed of events at Ebling.

Kathleen Hookham ’01 has been elected the Circulation Services Member-at-Large in the 2009 WLA elections.

Paula Seeger ’01, Circulation Librarian at the University of Minnesota Law Library, has authored a chapter in the book Academic Library Outreach: Beyond the Campus Walls, ed. Nancy Courtney (Libraries Unlimited/Greenwood, 2009). Her chapter is titled “Redefining Outreach from Inside the Academy: Law School Libraries and Their Communities.”

Heather Sturm ’01 is managing director of the Manchester District Library near Ann Arbor, Michigan, a job she has held since 2004. Her service population is about 7,000, spread over 3 townships and including 1 village. She is on the Steering Committee for The Library Network, her cooperative. She also manages 4-year-old Otto and baby Annabel. They live in Ypsilanti.

Jaime Vache ’01 has been elected the Media and Technology Director-at-Large in the 2009 WLA elections.

Rebecca Holtz ’02 used her technical and computing skills to help with the launch of a new Blog Newsletter for Ebling Library (http://ebling.library.wisc.edu/blog/), which features an RSS feed. This format will allow more timely updates, so that everyone may be better informed of events at Ebling.

Robert Arvid Nelsen ’02 is the 2009 Preconference Program Chair for “Seas of Change: Navigating the Cultural and Institutional Contexts of Special Collections,” the 50th Annual Preconference of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), a division of the American Library Association (ALA).

Pamela O’Donnell ’02 is exploring her German heritage and love of polka through lectures offered by the Max Kade Institute. She also presented “Speed Training: Teaching in a Hurry” at the spring 2008 WAPL convention.

Yunkeum Chang (Ph.D.’03), Associate Professor at Sookmyung Women’s University in Seoul has been promoted to Director of the Sookmyung Global Leadership Institute.

Kaye Crampton ’03 presented a poster on behalf of Melinda Orebaugh about health literacy at the Midwest Chapter-MLA annual meeting in 2008. The poster was entitled “From Exam Room Jargon to Living Room Language: Librarians’ Roles in Improving Healthcare Conversations” and shows the work being done at Gundersen Lutheran Health System with a $35,000 subcontract award from the National Library of Medicine.

Lt. Mark G. Dieter, ’03, a chaplain assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 17, received the National Bible Association’s Witherspoon Chaplain’s Award on June 1, 2008. while in Al Asad, Iraq, for his outstanding service to his country and his fellow Seabees. Dieter was recognized for using Scripture as a springboard to explore culture and history relevant to operations. He delivered lessons from the Old and New Testaments as well as the Qur’an.

Molly Beestrum ’04 is now the Library Instruction Coordinator at Columbia College Chicago.

Rachel Fewell ’04 is Collection Development Manager for Rangeview Library District (Adams County, Colorado).

Nichole Fromm ’04 has been elected the AWSL Secretary in the 2009 WLA elections.

Kelli Keclik ’04, Library Instruction and Reference Librarian at College Library, has joined the Libraries Website Team.

Eileen Snyder ’04 has been elected to the 2009 Government Information Round Table Planning Committee. She was previously secretary for GIRT as a student, and is pleased to have the chance to help to choose the next Distinguished Document.

Abby Swanton ’04, Wisconsin Document Depository Librarian, Reference and Loan Library, DPI, has been elected to
the Government Information Round Table Planning Committee. Abby presented “Digital State Government Information: Now Available to Your Library” at the spring 2008 WAPL convention. She also led a discussion session at the WLA annual conference called, “Creating a Vision for the Future of the Wisconsin Document Depository Program in the 21st Century.”

Andrew Wertheimer (Ph.D. ’04) has been elected to the board of directors of the Association for Library and Information Science Education. As Director he plans to work to build relationships with LIS faculty internationally. He is currently chair of the Department of Library and Information Science at the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

Eun-Young Yoo (Ph.D ’04), Assistant Professor at the North Carolina Central University, and Associate Professor Kyung-Sun (Sunny) Kim presented findings of their study on undergraduates’ source selection behavior at the ASIST Annual Meeting in October.

Eric Larson ’05 has accepted a Digital Library Services Consultant position with UW-Madison’s General Library System. He was previously at Wendt Engineering Library. In his new position, Eric will work as part of a team designing, implementing, and maintaining digital library services and applications.

Amanda Moss ’05 was married in September 2008 to Karl Struckmeyer, whom she met through a library volunteer. Amanda is now a Youth Services librarian at the Middleton Public Library and is serving on the 2009 Newbery Committee.

Terry Ross ’05, librarian at Madison Area Technical College Truax Library, along with Beth Harper, has collected a top ten list for the promotion of government documents in honor of Government Information Day.

Athena Salaba (Ph.D./’05) was the 2009 winner of the Bohdan S. Wynar/ALISE Research Paper Competition. The paper written with Yin Zhang, her colleague at Kent State University, Ohio, is entitled, “What is Next for FRBR? A Delphi Study.” The award was presented at the annual conference in Denver in January.


Jeremy Cusker ’06 is a Reference Assistant at the Engineering Library of Cornell University.

G. Salim Mohammed ’06 has completed his second year as Maps/GIS Librarian at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Salim has spearheaded efforts to develop a new entity: Manoa MAGIS. MAGIS, or Maps, Aerials and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The MAGIS website was unveiled in March; it makes thousands of aerial photographs available to the public. In addition, Salim received grant funding to travel to the ESRI (GIS) Conference held in San Diego in June 2008, where he presented “Hawaii’s Aerial Aerial Photographs: Creating a Visual Interface with Flight Diagrams.” Salim also serves as secretary of the Hawaii Geographic Information Coordinating Council.

Sheila Stoeckel ’06, Library and Information Literacy Instruction Office Associate Academic Librarian, participated in the 2008 LOEX Conference. Stoeckel, along with Rebecca Payne, presented “Improving Teaching and Learning through Instructional Partnerships: Building Librarian Relationships through One-on-one, In-depth Conversations.” They described the development and implementation of the LILI Instructional Partnerships Program developed and piloted by a working group of eight librarians from across campus in 2007. An article based on the well-attended presentation will appear in the Conference Proceedings.

Pat Eschmann ’07 helped with registration at the WLA Foundation Fundraiser at the 2008 Conference. She works half-time for the WLA Foundation. She recently helped SLIS get grants to support the Allied Drive Program.

Nancy Kunde ’07 has retired from her position as UW Madison Records Officer. She enjoyed working with the many campus departments and staff to achieve success in the records management program.

Heather Richmond ’07 has joined the Western Illinois University Libraries Archives and Special Collections Unit.

Leia Verfuerth ’07 has started as a Research Intern in the Central Technical Services Acquisitions Department Information Processing Unit at UW-Madison. Leia is gaining experience with all aspects of serials acquisitions work in a research library environment. She is also learning about a variety of automated processes used in acquisitions work.

Kristin Hamon ’08 has recently started working as a Youth Services Librarian at Orange County Public Library in Virginia.

Heather Klepitsch ’08 is the Library Director at the St Anthony Medical Center & College of Nursing in Illinois.

Angela Milock ’08 has been hired as the new WiLS Research Intern. She will handle a wide range of responsibilities related to processing 120,000 interlibrary loan requests for our Wisconsin member libraries and libraries nationally and internationally.


Tammy Pineda ’08 presented “Unintended Consequences: Traditional Library Practices as Barriers” at the spring 2008 WAPL convention.

Emily Schearer ’08 is the Outreach and Special Projects Librarian at the Medical
College of Wisconsin Libraries. She will be working on health information outreach activities, library funding proposals, and providing reference services.

Lexy Spry ’08 has joined UW’s Wisconsin Center for Education Research as Knowledge Manager. In this position she serves as records manager, software trainer, and software developer.

Jane Stahl ’08 is working in a technology-related job near her home in Illinois.

Current Students

Chelsea Couillard has been awarded the WLA Library Education Scholarship. She plans to work in a public library setting after finishing her degree in 2009.

Doctoral student Irene Hansen taught “Genealogy Library Services” online for SLIS’ Continuing Education Services. She presented “Reading on the Western Frontier: The Arizona Territory, 1863-1912,” at the WLA Conference, and a Works-in-Progress poster, “Reading on the Western Frontier: Newspapers and Print Culture in the Arizona Territory, 1863-1912,” at ALISE in Denver.

Doctoral student Nathan Johnson has presented and published a number of papers in the past year. He presented “Documentation and Mediation: The Effects of Web Standards on Rhetorical Agency” at the Document Academy; it was later printed in Archival Science as “Technical Documents as Rhetorical Agency.” He presented “The CSS Standard: A Critical Analysis of Standards and New Media Labor,” at Milwaukee’s Thinking Critically conference. At ASIS&T he presented a paper entitled “History and Information Essences in/of LIS Education,” which was printed in the official proceedings. A later version of that paper, “From Library Schools to the Information Society: Text, Context, and Information at the Original Information School,” will appear in JASIS&T. This paper is especially timely and important given that it describes Syracuse and Bob Taylor, who died recently. His paper on psychoanalysis and information architecture, “Tarrying with Organization: Pedagogical Insights from the Post-Lacanian Tradition,” will be printed in the official ALISE 2009 proceedings.

Current PhD student Tammy Mays presented “Pulse of Librarian Diversity: Moving from Theory to Practice” at Midwest-MLA 2008. At the Great Lakes Alliance for Social Sciences (GLASS) Graduate Student Research Symposium in February, Tammy’s presentation was “Sacred knowledge: The Underutilization of blogs by libraries at HBCUs.” Tammy examined each of the HBCUs’ websites to see if social networking technology is being used as a tool for education at HBCUs. The symposium brought together graduate students in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences (SBES) from the upper Midwest.

Doctoral student Jomkwon Pol paris has been teaching in Thailand in the summers.

Sarah Roberts presented her poster, “A Hybrid Approach to Undergraduate LIS Instruction: A Case Study of Organization of Online Course Information in a Pilot Class” at the 2009 iConference held at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Sei-Ching Joanna Sin (M.A. ’02), a doctoral student, co-authored and published “Use and non-use of public libraries in the information age: A logistic regression analysis of household characteristics and library services variables” with Associate Professor Kyung-Sun (Sunny) Kim in Library and Information Science Research.

Kate Vo Thi-Beard presented her research on Asian American magazines at various conferences, as well as a poster at ALISE, a short paper at The Document Academy, and a panel at the Expanding Literacy Studies conference at Ohio State University.

Sara White has been awarded the Diversity Scholarship by the WLA. She plans a career in academic librarianship and archives and records administration after completing her degree in 2010.

Kimberly Williams is the recipient of the Elizabeth Moon Proctor Scholarship for 2008. Kim has been a Madison Public Library employee since 1996. She currently is an Administrative Clerk at the Central Library.

Megan Wiseman has been awarded the Sally Davis Scholarship by the WLA. She plans to pursue a career in law librarianship after completing her degree in 2009.

Super Summer School

SLIS will offer three special classes this summer. You can take them.

• June 1 to June 5

Leonard Kniffel, editor of American Libraries, will teach a one-week course on writing for professional publications.

• June 8 to June 12

Paul Nelson, Wisconsin’s own library advocate, will teach a one-week advocacy course. It runs from June 8 to June 12.

• July 13 to August 7

Troy Reeves, UW’s oral historian, will teach a course on doing oral histories. The course will focus on Reeves’ current project, documenting the history of Madison’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered community.

For more information, contact Andrea Poehling at student-services@slis.wisc.edu.

Want to sign up for news?
slis-alumni@lists.wisc.edu

Want to send news for Jottings?
alumni@slis.wisc.edu

Want to meet with other alumni online?
Kids Connection Gets $1000 Gift from TeachingBooks.net

As “special librarian” at SLIS I have the joy of being involved with students and outreach activities that provide needed services, give students hands-on experience, and perhaps leave a lasting impression that influences how SLISers continue to interact in their communities as professionals. From this context I want to use my Library space to publicly thank Nick Glass and TeachingBooks.net for their gift of $1000 to our Kids’ Connection (KC) project.

Mary Driscoll, Dane County Library Service (DCLS) Outreach Coordinator, was surprised in December by a call from Glass, founder and principal of Madison’s TeachingBooks.net, which was followed by a $1000 check. As their website says, “TeachingBooks.net is a time-saving portal to thousands of online resources you can use to explore children’s and young adult books and their authors.” KC provides an opportunity for Dane County Jail inmates to read a children’s book onto a tape, which is sent with the book to their child. Started by Mike Exum, co-founder with me of the Jail Library Group, KC has operated over 10 years thanks to the partnership of DCLS outreach and SLIS Jail Library Group volunteers. Two SLIS alum working at TeachingBooks.net, Danika Morphew-Tarbuck and Carin Bringelson, asked that KC be considered for the company’s end of year charitable donation.

I asked the two how the connection worked for them. Bringelson told me on the phone, “At TeachingBooks.net we do everything we can to make books exciting, but without books in kids’ hands, literacy efforts can only go so far.” And when I emailed Morphew-Tarbuck, she responded that both “TeachingBooks and Kids Connection share something special and that is the use of technology to break down barriers to help people connect with one another and books. … Hearing someone read a book, whether the author or a loved one, enriches our connections to books and, ultimately, to one another as human beings.”

We attract a lot of students who see the social justice aspect of librarianship as part of why they come here. Morphew-Tarbuck and Bringelson have their own pre-SLIS histories of community involvement. Nonetheless, I am pleased that SLIS continues to create an environment that nurtures the impulse to connect and serves the Wisconsin Idea in many ways large and small. And I am grateful to business people like Nick Glass who have the vision to support it as well. Check out the website: www.TeachingBooks.net

— Michele Besant