



NEWS

February 1996

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From the President's Desk

Caron Rollins

Continue the Experience

The LISAA executive would like to thank all those new and continuing members who have forwarded their 95/96 dues. Your dues allow us to continue our mandate of supporting the School through our scholarship, receptions, and the school's annual fund raising project. This year, the School has targetted two projects.

Donations received in 1995/96 will assist with the costs associated with design and printing of a new recruitment package and the purchase of a Web server. Dr. Ward has provided more information on the Web server elsewhere in this issue. During October, the Executive and the School arranged that the value of our scholarship be formally capped at \$1000.00. This will allow us to reach our goal of funding a second scholarship sooner. Our Vice-President Della Jacobsen, and our 1st year student representative (and scholarship winner) Lori Van Roijen, are making plans for a new look for *LISAA News*, commencing with the September issue.

The executive is also investigating ways to reduce some of our annual expenditures on postage and printing. Executive members have contributed to this reduction by moving to the use of email for the sending and receiving of messages, documents, notices, and minutes amongst us. Notices of LISAA events are also being posted on

the Internet. Look to the column "Where in the World Wide Web is LISAA" in this issue.

Plan on attending the School's Professional Development Day, to be held this year on 8 March (see notice on page 2). Join LISAA's "Welcome to the Profession Reception" held at the end of this day. This reception is hosted annually LISAA for the new graduates of the program. The school expects there will be 32 graduates in the 1996 class - do come and meet them. One of these graduates is an executive member, LISAA's second year student representative Erika Radenovich-Banski. This will be Dr. Sheila Bertram's last Professional Development Day as Director and Faculty member of the School; Dr. Bertram is retiring in June, having been with the School since 1970, and Director/Dean since 1987. A celebration in her honour will be held on Saturday 22 June. Watch for further details in the next *LISAA News*.

LISAA's annual general meeting will be held in May, the specific date to be announced in our next issue of *LISAA News*. Nominations are needed for our 1996 Distinguished and Honourary Alumni Awards. LISAA recognizes the professional accomplishments of alumni and supporters through Honourary Memberships, and the Distinguished Alumni Award. We need your input!!!

SLIS Student News

First Year Student Report

Lori Van Rooijen

Students successfully completed the first term of the School of Library and Information Studies (known unofficially as the hardest and most gruelling term) and are now back into full course work after a much needed Christmas break. Only 2 of the 4 courses for full-time enrollment are required courses allowing for some choice along personal interests. Some students are now actively looking for summer employment in order to gain valuable experience in the field, others are planning to take courses during both spring and summer sessions in the hopes of perhaps finishing by the end of the fall semester or to lessen the work load of the second year. From now until the beginning of the second year promises to be a busy one!



Second Year Student Report

Erika Radenovich-Banski

Students are back to finish their last term in the program before embarking on their new careers as librarians (information specialists, workers, brokers, etc.). The last semester is always hard as students must do course work as well as to start looking for work. The real life that many students will face soon is both hopeful and frightening. Most of the students have part-time jobs in the field, others are gaining experience through the practicum. The school re-invented the practicum program and we are very grateful to have the opportunities provided by it.

Professional Development Day 1996

The SLIS Professional Development Day Conference will be held on Friday 8 March 1996. The Conference will take place in University Hall from 9:00 to 4:00, and will be followed by the "Welcome to the Profession Reception" hosted by LISAA in Henderson Hall. This year's theme is "Re/Searching: the LIS Profession" and the focus is on research conducted by both students and professionals. Our keynote speaker will be Sarah Pritchard, Director of Smith College Libraries in Northampton, Massachusetts. Ms. Pritchard's areas of interest and expertise range from library management and administration, to technical services and automation, to Women's Studies and women in librarianship, to international library development. She has been asked to speak at the PD Day Conference on linking and balancing research and practice in our field. Her attendance is sponsored by the Graduate Students' Association.

Welcome to the Profession Reception 8 March, 1996

All Alumni and supporters are invited to attend the **Welcome to the Profession Reception** following the Professional Development Day. LISAA sponsors this reception to be held in Henderson Hall (1-17 Rutherford South) beginning at 4:00. Please join us to eat, drink, and be merry, but most importantly to meet and welcome the profession's newest graduates.

Distinguished Alumni Award 1995

Pat Cavill, Class of 1970, was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award at the Wine and Cheese Reception for Calgary Alumni held on October 26, 1995. Since 1970 Pat has had an exciting and diverse career in libraries and information. Currently she operates her own business, Cavill Consulting, and as Past-President of CLA is Chair of the Library Advocacy Now training project. In her acceptance speech, rather than looking back, Pat outlined her path for the future. Reprinted here with permission is her speech.

I would like to say how much I appreciate this recognition from the Alumni Association, and as I look back over my 25-year career, I see someone who has mostly had the good fortune to do what I wanted to do, and if it has made a difference, then I am truly thrilled.

I said that I mostly have done what I wanted to do. What many of you won't know is that I started library school with the intention of being a children's librarian. I was totally enamoured with the field of children's literature, and most particularly, illustrators. In fact, in the yearbook from 1969-70, it was predicted that I would some day win the Amelia Frances Howard Gibbon Award for Canadian children's book illustration. I seem to have failed miserably in following my chosen path. Perhaps this award is also recognizing the person least able to stay the course.

It goes without saying that I have certainly enjoyed the many detours.

Here's my latest one. The kind of work that I do as a library consultant has put me in touch in a much more meaningful way

with many library users. Without exception, users of public, university, and special libraries have told me that what they value the most about their libraries are the skills and expertise of librarians. Users are telling me that they need librarians now more than ever before, which is ironic in an environment that sees downsizing of a pretty serious nature and the closing of libraries altogether.

In an excellent article in the latest issue (October 1995) of *American Libraries*, Robert Gross and Christine Borgman say, and I quote "In the current enthusiasm for the information superhighway, the larger purpose of libraries risks being lost. Electronic technology is driving the decision making too aggressively without sufficient attention to the institutional context. Information seekers, in turn, are being tempted to reduce the library to a mode of rapid access and rapid retrieval, forgetful that the bibliographic and conceptual skills essential to pursuing knowledge cannot be sustained or learned through a brief experience at an on-line terminal." The article is called "The Incredible Vanishing Library" and I commend it to you. It reflects my greatest hopes and fears.

For the next 15 years or so of my career as a librarian, my path is clear. I will dedicate my efforts to turning library users and anyone else who will listen, into library advocates, partners in the cause of public access to information as a basic democratic right and sustaining the mission of libraries as institutions which connect people with the books and other resources they need for their education and enjoyment.

I will take every possible opportunity - this being one of them - to talk about library advocacy and the need to expand our core supporters to include key leaders in our

communities, on our campuses, in our schools and corporate offices. We must convince these leaders to exercise their influence on our behalf. It is satisfied library users, voters and opinion leaders whose voice will carry the most weight with decision-makers. And as Gross and Borgman state "it will surely not suffice to campaign for the old-style institution as it was. A new conversation is necessary among librarians, library users and officials responsible for funding libraries to ensure that the library of the future serves the intellectual needs of diverse users and fields...even home shopping requires informed customers."

The first meeting of a national group of "advocacy champions" meets this time next month. Watch for further information on a national library advocacy training program, and support it whatever way you can.

Thank you for this award and for the soap box that you didn't know came with it. I love and respect this profession and this award from alumni is pretty special. Thank you.

The Distinguished Alumni Award was established to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the School, and is presented annually to a graduate who has made a significant contribution to the profession. If you know a graduate who should be considered for this award, please forward their name to Caron Rollins or Dr. Bertram, care of SLIS, 3rd floor, Rutherford South, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB T6G 2J4.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

Dr. Sheila Bertram

The School is in the midst of another busy year. In place of (what seemed to be) an annual review of some sort, this year we have a RENOVATION. The library is moving the circulation and reference functions from the second floor to the first floor of Rutherford North, integrating the periodicals with the monographs, and closing the circulation desk in Rutherford South in order to treat their parts of the two buildings as one. As a result (mutually agreed), the School has to be 'closed off' from the Library. Changes will include: improving the entrance to the School, the addition of bathrooms on the first floor, giving up the Carrell room on the first floor for (much better) space on the second floor, and a rebuilt LAN server room. It also means that new stairs have to be built, so we can all get to the third floor (since the old stairs are in the library part of the building). Finally some changes will need to be made to existing rooms to accommodate new traffic patterns in the lab (since it becomes the only way to get to Henderson Hall) and in classroom 3-22 (since that is where the stairs end up). So we might look quite different the next time you visit!

Professor Toni Samek, who has been with us on a half-time appointment for the past two years, joins the School in a full-time position beginning July 1 - she will be teaching in the areas of reference, online searching, collection management. Dr. Dianne Oberg has settled into her 2/3 appointment - in addition to the school library courses, she has assumed responsibility for the introductory management course and the first year of the new practicum course. We certainly appreciate all her contributions to the School and the program. Sessionals this

year include Dr. Brundin (buildings), Linda Cook (personnel/financial management, marketing) Jeannine Green (history of the book), David Leonard (history of the record), Pat Waterton (systems), and Gail de Vos (storytelling). The Internet course was taught by Dr. Montgomerie from Educational Psychology, one term as an LIS course, one term as a EDPSY course. Dr. Catriona de Scossa and Dr. Robin Inskip are still on long term disability. Dr. Sheila Bertram will be retiring at the end of June, having been given an offer she couldn't refuse.

School Web Server

Dr. Dennis Ward

The World Wide Web (also known as WWW, or just The Web) is the newest and most exciting way of distributing information on the Internet. Building Web pages is relatively simple, and the resulting documents may be viewed using practically any computer that can be attached to the Internet. With the development of browsers like Mosaic and Netscape it has become possible to display images and text from Web servers belonging to universities and other organizations throughout the world.

The staff and students of the School are taking advantage of this new way of providing information. The students have been building Web pages in their courses, including guides to information located on the Internet. A number of them have set up their own homepages, and have been exploring the capabilities of new developments in HTML, the language used to create Web pages. Staff members are planning to establish searchable versions of databases on the Web, as well as providing information about our program and research through a School Web Page.

The page is at <http://www.ualberta.ca/dept/slis/homepage/slis.htm>. It was designed by Gail Mazure (MLIS '95). Suggestions for additions, improvements, etc. can be sent to Dr. Ward (dward@slis.ualberta.ca).

Currently these Web documents are mounted on the University's Web server, which has served well as a provider of "standard" Web pages. Unfortunately that server is not capable of supporting more advanced documents and services like searchable documents, Web conferencing etc.

Hence the School is planning to set up its own Web server. The only roadblock is the lack of a suitable PC. Capital funding for the purchase of new computers has become almost nonexistent in recent years. We hope to buy a Pentium PC with 16 megabytes of memory and a 1 gigabyte hard drive. A good quality machine in this class can be obtained for about \$2000, and should provide us with excellent Web service for several years into the future.

Any contributions to assist in the purchase of our Web server would be gratefully received. Please send your donations to the School at 3-20 Rutherford South, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB T6G 2J4. A tax receipt will be supplied by the University.

Where in the World-Wide-Web is LISAA?

University of Alberta Alumni Association Home Page

<http://www.quasar.ualberta.ca/alumni>
under heading Constituent Alumni Associations

Foothills Library Association Home Page

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/~tull/fla/assn.html>
under heading Library Associations

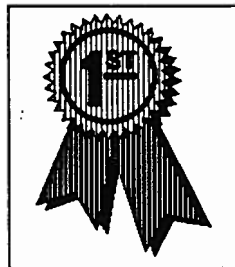
Edmonton Freenet

Select Edmonton Net Pages from the main directory, then select, in order:

- Associations and Organizations
- Business and Professional
- Librarians, Information
- Professionals and Technicians
- Library & Information
- Studies Alumni Association

Brundin LIS 503 Prize

On Wednesday, January 23, Professor Emeritus Dr. Robert Brundin presented the first Brundin LIS 503 Prize to Michael Sambir, a student in the first year of the MLIS program. The Prize was made possible through the contributions made to the School in honour of Dr. Brundin when he retired last year. It is awarded to the top student in LIS 503, the introductory reference course, which was taught by Dr. Brundin for 20 years.



Third Annual Management Workshop
PARTNERSHIPS AND PARTNERING

Presented by Karen Caesar, HOPE Learning Systems Ltd.

Saturday, February 10, 1996
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Room 3-22, Rutherford South

"We are entering an age of unreason, a bewildering new world where change has no pattern and being unreasonable is not only an asset but a survival skill. It is a time when leaders of every stripe must think upside down, inside out and backward to cope with a highly illogical environment. It is a time of great risk but also of great opportunity." (Charles Handy, 1990)

For the past several years the Alberta library community has spoken about the impact of change and how it will effect our profession, our individual workplaces and our individual roles. It is clear we must begin to explore new and different ways of thinking, of working and developing strategies to forge new partnerships. We need to move away from our "business as usual" mindset and become more creative, more innovative and more collaborative in our approach if we want to survive and thrive.

This workshop will provide you with an opportunity to explore:

- The role of partnering and strategic alliances.
- Strategies and skills to develop coalitions.
- Entrepreneurial skills.
- Changing our mindset, our image and our attitudes.
- Creative problem solving - blue skying.

The day is designed to be highly involving and interactive. Come prepared to have an enjoyable learning experience in creative thinking.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Please register me in the **Partnerships and Partnering** Workshop. My registration fee of \$30.00 is attached, made payable to the:

School of Library and Information Studies, 3-20 Rutherford South
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J4

The deadline is February 3rd, 1996 and the enrollment is limited to 40.

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

SPRING/SUMMER 1996

Courses Of Interest

SPRING SESSION

LIS 517 May 6 - Jun 12	Government Publications 6:00 - 9:10 pm MW	Suzan Hebditch Rm 3-01 Ruth S
LIS 598 May 7 - Jun 11	Special Topics: Advanced Archives 6:00 - 9:10 pm TR	David Leonard Rm 3-01 Ruth S
ED ES 401 May 6 - Jun 12	Multi-Media Texts for Children & Adolescents 6:30 - 9:40 pm MW	Margaret Mackey Rm 3-82 Ed
ED ES 445 May 7 - Jun 11	Canadian Literature for Young People in Schools and Libraries 6:00 - 9:10 pm TR	Gail De Vos Rm 2-137 Ed N

SUMMER SESSION

LIS 201 Jul 8 - Aug 14	Survey of Children's Literature 6:00 - 9:10 pm MW	Gail De Vos Rm 3-22 Ruth S
LIS 594 Jul 9 - Aug 13	Records Management 6:00 - 9:10 pm TR	David Leonard Rm 3-01 Ruth S
LIS 598 Jul 8 - Aug 14	Special Topics: Preservation & Risk Management 6:00 - 9:10 pm MW	Merrill Distad Rm 3-01 Ruth S
ED ES 501 Jul 8 - Jul 25	Technology for Teacher-Librarians 10:30 am - 12:55 pm M - F	Kaye Steward Rm 3-27 Ed
ED ES 541 Jul 8 - Jul 25	School Library Collection Development 1:30 pm - 3:55 pm M - F	Dianne Oberg Rm 3-27 Ed

** For further information, please contact the SLIS office at **492-4578** **