



College of Letters & Science

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY &
INFORMATION STUDIES

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Jottings

& DIGRESSIONS



University Communications

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Director's Letter



SLIS Director Kristin Eschenfelder

Robert Streiffer

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to provide you with updates about ongoing iSchool projects.

As you may recall from the last issue of Jottings, the faculty and staff voted to submit a request to the University to change our name to the UW–Madison Information School (a.k.a. The iSchool). The new name will better represent our current and future work and align our school with emerging directions in the field. The name change has been approved by the College of Letters and Science, and is currently in the university-level approval process. We expect to hear the final word later this spring.

I am very pleased that our new capstone certificate in User Experience (UX) Design is accepting applications for Fall 2017! Learn more about it in the Mad UX Certificate article below.

We are also planning a capstone certificate in Introductory Analytics to begin in summer 2018—stay tuned!

Lastly, the iSchool is working on a proposal for a careers-oriented Information Studies undergraduate minor, which may serve as a pipeline to the master's degree program. We will also remain part of the highly successful Digital Studies cooperative undergraduate minor.

Thank you for your continued support of the School. ■

Become a UX Expert: Mad UX Certificate

The iSchool will offer a User Experience Design (UX) capstone certificate in Fall 2017. UX is a concept that seeks to increase user satisfaction and improve the interaction between users and digital systems in commercial, nonprofit, educational, and governmental settings.

Certificate students will gain skills to contribute to new technology development; plan and assess user interactions with interactive products and services; create conceptual designs and prototypes; and apply concepts to real projects rather than abstract ideas—all in a robust, instructor-led virtual classroom.

The certificate will accommodate existing computing professionals whose expanding job responsibilities require a deeper understanding of user experience design, and also people new to the technology workforce seeking introductory skills.

Coursework will be completed online within one calendar year, allowing for a balance of education, career, and life responsibilities. Alumni will be eligible for scholarships. For more information, see: <https://advanceyourcareer.wisc.edu/capstone-certificates/user-experience-design/> ■

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MadUX

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

2017 Distinguished Alumna: Dr. Susan Allen



Dr. Susan Allen

Dr. Susan Allen (MA'68), is a dedicated leader who has flourished as a scholar, practitioner, and administrator at a variety of institutions. She contributed significantly to the areas of rare books and special collections, serving most recently as the associate director and chief librarian at The Getty Research Institute. Upon retirement in 2011, Dr. Allen applied her expertise to the ongoing operation and success of the California Rare Book School, where she serves as director, and The Ella Strong Denison Library at Scripps College, where she is interim director.

Her professional association work, primarily in ACRL, led to the creation of best practices for rare book security and communication between libraries, book dealers, and law enforcement. After completing her dissertation on Colonial American printers and receiving a Ph.D. from UCLA in 1996, Dr. Allen continued to publish on printing history, becoming a prominent writer in this area. In addition to her professional and scholarly contributions, she also created The Old Town Press, a fine printing press, and exhibits as a book artist.

Beverly Lynch (PhD'73) nominated Dr. Allen for this award and compliments her by writing, "Dr. Allen's leadership qualities are enhanced by her gentle persuasive power, her fine sense of humor, the respect she shows for differing opinions, and her ability to bring seemingly intractable points of view to agreement. She does not call attention to herself, but she probably should." SLIS is happy to call attention to Dr. Allen's many achievements by honoring her as a Distinguished Alumna. Dr. Allen will receive her award at the spring graduation ceremony. ■



University Communications

JOIN THE BETA BETA EPSILON BOARD NOW!

Beta Beta Epsilon (BBE) is the UW–Madison SLIS chapter of Beta Phi Mu, the International Library and Information Studies Honor Society. The BBE board has open positions for Treasurer, VP for Membership, President-Elect, and President. All meetings are held online and involvement is a great way to demonstrate your leadership skills. For more information, please contact Board President, Susie Seefelt Lesieutre at seefeltles@gmail.com.

SEND NEWS FOR JOTTINGS:

alumni@slis.wisc.edu
slis.wisc.edu



First-year students in the library, left to right: Jessica McCarlson, Mindi Popovich, Meg Kaster, and Mariah Smitala

The Future of the SLIS Library

Since its inception, the SLIS Library has been an important space for learning, socializing, and appreciating our view of Lake Mendota. Over the last several years, library staff has been committed to building upon this tradition. Services and programs have been expanded to establish an even more vibrant and inclusive community where students, faculty, and staff come to learn, connect, and create.

We Need Your Support!

To continue to adapt and inspire, the library needs to update its space and technology—all while maintaining the beautiful lake view.

Proposed Improvements

- Create a dedicated space for hands-on, experiential learning
- Add individual and collaborative work spaces with views of Lake Mendota
- Create enclosed quiet study areas for use by SLIS and partners across campus

Contribute!

The Charles Bunge Facilities Support Fund is accepting donations to improve the SLIS Library. Visit slis.wisc.edu/slisp/support-slis/ today.

RECENT SLIS LIBRARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Expanded Community Space

The SLIS Library is actively working to create a strong sense of community in the library. For example, every week students meet to play games in the library, host student organization meetings, and exchange ideas. The library has become a reinvigorated space where students find a sense of home and belonging.

In Fall 2016, the library began pursuing new initiatives focusing on inclusivity and diversity. The library will be hosting an event on unconscious bias in Spring 2017, and is identifying other ways to create an inclusive and diverse space for all students.

“The SLIS library is like my grandmother. I go there to chat, for a warm blanket, and occasionally to ask for a splash of milk for tea. The staff is always trying to make sure everyone feels at home, and I am excited to be a part of the library as it grows.”

– Emmon Rogers, (MA'x18)

In addition, the library has reached out and worked with a number of campus groups including the English as a Second Language (ESL) program.



View of Lake Mendota

Bryce Richter, University Communications



Photo Credit?

Assistant professor Josh Calhoun and his English 804: Book Ecology students use the Text and Technologies Press.

“The SLIS Library has been intentional in making the library space open and welcoming to the ESL Program and its students. They provide traditional library services and computer resources, along with social activities and special training sessions, all of which have created a safe and nurturing community. We are looking forward to seeing the SLIS Library continue to grow, and are grateful for the services they provide to our students.”

– Heidi Evans, Faculty Associate, ESL

Campus Embraces the Text and Technologies Press

The SLIS Library has collaborated with the Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture to create the Text and Technologies Press. The Press consists of two 19th-century table top printing presses, and it was used in Fall 2016 by over 300 undergraduate students who learned how to set type and print. In Spring 2017, the Press will be used on projects from the English Department, SLIS, Wisconsin Public Television and Radio, LGBTQ Campus Center, and Madison Public Library. The Press recently won a UW–Madison Kemper-Knapp grant.

Rescue Analog Materials with RADD

In collaboration with Dorothea Salo, the library has also helped patrons interested in using RADD—a collection of hardware and software housed in the library designed

for digitizing at-risk analog materials. RADD has been used by both cultural institutions to preserve historical documents and individuals interested in preserving personal memories, including old journals saved on floppy disks and film negatives after an unexpected house fire. RADD recently received a UW–Madison Baldwin Grant and an IMLS Sparks Ignition grant.

“I don’t think any of the group projects I worked on could have been finished without the SLIS Library. It’s a hub and the center of the SLIS community. I just wish it had more space!”

– Catherine Hannula, (MA’x17)

Help us continue the tradition of the SLIS Library as a place for collaboration, innovation, and community. Your contribution will ensure the library’s space, services, and technology remain relevant to students as they develop and strengthen their professional skills.

Visit slis.wisc.edu/slisis/support-slisis/ to support the library with a donation to the Charles Bunge Facilities Support Fund today! ■

Alumni Profile: Janetta Pegues



Janetta Pegues (MA'14) has a long history in libraries. She lived across the street from the Austin Branch Library in Chicago for almost three decades and came to know the library as a place not only to get books, but as an important community space. Janetta was at the library so often that a staff person suggested she apply

for a job there. She did, and was hired as a page at the Harold Washington Library Center. Because Janetta took full advantage of what the library had to offer, she wanted to become a librarian to provide others with the same benefits.

After graduating from SLIS, Janetta became the branch manager at the Goodman South Madison branch of the Madison Public Library. For her service to the community, Janetta was recently awarded a Madison Magazine's M List Award for Mentors and Educators. Goodman South Madison serves one of the most diverse communities in Madison. Along with a wide variety of programs for children and families, the library also partners with local groups to provide free cell phones to eli-

gible patrons; with UW to offer writing assistance; and with the Literacy Network to teach computer classes.

As Janetta is the first Black manager within Madison Public Library, we asked her to share her thoughts on how to address the lack of diversity in librarianship. She writes, "I believe that we have to expose Black, Brown and other People of Color to librarianship at an early age. We need to write, blog, do career fairs, and tell our librarian path stories to everybody. I also think that ALA, PLA, WLA, and various associations must work with librarians of color to create opportunities for diverse people to enter the field." ■

Janetta's advice for aspiring public librarians

- Lead wherever you are.
- Start a study group, volunteer for a leadership post at church, school, or with an organization you are passionate about.
- Be a fearless, excellent risk-taker and seize opportunities.

New Diversity Scholarship Fund Honors First African American Graduate

SLIS is proud to announce the new **Louise Elizabeth Butler Walker Memorial Diversity Scholarship Fund** that focuses specifically on recruitment of underrepresented populations to the field of librarianship. Thank you to the founders of the fund, each of whom has pledged \$5,000 or more toward the scholarship's endowment:

- Susan Brynteson
- Veronica "Ronnie" M. Gillespie
- Louise S. Robbins
- Beacher J. Wiggins
- Christine S. Windheuser
- Jennifer A. Younger

Please consider making a gift to the Butler Walker Diversity Scholarship fund here: <http://go.wisc.edu/71vh70>

Interested in giving at the Founder level of \$5,000 or more over five years? Contact SLIS Director Kristin Eschenfelder, eschenfelder@wisc.edu

Louise Butler Walker ('35) was the first African American graduate of SLIS. Ms. Walker attended UW from 1931–1935, and obtained her B.A. and library diploma concurrently with Phi Beta Kappa honors. She worked as a young adult/children's librarian in Wisconsin from 1954–1969, and passed away in 2000.



Dr. Chi-Shiou Lin named Director of LIS at National Taiwan University



Dr. Chi-Shiou Lin (PhD '07), was recently named Director of the Department of Library and Information Science at National Taiwan University (NTU). Dr. Lin earned his Ph.D. in 2007 and worked in the SLIS Library as a project assistant in cataloging.

After graduating from SLIS, Dr. Lin continued doing research in government information and social informatics at NTU. At the same time, he joined a senior faculty's research team and began conducting bibliometrics (or infometrics) studies.

Professional LIS education in Taiwan begins at the undergraduate level. NTU is the only LIS department in Taiwan that offers undergraduate, master's, and Ph.D. degrees, and is particularly strong in infometrics research. Like SLIS, NTU's faculty comes from very diverse academic backgrounds, and the department has friendly relationships among faculty, staff, and students.

Lately, Dr. Lin's research interests have shifted to the broad area of scholarly communication. He recently completed a survey of the predatory open access journals that portray the chronological, subject, and geographical distribution of the suspicious publications. He also did studies on the requirements and performance of abstracts for social sciences and humanities research work. Now Dr. Lin is researching social scientists' usage of datasets acquired from external sources and their data use/citation behavior.

Dr. Lin says he greatly benefited from the emphasis on print culture in SLIS. He has been collaborating with colleagues from the departments of foreign literatures and Taiwanese literatures and his master's advisees to study the readership of Boys' Love and mystery fiction. He describes these as his "fun" projects in addition to the "serious" scholarly communication.

Dr. Lin misses the small, cozy SLIS Library, SLIS Commons, and the library workroom; the Terrace and the Rathskeller; the regular beer nights he had with fellow Ph.D. friends; and the very supportive atmosphere in the Ph.D. program. In Taiwan, he enjoys living close to his parents and beloved nephew and hanging out with his students.

Michele Besant (MA'86, PhD'99), associate director and SLIS library director, remembers Dr. Chi-Shiou Lin:

"Shiou worked as a project assistant in the SLIS Library and would come in and work away, not an idle chatterer. However, he was also a lot of fun and very willing to participate in things like a book cart drill team for the SLIS Variety Show. One silent auction, he donated a very popular pot sticker cooking lesson which took place in the old Commons set up with electric burners. We were both relieved when we didn't blow any breakers! Mostly when I think of Shiou, I think of his great smile! He was a super colleague whom I still miss having on the floor." ■



ALUMNI PRESENT AT POWER UP!

The very first Power Up conference for youth services leaders took place in Madison on March 30-31.

SLIS hosted the conference and it was great to see so many alums in the program!

- Shawn Brommer, (MA'95)
- Kelsey Johnson-Kaiser, (MA'13)
- Amy Commers, (MA'08)
- Katie Kiekhaefer, (MA'07)
- Sharon Grover, (MA'86)
- Leah Langby, (MA'94)
- KT Horning, (MA'82)
- Liz McChesney (MA'88)



Courtney Becks (MAx'17) spent her summer practicum at the Stony Island Arts Bank, a hybrid gallery, media archive, library, and community center in Chicago. Her projects included working with a collection of 4,000 cultural depictions of Black Americans and creating an engagement plan. The highlight of Courtney's practicum was First Lady Michelle Obama's visit to the Arts Bank. Courtney presented a poster on her experience at the ARLIS/NA conference in New Orleans.



Wei Zhang (MAx'17) spent the summer of 2016 in San Gemini, Italy, learning the theories and techniques of paper preservation from European experts. During the program, students gained hands-on experience on the basic skills required for restoration of paper media while working on original materials (from the 16th to 19th centuries) in local archives.



"As a library director, I have had the opportunity to bring two SLIS graduates to my library's team. Their passion, creativity, leadership skills and technical expertise are a wonderful reflection of SLIS's mission to educate dynamic, committed library leaders."

-Betsy Bleck

The SLIS Team at the Oconomowoc Public Library, left to right: Jennie Fidler (MA'14), special services librarian; Caitlin Schaffer (MA'13), youth services librarian; Betsy Bleck (MA'08), director



Diane McAfee Hopkins was inducted into the Wisconsin Library Hall of Fame at WLA in Milwaukee on October 27, 2016. Dr. Hopkins was on the faculty from 1987–2002, and is widely known for her scholarly contributions to school library media services and intellectual freedom. Her articles remain important sources for LIS students across the U.S.



Molly McBride (MA'16) took part in the Audiovisual Preservation Exchange (APEX) in Santiago, Chile. She worked with an international group, inspecting and cataloging home movies from prominent Chileans, some in rare formats, at the Biblioteca Nacional de Chile, among other projects. A donation from Patricia Coatsworth made the trip possible.



Emily Huang (MAx'17) spent the summer of 2016 at the Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center of Purdue University Libraries. She worked on a project to standardize and document work processes and provide a platform to organize metadata and digitization work. Her work produced a document that included reformatting guidelines, metadata workflow, and metadata guidelines.



Professor Ethelene Whitmire is spending the academic year in Denmark on a Fulbright Award, studying African American culture there. Here she is in Esbjerg, a city that African Americans toured and performed in during the 1930s.

Class News and Notes

Sammy Jackson (MA'16) is now the Young Adult Services Librarian at New Berlin Public Library.

Stephanie Heyroth (MA'12) is the Librarian and Information Professional at Nevada State Legislature.

Jaime Healy-Plotkin (MA'04), cataloger at the Wisconsin State Law Library, was recently elected President of the Madison Public Library Board.

Paula Seeger (MA'01) took a new job at the University of Oregon Architecture & Allied Arts Library.

Mireille Djenno (MA'00) has been named African Studies librarian with the Indiana University Bloomington Libraries.

Rhonda K. Gould (MA'96) is chairing the 2016 Randolph Caldecott committee, and is the past president of ASCLA. In addition to consulting work, she also volunteers at the Gates Art Center Library at the Tacoma Art Museum.

Bob Nyboer (MA'87) has recently retired after almost 30 years of work! After graduating, he worked at Pikes Peak Library District as a reference librarian until 1993, when he began working at Longmonth Public Library as the Head of Adult Services.

Mary Kay Feltes (MA'77) retired as Director of Owatonna Public Library in October 2016. She also served as Director in Independence, WI; Children's Librarian at Winona (MN) Public Library; and Children's Librarian/Assistant Director at Owatonna before becoming Director in 2007. ■



LIS 201: THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

Who owns a selfie taken by a monkey? The owner of the camera who put equipment into position, adjusted the camera settings, and put finishing touches on the photograph? The monkey that placed itself in front of the camera, looked into the lens, smiled, and pressed the button? No one? That's a conundrum faced by a wildlife photographer who licensed a picture of a crested macaque to a news agency, but had the picture shared without permission. The photographer of course wants fees for use of the picture, but others claim that he cannot own a picture created by a non-human primate.

Ownership of digital artifacts (e.g., what ownership means, who has ownership rights, how those vary across national boundaries, how those are limited, what are penalties for violations) is one of many questions that arise in LIS 201: The Information Society, an undergraduate course currently taught by associate professor Alan Rubel. NOTE: A U.S. federal court dismissed a case seeking to assign copyright to the monkey. The monkey is appealing.

Anjali Bhasin, public services librarian, in conjunction with Jonathan Senchyne, was recently awarded a \$5,000 Kemper-Knapp grant for the Text and Technologies Press. Anjali will also present a poster at the 2017 ACRL conference.

Kyung-Sun “Sunny” Kim, professor, published a paper with Sei-Ching Joanna Sin (PhD ’09): “Use and evaluation of information from social media in the academic context: Analysis of gap between students and librarians” in *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*. She was an invited keynote speaker to The 2nd International Conference on Information Acquisition and Knowledge Services.

Meredith Lowe, outreach specialist, coordinated the first ever Power Up Conference for Youth Services Managers and Staff. The conference was held in Madison on March 30–31, and was attended by more than 100 youth services librarians and staff from throughout the country.

Omar Poler, outreach specialist, continues to coordinate Growing Great Lakes Culture Keepers, an IMLS-funded effort that provides project-based learning opportunities for SLIS students and tribal librarians, archivists, and museum curators. Participants are developing a collaborative traveling exhibition that will tell a story of tribal resilience, due for completion in late 2018. He also serves as President of the American Indian Library Association.

David Price in the front office celebrated five years with the department. He is busy scheduling student visits, events, and classes, and keeps students informed by maintaining the SLIS Digest.

Dorothea Salo, faculty associate, secured an Ira and Ineva Reilly Baldwin Wisconsin Idea Endowment grant to digitize audiovisual materials from Mineral Point, Delavan, Cedarburg, Langlade County, and Madison. She also won an IMLS grant to build portable, shippable audiovisual digitization and digital-data rescue kits. She was a finalist for the Digital Library Federation’s first Community/Capacity Awards, for building technological and professional capacity to rescue data from obsolete media.

Jonathan Senchyne, assistant professor, has published articles related to print culture and digital humanities this year in *Debates in the Digital Humanities 2016* (University of Minnesota Press) and the journal *Book History*. Forthcoming work will appear in *Technology and Culture* and *PMLA*. In 2017–18, he will be the Pine Tree Foundation Distinguished Visiting Fellow in the Future of the Book in a Digital Age at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Debra Shapiro, faculty associate, taught Code & Power, developed by Tracy Lewis-Williams, Computer Science faculty associate, in which students learn about experiences of minorities and women in technology, and how to code. Next up: Digital Image Archiving, a new course exploring how cultural heritage institutions, researchers, and individuals manage and preserve born-digital images.

Catherine Arnott Smith, associate professor, will spend Spring 2017 analyzing data, in conjunction with the National Library of Medicine, from a very recent survey of public library workers in 20 states regarding the challenges and successes of public libraries during enrollment periods for the Affordable Care Act. She was coauthor of a paper about the use of virtual reality environments for health information management that won the Best Scientific Paper Award at the 13th annual International Congress in Nursing Informatics. She was also second author, with doctoral candidate Rachel Williams, of “Constructing the information ground of the campus disability center” in *Library & Information Science Research*.

Ethelene Whitmire was a keynote speaker at Denmark and African American Culture, a symposium at the University of Copenhagen in September. She was also a Fulbright scholar at the same institution during Fall 2016 in the Center for Transnational American Studies. During her semester she conducted research for her new book project, *Searching for Rainbows: African Americans in Denmark in the 20th Century*. Whitmire presented a talk on the subject in November 2016 at the Black Portraiture[s] III: Reinventions: Strains of Histories and Cultures in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Rebekah Willett, assistant professor, published two journal articles about children’s online gaming, in *Children’s Geographies*, and *Learning, Media and Technology*, and one article about library makerspaces in *Library Quarterly: Information, Community, Policy*. She presented at conferences in Vancouver, Aalborg (Denmark), and Boston, and ran workshops at the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando. ■

In Memoriam

Robert Scott Odman (MA ‘03) passed away on December 26, 2016. He worked at St. Thomas University as a Business Reference Librarian. Scott’s first love was his family. He had a passion for photography, a love of books and learning, and a compassionate heart that led him to community service.



University Communications

SAVE THE DATES!

SLIS Commencement
SUNDAY, MAY 14

**SLIS Alumni & Friends Reunion
at ALA in Chicago**
SUNDAY, JUNE 25
5:30 – 7:30 P.M.

Quartino, 626 North State Street,
Chicago, IL 60654

All are welcome! Enjoy complimentary
hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.



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4. Most frequently banned author
5. First state to host the distance master's degree
8. Using C++, PHP, or Scratch

DOWN

1. Addition to the modern library
2. Formal first name of our beloved mascot
6. 1914 admission requirement
7. So many floppy disks! What to do?

