



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER
FALL 2013



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Greetings from the President

Greetings fellow Alumni, I am very pleased to share with you yet another installment of our newsletter. The executive is busily preparing for our annual Alumni Brunch coming up this September 28th, where we will be giving out two awards: the Distinguished Alumni Award to Kathleen De Long and the Honourary Alumni Award to Margaret Law. I encourage all who can, to attend and celebrate these two very deserving recipients.

Our student representative Katy Moore has also written an excellent article to inform you of the new Online MLIS that is starting its inaugural semester this fall. This is a very exciting time for SLIS and for the MLIS in Canada.

LISAA is currently looking for someone to join our executive as secretary treasurer. Thane Chambers has served her term (two years) admirably and unfortunately cannot continue to serve until the position is filled. If you are considering applying for the position but still have questions about the responsibilities etc. please feel free to contact me and I can answer any of your questions.

Best wishes for a great fall!

Hanne Pearce

LISAA Newsletters Now Archived in ERA Institutional Repository

We are pleased to announce that the LISAA newsletter archive is now available online. Forty-eight newsletters from 1986 to 2013 can be found in the University of Alberta Library's Education and Research Archive at

<http://hdl.handle.net/10402/era.33041>.

Thank you to Sharon Farnel, Interim ERA Manager and SLIS alum, for her work in digitizing the newsletters and setting up the collection.

This collection includes newly digitized print newsletters from LISAA's filing cabinet, as well as the more recent digital-only newsletters. This collection will be

updated as new newsletters are available, so that members can learn more about the history of the alumni association and past activities of our alumni.

You may note that this collection still has some gaps, especially from the pre-digital early years of the association. If any alumni have copies of missing newsletters, please let us know and we will arrange to have them scanned. We are hoping to make this collection as comprehensive as possible.

Dale Storie

Pictured to the right are front covers from LISAA newsletters 1986-2013

SLIS Re-Accreditation Approved by ALA

SLIS underwent a lengthy re-accreditation process over the course of 2012-2013. The American Library Association accreditation process includes the production of a lengthy Program Presentation document, interviews and meetings with an External Review Panel.

LISAA executive participated in Accreditation Council consultations and by jointly organizing an alumni gathering at SLIS, which coincided with the visit of the External Review Panel.

Earlier this summer in a letter posted to the Jerome-L listserv Interim Director Ernie Ingles announced the successful re-accreditation of the program. While the work of many faculty,

“BRAVO to all. SLIS is a great School, with a great program, overseen by great faculty, with great and supportive staff, yielding a great product which contributes the highest quality of practitioner placed into respective LIS communities.”

Ernie Ingles

support staff and alumni went into this success, the LISAA executive wanted to thank Ernie Ingles for his leadership in guiding SLIS to this achievement.

Hanne Pearce



The MLIS is Online

SLIS becomes the first library school in Canada to offer MLIS degree online

This year SLIS will welcome *two* new MLIS cohorts to its program: the regular on-campus cohort and the new online program cohort. Fifty new students from all over the world have enrolled in the new online MLIS program, and will sign on from countries as far-flung as Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, and the United States to join their Canadian colleagues in earning an ALA-accredited MLIS degree. Using a variety of online tools, including eClass (Moodle) for asynchronous instruction and Adobe Connect for synchronous interviews and lectures with faculty, online students will receive the same well-rounded education expected from the MLIS program in a 100% online environment.

The program owes much to the leadership and passion of Ernie Ingles, former Director of SLIS. According to Acting Director Anna Altmann, Ernie is “a visionary with a long history of outreach to rural Canadians. The online MLIS is just one in a long line of projects that Ernie has spearheaded to make library resources and services, and now professional librarianship education, available to underserved citizens.”

SLIS associate professor and program coordinator Jennifer Branch will be teaching LIS 501 for the first cohort, and all SLIS faculty members have committed to teaching in the online program as it progresses. The class requirements are the same for the online degree: each student will take LIS 501-505 and two IT courses, and will complete their credit requirements with online elective options, which will be initially more limited than the array of options on-campus students have for their electives. The students accepted to the online program have demonstrated a commitment to community-focused librarianship, and the new program reflects this emphasis. Current online options include Collection Management, LIS Services in a

Culturally Diverse Society, and Multimedia Literacies. New courses are now under development which will be applicable to the needs and interests of both online and on-campus MLIS students, including Human-Information Interaction (which is offered for the first time on-campus this fall by assistant professor Tami Oliphant), Planning and Assessment, Library Governance, and Global Information Professions.

Nearly all of the students accepted in the online program work full-time, with more than half currently working in libraries. The online program model was designed with this in mind, and most students will follow the 2-2-1-1 model (two classes in fall and winter terms, and one class in spring and summer terms). Of the 2013 cohort, 42 students will follow this model, with eight opting to take one class each term. Students are required to complete the program within six years.

The program is designed for MLIS students only, and therefore is not open for CE credit or professional development. If you know of anyone who would like to take advantage of this flexible ALA-accredited degree program, applications are currently being accepted for the 2014 cohort. For more information, visit the SLIS Online MLIS website: <http://www.slis.ualberta.ca/Programs/OnlineMLIS.aspx>.

Katy Moore

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❧ Class Notes ❧

Vicky Varga (2012) had the honor of being the project manager for an exciting initiative at the Edmonton Public Library this year: the installation of the Grant MacEwan Lending Machine! This project involved coordinating the procurement, installation, configuration, and staffing of a library materials vending machine, which has been installed at Grant MacEwan University.

Tasks included developing the RFP, selecting the winning bid, defining the project parameters in conjunction with the vendor and library IT, working with the facilities department at MacEwan to prepare the site for installation, and training staff in the ongoing maintenance of the machine. Vicky will happily field any questions about the project via email (vvarga@epl.ca).

Jennifer Sargent (2010) has been working in Cairo, Egypt as the head librarian at CLUSTER, for the CURL library

(<http://clustercairo.org/>). It is a unique and interesting collection dealing with architecture and urban planning. Her main responsibilities are cataloging, software development, and collection development.

Lisa-Jane Watson (1989) married Peter Schoenberg (UBC 1986, MLS) on August 24, 2013 in Edmonton. Lisa-Jane has been working for EBSCO Canada for over 23 years as the Regional Sales Representative for Western Canada. Peter continues to work at Edmonton Public Library as the Manager of Digital Literacy Services. The happy library couple resides in Edmonton.

Kenneth D. Gariepy (2006) has been appointed Head of the Library & Information Technology Department at the University of the Fraser Valley. An Assistant Professor in the department since 2012, Kenneth looks forward to his

new role as the academic and administrative head, which will include leading a comprehensive review of the unit's undergraduate library education programs.

Martina King (2009) Martina is pleased to have started a new position as Learning Commons Librarian with MacEwan University Libraries. Martina is delighted to apply her instructional and innovative service experience to this position, providing a framework of learning opportunities and services supporting students in their academic endeavors. If you are involved with providing extraordinary learning experiences and want to swap ideas, she invites you to get in touch: kingm10@macewan.ca.

We want to hear from you! Submissions for class notes are accepted year-round; please send them to communications@lisaa.ca



LISAA needs a Secretary-Treasurer

Following the AGM in 2013 LISAA has been without a secretary-treasurer. This position is a two-year term and involves taking minutes at LISAA meetings, keeping our Dropbox account organized and corresponding with University Alumni Affairs in regards to LISAA finances. If you are looking to add some community service or committee work to your resume this is your opportunity! The responsibilities of this position can be fulfilled from a distance; so living in the Edmonton Area is not necessary. Please contact Hanne Pearce for more information at president@lisaa.ca



LISAA Annual Alumni Brunch

LISAA is pleased to invite alumni back to SLIS for our annual Alumni Brunch. From 11am-2pm in Henderson Hall, please join us for pastries, fruit, coffee and the companionship of former classmates and faculty. The awards being presented at the brunch include:

Distinguished Alumni Award
KATHLEEN DE LONG

Honourary Alumni Award
MARGARET LAW

Please join us to celebrate the accomplishments of these two leaders in the library community!

LISAA Membership

In the past, alumni have been asked to make an annual donation of at least \$25.00 to be a member of good standing in LISAA. Now you may choose the newly adopted lifetime membership, for a one time low cost of \$75.00! Please print off and complete the membership form at: <http://bit.ly/LISAAmembership>

LISAA Executive 2013-14



President
Hanne Pearce
president@lisaa.ca



Immediate Past President
Dale Storie
pastpresident@lisaa.ca



Vice President / President Elect
CJ De Jong
vicepresident@lisaa.ca



Secretary / Treasurer
Currently Un-filled
secretary@lisaa.ca



Communications Officer
Leah Plouffe
communications@lisaa.ca



Katy Moore
2nd Year Student
Representative



bit.ly/LISAAUAlberta



@UAlbertaLISAA



bit.ly/LISAAfb