LIS 620 is a course required of the majority of SLIS students. Also known as the “practicum” or “fieldwork,” LIS 620 comprises 120 hours spent in the field working in libraries and archives, with a weekly seminar component. The practicum culminates in a poster presentation, when students present their fieldwork projects to colleagues and guests. We asked three SLIS students who took LIS 620 over the summer of 2011 to describe their projects. Eric Willey was a practicum student at the Wisconsin Historical Society; Cindy Fesemeyer completed her fieldwork at the DeForest Area Public Library; and Heather Shimon worked with the UW Digital Collections Center in Memorial Library at UW-Madison.

**Eric Willey:** In addition to records of private organizations and individuals, the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) serves as the ultimate depository of records of the state of Wisconsin. This past summer I had the privilege of working with State Records Archivist Abbie Norderhaug to acquire the records of Ethan Allen School (EAS).

EAS was a Department of Corrections (DoC)-run male juvenile rehabilitation and educational facility at Wales, Wisconsin, which was closed as part of the 2011–2013 state budget. I was able to visit the facility, assess many records on site, discuss the history of the institution and its records with many of the employees at EAS, and gain valuable experience in evaluating, appraising, arranging, and describing state records. Collaboration with DoC officials was vital in ensuring that the rights of the juvenile students at EAS, particularly the right to privacy, were respected.

Continued on page 3
Dear Friends,

The academic year 2011–12 continues to be one of transition for SLIS. We are very pleased to have two faculty hires this year. In the fall we advertised for the first position, seeking candidates with teaching and research expertise in either print-culture history or information use and user behavior. We felt extremely fortunate to be granted this hire by the College of Letters & Science, because overall there are few positions available this year. So, we feel that being given one of these testified to the regard that the college has for the school. After receiving many excellent applications from both of these areas, we decided to focus the search on print-culture history, and as I write, we are in the process of inviting several finalists to campus.

Then at the end of the fall semester, another piece of good fortune came our way when we were invited to partner with the Living Environments Laboratory (LEL) at the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery (WID) in hiring a faculty member with research interests in human interaction with information and information systems. As you may know, WID is a new, inter-disciplinary research initiative funded by the State of Wisconsin, the Morgridge Foundation and the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) that provides an exciting opportunity for creative applicants to work in a multi-disciplinary environment while pursuing independent research in a state-of-the-art facility.

The LEL-WID theme aims to accelerate the design and development of personal-care technologies through an innovative design space that employs a virtual-reality chamber that can mimic home-found factors that may alter the function of personal-care technologies, such as temperatures, vibrations and particulates, and a fully instrumented apartment.

These environments stimulate designers to create personal-care solutions that better fit into the home context, and will provide the opportunity to undertake sophisticated user testing. The SLIS faculty member will have a research home at WID and will teach in SLIS. This position is fully funded through the LEL, and we are thrilled that the school can be part of this very exciting project.

The transition from Jane Pearlmutter to Michele Besant as associate director continues. From July 1, Michele will be fully occupied in this position. Although she will still have oversight of the SLIS library as director, the day-to-day running of the library will be shared between librarian Sheilah Harrington and a new librarian hire whom we hope to have in place by the beginning of June.

For many of you, Michele needs no introduction. She is a double SLIS alumna, having received her MA here in 1993 and her PhD in 1999. You will recall that while she was a master’s student, Michele co-founded the Jail Library Group (with Mike Exum) in 1992. We will celebrate the JLG’s twentieth birthday this June! After graduating with her doctorate, for three years Michele was on the faculty at Florida State University, returning to SLIS as library director in January 2003. We are very happy indeed that Michele has been willing to take on the task of being associate director. With her library and teaching experience, her scholarship, and her wonderful interpersonal skills, we know that she is the very best person to step into the big shoes that Jane has left.

On the subject of transitions, you may already know that I will retire as director and as a faculty member in late August. It has been an enormous privilege to serve as director of the school for the last three years — one I certainly never imagined could be possible when I began as a master’s student here in 1988. I’m tremendously grateful to all my colleagues in the school and the university for making my occupancy of “the chair” so satisfying. I will miss everyone, including, of course, the truly fantastic students.

I know that SLIS is in the process of moving into a period of exciting opportunities to collaborate across campus and to explore new learning and research opportunities, and I am sure that the faculty and students are in the very best place to exploit these, while maintaining the school’s continuing commitment to the values of public service and social justice.

Many thanks to you all for supporting SLIS so generously in all kinds of ways,

Christine
while creating as complete a documentary record as possible.

Through the course of the practicum I was continually impressed with the thoughtfulness given by the WHS staff in balancing the needs of the state of Wisconsin, the young people at EAS, and future record users in documenting Ethan Allen School.

Cindy Fesemeyer: The 2011 Summer Reading Program at DeForest Area Public Library (DAPL) included a focus on a new kind of literacy for area youth — financial literacy. The program had kids reading books and earning Dragon Dollars.

Dragon Dollars were spent in Ye Olde Dragon Dollar Shoppe, which was filled with prizes ranging from $.50 to $25.00 DD. The bigger prizes quickly became coveted rewards and had kids delaying the immediate satisfaction of a sticker or pen and saving throughout the summer for a Backyard Safari Bug Habitat, Barbie doll or fashionable watch.

To encourage saving, kids from four to fourteen stitched and decorated wallets or purses in which to save those hard earned Dragon Dollars in hopes of getting a grand prize.

This first-time financial literacy program at DAPL will better prepare the community’s youth to take their places as adult consumers and savers, and is expected to be repeated for the 2012 Summer Reading Program.

Heather Shimon: Working full time in Memorial Library as classified staff has its obvious advantages for a library student: hands-on experience, collaborating with campus librarians, etc. However, I have also found that being a library student has its advantages for working full time in Memorial Library.

My summer field practicum in Digital Collections allowed me to participate in an area of librarianship that I am not exposed to in my position in the Women’s Studies Librarian’s Office. Spending eight to ten hours a week with Melissa McLimans, Pat Tuchsherer, and Steven Dast showed me the complexity of digital project planning, metadata creation, and image reformatting.

Digital librarianship is like cataloging, with an element of preservation, some visual art, and a main goal of instant access. It is producing a catalog with the materials right there inside. My project was to create a collection of images from slides of innovators in the field of librarianship, which I called Historic Librarians and Benefactors, online at http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/SLISTeaching/HistLibrBen. (It is no surprise that the collection was well received by the librarians on campus.)

As I formatted the images for the collection, rotating heads and filling in missing pixels, I realized that the Digital Collections office was more like a production studio than a traditional library. It gave me a new perspective on the library’s role in connecting the user to information — one I might not have encountered without literally crossing the hallway and working in another part of Memorial Library.
Interview with Christine Pawley

I supported a shift toward fewer required courses, more electives in the curriculum. As director, much of the job is finding out what people’s different opinions are, hearing different voices. You need to take a neutral sort of tone, and be listening a lot.

**Jottings: What are your hopes for SLIS and its future?**

**CP:** This is a great place. It’s niche among schools. It’s not an i:School wannabe. We have an important and active focus on community outreach and engagement, with high intellectual quality. The faculty here are engaged in a great variety of research; we’re not pinning our identity to any one area or type of research. There are some benefits to being smaller — it’s a great place to work, with wonderful colleagues. People really pull together here — you couldn’t ask for more.

**Jottings: Can you talk a bit about your teaching — what you’ve enjoyed about it.**

**CP:** I do love teaching, not one class over another. LIS 450 was fun, and its challenges (big class size, variety of students) made it fun to teach as well. The History of Readers and Reading is a great opportunity to explore an area of my research with students.

**Jottings: What do you see as far as the state of librarianship and its future?**

**CP:** I think things have not changed as much as people thought they would. People recognize that libraries have tremendous value — they endure, as does their mission: putting people together with information.
The more you study [library] history, the more you hear about the “dizzying pace” of information even from the 1920s, the more you realize it stays the same.

_Jottings: So what’s the next step for you?_

_CP: Personally, my husband and I will move to Canada — we’re building a house on the west coast. So there is a lot to do with sort of extricating ourselves from here. I have two book projects going — one I’m co-editing with [Professor Emerita] Louise Robbins from the last Print Culture conference, and a monograph that has been in the works for a while. Teaching online for SLIS is a possibility. And, of course, the usual retirement things: traveling and spending time with grandchildren._

_A People’s History of the Madison InfoShop_

_Sara Cummins ’12, Molly Khan ’12, Melissa Nicholas ’12, and collective members from Madison’s InfoShop are collaborating to create a digital zine library and oral-history archive of the InfoShop. This work in progress will use open-source resources to tell the story of the Madison InfoShop by highlighting the _Disorientation Manuals_, published yearly by the Madison InfoShop, and political ephemera from its archives.

The first part of the project has been creating a digital library by using the free program Omeka. This library contains _Disorientation Manuals_ from 1992 to 2011 and a few years of highlighted political ephemera.

They have also used the Library of Congress’s program, ViewShare, to compare the two programs’ use of displaying ephemeral materials and their strengths for organizations such as the InfoShop. We have collections of ephemera and zines similar to the Omeka library. This comparison can be used for other InfoShop spaces and community organizations to choose how to create their own digital libraries.

The second part of this project will be an oral-history program, a partnership among librarians, the InfoShop, and Rainbow Books.

The work can be viewed here: [http://madinfoshop.wordpress.com/infoshop-library/a-collaborative-story/](http://madinfoshop.wordpress.com/infoshop-library/a-collaborative-story/).

_What Do You Want To See in Jottings?_

The editorial staff of _Jottings and Digressions_ wants to hear from you! Let us know if you have story ideas, courses you would like to see highlighted, or alumni you would like to see profiled. And of course, keep us up to speed on your own news and updates. Email the editor at alumni@slis.wisc.edu.
Michele Besant is grateful to the SLIS community on and off the fourth floor of Helen C. White for its support as she juggles many roles this year. She has mostly been on the floor, though was able to join Louise Robbins and Omar Poler for the Red Cliff Ginanda Gikendaaamin (“We learn together”) community meeting in November. And she does continue her term on the UW Press Committee.

Professor Greg Downey, together with fellow UW-Madison Professors Rima Apple and Stephen Vaughn, is the editor of the next volume in the UW Press Print Culture series, *Science in Print: Essays on the History of Science and the Culture of Print*. This book of essays, drawn from a previous conference on print culture held at UW-Madison and sponsored by SLIS, is scheduled for publication this summer.

Professor Kristin Eschenfelder will be presenting at the 2012 iSchool Conference on her project on digital rights management technology and the Society for Automotive Engineers Digital Library. Kristin served as a discussant for the SLIS E-Book Forum in February. She finished her project with Professor Cat Smith on public libraries and financial literacy. They hope to submit articles to journals describing the study results soon.

SLIS Laboratory Library librarian Sheila Harrington is keeping busy with the daily tasks involved in keeping the library up and running. She appreciates the great assistance she gets every day on these tasks from the current excellent library student staff. A big focus for her of late has been two collection management projects of weeding duplicate monograph titles and consolidating duplicate print serials titles with other campus libraries.

With Eun-Young Yoo, MA ’04 and Sei-Ching Joanna Sin, MA ’09, Associate Professor Kyung-Sun “Sunny” Kim presented a poster titled, “Social media as information source: Undergraduates’ use and evaluation behavior” at the American Society of Information Science and Technology’s (ASIST) annual meeting in New Orleans. She also collaborated with Sei-Ching Joanna Sin and other SLIS students, including Jiekun Yang, MA ’11, Jung A. Park, MA ’11, and Zachary Laughed, MA ’11, to present another poster titled, “International students’ acculturation information seeking: Personality, information needs and uses” at the ASIST meeting.

Allison G. Kaplan, Faculty Associate, has been appointed to the UW-Madison Community Partnerships and Outreach (CPO) Network steering committee.

Outreach specialist Meredith Lowe is currently planning for the fifth annual Archives Leadership Institute (ALI), to be hosted in Madison in July 2012. More information about ALI: http://www.slis.wisc.edu/continuued-ArchLeader.htm. She is also helping to coordinate the Librarians’ Tour to Scotland, scheduled for June 2012. More information about the tour is available here: http://www.slis.wisc.edu/scotland2012.htm.

Outreach specialist Anna Palmer joined the Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture as its coordinator in fall 2011. She continues to plan online continuing-education classes for SLIS.

In October 2011, Professor Christine Pawley traveled to Taipei, Taiwan, to give the opening lecture at a symposium in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the School of Library and Information Science at National Taiwan University.

Associate Director Emerita Jane Pearlmutter presented a workshop in Milwaukee in November on succession planning for libraries, sponsored by the WLA Foundation.

Outreach specialist Omar Poler is coordinating the fourth Convening Culture Keepers mini-conference for Wisconsin tribal librarians, archivists, and museum curators, which will take place in early May at the Forest County Potawatomi Cultural Center, Library and Museum. He is also teaching the Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums (LIS 640) course during the spring 2012 semester.

Professor Emerita Louise Robbins has been engaged in two projects: one with the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, in which tribal members are trying to build a library and community center (Omar Poler and Michele Besant are also involved); and one with the UW’s International Programs, helping to start the library in a new research university in Kazakhstan. She and Memorial librarian Andy Spencer were in Astana, Kazakhstan, in February.

Assistant Professor Alan Rubel’s article “Justifying Public Health Surveillance: Basic Interests, Unreasonable Exercise, and Privacy” is forthcoming in the *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*. He is also developing two recent presentations into articles:
one is on privacy and positive liberty, and the other discusses surveillance and criminal-law theory. He has also been invited to contribute a chapter on health surveillance and individual autonomy to the *Routledge Companion to Bioethics*. He is excited that the UW graduate school has provided funding during 2012–13 for his study of privacy provisions in electronic resource licensing agreements.

■ Faculty Associate Debra Shapiro is the incoming co-chair of the American Library Association (ALA) LITA/ALCTS Library Linked Data interest group. The group is planning an unconference-style, daylong workshop on linked data for the ALA annual meeting in Anaheim, California, that aims to bring librarians and developers together to discuss this emerging trend. Watch the ALA Annual website for more information as the workshop develops, http://www.alaannual.org/.

■ Assistant Professor Catherine Arnott Smith will be faculty in residence in the Living Environments Laboratory, Wisconsin Institutes of Discovery (http://discovery.wisc.edu/home/wisconsin/research/living-environments-lab). Professor Smith is interested in using virtual reality to better understand consumers’ comprehension of clinical concepts.

■ Assistant Professor Rebekah Willett published an article in the *Journal of Children and Media* that is based on her study of children’s playground games and rhymes. The article analyzes playground singing games, particularly those based on pop music. She also secured funding from the UW-Madison Graduate School to investigate young children’s use and understanding of virtual-world gaming. The study will take place in homes and one elementary school from September 2012 to May 2013.

■ Associate Professor Ethelene Whitmire received funding from the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Graduate School for her project about Audre Lorde, a self-described “black, lesbian, feminist, mother, poet warrior,” who was also a librarian. She will search her archives at the Lesbian Herstory Archives in Brooklyn, New York and the Spelman College Archives’ Audre Lorde Papers in Atlanta, Georgia, during the summer of 2012.

■ Student and Alumni Services coordinator, Tanya Cobb worked with Faculty Associate Dorothea Salo to coordinate the first SLIS Research Data Seminar Series, which meets the second Monday of each month during the academic year. The series brings together researchers, graduate students, and library professionals from across campus to discuss issues related to data management. She is also learning from her colleagues and enjoying her work as a committee member on the WLA Ad Hoc Membership Committee.

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? Visit www.facebook.com and search for “UW-Madison SLIS Alumni Association.”

**Beta Beta Epsilon Update**

Help us celebrate our 28th anniversary by attending the annual meeting and initiation on May 17, 2012, at the Pyle Center! If you are in the area, we encourage you to attend the event and support our newest inductees to the Beta Phi Mu Library Honor Society.

Erika Janik, author and radio producer at Wisconsin Public Radio, will be our featured speaker. Ms. Janik writes on local food and Wisconsin history, among many other interests. Her most recent book, *Apple: A Global History*, was published in October by Reaktion Books. She’s looking forward to sharing plenty of anecdotes from a library user’s perspective.

The winner of the Jack A. Clarke Scholarship, as well as this year’s Outstanding Student Scholar, will both be honored. As always, the evening will feature 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, so the more members in attendance to see them off, the merrier!

Donations to the Jack A. Clarke Scholarship fund are always welcome. For information on how to make a donation, please feel free to contact BBE president Cynthia Bachhuber at cbachhuber@globeuniversity.edu.

If you need to update your contact information to receive an invitation, contact vice president for membership Lisa Muccigrosso at lmuccigrosso@uwalumni.com.
The School of Library and Information Studies is pleased to announce that Dr. Hope Olson of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Information Studies is recognized as the Distinguished Alumna for 2012.

Dr. Olson, who hails from South Dakota, completed her bachelor of arts degree from Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota in 1972. This was followed by a master of library science degree from the University of Toronto in 1974. In 1996, she received her doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Library and Information Studies. Dr. Olson’s early career was spent in the cataloguing departments of several university libraries.

Dr. Olson has published in numerous academic and professional journals. Her publications are too many to list individually, but highlights include Cataloging & Classification Quarterly, Library Journal, Library Quarterly, and the Journal of Documentation. She has contributed chapters to books on cataloging, classification, women's studies, feminism, and the intersection of these fields. Her research interests include feminist, poststructural, postcolonial research on culture and subject representation (including traditional vocabularies and classification, and social tagging), and classificatory and other subject structures.

On Dr. Olson’s scholarship, one supporter of her nomination writes, “The critical and theoretical perspectives [Dr. Olson] uses in her research have established important foundations on which studies by future scholars may be based. Her international influence is evident in that she is regularly invited by institutions around the world to provide talks on her research. She has also had an enviable grant-seeking record, with notable grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).”

Dr. Olson is widely regarded as a leader in the field of information organization and LIS education, as evinced, one supporter writes, by her “contributions to the Canadian Association for Information Science as a board member and president, as well as her involvement on the board of the International Society for Knowledge Organization…. Similarly, her selection to serve as editor-in-chief of the international journal Knowledge Organization from 2000 to 2004 provides acknowledgment of how she is viewed by her peers.”

Dr. Olson’s work has had a significant impact on the scholarship of classificatory structures, and challenges her current and future colleagues to consider the implications of these structures from an interdisciplinary standpoint. Writes one supporter, The Power to Name introduced a text-based humanities approach to the study of classification that was new to information studies and to research in knowledge organization. Since the publication of that book, text-based studies have become more prevalent, as have humanities approaches in a field with a tradition drawn from the natural and social sciences.”

Dr. Olson’s contributions to the field at a national and international level, her prolific and rigorous scholarship, and her exemplary teaching record are the mark of a true and innovative leader. The University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Library and Information Studies is pleased to include Dr. Hope Olson among its distinguished alumni.

Dr. Olson will deliver an address to the students of the UW-Madison SLIS during the commencement activities in May 2012.
Interview by Erinn Batykefer, MA ’12

When the National Science Foundation mandated that all grant recipients include a data-management plan for their research in their proposals in 2011, universities responded by seeking qualified librarians who could help researchers create such plans and use the data they collect in new and exciting ways.

SLIS alum Andy Johnson MA’11’s unique training in neuropsychology and library science made him an ideal candidate for data-curation librarianship. Andy graduated from SLIS in May of 2011, and is now a metadata librarian at the University of Colorado at Boulder. We had the chance to catch up with Andy and ask him about his time at SLIS and the skills that translated to the job.

Jottings: Tell us about your focus at SLIS and how you decided to follow that “track”?
Andy: I focused on digital curation and research data management. I didn’t even know this area existed until I had a conversation with Kristin Eschenfelder at orientation, but I was immediately intrigued by the problems librarians in this area are working to solve. In my previous school and work experience, I spent a lot of time and effort collecting research data that was used in a few publications, then eventually destroyed. I never heard any talk about preserving or sharing this data so that others could use it. The digital curation community is bringing greater exposure to these and other related issues, especially now that the NSF requires data-management plans.

Jottings: Tell us about your job as a metadata librarian. What kinds of projects are you working on? What is most exciting to you professionally now that you are in the field?
Andy: I’m currently helping to get our institutional repository up and running, and I’m also involved with the planning and provision of metadata for some interesting digital image, audio, and video collections. I’m particularly excited about the work I’m doing with colleagues from the libraries and research computing to develop services and infrastructure for managing digital data generated by our campus researchers.

Jottings: What are your plans for the future at UC-Boulder?
Andy: Hopefully, we’ll make progress in our efforts to establish a set of services to help researchers manage their data. If that happens, I expect that would mean more consultations with researchers and hands-on work with research data for me.

Jottings: What is the one piece of advice you would extend to current SLIS students interested in data curation who want to apply for a job like yours?
Andy: I hope this is obvious by now, but any SLIS student interested in this kind of work should take Dorothea Salo’s Digital Curation course as soon as possible. Tech skills are essential for any job with the word “data” in the title. That said, many people (researchers, administrators, librarians, etc.) still don’t understand the importance of data management/curation or what kinds of infrastructure we need to do it. I’ve found that it’s really important to be able to communicate about these issues to people from a variety of backgrounds. Students should definitely take as many tech classes as they can, but I think it’s equally important for them to hone their advocacy and outreach skills as well.

Jottings: What did you like best about living in Madison?
Andy: I loved being able to hop on my bike and get anywhere I wanted to go in a matter of minutes. I really loved my neighborhood. Everything I needed was within walking distance, and it was hard to go anywhere without seeing a familiar face.

Andrew Johnson at the Laboratory for Optical and Computational Instrumentation (LOCI) at the UW, April 2011.
William Landram Williamson, age 91, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison, died on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011. Dr. Williamson was born in Lexington, Ky., and raised in Atlanta, Ga. He received degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Emory University, Columbia University and the University of Chicago. After service in the U.S. Army as troopship transport commander in World War II, he worked as a librarian at Baylor University, Montclair (NJ) State College and at Columbia University, where he served as Nicholas Murray Butler Librarian from 1954 to 1964. He was Professor of Library Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison from 1966 until his retirement in 1987. He was library consultant in Indonesia on three occasions, from 1960-62, in 1970, and in 1986. Author of the biography of William Frederick Poole, he was a scholar of American library history and wrote also about international library relations. He served for four years as editor of International Leads, a publication of the International Relations Round Table of the American Library Association.

Sharon Drugan, MA [], passed away in January, 2012 after a long battle with cancer. Ms. Drugan held many library positions at UW-Madison, the longest and most recent being at College Library.

Shirley Ellis, MA ’74, passed away in December, 2011 after a long illness. Ms. Ellis worked for the Palmyra-Eagle School District as a librarian shortly after graduating from SLIS. In 1977 she was appointed Head Librarian for the district and served in that role until her retirement in 2006.

Rebecca Holz, MA [], passed away in November, 2011. Ms. Holz was a valued member of the Ebling Library for the Health Sciences staff, and a cherished colleague and friend to many at UW-Madison.
Correction:
In the fall 2011 issue of Jottings, the editorial staff made an error and posted an incorrect class note about Kristi Tornquist, MA ’82. Ms. Tornquist began a position as chief university librarian at South Dakota State University in 2011.

Current students ................................
Doctoral student Tien-I Tsai was awarded the 2011 scholarship of the Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society of America, Mid-America Chapter. This scholarship is awarded each year to four undergraduate and graduate students of Chinese descent in Midwest universities based on academic performance and community services. She also presented her poster titled, “Coursework-related Information Horizons of First-Generation College Students” at the 2012 ALISE annual conference held in Dallas with the Linda Richardson Memorial Travel Grant.

We want to hear from you! Please send your news and address changes to alumni@slis.wisc.edu.

Historical Society Press, People of the Big Voice: Photographs of Ho-Chunk Families by Charles Van Schaick, 1879-1942, with Tom Jones, Michael Schmudlach, Amy Lonetree, and George A. Greendeer. The work provides a visual history of Ho-Chunk families in Wisconsin. Since graduating from SLIS-UW in 2003, Mr. Mason worked as a project archivist at the Merrill G. Burlingame Special Collections at Montana State University-Bozeman. In fall 2004, he began his tenure as an archivist at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University, where he specializes in photographic collections, as well as manuscript collections principally based in the Trans-Mississippi West.

Dan Malosh, MA ’07 is now the digital reference librarian at the Minnesota Braille and Talking Book Library. He started the position in October 2010.

Bradley Wiles, MA ’08 was appointed the first archivist for the American Public University System (APUS). The position coincides with the recent 20th anniversary of the school’s founding as American Military University (AMU) in 1991, and with the launch of its new APUS ePress digital-publishing initiative announced earlier this year.

Betsy Bermant, MA ’09 is the new youth services director for the Waunakee Public Library in Waunakee, Wisconsin.

Laura Schmidli, MA ’09 joined the staff of Wendt Commons as the new information services librarian on February 13, 2012. She is the liaison to the Departments of Chemical & Biological Engineering and Materials Science & Engineering.

2010s ............................................
Jennifer Edmonds, MA ’11 is now a research librarian with Cogdell Spencer ERDMAN in Madison, Wisconsin.
Student Organization Updates

The Society of American Archivists Student Chapter welcomed the first group of students to the new archives track this last fall. New members quickly joined in a variety of activities, including the annual potluck hosted by faculty adviser Rick Pifer, a tour of the Bureau of Public Lands Office, a trip to the Clinton Community Historical Society, a successful fundraiser, and the decoration of the SLIS display case. This spring the chapter hopes to see many members at the Midwest Archives Conference, as well as the chapter resume workshop and mock job interviews.

The American Library Association Student Chapter enjoyed a stellar fall semester. The chapter welcomed several new members during SLIS orientation. The group elected officers Jacob Ineichen, Cate Redman, Audra Hilse, and Dana Gerber. President Ashley Guy won the student-to-staff essay contest, which provides funding to attend the ALA national convention in Anaheim, California.

Reforma had a great fall semester tailoring many of its events to this year’s Go Big Read! book, Enrique’s Journey. Reforma had a post-Sonia Nazario talk about Enrique’s Journey, and went to the documentary screening of Made in L.A. together. It also visited the South Madison Branch Library and spoke with librarian Chris Wagner about Spanish-speaking programming in public libraries. In the spring the group looks forward to hosting a grant-writing workshop and teaming up with Allied Drive residents to read children’s books in Spanish.

LAMP PAs Dawn Wing and Melissa Nicholas have been busy this past semester coordinating socials that celebrate diversity, promoting funding for underrepresented minorities, speaking at WLA, and supporting community-service student-org groups. In the spring, Dawn and Mel look forward to planning more socials for the SLIS students of color, keeping their Wordpress updated (http://madslisdiversity.wordpress.com), and hosting events related to underrepresented people in library school and libraries.
SLIS Library Update

With five of eight student staff members being new in the fall and Michele Besant transitioning to less time for daily operations, we’ve been living in “interesting times” in the SLIS Library. Sheilah Harrington and the new team have done a great job rolling with the challenges, and contributing a lot to life at SLIS — and with smiles!

It’s a very busy year for workshops, programs, and collection projects. In response to requests, our semester workshop series has evolved into including regular “Workshop Sundays,” during which a selection of the semester offerings are provided in one no-conflict time (or at least fewer conflicts) afternoon. Collaborating with student groups for game nights and book discussions continue. Student staffer Erinn Batykefer put together a series of programs related to e-books, bringing area librarians to share their public-library experiences and perspectives of developments, as well as skyping in Jo K, the Kansas State Librarian who successfully challenged OverDrive and moved content to 3m.

Inhouse, we’re trying to better support the increasing number of SLISers who use e-readers by formatting e-reserves we create from scans differently. And since it is the world they are stepping into, we are trying to increase e-book use among our students by buying more professional books in e-format. Staff are also putting more up via our website and in the SLIS student-support learning space to provide greater access to local events and related materials for our schedule-challenged (multiple-job-holder) grad students, as well as SLIS distance students.

Large collection projects are always challenging, being very time consuming. But with space at a premium and current materials sometimes being buried by those duplicate textbooks from the mid-1900s, we’ve been making a serious effort to more systematically evaluate what should stay on our shelves. At the same time, it’s providing an opportunity to more closely examine historical materials that were too fragile to send on to Google, but that we could digitize inhouse. And we have a fun and useful library-history collection of old library promotion and training filmstrips that we’d like to make sure don’t get lost. Thanks to a UW Libraries Friends grant, we’ve been able to start a digitization preservation project that is both helping us recover media and providing a great training opportunity for library student staff.

So yes: an exciting — if “interesting” — and busy year. Enthusiasm and energy remain high at 4191 Helen C. White!
Three SLIS second-year students recently launched a project called the Library as Incubator Project, which has garnered national and even international attention since October 2011. Co-founders and project managers Erinn Batykefer, Christina Endres, and Laura Damon-Moore began the project as an independent study with Professor Emerita Louise Robbins and, upon Dr. Robbins’s retirement, with Assistant Professor Stephen Paling. The project’s goals are to:

- Highlight visual artists, writers, and performing artists who currently use libraries as “incubators” for their fine and creative artwork. This may include a performance in a library, using library collections in their creative research, or attending an art workshop in a library.
- Highlight libraries and librarians who are currently doing innovative, arts-related programming, from concert series to art exhibitions to hosting writing workshops.
- Provide resources for librarians and artists who want to connect with each other in their communities. These include program kits, collection development guides/tips, and ideas for partnerships.

Erinn, Christina, and Laura have been hard at work on the project website, which serves as the virtual “hub” for the Library as Incubator Project. They have been talking with several libraries and librarians — in Madison, the Twin Cities, Pittsburgh, Connecticut, and many other places around the United States and the world — to learn about libraries of all types and financial situations. They are assisting as organizers and consultants on library projects, including position-description development and logistics planning for “makerspaces” and art/library partnerships around the United States.

Interested in getting involved or talking more with the Library as Incubator Project team? Email them at libraryasincubatorproject@gmail.com, find them on Twitter (@IArtLibraries) and Facebook, and on their website at http://www.libraryasincubatorproject.org.
Message from SLIS Alumni Association President

Greetings, friends! It has been a wonderful year thus far for the SLIS Alumni Association, and we are gearing up for the busy spring semester ahead!

We are happy to report that the SLIS reunion at the WLA annual conference on November 2, 2011, was a great success. Members of the SLIS Alumni Association board in attendance were pleased with the turnout and glad to catch up with so many alumni. We were also greatly impressed with the success of The Library as Incubator Project presentation by three SLIS students. We congratulate Ms. Damon-Moore, Ms. Batykefer, and Ms. Endres on the much-deserved accolades and attention!

We look forward to seeing more of you at our next reunion event and at our annual business meeting this spring. The meeting is open to all alumni and will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2012, from 1 to 2 p.m. in the SLIS Faculty Conference Room. The meeting is your chance to speak with the board members and each other, and we highly encourage you to attend. May also brings us the SLIS graduation ceremony on the 20th of the month. Come meet with old friends and new faculty, and celebrate with us as we honor our new graduates and our Distinguished Alumna of the Year, Dr. Hope Olson.

If you have any thoughts, questions, or comments about any SLIS Alumni Association activities, or if you would like to be more involved, don’t hesitate to contact me at cphan@library.wisc.edu. We welcome your ideas! And as always, we thank you for your continuing support of libraries, library education, and SLIS.

Regards,
Catherine Phan
President, SLIS Alumni Association

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SLIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Contribution Form

Jottings is sent to all SLIS alumni. The costs for producing and mailing the newsletter are shared by the SLIS Alumni Association and the school. The association needs your support now more than ever to support its activities. Contributions to the Second Century Fund provide unrestricted support for the greatest needs. Your gifts to the scholarship program provide extremely important financial support for students. If you are considering a planned gift, please contact Jennifer Karlson, our UW Foundation representative, at (608) 262-7225 or jennifer.karlson@uwfoundation.wisc.edu. Thank you for your support!

Date __________________________________________

Name __________________________________________

Address _________________________________________

City ____________________________ State _____ ZIP __________

Phone_________________________________________

E-mail __________________________________________

Fax ___________________________________________

My contribution to the SLIS Alumni Association includes:

_____ SLIS Alumni Association activities ($20 suggested to help cover reunions, awards, student activities, etc.) $________

Scholarship Funds:

_____ Rachel K. Schenk _____ Sally Davis

_____ Valmai Fenster _____ Jack A. Clarke $________

_____ SLIS Directors Fund $________

_____ SLIS Second Century Fund $________

_____ SLIS Laboratory Library $________

_____ Barbara J. Arnold Fund $________

_____ Jane Pearlmutter Student Opportunities Fund $________

_____ Other purpose (please specify): $________

Total amount enclosed $________

_____ Check here if you would like an SLIS pin for contributions of $25 or more.

Please make check payable to University of Wisconsin Foundation and mail to: University of Wisconsin Foundation, 1848 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53708.

News for the next issue of Jottings:

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Questions? Call (608) 263-2909 or fax (608) 263-4849. Please make address changes or update your record in the alumni directory at uwalumni.com/directory.
Save the Dates

May 3, 2012
SLIS Alumni Association Annual Business Meeting
The annual meeting will be held at 1 p.m. in the SLIS conference room. All SLIS alumni are encouraged to attend. Please see the president’s message on page 15.

May 17, 2012
Beta Beta Epsilon Chapter of Beta Phi Mu Annual Meeting
The meeting includes an initiation of new members at the Pyle Center, UW-Madison. Please see the article on page 7.

May 20, 2012
SLIS Commencement
Please join us in congratulating this year’s graduates at 9:30 a.m. at Music Hall, followed by a reception at the SLIS Library. Please see the SLIS events calendar at www.slis.wisc.edu for more information.

June 24, 2012
SLIS Alumni & Friends Reunion at ALA in Anaheim, California
Join your SLIS colleagues past and present from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 24, 2012, at Catal Restaurant, 1580 South Disneyland Drive (http://www.patinagroup.com/restaurant.php?restaurants_id=52). We’ll have hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar. All SLIS alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends are welcome!

October 24, 2012
SLIS Alumni and Friends Reunion at WLA-La Crosse
Join your SLIS colleagues past and present on Wednesday, October 24, 2012, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Pump House Regional Arts Center, 119 King Street (http://thepumphouse.org/) for hors d’oeuvres, cash bar, and friendly conversation in a unique setting! All SLIS alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends are welcome! Watch the SLIS website and Facebook page for details.