THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Although library science courses were taught far earlier, LIS marks its starting date as 1939, the year that the Department of Library Service was established in the College of Arts and Sciences. Various activities to celebrate the event are taking place throughout the year, starting with the highly successful convocation that took place in fall 2008. The history of library and information science education at the University has been updated and greatly expanded. The annual TLA alumni dinner, with the 70th anniversary as its theme, took place in April. On that occasion, LIS honored alumni with distinguished careers and others who are rising stars. Articles about each of these events follow.

Convocation

The College of Information celebrated its founding as a college and the 70th anniversary of library and information science education at UNT with a special evening event. Some 160 faculty, students, alumni and friends of the Departments of Library and Information Science (LIS) and Learning Technologies (LT) gathered for a reception and lecture at Discovery Park on November 13, 2008. Following Dean Herman L. Totten’s welcome, guests were greeted by UNT Provost Wendy K. Wilkins, LIS Alumni Society President Kathy Huber (LIS MS ’91), LIS Board of Advisor member Eva Poole, and students, Michelle Morris representing LIS and Tobye Nelson (LT MS ’99) representing LT.

The guest lecturer, Dr. Elizabeth Liddy, Dean and Trustee Professor, School of Information Studies at Syracuse University, was introduced by one of her former doctoral students, LIS faculty member Dr. Jiangping Chen. Dr. Liddy’s lecture was titled “NLP Research and the iSchool Vision: A Reprise.” Her information systems program at Syracuse University is ranked #1 in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

Prior to being named dean at Syracuse in February 2008, Dr. Liddy was founding director of the Center for Natural Language Processing, which advances the development of human-like language understanding software capabilities for government, commercial, and consumer applications. She has lead 65 research projects with funding from various government agencies, foundations, and commercial enterprises, authored more than 110 research papers, and given hundreds of conference presentations on her work. She was the founding president of TextWise LLC, which she lead from 1994 to 1999 in the development of a search engine ultimately used by the U.S. Patent Office. In addition, she is inventor or co-inventor on seven patents in the area of NLP.

LIS History

Library & Information Science Education at the University of North Texas: a Brief History, compiled by Margaret Irby Nichols, commemorates the 70th anniversary. The 28 page booklet includes summaries of course offerings in library education prior to the establishment of the Department of Library Service in the College of Arts and Sciences in 1939 and during the administrations of each of the seven directors and deans that followed. There are 58 additional historical notes and 105 photographs of individuals and groups, along with lists of administrators and faculty from 1939 to date, awards, and endowments. The history was distributed at the TLA alumni dinner and is available on request from Jurhee Curtis at jurhee.curtis@unt.edu or by mail at 1155 Union Circle 311068, Denton, TX 76203-5017.

On the Cover: Students with Dean Totten: Adam Poncy, Tobye Nelson, Credence Baker, Della Pan and Pok Chin

Photograph courtesy of Walter Eagleton

Annual TLA Alumni Dinner

The LIS dinner at the TLA annual conference, sponsored by the College Alumni Society, is traditionally a memorable occasion. This year’s event was no exception. Some 380 alumni enjoyed a delightful evening at the Houston Club with the 70th anniversary as the theme. The boisterous crowd mixed and mingled during the reception period and visited friends over dinner with a carousel of LIS historical photographs flashing in the background.

Following Dean Herman Totten’s welcome and introduction of special guests, College Alumni Society President Kathy Huber (LIS MS ’91) and President-elect Connie Moss (LIS MS ’92) presented awards to LIS graduates who have distinguished themselves in their careers. Those honored for their accomplishments and contributions to the profession were presented crystal awards. As each of the awardees was individually announced, a spotlight followed them to the stage as their photograph was displayed on the screen. (See biographical articles, pp. 3-5)
The mini drama that followed was the usual fun filled event, typical of LIS dinner entertainment. The library school recruitment episode titled “All You Do Is Check Out Books,” written by Melody Kelly and narrated by Eva Poole, was from the De-Lux Radio Theater of the Air, sponsored by McBee Cards, the Modern Digital Circulation Filing System and Library Paste Company (motto: “We’ve been stuck on you for years”). The cast included Kerry McGaeth as the dad urging his living at home daughter to get a library and information science degree to add to her several other degrees, Sashenka Lopez as the 32 year old millennial Facebook Tweeting daughter who has not found herself yet, Clarice Luce (MLS ’73) as Margaret Nichols - the oldest living graduate, Debby Jennings (MS ’74) as the 1970s graduate, and Dexter Evans as the millennial graduate. The musical arrangements, written for the occasion by Jessica Alexander (MS ’00), were sung by the cast to tunes such as “Help” by the Beatles and “Age of Aquarius.” The showstopper was a rip roaring hip hop rap about 21st century librarianship performed by Dexter Evans (MS ’93) with assistance by Eva Poole and Yvonne Chandler. Yvonne Chandler served as “image engineer.” Needless to say, the mini drama was a big hit that received a standing ovation.

### Lazerow Lecture

The third event honoring the LIS 70th anniversary was the 2009 ISI Samuel Lazerow Memorial Lecture sponsored by Thomson Scientific, a Thomson Reuters company, which took place on April 24, 2009, with some 85-90 faculty, students, and visitors in attendance. Dean John Unsworth, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, spoke on “Vernacular Computing and the iSchools,” His lecture concerned the impact of ubiquitous computing in our everyday lives, its implications for the future of higher education, and the contributions that schools of information are making as we grapple with both. Dr. Elizabeth Figa (LIS faculty), a graduate of the University of Illinois program, introduced the speaker. A reception preceded the lecture.

### 70TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL HONORS

#### Lifetime Achievement Award

Robert S. Martin (MLS ’79), Professor and Lillian Bradshaw Endowed chair (Retired), Texas Woman’s University, Denton, TX, was appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the Senate to serve as director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in 2001. During his four year tenure as director, the agency awarded 4,704 grants to America museums and libraries that totaled more than $899 million. In 2006, the Senate confirmed his presidential appointment to the National Council on the Humanities.

Dr. Martin has had an active role in international cultural affairs. He was a member of the U.S. Delegation to the UNESCO General Conference in 2003, 2005, and 2007, and was co-head of the U.S. Delegation to the UNESCO Intergovernmental Meeting on Cultural Diversity in Paris France in 2004 and 2005. In 2004, he served as head of the U.S. Delegation to the Organization of American States Intergovernmental Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities in Mexico City, and was a member of the U.S. Delegation to the World Summit on the Information Society in Geneva Switzerland in 2003. From 2003 through 2008, he served as a member of the U.S. National Commission on UNESCO and was a member of its Executive Committee and its Communication and Information Sector Committee.

Dr. Martin’s honors are numerous. In November 2008, he received the Presidential Citizens Medal, one of the highest honors the U.S. President can confer upon a citizen (See p.18). Other honors include Fellow of the Society of American Archivists, Texas Library Association Distinguished Service Award, LIS Outstanding Alumnus Award, University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science Distinguished Alumnus Award, Society of Southwest Archivists Distinguished Service Award, District of Columbia Library Association Ainsworth Rand Spoford Award, and the American Library Association Justin Winsor Prize. In May 2006, Dominican University conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters Honoris Causa.

He also has authored, co-authored, or edited several monographs. In addition to the MLS from SLIS, he holds a PhD in library science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a BA degree in history from Rice University.
Silver Star Awards

Sara Baron (MS ’96), Dean, Regent University Library, Virginia Beach, VA, has been employed in two additional academic institutions at which she has reached out to the community. At Regent University, she has presented events and programs demonstrating the relevance of the library to the educational mission of the institution. She was recently awarded a federal grant for Big Read, the National Endowment for the Arts program designed to inspire people across the country to pick up a good book. When Sara graduated in 1996, she received the Outstanding Student in Library Science Award.

Orella Brazile (MS ’82, PhD ’91), Professor and Library Director, Southern University at Shreveport (LA), where she has been located since 1968. She also has served the university as its interim vice chancellor for academic affairs. Her numerous awards include Outstanding Alumnus of Grambling State University (1989), State of Louisiana Governors Award for Literacy (1990), Southern University at Shreveport Administrator of the Year (1993-94), and National Association of University Women Woman of the Year (1994). In addition to her two degrees from UNT, she holds master’s degrees from the Texas A&M-Commerce and Southern University, and the BA from Grambling University.

Sharon Carr (BA ’64, MS ’89), Administrator, El Paso (TX) Independent School District Library Learning Resources, has held her current position since 1990. Her responsibilities include supervision of the 85 libraries in the El Paso ISD system. Before moving into her administrative position, she served 17 years as an elementary school librarian in the El Paso ISD. In her current position, she was responsible for the first network in the district, receiving a TIF grant of over $770,000 to put in an online catalog. She has been responsible for overseeing 24 new district libraries and multiple remodels. In 2005 Governor Rick Perry appointed Sharon to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. In addition to the BA and MS in library science from LIS, Sharon holds the Certificate in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at El Paso. In 2001, she was named the LIS Outstanding Alumni.

Nancy Clark (MLS ’78), Director, Library Network Office, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC, is responsible for some 150 VA hospitals throughout the country. Prior to assuming the duties of her current position, she served in VA hospital libraries in Arizona and North Carolina before returning to Texas in 1984 as chief of VA library services of the North Texas Health Care System. Her honors include VA Under Secretary for Health’s EEO Award for Special Emphasis Program Manager of the Year in 1993; Nancy A. Clark Leadership Award from the Federal Women’s Program Dallas/Fort Worth Council for 1993, an award named in her honor for which she received the first award; the Federal Women’s Program Dallas VA Medical Center Outstanding Woman Award for Leadership in 1995, and the Women’s Committee Dallas/Fort Worth Federal Executive Board Elizabeth Canfield Award.

Sylvia D. Hall-Ellis (MLS ’72), Associate Professor Library & Information Science Program, Morgridge College of Education, University of Denver, Denver, CO, has unique expertise in bibliographic databases, cataloging information systems, instructional design, and grant writing. She has more than 35 years of experience working in libraries as an administrator, development officer, and project manager. Dr. Hall-Ellis serves as the principal investigator for the IMLS funded project in law librarianship. In the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS), she is chairing the Task Force for the Education of Catalogers and is a voting member of the Resource Description and Access (RDA) Committee. She has published numerous technical reports, articles, and five monographs and has conducted major field-based research studies. Her PhD is from the University of Pittsburgh.

Cathy Hartman (MS ’91), Assistant Dean of Libraries for Digital and Information Technologies, University of North Texas, has received many honors, one of the most prestigious in 2007 when she was named a Digital Preservation Pioneer by the Library of Congress. The honor was bestowed in recognition for Cybercemetery, a project that archives expired federal Web sites and makes them permanently accessible to the public. Additionally, she partnered with the Texas Secretary of State Office in 2002 to archive back electronic issues of the Texas Register, which expanded to include the Texas Laws and Resolutions Archive. Other honors include the 2004 LIS Outstanding Alumnus Award, the 2007 American Association of Law Libraries Public Access to Government Information Award, and the 2007 Lexis/Nexis/GODART/ALA Documents to the People Award. She was named a Library Journal Mover and Shaker in 2004 (see p. 18). She is a past chair of the federal Depository Library Council, an advisory body to the head of the U.S. Government Printing Office on issues related to U.S. government information access policy. Cathy leads a very talented team of researchers and developers who are involved in a National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) grant, an IMLS funded research project, and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) funded National Digital Newspaper Program to digitize Texas historical newspapers.

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FEATURES 4
Platinum Star Awards, continued from page 4

Lynnette Jordan (MLS ’78), Global Information Management Services Advisor, ExxonMobil Global Services Company, Dallas, TX, has spent the last 30 years in library and records management in international oil and gas consulting firms, several oil and gas companies, and management consulting firms. Currently, an in-house senior advisor at Exxon, she serves as a consultant on information management, a position that takes her to locations in 200 countries around the world to provide expertise and to lead assessment initiatives and implementation projects. Lynnette has long advocated an integrated approach to content and information management within corporate settings. She has served as a change agent for several companies and information partners by questioning conventional wisdom, promoting better processes, and advocating informed decision making. She has served on the VIP Board of Lexis-Nexis and in various capacities in the Special Libraries Association. She is a member of the LIS Advisory Board which she chaired in 2003-04.

Miriam Rodriguez (MS ’97), Assistant Director, Public Services, Dallas Public Library, Dallas, TX, an authority on multicultural services, was recently awarded the ALA-RUSA Zora Neale Hurston Award for her role in the South Dallas Book Fair and Festival and in promoting African American Literature (See p.19). She works with an array of local agencies, city departments, and civic groups to help bring library services to the people of Dallas. Having come to this country from Cuba in 1983, she understands that many immigrants come from countries with little tradition of public library services and that the downtown main library can be intimidating. She believes that taking the library to a neighborhood is a priority. Miriam was selected to attend the TALL Texas Leadership Institute (See p. 21) in 2001, was named a Library Journal Mover and Shaker in 2005 (See p. 18), and was the LIS Outstanding Alumnus in 2007.

Hilda G. Tagle (MLS ’71), United States District Judge, Southern District of Texas-Brownsville Division, Brownsville, TX, who was appointed to her position by President Bill Clinton in 1998, became the first Hispanic woman in Texas to serve as a U.S. District Judge. After receiving the BA in library science from East Texas State University and the MLS from LIS, Hilda served as a librarian at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory School in Houston for four years. She graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 1977 and began her legal career working for the Corpus Christi city attorney’s office and later as an assistant county attorney. In 1980 she entered private practice and taught law classes at Del Mar College for several years. When she was appointed a county court at law judge in 1985, she became the first female Hispanic judge to preside over a Nueces County Court and only the second in any Texas court of record. She has served on the State Commission on Judicial Conduct and was appointed by Governor Ann Richards to her Governor’s Commission for Women.

Rising Star Awards

Doug Achterman (PhD ’08), Library Media Teacher, San Benito High School, Hollister California & Adjunct Instructor, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA, has research interests including the impact of school library programs on student achievement, literacy and school libraries, youth search behaviors, and instructional technology; he has published a number of articles in these areas. He served as an English teacher from 1984 until 1998 before launching a new career as a library media specialist. Doug currently manages all functions of the school library program at San Benito High School, and coordinates with the principal and curriculum director to plan and facilitate staff development related to literacy, research, and technology. His awards include the 2008 California School Library Association President’s Award for Outstanding Library Media Teacher, 2007 San Jose State Library & Information Science Program Distinguished Alumnus Award, 1998 San Benito High School Teacher of the Year, and the 1998 Dorothy Wright Excellence in Teaching Award.

Susan Chandler (MS ’04), Coordinator of Outreach Services, Sterling Municipal Library, Baytown, TX, changed from teaching to a library career in 1997. She began as a part-time reference assistant at Fort Bend County System before moving up the para-professional ladder and eventually becoming the program coordinator for the Wallace-Reader’s Digest Funds Grant, Libraries as Partners in Youth Development and began the adult outreach program. For the past five years, Susan has been coordinator of Outreach Services at Sterling Municipal Library in Baytown where she supervises the library’s adult literacy program and coordinates outreach programming to the underserved at all levels, especially in the Hispanic population. She has written and received several grants such as ones from the Texas Book Festival and the American Dream Starts @ Your Library. She has been selected to
Rising Star Awards, continued from page 5

Matthew Cordon (MS ’01), Law Professor and Director of Legal Research, Baylor University Law School, Waco, TX, received the law degree from Texas Wesleyan University Law School in 1999 with distinctions such as the Dean’s List and Moot Court Honors Society. He began his library career as a reference librarian at the Southern Methodist University Underwood Law Library and later the Baylor University Law Library while pursuing the MS degree from LIS. Currently, he serves the Baylor University Law School as professor of law, director of legal research, and associate director of the law library. His honors include Outstanding Professor for Scholarship, American Association of Law Libraries Outstanding Article Award, and Law Day Award. The latter award was established by Matthew’s former students and named in his honor as the Matthew C. Cordon Excellence in Legal Research Award. Along with fellow LIS alumni Brandon Quarles (MS ’95), he has written two books: Researching Texas Law and Specialized Topics in Texas Legal Research.

Maribel Garza-Castro (MS ’03), librarian, St. Johns School, Houston, TX, is president-elect of the Texas Library Association and will serve as president in 2010-2011 (See p. 22). Before Maribel came to St. John’s, she worked as a librarian and library supervisor for the Houston ISD. Currently, she serves on several state and national committees and boards, including the TLA Executive Board as a Representative-at-Large, Transforming Texas Libraries Committee, and the American Association of School Librarians Board of Directors. She is an active member in REFORMA, ALA Association of Library Services to Children, the Houston Association of Independent School Libraries Network, and other professional organizations. She was one of 14 library advocates who participated in the 2008 ALA National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. In 2007, she received the E. Philip Cannon Teaching Award from St. John’s School.

Michele A. Lucero (MS ’04), Library Relations Manager, West, a Thomson Reuters Business, Los Angeles, CA, came to West after stints as a legal information manager with Houston and Las Vegas law firms. In her current position, she manages West’s Librarian Relations in Southern California, Arizona, Nevada, and Hawaii. A chapter about her is included in Celebrating Diversity: A Legacy of Minority Leadership in American Association of Law Libraries (Hein, Rothman, 2006). She participates actively in several law librarian associations including Southern California Association of Law Libraries where she serves on the Newsletter Committee, and as a member-at-large in the Private Law Libraries Section of the American Association of Law Libraries where she serves on the Special Leadership Development Committee. Michele holds an undergraduate degree in management and international business from the University of Nevada Las Vegas, the MS in legal informatics and the MBA in strategic management from UNT, and is currently pursuing the doctorate in organizational leadership from Pepperdine University.

Michelynn McKnight (PhD ’04), assistant professor, Louisiana State University School of Library and Information Science, Baton Rouge, LA, received two master’s degrees from the University of Illinois and a PhD from UNT. She began her career as a public librarian before serving 21 years as the director of the Health Science Library at the Norman (OK) Regional Hospital. Since graduation from UNT, she has published eight peer reviewed articles in journals such as the Journal of Documentation, Evidence-Based Librarianship, and the Journal of the Medical Library Association. Her published books include The Agile Librarian’s Guide to Thriving in Any Institution, Mathematics Education Research: A Guide for the Research Mathematician, and several book chapters. She has served on the board of the Medical Library Association and on the National Library of Medicine Biomedical Library and Informatics Review Committee. In 2007, she received a two-year grant from IMLS to fund her project titled “Investigating library and information services during community-based disasters; preparing information professionals to plan for the worst.”

Philip Lee Montgomery (MS ’05), Archivist and Special Collections Librarian, Woodson Research Center, Fondren Library, Rice University, Houston, TX, worked as a freelance journalist and with a variety of Texas newspapers before becoming an archivist and special collections librarian. After receiving the MS from UNT with a concentration in information organizations, he assumed duties at Rice where he had previously served as an assistant news director in the Office of Media Relations. His interests are in virtual networking environments such as Second Life, a virtual 3-D campus world imagined and created by its residents. (Hundreds of leading universities and school systems use it as a vibrant part of their educational programs — http://secondlife.com/whatsit/). He is involved in numerous projects to digitize archival resources using Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) and Data Envelopment Analysis (EAD). He is actively involved in library and archival organizations and is president of the Houston Area Archivists.

Michael Stephens (PhD ’07), Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Library & Information Science, Dominican University, River Forest, IL, spent some 15 years working in public libraries. While engaged in staff training, long-term planning, and management initiatives, he developed a passion for the practical applications of technology in libraries. In 2007, he published The Library Internet Trainer’s Toolkit; two years later, he launched his weblog, TametheWeb. He currently writes a monthly Library Journal column with Michael Casey, titled “The Transparent Library,” the column explores how trends and technologies can enhance libraries and make them participatory and open to change. He recently completed two ALA library technology reports on Web 2.0 and also created a graduate seminar on Library 2.0 theory and practice. Michael speaks nationally and internationally on libraries, technology, and innovation. In 2008 he completed a speaking tour of Australia, presenting seven talks in five cities. Michael received the 2009 Pratt-Severn Faculty Innovation Award from the Association of Library and Information Science Educators (ALISE) and was named a Library Journal Mover and Shaker in 2005 (See p. 18). At the 2009 TLA Conference in Houston he presented two programs: “Michael Stephens Talks Hyperlinked Libraries,” and “Top 10 Technologies and Ideas to Improve Library Productivity,” see p. 22.

Timothy Stettheimer (PhD ’02), Senior Vice President & Chief Information Officer, St. Vincent’s Health Systems/Ascension Health, Birmingham, AL previously served as a Regional Information Services Executive for Adventist Health System in Fort Worth, TX with responsibilities for all information technology needs of six acute care hospitals, associated long-term care facilities, and home health agencies. In his current position at St. Vincent’s Health System, he has responsibilities for strategic and tactical information technology initiatives for the flagship digital hospital of Ascension Health and acts as Regional Chief Information Officer for all Ascension Health ministries in the southeast. He has partnered with many information technology companies to demonstrate the value of specific technologies within a clinical environment. Timothy was recognized by the Birmingham Business Journal as one of the Top 40 Under 40 Award recipients. He also recently received the John E. Gall, Jr. CIO of the Year Award and is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and in the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives where he serves as board chair-elect. He recently was the focus for a feature cover story in Health Information Magazine. In addition to the PhD, he holds an MS in applied cognition and neuroscience from the University of Texas at Dallas.
As noted in this issue of Call Number, the designation of College of Information, Library Science, and Technologies (CILST) has been changed to College of Information (CI). As pointed out by Provost Wendy Wilkins, the name decided upon when the college was created was cumbersome; she suggested that a more precise name was needed. The faculties of both departments concerned, the Alumni Society Executive Board, and the LIS Advisory Board all agreed that a shorter name was needed and determined that the name College of Information conveyed the appropriate image. As of May 1, 2009, the College of Information, Library Science, and Technologies became officially the College of Information.

**CI RESEARCH CENTERS**

Three research centers are sponsored by the College of Information: Institute for the Integration of Technology into Teaching and Learning (IITTL), Texas Center for Educational Technologies (TCET), and Texas Center for Digital Knowledge (TxCDK).

IITTL, under the direction of Dr. Gerald Knezek, is chartered by the UNT Council of Deans to conduct research and implement best practices in the area of teaching and learning with technology. A number of grants have been received over the years. The most recent IITTL projects include a fund for the improvement of postsecondary education from Funds for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (IPSE), simMentoring Grant, and a National Science Foundation Disabilities Research Grant on Simulated Enhanced Training for Teachers (SETT).

IITTL has generated four books and more than a dozen refereed journal articles in the area of impact of information technology in education. Website: www.iittl.unt.edu

TCET, a statewide technology center funded in part by competitive grant programs and corporate donations, implements innovative research, development, evaluation, and training programs to improve technology applications education in Texas K-12 public schools. TCET has partnered with Midwestern University, Vernon College, North Central Texas College, Education Service Center 9, and Wichita Falls ISD on BEGIN, a 3-year $3 million Teacher Quality Enhancement Recruitment grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The grant serves people who are entering community colleges or universities with the intention of becoming teachers by offering scholarships, online mentoring and support, and opportunities to work in local schools. Regents Professor James L. Piorot is the center’s executive director. Website: www.tcet.unt.edu

TxCDK, under the direction of Dr. William E. Moen, is a University-sanctioned research and development center housed in CI. Its mission is to stimulate and support interdisciplinary research encompassing theoretical frameworks and practical applications that can enhance the creation, storage, organization, retrieval, use and evaluation of information in a wide variety of digital formats. The interdisciplinary center brings together faculty members from across campus with research interest in the area of digital knowledge. One of the commitments of TxCDK is to support and interact with the Interdisciplinary Information Science PhD program. Most recently, TxCDK and the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) received a $738,075 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The two-year project will advance understanding of the workflow and processes best able to increase access to and use of digitized biological collection metadata with the stakeholder communities comprised of biologists, natural history museum collections managers, biodiversity standards groups, and the library and information science community. Website: www.txcdk.unt.edu

**NEW TxCDK ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

Director Dr. William E. Moen appointed Kathryn Clodfelter as TxCDK Associate Director in December 2008. Kathryn comes to the Center from her native state of Indiana, where she has been working toward her PhD in Information Science, minoring in Social Informatics, at Indiana University Bloomington. Her research is on geographically-based community networks, particularly in rural areas. Kathryn holds a master’s degree in public administration from Arizona State University and a BA in psychology and French from Beloit College. At Indiana University, Kathryn taught the grant writing workshop for librarians, worked at the Grad-Grants Center for students, and wrote a successful grant proposal for the Office of Naval Research. In total, Kathryn helped obtain nearly $1 million in grant funding, including from the Community Foundation of Crawford County (IN), the Indiana Southern Seven Workforce Investment Board, the Southern Indiana Rural Development Project, and Access Indiana. Prior to undertaking her PhD, Kathryn served as a business systems analyst and technical writer in the pharmaceutical and music industries, non-profit organizations, government, and the military. She looks forward to helping researchers at the College of Information obtain the funding they need to pursue their research agendas.
THE DEPARTMENTS

MESSAGES FROM THE CHAIRS

Dr. Jeff Allen
Professor and Interim Chair
Learning Technologies

NEW CONFIDENCE

The Department of Learning Technologies has come through a turbulent three years of change with a stronger faculty and staff, stronger programs, and stronger sense of purpose. This academic year has been spent assessing our past successes and exploring future possibilities.

In 2009, I have had the opportunity to attend the iconference in Chapel Hill and the Texas Library Association conference in Houston. They gave me the opportunity to observe the research of our new colleagues and to reflect on collaborative possibilities within the diverse faculty of the College. I simply have concluded that our “possibilities” are immense. The School of Library & Information Sciences and the Department of Learning Technologies have created a new college that has the capability of shaping the direction of a global information society. We are still mere infants in our partnership. However, our shared roots are intertwined with the history of the University and we have a strong foundation on which to build our new partnership.

Within the Department of Learning Technologies, we are finishing up a retreat series to redesign our degree programs at the bachelors, masters, and doctoral levels to provide three distinct areas of study (learning, performance, and computing) with a number of exciting concentrations within each. The task of completely redesigning departmental degree programs is typically a once-in-a-career-effort that shapes the professional lives of faculty, the mission of the department, and the future of graduates. This degree redesign is the culmination of a three year department redesign process that we hope to begin implementing in spring 2010.

In my office I have a picture that states: “Never put more airplanes in the air than you can land!” We have a tremendous number of airplanes in the air and a line of exciting ideas to launch. This year finds the Department in a new college that supports innovation and provides us the confidence to make it a reality.

Dr. Maurice Wheeler
Associate Professor and Interim Chair
Library & Information Science

A NEW SEASON

One of the most exciting things about life on earth is its seasonal nature. Seasons begin and they end. Season can be short or they can be very, very long (such as winters in Michigan or summers in Texas). But, nevertheless, there is still a beginning and an end to all seasons. Such is the case with LIS. We are at the beginning of a new season.

These new beginnings provide us with tremendous opportunities for reflection, assessment, planning and refocusing our efforts. As LIS celebrates 70 years of providing quality professional education, we recognize that the department has successfully passed through many seasons, maturing and evolving as the times and profession has dictated. Change has been our constant, and there are always signs that change will be the hallmark of LIS for the future as well.

We have successfully moved to a new location and have begun the difficult task of creating/recreating ourselves. A new season requires shedding some of the things that have served us well in the past, and building on what remains to create something vibrant and new. We have fully embraced our future and have embarked on the challenging work ahead.

Administratively, we have established a new charter and a new vision for the department. Our faculty is engaged in new and exciting research and professional activities that will bring increased recognition and national and international visibility to our programs.

Our consolidation with the Department of Learning Technologies has given us a “promotion” from school to departmental status in a newly created college. The synergy with our new departmental colleagues in LT is already apparent, and our students will benefit greatly from new areas of curriculum development and collaborative research. LIS continues to draw from a wealth of high quality students from around the globe, and teaching cohorts that extend, literally, from coast to coast.

A new season is upon us, and our future is bright, indeed!
The LIS faculty chooses distinguished library and information scientists and persons from related fields to serve three-year terms on its Board of Advisors. The group of some 45 members meets each spring to offer invaluable insight into preparation needs of students entering the profession. The Board, begun by Dean Raymond Von Dran, held its first meeting in February 1991, and has met annually since that time.

The 2009 meeting of Board of Advisors took place on February 9 at Discovery Park. Following Dean Herman Totten’s welcome, the 38 members present received updates on LIS and the new College of Information. Dr. Maurice Wheeler, LIS Department Interim Chair, recognized the death of Dr. Elizabeth Eaton, a former Board member, who was executive director of Houston Academy of Medicine – Texas Medical Center Library and director of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, followed by a moment of silence. The board worked in focus groups to discuss “What’s in a name?” and reported feedback to the group as a whole. (See p. 7 for information on name change.) Lunch, at which LIS and LT faculties and staff were introduced, was followed by a tour of the new LIS facilities. Dr. Tyrone Cannon, dean of University Libraries, University of San Francisco, was elected chair, succeeding Dr. Rhea Brown Lawson, director, Houston Public Library. Several board members reported this as the best meeting ever.

**LEARNING TECHNOLOGY BAAS DEGREE PROGRAM**

The Bachelors of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) program in applied technology and performance improvement in the Learning Technologies Department is an inverted degree program designed to transition students with work experience, an associates degree, or technical courses into a four year degree plan. The BAAS degree requires a minimum of 120 hours, including 36 credit hours of applied technical occupation specialization, 42 hours of university core classes, and 42 hours of professional development classes that are 100% online. The latter were designed in collaboration with business and academic leaders to make certain the latest business practices are taught. Visit the UNT website www.lt.unt.edu for more information. Advisors are available at 940-565-3562. Dr. Jay Callaway (LT PhD ’06) serves as recruiter.

**LIS HOUSTON PROGRAM UPDATE**

A pre-institute dinner at the Chinese Star Restaurant, with 42 in attendance, started the Houston program spring 2009 semester off with a bang! The two introductory courses that the students began at the Institute have a healthy enrollment of 120 students each. In addition to the introductory course work, the students learned about outreach programs from Miriam Rodriguez (MS ’07), Dallas Public Library assistant director, and access services in diverse information settings from a panel of Houston information professionals.

The Houston program has two additional adjunct faculty members, Mon-Yin Lung, associate director of the University of Houston O’Quinn Law Library, and Karen Vargas (MS ’97), consumer health coordinator, National Network of Libraries of Medicine South Central Region. Mon-Yin, who holds the MS in library science from Louisiana State University and J.D. degree from the University of Kansas, taught a course in intellectual property for information professionals in fall 2008. Karen is teaching a new course on user education in spring 2009.

The program has a new Houston student coordinator, Kristie Munger, (see p. 25 Medder’s Scholar) who is busy conducting study sessions for Houston area students. Kristie, a current school media specialist student, lives in Houston with her husband Chad and her two children, Keagan and Katelyn.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR JIANGPING CHEN

LIS Featured Faculty Member

Dr. Jiangping Chen, who joined the LIS faculty in 2004, holds the PhD degree in Information Transfer from Syracuse University, the MS in Information Science from the Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, China, and the BS in Information Science from Wuhan University, Wuhan, China. Her research interests include intelligent information access, digital libraries, and information management.

Since completing the doctorate in 2003, Dr. Chen has published some ten articles, the most recent include: “Cross-Language Search: the Case of Google Language Tools” with Yu Bao (MS ’07), First Monday (14(3), 2009; “Resource and Resource Sharing in Intelligent Information Access” with Fei Li (PhD ’08), Series on Innovation and Knowledge Management Vol 7: Knowledge Management Competencies and Professionalism (World Scientific Publishing, 2008; “Analysis of the Health Information Needs and Health Related Internet Usage of a Chinese Population in the United States,” with Ana Cleveland, Della Pan (PhD student), and Xinyu Yu (PhD ’07), Library and Information Services, 52(12), 2007.

Recent presentations include “Resources and Resource Sharing in Intelligent Information Access” at the 2008 International Conference on Knowledge Management; and “Digital Libraries: Definitions, Core Issues, and Research Opportunities” at Wuhan University, Wuhan, China and at Chinese Academy of Sciences, in 2007. She received a faculty research grant from the UNT for 2006-07, and grants from the Association of American Publishers in 2006 and 2007, and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine/South Central region in 2005-06.

REGENTS PROFESSOR JAMES L. POIROT

LT Featured Faculty Member

Regents Professor James L. Poirot obtained his doctorate in mathematics from Texas Tech University in 1969, with a focus on computer applications in mathematics and statistics. After working in industry in the area of computer applications and a teaching stint at Texas State University, he came to UNT to establish undergraduate and doctoral level programs in computer science, a department he chaired for eight years. He assisted in formation of the Computer Education and Cognitive Systems Department which he chaired for an additional seven years. He also spent five years as associate dean of the College of Education.

Dr. Poirot has published extensively and authored a number of text books, several adopted by the state of Texas for high school use in computer applications, and has held leadership positions in a variety of state, national and international professional organizations. He helped in the development of the Association for Computer Machinery, the primary organization for computer science, and served as president of the National Educational Computing Association. He also is the founder of Texas Computer Education Association, an organization with over 10,000 current members.

In the area of external funding, Dr. Poirot has been one of the most productive faculty members at UNT. Since 1999, he has been awarded competitive external grants from federal and state agencies and corporate foundations amounting to almost $19 million. Additionally, he has established collaborative and project-related efforts with a long list of high tech companies including Intel, Adobe, Macromedia, Microsoft, IBM, Elemen-tK, Verizon and Classroom Connect.

A unique component of Dr. Poirot’s funding is the dual nature of the projects. Funds support research and development in the learning technology field and support the instructional mission of his department which has resulted in thousands of teachers across the state participating in UNT formal and informal education. Funding examples include:

The U.S. Department of Education Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers to Use Technology grant led to the creation of an online Web library of educational material, a resource that has been widely utilized throughout the state and country. The site served as the backbone for the current electronic portal called STARGATE, funded by the Texas Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF) and currently functioning through the TCET website. The project also led to the creation of a blended delivery model for online courses that provides an opportunity for a complete online master’s degree in the Computer Education and Cognitive Systems (LT’s former department).

The Intel Tech to the Future Project, extending over a seven year period, accounted for UNT teacher training of over 10,000 teachers in north and west Texas. While this training has been in a 40-hour face-to-face workshop format, many participants have enrolled in online courses to continue their technology-based education.

A grant of $2.2 million from the Texas Telecommunication Infrastructure Fund for Teacher Technology Certification resulted in over 1,100 teachers enrolling for 12 graduate hours in coursework to meet the certification requirement. These courses, delivered in blended format, accounted for a huge source of UNT formula funded dollars from students who would not have otherwise enrolled at UNT. Many of these students continued their coursework and received master’s degrees.

Dr. Poirot serves as executive director of the Texas Center for Educational Technology (TCET), one of the three centers sponsored by CI (see article p. 7).
**DR. ANA CLEVELAND HONORED**

**Regents Professor Ana Cleveland** (LIS) has been designated as the Janet Doe Lecturer, the highest honor accorded to a member of the Medical Library Association. The lecture and the award will be presented at the 2010 MLS Annual Conference. The lectureship was named for a former librarian of the New York Academy of Medicine, past president of the association and former editor of *A Handbook of Medical Library Practice*.

Dr. Cleveland, who joined the faculty in 1988, developed the LIS specialized health informatics program ranked third in the nation and first in Texas by the *U.S. News and World Report*’s annual guide to the best graduate schools. She previously was selected as the first recipient of the Medical Library Association’s Lucretia M. McClure Excellence in Teaching Award.

**Faculty**

**BITS & BYTES**

Dr. Ana Cleveland (LIS) is very excited that the Health Informatics Program has gone completely online. She and her husband Dr. Donald Cleveland (retired LIS faculty) have completed the book *Health Informatics for Medical Libraries*; it will be published later in 2009. She was recognized as a Hispanic leader by the newspaper *Al Dia* in September 2008. Dr. Cleveland attended the annual meeting of the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association (SCC/MLA) in October 2008 in Dallas where she and her students made several presentations:

- “Status of Health Sciences Librarianship Education in the South Central Region,” with Jodi Philbrick (MS ‘01)
- “Taking a Closer Look at Academic Health Sciences Library Directors,” with Jodi Philbrick
- “Web 2.0 Technologies in Medical Libraries,” with Della Pan and Jodi Philbrick
- “Infrastructure and Information Flow in Medical Informatics: An Albanian Case Study,” with Meredith Tabor (MS ‘08), Arta Kabashi (MS ‘08), and Jodi Philbrick

At the TLA District #8 fall meeting in Houston, she and Jodi Philbrick presented “Collaborative Grant Projects: Promises and Pitfalls” along with Janice Newsum and Gloria Dennis, Houston ISD, with whom they work closely on the IMLS grant “Project: LIBS.”

**Did you know?**

In 1968, John B. Corbin, then a member of the Tarrant County Junior College Library staff and later a member of the SLIS faculty, taught the first course in automation of libraries offered at LIS.

**AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM DR. LIN LIN**

Dr. Lin Lin (LT) has been appointed as a feature editor of the spring 2010 issue of *Academic Exchange Quarterly* and invites paper submission from CI faculty, students and alumni. This special issue focuses on technology in the humanities, an area that invites both increasing pressure and exciting possibilities for teachers in the field. Two types of articles on educational technology are of interest: (1) articles describing how educators are using various new media and technologies, and (2) articles that consider the theoretical, ethical, and budgetary impact of educational technology in all of its emerging forms. Preference will be given to newer forms such as GIS, blogs, and wikis, but all innovative uses of technology will be considered.

More information on this special issue is available at www.rapidintellect.com/AEQweb/5tech.htm/

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**Dr. Elizabeth Figa (LIS) and Tonda Bone (LIS PhD student) published “Librarian on Board! Online Classroom Library Services to Distant E-Learning Students: A Service Analysis Using Survey and Interview Techniques” in the spring 2009 issue of *Texas Library Journal*, and presented a program on the same topic at the Texas Library Association annual conference in 2008. Dr. Figa has been appointed chair of the Association of Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) Recruitment Committee, which places an emphasis on recruiting doctoral students to the LIS profession. This topic relates to Dr. Figa’s work and research: “Preparing Future LIS Faculty: Discussion of Alternative Models,” presented at the 2008 ALISE conference in Philadelphia. She attended the 2009 Southwest Popular Culture and American Culture Conference where she gave a paper entitled “Graphic Novels, Women and Storytelling” and moderated two panels in the Comics, Graphic Novels, and Popular Culture area. Other presentations include “Hyperlinks: Teen Information Seeking, Cognitive Development, Social Media, and Internet Risk Research,” with Shannon Bomar (PhD student), American Library Association annual conference, 2008; and “Betwixt Wind and Water: Librarian-in-the-Classroom Distance Learning Service,” with Erin O’Toole, Texas Distance Learning Association conference, Galveston, 2008.

The UNT Evaluation of Teaching Committee, on which Dr. Figa serves, was selected to receive the Provost’s Award for Extraordinary Professional Service to the University of North Texas. Each member was awarded a framed certificate and gift certificate at the Provost’s spring meeting with the faculty.

**Dr. Demetria Ennis-Cole (LT) presented a program on autism at the American Counseling Association conference in Charlotte, NC on March 23, 2009.**

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**Bomar**

**Tonda Bone**

**Shannon Bomar**

**Dr. Elizabeth Figa**

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continued from page 11


At the American Educational Research Association (AERA) conference in San Diego, April 2009, she chaired the Media, Culture, and Curriculum SIG Business Meeting, and was an individual presenter with others on a session titled “Does Media-Multitasking Interfere with Learning?” An article titled “Technology in the Humanities” by Dr. Lin Lin with Brenda Lopez Ortiz will be published in the spring 2010 issue of Academic Exchange Quarterly.

Dr. Barbara Stein Martin (LIS) and Mark Zannier (LIS MS ’06) have published a book titled Fundamentals of School Library Media Management (Neal Schuman, 2009).


Dr. Cathleen Norris (LT) and Elliot Soloway have authored and published over 100 research papers on a variety of different learning technologies through the professional organization Association of Computing Machinery (ACM). They are also founders, partners, and collaborators of the handheld software company, GoKnow. Dr. Norris, who has had over 14 years experience as a high school teacher, is past president of International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) and of National Education Computer Association (NECA), the organizing body for the country’s leading technology and education conference, National Education Computing Conference (NECC). The February 14, 2009 issue of Business Week includes an article titled “Get Cell Phones into Schools” by Cathleen Norris and her co-author Elliot Soloway. An article in a recent Public CIO magazine also discussed Dr. Norris’s software for cell phones.

Dr. Brian O’Connor (LIS) and his son Ethan O’Connor presented a paper titled “Utterances & Photocountary Acts: An Engineering Model of Photographic Documents” at the 6th annual meeting of Documents Academy DOCAM 09, Madison, WI, March 28-29. Other UNT presenters at the meeting included: Jodi Kears (MS ’99, PhD ’01), Richard Anderson (PhD ’06), and current student Melody McCotter, “A Quantitative Model of Ambiguity;” David Wachanga (PhD ’08), “Metaphors As Documents of Narrative Construction;” and Patrick McLeod and Melody McCotter, “Comparative Assessment and Identification of Image Sources.” Dr. O’Connor says, “The trip was a wonderful opportunity to work closely and intensely together for six days and have some fun.”

Dr. Barbara Schultz-Jones (LIS) is author of a feature article titled “School Library Media Specialists Connect: Collaboration in the School Social Network” in Knowledge Quest, March/April 2009.

Did you know?
CI STAFF

DIANE GREEN

Featured Staff Member

Diane Green, assistant to Associate Dean Linda Schamber, remembers well the day she interviewed for the position. “It started out as any interview would—I arrived a little early and was shown to the Dean’s Suite lobby. Dr. Schamber greeted me and told me we would get started in a few minutes…that she was waiting on one other person to join us. So I kept my seat and she returned to her office. In just a few moments Dean Totten walked in, extended his hand, and said, “Come on back,” so I followed him into his office, assuming, as he closed the door, that he was the ‘other person’ but wondering now where Dr. Schamber was. After being seated across the room from Dean Totten, he smiled and cheerfully said, ‘Now, what may I do for you today?’ For several seconds, there was complete silence, and then I replied, as honestly as I could, ‘You may give me a job.’ The rest is history!”

Diane brings to CI the skills from her many years in the Plano Independent School District as library assistant, campus technology coordinator, and office manager. She has also worked in the Admissions Office and Student Records Department at Texas Woman’s University. “I love working with and helping students. It doesn’t matter if they’re 6 or they’re 60.” That could be the reason why Diane finds her primary duty, working with the students in the Interdisciplinary Information Science PhD Program, “a real joy.”

Outside of work, Diane enjoys writing, scouring flea markets, visiting her 82 year old mother in Plano, spending time in her native Mississippi, and playing with her Jack Russell Terrier, Audrey Hepburn. She has two grown children: Maria, an art teacher in Frisco, TX, and Ryan, a freelance photographer and graphic designer in Carrollton, TX.

STAFF NEWS

Anthony Duplanty of the Technology Support Group was a recipient of the UNT Fall 2008 Outstanding Student Employee Award that was presented at the Student Employee Appreciation Party on November 10, 2008.

Alan Livingston (LIS PhD ’05), Graduate General Access Lab Manager and Web Manager and Gary Mathews, CI Computer Systems Manager, received the University’s Outstanding Employee Awards, presented by President Gretchen Bataille at the President’s February 24, 2009 Staff Sack Lunch, in recognition of their managing the move to Discovery Park.

Maruja Lorica, Dr. Barbara Stein Martin’s teaching assistant, was at the Association of Texas Professional Educators conference in Austin, April 2-3. Jurhee Curtis, CI External Affairs, attended the Oklahoma Library Association conference in Midwest City, April 20-22, where she also hosted an alumni breakfast.

The LIS booth at the Texas Book Festival, held on the capitol grounds in Austin, November 1-2, 2008, was a meeting place for many alumni and others interested in the UNT library and information science programs. LIS faculty member Dr. Barbara Martin and Toby Faber (MS ’04), CI Graduate Counselor, were on hand to serve as greeters and to answer questions from many who were interested in the programs on both the master’s and PhD levels. Maruja Lorica, Dr. Martin’s TA, also assisted at the booth.

The February 2009 issue of Utah Library News, the Utah Library Association newsletter, included an article about the LIS 5th Nevada Cohort Program to begin in September 2009. The Web Institute supporting the cohort will be held at the Utah Valley University in Orem, UT. Dr. Yvonne Chandler is director of the Nevada Cohort.

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STUDENTS

LIS STUDENTS “CHAT” WITH ALA PRESIDENT

Student taking LIS 5000, Introduction to the Library and Information Professions, are required to do a leadership project, such as having a team of 4-6 students hold a chat with a leader who has managed significant change within their organization. On November 10, 2008, a team of students in the Virginia Cohort, led by Megan Hodge, set the bar very high for future groups. Megan approached Jim Rettig, current American Library Association President, who agreed to a one hour chat with her team. Dr. Philip Turner and the class were so impressed that they decided to make the chat available to the entire class. Using the Wimba Voice Direct tool, that allowed Jim to talk with the class as well as allowing students to respond via voice or text, the chat covered a wide range of issues.

Mr. Rettig, director of the University of Richmond libraries, talked about a number of topics pertinent to class discussions: the need for public library service during the economic downturn when so many library systems are facing reduction in funding, tension between a new librarian’s personal beliefs and their need to objectively provide a wide range of information, the impact of emerging technologies on library services, the perception that the public has of libraries and librarians, and his own journey in his career to become director of a major university library. He also echoes the admonition of many LIS faculty to their students—the master’s degree should represent the beginning of learning, not the end.

At the end of the hour, the class thanked Mr. Rettig for taking time out from his busy schedule to chat with them. In return, Jim thanked UNT LIS for stretching the economic downturn when so many library class discussions: the need for public library service during the economic downturn when so many library systems are facing reduction in funding, tension between a new librarian’s personal beliefs and their need to objectively provide a wide range of information, the impact of emerging technologies on library services, the perception that the public has of libraries and librarians, and his own journey in his career to become director of a major university library. He also echoes the admonition of many LIS faculty to their students—the master’s degree should represent the beginning of learning, not the end.

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STUDENT NEWS

MASTERS

Elida P. Garza, a student in the Houston Program, is happy to announce that her husband Tomas Garza is graduating from the University of Texas Health Science Center Medical School in May 2009. He will be doing his residency in family medicine at Texas A&M Health Sciences Center in Bryan. Both Elida and Tomas have been in school while raising a family.

Shelley Holley (LIS), who has taken courses in the master’s program, has been named director of the Frisco (TX) Public Library. She has been serving as part of the management team since 2001 and assistant director since 2007.

Alicia Holston (LIS), an assistant at the Farmers Branch (TX) Manske Library, and Tuan Nguyen (LIS) Northeast Texas Consultant, Mackin Library Media Company, published the lead article in the fall issue of Texas Library Journal titled “The Maverick Graphic Novel List: Unmasking the Mystery of Comics and Graphic Novels for Librarians.”

Nine LIS students were guests at the TLA Library Friends, Trustees, and Advocates luncheon where they heard authors Joe Hayes, Attica Locke, and Jon Scieszka speak.

Guests of Carol Bartz; Susan Wheeler, Midgala Sepulveda, and Rose Sonnier

Guests of Dr. Ana Cleveland: Berika Williams and Kristie Munger

Guests of Margaret Irby Nichols: Dana Flinn and Robert Martin

Guests of UNT LIS: Natalie Schum and Nathan Stokes

Hostess: Dr. Linda Schamber

Kody Willis has received a 12 week summer internship at the Turner Broadcasting/CNN News Library, Washington, D.C., at the archive and research library that provides video and information in support of CNN’s DC Bureau. Responsibilities of the library include development, management, and storage of collections in an expanding variety of formats.

The staff provides access to information and knowledge held in those collections using appropriate storage, access, and computer technologies, preserves the information for future use, and assists the bureau in the use of library resources. Additionally, the staff provides research in support of the bureau’s production needs, utilizing the most current technologies available—Lexis-Nexis, Factiva, and the Internet.
**STUDENT NEWS**

**DOCTORAL**


Jennifer LaFleur and Elena Vassilieva (LIS) presented a paper titled “Are Emerging Digitalization Technologies Approachable to All? The Learning Experiences of Future Librarians in Creating Online Collections” at the Association of College and Research Libraries 14th national conference in Seattle, WA, March 12-15. The contributed paper was also published in the conference proceedings.

Tyson McMillan (LIS MS ’06) will be presenting a paper at the November 2009 ASIS&T annual meeting in Vancouver, BC, Canada titled “The Impact of ICTs on Politics in Uganda: the Convergence of Radio and Telephone in the Power Contest between Resurging Buganda Nationalism in Uganda and the Central Government.”

**LIS CLASS AND STUDENT ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES**

On February 11, 2009, LIS students were able to chat with guest lecturer Lisa Huang, Health Sciences Librarian for Collin College’s Central Park Campus, McKinney, and an adjunct instructor for an elderhostel in Plano, via the LIS Village Chat Room. “Topics discussed included medical librarianship, providing consumer health information to students and the public, grant writing experience, being a young librarian under 30, professional development, differences between working in a community college and an academic library, and working in an academic library vs. working in a public library setting. Ms. Huang, who is active in professional organizations from the local to national level, has worked for various types of libraries over the years. The LIS Houston Program and Houston LIS student association jointly sponsored a field trip to the Barbara Jordan Collection and Archives of the Robert James Terry Library located at Texas Southern University on Saturday, February 28, 2009. Barbara Jordan, who died in 1996, was the first African American women to serve in the Texas State Senate, the first African American from Texas to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives, and the first African American to deliver a keynote speech at the Democratic National Convention. On November 11, 2008, Benjamin Blackwell presented a studio lecture and demonstration in conjunction with the LIS digital imaging studio course titled “On Lighting.” Mr. Blackwell, principal photographer at the University of California, Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive, is also contract photographer for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and serves many private clients, including major museums, galleries, and publishers. His work is in the collections of the Spencer Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the International Center for Photography. He holds the BFA degree from the University of Texas at Austin and the MA in art practice from the University of California, Berkeley.

**MELISSA SAVAGE GRADUATES DESPITE HURRICANE IRE**

Students often experience hardships while working toward their degrees, but Melissa Savage’s (LIS MS ’08) problems were far from the usual circumstances. She was taking LIS master’s degree courses online during her final semester when Hurricane Ike hit her home on September 13, forcing her, along with her husband, to live in temporary housing. She borrowed a computer and used the resources and space at the public library or hunkered in the driveway of her ruined home to get Internet access. Despite the problems, she completed her coursework and received the master’s degree at December 2008 graduation ceremonies. September 13 is also memorable to her in that she and her husband were celebrating their fifth wedding anniversary. Melissa says, “It wasn’t exactly the kind of romantic evening we had planned; it was scary during the actual event and even harder afterwards.”

Melissa Savage (LIS MS ’08) Photograph courtesy of the Denton Round Chronicle

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**COMMENCEMENT**

In Fall 2008, the College of Information granted 144 degrees:
- LIS 112 masters and 8 PhDs;
- LT 15 bachelors, 7 masters, and 2 PhDs.

**LIS Masters**

Alexis Ackel (4.0), Aracelli Astorga (4.0), Monica Babaian, Deidra Ballard-Moore, Ian Barba (4.0), Erica Baytop, Kelly Becker, Emily Billings, Amelia Bligh (4.0), Mary Carpenter, Jennifer Cauthen, Richard Clark, Brandon Clifford, Jana Cocanougher (4.0), Valerie Colby (4.0), Angie Cooper, Sara Cope (4.0), Lori-Ann Craig (4.0), Andrew Cross (4.0), Justin Daniel, Emily Day (4.0), Melanie Dixon (4.0), Le Anne Dodson, Tricia Evans, Patricia Faulkner (4.0), Thomas Finley, William Fleming (4.0), Amanda Frey (4.0), Kay Glover, Nathan Gordon (4.0), Mary Hannah Guthrie (4.0), Daisy Gutierrez, Thomas Halling (4.0), Mary Henderson, Lori Hernandez (4.0), Jean Hillyer (4.0), Jennifer Hinnant (4.0), Duyen Hoang (4.0), Jill Holland, Siobhan Hughes, Jennifer Jimenez, Timothy Johnson (4.0), Lindsay Jones, Lisa Keefe (4.0), Jennifer Kerr (4.0), Joseph Kozak, Reinielle Lagazo, Bonnie LeClair-Gaenzle, Djuana Lemons, Jana MacMillan (4.0), Naomi Mancillas, Jennifer Martin (4.0), Pamela Martin, Maricela Martinez (4.0), Vilma Martinez, Francisco Martinez, Melanie Mason (4.0), Evelyn McAlister, Melanie Mubarak (4.0), Carrie Nelson (4.0), Nancy Novak (4.0), David Novosad (4.0), Lester Ott, Jennifer Pacenza, Catalina Pinon, Melissa Place (4.0), Erin Powell, Ralph Ratcliff (4.0), Pamela Reed, Leah Reick, Leah Richardson, Janie Rietels, Ellen Ritchie, Tezeno Roberson, Wamecca Rodriguez, Melissa Savage (4.0), Sharon Schnell (4.0)

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**PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THE MELISSA SAVAGE (LIS MS ‘08)**

Photograph courtesy of the Melissa Savage (LIS MS ‘08) Photograph courtesy of the Denton Round Chronicle

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**STUDENT NEWS**

Student News, continued from page 14

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**DOCTORAL**


Jennifer LaFleur and Elena Vassilieva (LIS) presented a paper titled “Are Emerging Digitalization Technologies Approachable to All? The Learning Experiences of Future Librarians in Creating Online Collections” at the Association of College and Research Libraries 14th national conference in Seattle, WA, March 12-15. The contributed paper was also published in the conference proceedings.

Tyson McMillan (LIS MS ’06) will be presenting a paper at the November 2009 ASIS&T annual meeting in Vancouver, BC, Canada titled “The Impact of ICTs on Politics in Uganda: the Convergence of Radio and Telephone in the Power Contest between Resurging Buganda Nationalism in Uganda and the Central Government.”

**LIS CLASS AND STUDENT ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES**

On February 11, 2009, LIS students were able to chat with guest lecturer Lisa Huang, Health Sciences Librarian for Collin College’s Central Park Campus, McKinney, and an adjunct instructor for an elderhostel in Plano, via the LIS Village Chat Room. “Topics discussed included medical librarianship, providing consumer health information to students and the public, grant writing experience, being a young librarian under 30, professional development, differences between working in a community college and an academic library, and working in an academic library vs. working in a public library setting. Ms. Huang, who is active in professional organizations from the local to national level, has worked for various types of libraries over the years. The LIS Houston Program and Houston LIS student association jointly sponsored a field trip to the Barbara Jordan Collection and Archives of the Robert James Terry Library located at Texas Southern University on Saturday, February 28, 2009. Barbara Jordan, who died in 1996, was the first African American women to serve in the Texas State Senate, the first African American from Texas to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives, and the first African American to deliver a keynote speech at the Democratic National Convention. On November 11, 2008, Benjamin Blackwell presented a studio lecture and demonstration in conjunction with the LIS digital imaging studio course titled “On Lighting.” Mr. Blackwell, principal photographer at the University of California, Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive, is also contract photographer for the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and serves many private clients, including major museums, galleries, and publishers. His work is in the collections of the Spencer Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the International Center for Photography. He holds the BFA degree from the University of Texas at Austin and the MA in art practice from the University of California, Berkeley.

**MELISSA SAVAGE GRADUATES DESPITE HURRICANE IRE**

Students often experience hardships while working toward their degrees, but Melissa Savage’s (LIS MS ’08) problems were far from the usual circumstances. She was taking LIS master’s degree courses online during her final semester when Hurricane Ike hit her home on September 13, forcing her, along with her husband, to live in temporary housing. She borrowed a computer and used the resources and space at the public library or hunkered in the driveway of her ruined home to get Internet access. Despite the problems, she completed her coursework and received the master’s degree at December 2008 graduation ceremonies. September 13 is also memorable to her in that she and her husband were celebrating their fifth wedding anniversary. Melissa says, “It wasn’t exactly the kind of romantic evening we had planned; it was scary during the actual event and even harder afterwards.”

Melissa Savage (LIS MS ’08) Photograph courtesy of the Denton Round Chronicle

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**COMMENCEMENT**

In Fall 2008, the College of Information granted 144 degrees:
- LIS 112 masters and 8 PhDs;
- LT 15 bachelors, 7 masters, and 2 PhDs.

**LIS Masters**

Alexis Ackel (4.0), Aracelli Astorga (4.0), Monica Babaian, Deidra Ballard-Moore, Ian Barba (4.0), Erica Baytop, Kelly Becker, Emily Billings, Amelia Bligh (4.0), Mary Carpenter, Jennifer Cauthen, Richard Clark, Brandon Clifford, Jana Cocanougher (4.0), Valerie Colby (4.0), Angie Cooper, Sara Cope (4.0), Lori-Ann Craig (4.0), Andrew Cross (4.0), Justin Daniel, Emily Day (4.0), Melanie Dixon (4.0), Le Anne Dodson, Tricia Evans, Patricia Faulkner (4.0), Thomas Finley, William Fleming (4.0), Amanda Frey (4.0), Kay Glover, Nathan Gordon (4.0), Mary Hannah Guthrie (4.0), Daisy Gutierrez, Thomas Halling (4.0), Mary Henderson, Lori Hernandez (4.0), Jean Hillyer (4.0), Jennifer Hinnant (4.0), Duyen Hoang (4.0), Jill Holland, Siobhan Hughes, Jennifer Jimenez, Timothy Johnson (4.0), Lindsay Jones, Lisa Keefe (4.0), Jennifer Kerr (4.0), Joseph Kozak, Reinielle Lagazo, Bonnie LeClair-Gaenzle, Djuana Lemons, Jana MacMillan (4.0), Naomi Mancillas, Jennifer Martin (4.0), Pamela Martin, Maricela Martinez (4.0), Vilma Martinez, Francisco Martinez, Melanie Mason (4.0), Evelyn McAlister, Melanie Mubarak (4.0), Carrie Nelson (4.0), Nancy Novak (4.0), David Novosad (4.0), Lester Ott, Jennifer Pacenza, Catalina Pinon, Melissa Place (4.0), Erin Powell, Ralph Ratcliff (4.0), Pamela Reed, Leah Reick, Leah Richardson, Janie Rietels, Ellen Ritchie, Tezeno Roberson, Wamecca Rodriguez, Melissa Savage (4.0), Sharon Schnell (4.0),

continued on page 16
Denton

“Beyond the Diploma: Preparing for Real World Employment” was the theme of the All School Day that took place November 15. Topics and speakers included the following: Advice on Building a Portfolio – LIS students Ashley Dickinson and Lindsay Taylor; Learn Job Negotiation Skills – April Kessler, business librarian, University of Texas at Austin; Nail That Interview – Mike Zimmerman, manager of information services, Bain & Co.; Writing Cover Letters – Cindy Batman (LIS MS ’03), outreach librarian – UNT Research Park Library.

San Antonio

The San Antonio All School Day, titled “Community Outreach in Today’s Libraries,” took place at the Isabel G. Bazan Branch of the San Antonio Public Library on October 4, 2008, with a wonderful group of students and alumni in attendance. Dr. Ana Cleveland welcomed the group on behalf of Dean Herman Totten and gave an update on the status of LIS. San Antonio LISSA President Marisa Sparks introduced the speakers that included Jennifer Velazquez of San Antonio Public Library, Julie Gaines of UT Health Science Center San Antonio Library, and Ana Marie Lire of Escuela de las Americas. Jodi Philbrick (LIS MS ’91) provided the closing remarks for the program.

Houston

An exciting and informative Houston All School Day, titled “Don’t Be Afraid of Grants: Funding and Development Tools for Information Professionals,” was held on November 1, 2008 at the Elizabeth D. Rockwell Pavilion, University of Houston MD Anderson Library. Dean Herman Totten welcomed over 100 student attendees and provided an update on LIS. Dr. Ana Cleveland, director of the Houston Program, recognized Houston adjunct faculty member Jimmy Newland as the featured Houston Program supporter, and introduced the program.

The featured program speakers, LIS faculty member Dr. William Muen, discussed the role of research in LIS education and practice, and Michelle Malizia and Karen Vargas (LIS MS ’97), National Network of Libraries of Medicine-South Central Region, provided a fun, interactive grant-writing workshop.

The attendees enjoyed the centerpieces featuring games, crossword puzzle books, and playing cards in celebration of National Alzheimer’s Awareness Month. Not only were the guests able to take home the centerpieces, but also had an opportunity to win assorted door prizes given away by associate Houston program director Jodi Philbrick (LIS MS ’91) and the LISSA officers.

LIS and Philip Turner Project Award

LIS Master’s student Alane Whaley-Deshotels has been awarded the LIS and Philip Turner Paper Award. In addition to taking coursework, she serves as a registered nurse in neonatal ICU at Baylor Medical Center at Grapevine where she has been located since 2002. At earlier dates, she has worked as a neonatal ICU nurse in Arlington TX, Lafayette, LA, and New Orleans. She holds the BS degree in nursing from University of South Alabama, Mobile. Alane plans to seek a career in reference and instructional services in a health sciences library.
CI STUDENTS RECOGNIZED ON HONORS DAY

CI students who were recognized on Honors Day, April 21, 2009, for the 2008-09 academic year included: Tony Fuller, Hannah Guthrie, Christie Jones, Artemida Kabashi, Lisa Force Keffeler, Melody McCotter, Julia Mergele, Tip Robertson, Joanna Shaw, and Jenny Wakefield.

Tony Fuller, Outstanding LT MS student, is Senior Vice-president and Chief Information Officer of Rent-A-Center, Inc. Plano, TX, the largest rent to own operation in the United States with over 3,050 stores and 19,000 employees located in the US, Canada, and Puerto Rico. He previously served in management positions for several companies. In 2005, he was recognized as a Computerworld “Premier 100 IT Leader.” His initiatives have been recognized nationally in magazines such as Baseline, Stores, and Integrated Solutions Magazine and featured in two cover stories in CXO (December 2005) and Integrated Solutions for Retailers (April 2006).

Hannah Guthrie received the MS in library and information sciences in December 2008. Since 2007, she has served as a teaching assistant for Dr. Barbara Stein Martin assisting with grading and technology in four online classes, along with helping to develop online classes and other special projects. Her past experience includes an internship in the University Medical Center at Breckenridge Medical Library and department manager at Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Thornton, CO. While studying for her B.A. degree in forensic anthropology at Millers College, she spent a summer working at a Mayan site at Kuic in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, and also attended a 5-week human identification program through Michigan State University, based in London, England. She received the Outstanding LIS Student Award.

Christa Jones, a graduate student studying in the Learning Technologies Department, holds a bachelor’s degree in English from University of California Los Angeles, a master’s degree in multicultural education from Florida Atlantic University, and a master’s degree in journalism from the UNT. Her areas of research are multicultural literacy, multimedia instruction, and technology in the writing process. She received the Outstanding LT Undergraduate Award.

Artemida Kabashi (LIS MS ’08), a current PhD student in LIS is continuing education librarian at Amigos Library Services where she teaches training courses in reference communication, virtual reference, reference policy, reference tools, and reference management. She also works as the Question Point implementation manager for OCLC in southwestern U.S., and Latin America and Caribbean regions. Amigos, a non-profit membership-based organization dedicated to serving libraries, has over 750 libraries and cultural heritage institutions as members. Armena holds a B.A. degree in history from Harding University, MA degree in history from Texas Tech University, and a MS in information science from LIS. She received the Texas Faculty Recognition Award.

Lisa Force Keffeler (MS ’08), who received the LIS Nevada Faculty Recognition Award, was outreach specialist for Henderson (NV) District Public Libraries from 2006-2008 and program director for Grand Canyon Trust, Arizona and Nevada 2003-2006. She holds both an MBA and a BA in business.

Melody McCotter MS ’08 was selected as the Outstanding Information Science Student. She is currently a graduate research assistant in the LIS Department. She has worked as an assistant in several libraries and as a bilingual teacher (Spanish/English) in Quexa, NM, as well as a summer intern for the National Federation of the Blind, Baltimore, MD. Her interests include media librarianship, motion picture digitization and access points, and digital imaging. She received the MS in information science in 2008 along with an academic certificate in storytelling and is a member of Beta Phi Mu, the international library and information science honor society.

Julia Mergele (LIS MS ’08), chosen the outstanding student in library science by the Houston faculty, is currently serving as youth outreach and teen librarian at the George Memorial Library, Fort Bend (TX) County Libraries where she formerly was an assistant in genealogy. Her undergraduate study in history was at the University of Houston Clear Lake. While working toward the MS degree, which she received in spring 2008, she received the Dorothy Thomas Endowed Scholarship, the Margaret Irby Nichols Scholarship, and the Donald B. and Ana D. Cleveland Scholarship. During 2007-08, she was president of UNT Houston LISSA.

Tip Robertson joined the LT Department as a doctoral student in 2006 to further develop his passion for teaching and young adult development. His research interests include individual and team performance improvement, dyadic and small-group relationships, and the cognitive and learning processes of young adults. His dissertation focuses on the matching of mentors and protégés in graduate-school mentoring relationships, including within the unique setting of distance technology-mediated mentoring programs. He expects to defend his dissertation and graduate in the fall of 2009 and hopes to obtain a teaching position in a mid-sized university. He received the Outstanding Technologies PhD Student Award.

Joanna Shaw, is a doctoral student in the Learning Technologies Department with research interest in blended/hybrid learning, generational cohorts, and human resource management in small businesses. She has served as an adjunct instructor at Tarleton State University since 2005, where she teaches a variety of business courses. She and her husband Cory, who have been married for seven years, are expecting their first children, twin girls, in June 2009. She received an Outstanding Learning Technologies PhD Award.

Jenny Wakefield, a master’s student in Learning Technologies majoring in computer education and cognitive systems – teaching and learning with technology, received the BAAS (see p.9) from UNT in December 2007. She has edited several books and newsletters, designed graphics, and created and maintained web sites for companies, organizations, and individuals. Her latest Web site is on instructional design and Web 2.0/3.0 technologies. At the University of Texas Dallas where she works in the Office of Communications, she volunteers as an instructional design assistant for the UTD School of Management, teaching faculty to use Virtual Worlds in education and managing their simulation in Second Life (see p.6). She aspires to become an instructional designer assisting faculty members in implementing emerging technologies to inspire and engage students in the digital age. She received an Outstanding Masters Student Award.
LIS ALUMNI RECEIVE RECOGNITION

ROBERT MARTIN – PRESIDENTIAL CITIZENS MEDAL

On November 17, 2008, at a White House ceremony, President George Bush presented Robert S. Martin (MLS ’79) with the Presidential Citizens Medal, one of the highest honors the President can confer upon a civilian, second only to the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Presidential Citizens Medal was established on November 13, 1969 to recognize U.S citizens who have performed exemplary deeds of service for the nation.

Dr. Martin was recognized for his leadership in serving as the director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) from 2001 to 2005. The citation accompanying the medal reads: “Robert Martin has dedicated his career to the management of libraries. As a librarian, archivist, administrator, and educator, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to lifelong learning. The United States honors Robert Martin for his leadership in strengthening libraries and museums across the country.”

Dr. Martin formerly served as director and librarian of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and recently retired from the Texas Woman’s University School of Library Studies where he held a professorship and the Lillian Bradshaw Endowed Chair. In addition to the MS from LIS, he holds a BA degree from Rice University and the PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His wife, Dr. Barbara Stein Martin, is the LIS Hazel Harvey Peace Professor of Library Services to Children. (for additional information on Dr. Martin, see p. 3)

MARGARET LINCOLN – NEW YORK TIMES I LOVE MY LIBRARIAN AWARD

Margaret “Gigi” Lincoln, who received the LIS PhD in 2006, was a recipient of the 2008 I Love My Librarian Award, presented by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the New York Times, ALAs Public Information Office, and the Campaign for American Libraries. Award ceremonies took place on December 9, 2008. The honor recognizes public, school, and college librarians for service to the community, school, or campus. The ten recipients of the award, chosen from 3,200 nominees, were the topic of a feature article in the January/February issue of American Libraries. Margaret is media specialist at Lakeview High School, Battle Creek, MI. In November 2007, School Library Journal published an article by Margaret concerning an event that students from her high school and across the state experienced after reading All But Her Life by holocaust survivor Gerda Klein. With support from the local public library and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Mrs. Klein was invited to speak to high school students from through the city. When other schools became interested in the project, Margaret prepared lesson plans and a teaching guide based on the book, which she presented at the Michigan Association for Media in Education Conference. More than 3,400 requests to attend Mrs. Klein’s presentation poured in from schools across the state, a demand that far exceeded the auditorium’s seating capacity. A web-based solution brought the event to those unable to attend. (see Call Number, Spring 2008, p.20)

TWO LIS ALUMS NAMED 2009 LJ MOVERS AND SHAKERS

For the past eight years, Library Journal has named a group of emerging leaders in the library world, individuals who are innovative, creative, and making a difference. Each year’s group, selected from some 150,000 librarians in the United States and Canada currently affiliated with public, school, academic, legal, medical, corporate, and institutional libraries, are termed Movers and Shakers. This year’s list includes two LIS alumni, Maureen Ambrosino (MS ’01) and Melissa Rethlefsen (MS ’04).

Maureen Ambrosino, youth services consultant, Central Massachusetts Regional Library System, Shrewsbury, MA, spent a decade in Texas libraries before accepting her current position, providing teen services consulting for 250 libraries. For one of her projects, Library Services & Technology Act grant-supported “Year of the Teen” program, she brought in expert trainers from around the country to teach YA librarians and their staffs how to work effectively with teens. Within the first year, teen summer reading programs tripled from eight to 24 libraries, increasing even more in 2008. Advocacy is one of Maureen’s primary interests. In the spring 2008 issue of Call Number, we included an article about her library advocacy comic strip (termed an article-turned-comic) that was published in the January 2008 issue of School Library Journal. www.schoollibraryjournal.com/info/CA6515886.html=20/In ALA Young Adult Library Services Association, where she is current chair of the organization’s Legislation Committee, she also coordinated its 28 Days of Advocacy project on the YALSA blog in February 2009. She is vice chair/chair elect of the Youth Services Section of the Massachusetts Library Association that is currently involved in creating the state’s first Teen Choice Book Award. The group also is involved in revising the Standards for Public Library Services for Young Adults. In ALA, she is serving on an advisory panel for incoming president Camila Aline.
IN MEMORIAM

Jennifer Acker (LIS MS ’95), who was assistant director at the Manske Library at Farmers Branch, TX, died on February 19, 2009, at age 37.

Vivian Cisneros’s (doctoral student) daughter Laura died on April 9, 2009. Laura fought a courageous and valiant battle with leukemia, leaving a son and a grieving family.

Jewel Austin Houston (LIS MS ’88), who had directed the libraries of both Clarendon College and Borger College for a number of years, died on March 14, 2009, at age 48.

Through the “Alumni we would like to find” listing in the Fall 2008 Call Number, LIS has learned that Maude Voncile Liddell (BA ’50), Marietta, OK and Peter Wei He (MS ’91) are deceased, but we do not have death dates. It is reported that Peter Wei He died while on a trip to China.

Others LIS alumni include: Leta Boyd (MLS ’60), Tucson, AZ, February 3, 2007; Patricia Brown (BA ’51), Odessa, TX, August 16, 2004; Dorothy Garrett (MS ’91), Carrollton, June 12, 2008; Eurice Garverick (BA ’52), Las Cruces, NM, August 16, 2008; Linda Loannesyan (MS ’98), Takoma Park, MD, August 31, 2008; Cynda Mast (MS ’93), Flower Mound, TX, date unknown; Carol Roberts (MS ’90), Lubbock, TX, May 25, 2008; Dale Wilkins (BA ’51), Dallas, TX, September 17, 2008.

In 2007, Maureen worked with Evanced Solutions to bring a statewide online reading program to Massachusetts, the first state in the nation to do so. The highly successful pilot project, grant funded by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, now in its third year, provides free access to all public libraries and a small number of school libraries.

Melissa Rethlefsen (MS ’04), education technology librarian at the Learning Resource Center of the Mayo Medical School, College of Medicine in Rochester, MN, has published ten peer-reviewed articles with an additional one accepted for publication, and 20 non-peer reviewed articles since her graduation four years ago. She also was lead author for the book titled Internet Cool Tools for Physicians (Springer, 2008). Melissa has presented papers and poster sessions at the Medical Library Association, the American Medical Informatics Association, and the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professionals. An active member of the Public Health/Health Administration section of the Medical Library Association, she serves as a member of the Web Committee and on the editorial board of the Core Public Health Journals Project Version 2.0, which was awarded the 2006 Louise Darling Medal for Distinguished Achievement in Collection Development in the Health Sciences. Her most recent project is implementing the social networking tool LiveJournal at the Mayo Medical School to facilitate faculty-mentor-student interaction. Melissa says she freely admits addiction to del.icio.us, the social bookmarking web service for storing, sharing, and discovering with bookmarks.

Other LIS alumni who have been named LJ Movers and Shakers include: Cathy Hartman (MS ’91) and Corinne Hill (MS ’95) in 2004; Miriam Rodriguez (MS ’97), Kim Charlson (MS ’84) and Michael Stephens (PhD ’07) in 2005; and Charles Pace (MS ’90) in 2006.

MIRIAM RODRIGUEZ – ALA-RUSA ZORA NEALE HURSTON AWARD

Miriam Rodriguez (LIS MS ’97), Assistant Director for Public Services/Community Integration, Dallas Public Library, is the first recipient of the ALA-RUSA Zora Neale Hurston Award for her role in Tulisoma, the South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival, and for her leadership in promoting African American literature. Miriam also was named a Library Journal Mover and Shaker in 2005, the LIS Outstanding Alumna in 2007, and is one of the 70th Anniversary Platinum Star awardees (see p.5). She joined the Dallas Public Library staff in 1997, moved to the Irving Public in 2001, and returned to the Dallas Public Library in 2004 as the multicultural services administrator. Within six months she was promoted to her current position.

Cissy Mattingly receives award

Cissy Mattingly (LIS MS ’05), Woodway Elementary School, Grades K-5, was selected the Fort Worth ISD’s first ever Chair for Teaching Excellence in Library and Information Science. The chair, sponsored by Patsy Cantrell and Jan Johnson, honors their parents, Zelma and J.T. Luther, Jr., for whom the award is named.

The announcement concerning the honor stated that Cissy exemplifies the words of First Lady Laura Bush, who says, “School librarians help teachers teach and students learn.” Cissy teaches the technically literate students Internet safety for research.
DOING INTERESTING THINGS

Wendy Beecham (LIS MS ’87), a certified Executive Coach, is currently the CEO of a non-profit that focuses on women’s leadership, Women Entrepreneurs and Executives. She has over 25 years of corporate leadership experiences from various industries. “I have been very privileged,” she states “to have used my degree in library science in so many different ways—as a corporate librarian, doing competitive intelligence, in sales and product development for a database publisher (going from being a user to creator of content), doing content strategy alliances, and leading two major information publishing companies.” In the latter instance, she was at Thomson Corporation where she was Vice President of Content Development at West Publishing, the leading legal publisher in the U.S., and in London where she was CEO of Sweet & Maxwell, a division of Thomson.

In her current position, Wendy has taken the organization through a transformation over the past year and a half by clarifying its mission and selecting a niche of experienced women leaders who are currently not being served in the San Francisco Bay area and presenting high quality programming that is targeted to meet their needs.

She says that one aspect of her skill set that she feels has lead to her success is excellent communication skills carried over from the reference interview as a librarian. She says she also has been a risk taker, “moving into industries and geographic locations where I had no direct experience but knew that I could ‘figure it out’ by calling on others who had already been there for their guidance and best practices.” Wendy was born in England, grew up in Canada, and has spent her working career in various locations in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Kate M. Burkes (LT PhD ’07) is Interim Director of Distance Learning at Northwest Arkansas Community College. Her department oversees some 300 online classes, interactive video courses, and satellite conferences. She and her staff work with faculty to develop, upgrade, and maintain their courses and provide ongoing training services to over 250 distance learning students.

Kate has been leading a year-long upgrade to a new online learning system for the college, which will provide additional features and more capacity for a rapidly growing distance learning program. She was recently certified as a Blackboard System Administrator and serves on the conference committee for the Arkansas Blackboard Users Group. She is also active in the state branch of the Distance Learning Association and recently had an article published on using video-capture technology in faculty training.

Karen Clem Castro (LT MS ’01) currently works at FedEx Express in Memphis, TN as a senior instructional design specialist. At FedEx, she has designed, developed, and now manages the new hire courier training program that transitions the in-class two-week training to more on-the-job training. The current course incorporates accelerated learning principles and blended learning format. The return-on-investment (ROI) on the course has proven to be very successful, and the training team anticipates seeing a further increase in ROI with a reduction in accident rates and increase in other courier-related entities as more simulations are put into the real-world environment during the training process.

Karen has taught for the LT for six years as an adjunct faculty member teaching online classes in the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) program (see p. 9). In addition to the MS from LT, she holds a B.A. in psychology from Southwestern University.

Nikky Cogdell (LIS MS ’95) serves as a reference librarian in the library of the U.S. Office of Administration/Library & Research Services Division, Executive Office of the President. There are three libraries that serve the employees of the Executive Office—two located in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, and one in the New Executive Office Building, which is where Nikky works. The libraries are not open to the public but are there to provide information and research for the Executive offices, both political appointees and career federal employees. Here is her story in her own words:

“My husband and I moved to the Washington, DC area in 1996. I worked as a contract librarian at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for five years. I was hired here as a reference librarian in 2001. I was going through the hiring process when September 11th happened. Also as I started work here, the anthrax attacks occurred.

The types of questions that I get cover a whole spectrum of subjects from drug policy to climate change to gas prices to computers. I do lots of document delivery, bibliographic instruction, and ready reference. Often as I read the news, I see things that relate to questions that I answered or documents that I retrieved.

About six months after I started work here, I took over the interlibrary loan duties. That is probably ⅔ of my job now. I do mostly borrowing, but I do lend when our small collection is needed. I work with many federal libraries including the Library of Congress and have articles faxed and emailed to me from all over the country.

President Bush actually stopped into our library in 2007 while he was in the building for a meeting, and I have a picture that was taken at that time. I also got to meet him at a Christmas party.

David McFeely (LT PhD ’02) is an independent consultant and works with clients to develop workplace learning and performance improvement solutions including: management/leadership development, employee
engagement/retention, communication skills, team building, training/business strategy integration, and custom training development. He also serves as an associate consultant with the Ken Blanchard Companies and Career Systems International.

Recently, when consulting with B&W Pantex, a defense contractor in Amarillo, David conducted a needs assessment by interviewing managers and key employees about the state of employee engagement within their departments. He then delivered a one-day workshop developed by Career Systems International called Love ‘Em or Lose ‘Em. Based on a book of the same name by Beverly Kaye and Sharon Jordan-Evans, it outlines 26 strategies for companies and Career Systems International.

Continued from page 20

Roger Nichols (LIS MLS ’78), who was a school librarian for five years, a public librarian for three and a half years, and an academic librarian for a year, is now the Assistant General Counsel for the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles. After receiving his law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law in 1989, he entered private practice; after fourteen years, he sought a new challenge.

In his current job, which he finds challenging, and rewarding, Roger reviews parole revocation appeals for factual and legal sufficiency and then makes a recommendation to a voting panel made up of Board Members and Parole Commissioners. He is involved in litigation primarily as agency liaison to the Office of the Attorney General. He finds one of the most interesting and somewhat stressful responsibilities of the job is the review and summarization of Death Penalty Clemency petitions. “Neutrality is the order of the day. I could not, and would not, opine on the merits of the case. I summarize the factual and legal history of the case, from the trial court to denial of certiorari by the United States Supreme Court. At that point, the capital litigant may petition the Board of Pardons and Paroles for relief. This relief, if granted, could come in the form of a temporary reprieve of execution, or a commutation to a life sentence. Upon a favorable vote, the petition would be forwarded to the Governor for his/her decision. He, too, would read my synopsis, in that case.”

In speaking of the two advanced degrees he holds, he made the following statement: “It has been said that a law degree prepares one for almost anything. It is malleable and versatile. It is powerful. The same can be said for the MLS. Skills are transferable. Research skills, dogged tenacity, inquisitiveness, and more are bestowed with the MLS. These qualities serve one well in all endeavors. Yes, my MLS has made me a better lawyer, a better thinker, a better public servant. The skills, knowledge, attitudes, and confidence which I grew to have because of my time at North Texas are the foundation of success. Should I radically change professions or avocations, what I gained at North Texas would still apply. Life skills do not leave; they grow and augment our every day.”

A KUDOS FOR THE LIS ONLINE DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Brian Kenney (PhD ’08), editor-in-chief of School Library Journal and editorial director for Publisher’s Weekly, and Library Journal, wrote an interesting editorial for the January 1, 2009 issue of the School Library Journal that reviewed the possibilities of librarians pursuing the doctorate without giving up their jobs and moving across the country to do so. Brian was a member of a cohort of 10 school and public librarians at UNT LIS who were supported in part by funding from the IMLS Laura Bush 21st-Century Library Program. The blended program required that the students spend several long weekends to a week on campus, but they pursued most of their work online.

“The debate over online learning and rigor is too big to tackle here,” Brian wrote, “but I think most people who have participated in online LIS programs would agree that online learning isn’t more or less rigorous, it’s just different. In my experience, as both a student and teacher, online programs can be more rigorous than traditional ones.” He further stated: “Nor do students in a nontraditional program have to miss out on the rich experience of being a teaching assistant or a participant in a research project. A well planned online program can allow for these experiences. I was a teaching assistant, helped to design curriculum, and took part in a research project—all online. The fact is that nearly every industry today is changing and adapting because of what’s possible online. Why should LIS doctoral education be any different? I bet what we call ‘nontraditional’ today will, in a few years, be the norm.”

NEW 2009-11 ALUMNI SOCIETY OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President: Connie Moss (LIS MS ’92)
Past President: Kathy Huber (LIS MS ’91)
Robbie Sittel (LIS MS ’05) – OK representative
Toby Nelson (MS ’96) – LT representative
Credence Baker (PhD ’08) – LT representative
Becky Coleman (MS ’04) – NV representative
Mike McCabe – (MS ’01) MN representative
Joan Goodbody (MS ’01) – VA representative

LIS ALUMNI ATTENDING THE 2009 TLA TALL TEXANS INSTITUTE

The annual TLA TALL Texans Leadership Development Institute, scheduled for June 14-18, 2009, at Montserrat Retreat Center, Lake Dallas, TX, will include eight LIS alumni among its 25 participants. Attendees selected to attend the institute must be TLA members currently employed in the field who have had at least five years of experience in a professional level position. A major TLA activity, the institute provides a five day intensive learning experience in the development of leadership skills.

This year’s LIS participants include: Kaye Bray (MS ’94), Texas Woman’s University School of Library & Information Science Studies; Susan Chandler (MS ’04), Sterling Municipal Library, Baytown, TX; David Fettke (MS ’88), Humanities Division, Dallas Public Library; Stephanie Fulton (MS ’93), University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston; Wylaina Hildreth (MS ’03), Denton Public Library; Becky Lee (MS ’06), Valley Oaks Elementary School, Houston; Patricia Peters (MS ’90), Lewisville Public Library; and Kelly Skovbjerg (MS ’96), Boerne Public Library.
MARIBEL GARZA-CASTRO NAMED TLA PRESIDENT-ELECT

As LIS alumna Melody Kelly (MLS ’73) completes her term as president, another alumna, Maribel Garza-Castro (MS ’03) begins her term as the newly elected president-elect of the Texas Library Association, the largest state library organization with membership over 7,000. Maribel, one of the 70th Anniversary Rising Star awardees (see p.6), was elected to the TLA Executive Board in 2008. She formerly served as a librarian in the Houston ISD and has been librarian at St. John’s School, Houston since 2004. In addition to TLA, she is active in the American Association of School Librarians, a division of the American Library Association, serving currently on its Region VI Board of Directors and on its Cultural Diversity Task Force, and in REFORMA.

TLA CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

LIS alumni and faculty placed their mark on the 2009 Texas Library Association annual conference, held in Houston, March 31-April 3. Melody Kelly (MLS ’73), TLA president, and her co-program chairs, Deanna Belden (MS ’03) and Corinne Hill (MS ’91) served as conference leaders along with numerous alumni and faculty who served as planners and presenters.

The Program Committee included: Joel Bangilan (MS ’99), Willie Braudaway (MS ’03), Sharon Castleberry (05), Yvonne Chandler (LIS faculty), Starr Hoffman (MS ’06), Karen Hopkins (MLS ’76), Donna Kearley (MS ’97), Maryann Kitchens (MS ’91), Sandra River (MS ’90), Leah Rosson (MS ’04), Steve Seale (MS ’99), and Diane Wahl (MLS ’75).

Those serving as program presenters and in other capacities included:

Faculty—Ana Cleveland, Yunfei Du, Barbara Schultz-Jones

Alumni—Chris Accardo (MS ’00), Susan Allison (MS ’86) (2 programs), Cindy Batman (MS ’03), Melody Boren (MS ’06), Joel Bangilan (MS ’99), Carolyn Davidson Brewer (MS ’96), Gayla Byerly (’96), Renee Chavallier (MS ’91), Dee Ann Douglas (MS ’08), Annie Downey (MS ’04), Beth Wheeler Fox (BA 67), DL Tilford Grant (MS ’05), Laura Heinz (MS ’98), Stacey Irish-Keffler (MS ’97), Melissa Johnson (MS ’00), Donna Kearley (MS ’97), Shelly Henley Kelly (MS ’94), Shelly Lane (MS ’04), Janet Latham (BA ’70), Rebecca McKee (BS ’85), Amanda McKenzie (MS ’08), Robert Martin (MLS ’79), Frances May (MS ’84), Rebecca McKee (BS ’85), Amanda McKenzie (MS ’08), Philip Montgomery (MS ’05), Linda Newland (MA ’81), Jodi Philbrick (MS ’01), Buster Ratliff (MS ’06), Sally Ray (BA ’72), Carol Roark (MS ’93), Miriam Rodriguez (MS ’97) (2 programs), Martha Rossi (MS ’04), Jennifer Smith (MS ’02), Elizabeth Ryker Steiner (MS ’97), Michael Stephens (PhD ’07) (2 programs), Diane Wahl (MLS ’75), Adam Wright (MS ’95)


LIS Board of Advisors—Barry Bishop, Eva Poole, Maria Elena Ovalle, Dana Rooks, Peggy Rudd

Booth Volunteers at TLA

LIS thanks you for your service.

Michelle Delgado
Lori Lee Espinola
Dara Flinn
Elida Garza
Brenda Gunter
Gretchen Irey
Steven Lynch
Kristie Munger
Elizabeth Nebeker
Cynthia Oubre
Matthew Pierce
Cheryl Rowan
Susan Wheeler
Berika Williams

TLA Booth Winners

Keychain winners at the TLA conference booth
Lisa Swan, student
Maggie Sepulveda, student
Debbie Callaway, MS ’07
Hazel Ellis, MS ’88
Devery Johnson, MS ’06
Jeanie Pyle, MS ’85
Barbara Reed, MS

CAREER SERVICES AVAILABLE TO ALUMNI

UNT alums are welcome to continue using the services and resources of the UNT Career Center for free. Alumni are able to view job listings, find job search resources, sign up for campus interviews, register to attend career workshops, and store resumes, cover letters and other job search documents for later use. CI Career Specialist is Glenn Jensen.

Email: CareerCenter@unt.edu
1970s

Mark Chapman (LIS MLS ’74), who worked at a library for seven years, runs his family owned bakery, The Red Oven, opened in 1975 in Pantego, a suburb of Arlington, TX. “I never thought I would eventually run a bakery, but I learned by the seat of my pants,” he says.

Kathy Hillman (LIS MLS ’76) has been promoted to director of special collections for Baylor University’s Central Library.

Mary Suhm (LIS MLS ’74), Dallas City Manager and former librarian, received the 2009 Proquest Intellectual Freedom Award at ceremonies during the Texas Library Association conference. Mary was named a UNT Distinguished Alumnus in 2008.

Thomas Taylor (LIS MLS ’74) has retired from the Vancouver, WA Public Library System after 30 years of service. He has served primarily in reference services.

Linda Wood Vaughn (LIS MLS ’73) has retired from the Frisco (TX) High School Library where she has served for four years. She earlier served 19 years as a librarian in the Richardson (TX) ISD. Linda reports that she has one granddaughter and another on the way.

1980s

Charlotte Ross Bagh (LIS MS ’87) was omitted from the list of TLA leaders that appeared in the fall 2008 issue of Call Number. Charlotte served in a very important position as the 2008-09 chair of the Government Documents Roundtable.

Hazel Ellis (MS ’88) donated two of the books she has written to the Houston Program to use as door prizes for students. The titles include My Heart to Yours, a book of poetry, and Song of Tampopo, a children’s book.

Ramona Howerton (LIS MS ’86), who is library service librarian at Duff & Phelps, an investment banking firm in Chicago, has just completed a three year term on the executive board of the Illinois Chapter of the Special Libraries Association.

Mary Sue (Susie) Stephens (LIS MS ’77, PhD ’82) is senior instructor and chair of the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Joyce Baumbach (LIS MS ’93), Plano (TX) Public Library director, is chairing the Transforming TLA Structure Task Force and will serve as chair of the TLA Legislative Committee beginning in May 2009.

Toby Baldwin (LIS MS ’08) has been promoted to director of library services at Mountain View College, one of the campuses of the Dallas (TX) Community College District.

Jody Pellerin (LIS MS ’04) performs market research for PhaseWare, Inc., McKinney, TX, a software company that provides customer service and support software optimized for small to medium businesses, and researches CRM and customer support practices and software. In addition, she writes copy for the company blog, white papers, email and press releases and responds to other blogs and forums. She also manages content and some design for the company website.

Mark Phillips (LIS MS ’04), as head of the Digital Projects Unit of UNT Libraries, was involved in a successful effort to preserve all of the Bush Administration’s Web sites, making sure that they remain accessible for future generations. The Web sites were taken down when the administration changed on January 20, 2009. The UNT Digital Projects Unit is an affiliated archive of the National Archives and Records Administration, working with the Library of Congress and the University of California to preserve government records.

Jennifer Smith (LIS MS ’02), librarian at Legacy Middle School, East Central ISD (San Antonio), published an article titled “Lone Star: 20 Years of Creating Middle School Readers,” in the Spring 2009 issue of Texas Library Journal.

2005 to date

Dexter Evans (LIS MS ’93) was appointed southwest territory sales representative for H.W. Wilson January 29, 2009.

Dean James (LIS MS ’92) has been promoted to associate director of collections management at the Houston Academy of Medicine – Texas Medical Center Library.

Mary Ann Kitchens (LIS MS ’91) is now head of branches at the Dallas Public Library.

John Kneu (LT BA’98) recently visited the LT Department. He is at Baylor University Hankamer School of Business, Information Systems Department, Waco.

Marcine Gibson McCulley (LIS MS ’92) has been appointed county librarian for Rockwall County, Texas and will direct the new $11.5 million facility opened in September 2008. She previously served as the public services manager and as reference librarian at Rockwall County Library. Earlier positions were as children’s librarian for Nicholson Memorial Library System, Garland, TX and as law librarian at the Houston office of Baker & Botts, LLP. Marcine is a member of the first graduating class for the Houston Program. Her husband Jerry McCulley (MS ’95) is assistant coordinator and technical consultant for the North East Texas Library System (NETLS).

Mike Pullin (LIS MS ’98) has been hired by the UNT Health Science Center as their systems librarian.

2000-2004

Jody Pellerin (LIS MS ’04) performs market research for PhaseWare, Inc., McKinney, TX, a software company that provides customer service and support software optimized for small to medium businesses, and researches CRM and customer support practices and software. In addition, she writes copy for the company blog, white papers, email and press releases and responds to other blogs and forums. She also manages content and some design for the company website.

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Terry Wilson (MS ’04) has a new position as unit assistant director of the Harrington Library of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Amarillo.

Toby Baldwin (LIS MS ’08) has been promoted to director of library services at Mountain View College, one of the campuses of the Dallas (TX) Community College District.

Janet Benedict (LIS MS ’06), deputy chief librarian for public services of the Hartford (CT) Public Library, is serving as the library’s joint interim director along with Carolyn Boudreau, deputy director of services.
with Matthew Poland, deputy administrator, until a search for a new chief librarian is completed. Janet, who joined the Hartford Public Library staff in 2006, was previously with the Hartford (MD) County Library System. In addition to the master’s degree, she holds the Graduate Academic Certificate in Advanced Management in Library and Information Agencies from LIS.

Annie Downey (LIS MS ’05) has been promoted to instruction unit manager of the University of North Texas Libraries. The unit is newly created, and Annie serves as its first manager.

Sean Fitzpatrick (LIS MS ’07) is an associate editor for American Libraries, ALAs monthly magazine. His duties include editing several columns in the print magazine, vetting and developing feature stories for print, writing news stories that appear online and in print, and contributing to the weekly e-newsletter American Libraries Direct. He reports that he also is slowly taking on the huge project of managing content on the American Libraries website.

Devery Johnson (LIS MS ’06) has been promoted from a reference position with Montgomery County (TX) Library System to outreach coordinator. Devery served on the 2008-09 TLA Local Arrangements Committee as head of the Entertainment Committee. The welcome party, the president’s party, and the book cart drill team are all under his purview. It is reported that all were a great success.

Jami Judge (LIS MS ’08), who interned at CNN’s Washington, DC bureau in 2007, has accepted a moving image technician position at the Library of Congress’ National Audio-Visual Conservation Center in Culpeper, VA.

Brian Kenney (LIS PhD ’08) who has been serving as editor in chief of School Library Journal, is now editorial director of two additional magazines, Publishers Weekly and Library Journal. (See also p. 21)

Jennifer Kohl (LT BAAS ’07) has been admitted to the Texas Wesleyan School of Law and will begin her study in fall 2009.

Heather Marchetta (LIS MS ’), one of the Rio Grande Initiative Fellows, reports that she is still with the Richard Salter Storrs Library in Longmeadow, MA, where she has been since April 2007, and still loves it.

Katy Manck (LIS MLS ’79, certifi cate ’05 and adjunct), librarian at Gilmer (TX) High School, helped to create a special project at the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) conference in Berkeley, CA in August 2008. She and several others in the Children’s and Young Adult Literature Special Interest Group created GiggleIT, designed to help children become better writers and readers. Students ages 10-14 from around the world contribute their stories and humor from their cultures to a free online book (eBook). The global collabora tive publishing project is hosted by IASL, working in partnership with the International Children’s Digital Library. To take part in the project, teachers and librarians can register at www.iasl-online.org/sla/giggleIT/

Diane Neal (LIS MS ’01, PhD ’06) has accepted an appointment to the Information and Media Studies faculty as an Assistant Professor at the University of Western Ontario, beginning July 1, 2009. She was formerly at North Carolina Central University.

On April 15, 2009, during National Library Week, Melissa Place (LIS MS ’08) represented LIS in a panel discussion concerning applying for library school, scholarship opportunities, diversity of programs, and other matters concerning UNT at the University of Texas-Pan American University, where she is a member of the library staff.

Jaime Prideaux (LIS MS ’06), an independent library and information science consultant, is the author of the Talking Books Library Blog http://talkingbookslibrarian.blogspot.com/, a site designed as a service to the blind and ones who have vision difficulties, as well as those who work with them.

Joanie South-Shelley (LIS MS ’08) has joined the staff at the Houston Public Library Carnegie Branch.

Todd Spinks (LIS PhD ’09), formerly an official with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will lead UNT campus environmental efforts and oversee the newly established UNT Office of Sustainability. Todd, who served as the special projects coordinator for the EPA since 2007, has an extensive background in furthering groundbreaking, interdisciplinary efforts related to protecting human health and the environment. The new office will focus on four major areas pertaining to sustainability: research, university operations, outreach, and curriculum development.

Michael Stephens (LIS PhD ’07), assistant professor, Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science, received the 2009 Pratt-Seven Faculty Innovation Award from the Association of Library and Information Science Educators (ALISE), presented at the association’s annual meeting in January. He also has published “The Pragmatic Biblioblogger: Examining the Motivations and Observations of Early Adopted Librarian Bloggers” in the fall 2008 issue of Internet Reference Services Quarterly (IRSQ). 13 (4).

Michael was selected as one of the 70th Anniversary Rising Stars (see p. 6), and presented two programs at the 2009 TLA annual conference (see p.22)

Annabel Trevino (LIS MS ’06), who was one of the Rio Grande Initiative Fellows, was recently promoted to manager of periodicals and interlibrary loan services at the Arnulfo L. Oliveira Memorial Library, University of Texas at Brownsville.

David Ndirangu Wachanga (LIS PhD ’08) accepted the position of Assistant Professor — Journalism at University of Wisconsin — Whitewater in August 2008.

Mark Zammier (LIS MS ’06) and Dr. Barbara Stein Martin have published Fundamentals of School Library Media Management (Neal Schuman, 2009).

Did you know?

Three alumni have received the University of North Texas Distinguished Alumni Award: Mary D. Lankford (BA ’52) in 1992, Linda Allmand (BA ’61) in 1988, and Mary Suhm (MLS ’74) in 2008.
MARY PASTORIUS JOINS CI AS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Mary Pastorius, who has joined CI as Development Officer, held several prior positions in the UNT Division of Student Development: director of Student Life, director of the Center for Student Development at Research Park, and director of Student Life and Involvement in the Dean of Students Department. She holds two degrees from Texas Woman’s University, the MA in sociology for which she was awarded a number of staff scholarships, and the BS in government.

Mary’s many accomplishments include receiving an American Association for University Women grant to reduce sexual harassment on college campuses; administering and implementing the first Texas LULAC Health Summit, with the support of the Texas Department of Health, University of Texas Health Science Center, along with corporate partners, for which she fundraised over $75,000 during a three month period; administering and implementing a state-wide health summit to address healthcare status for Latinos in Texas and providing information from the summit to Texas legislators and constituents.

She is a participant in numerous community and civic organizations such as AIDS Services of North Texas Board of Directors, Denton Chamber of Commerce Ambassador, Denton Main Street Association Board of Directors, Denton Young Professionals, Greater Denton Arts Council, Leadership Denton, and League of United Latin American Citizens Denton Council. She also has been involved in numerous committees and served on boards both at Texas Woman’s University and UNT.

Mary has been a frequent presenter at conferences such as the Texas State Conference, Society of Human Resource Management; Association for Volunteer Resource Management; National Association for Campus Activities; and Latinos in the 21st Century. In June 2008, she presented “Serving Your Local Community: Insight into the Higher Education Experience” at the 3rd annual Best Practices in Building University/City Relations Conference held at Texas A&M University.

THREE MASTER’S STUDENTS RECEIVE ALUMNI SOCIETY MEDIERS SCHOLARSHIPS

Three LIS master’s students, Trisha Clark, Amanda Ziegler and Kristie Munger, received Alumni Society Medders Scholarships for the spring 2009 semester. These scholarships are provided by Alumni Society membership dues.

Trisha Clark, who is in the youth librarianship program, earned her B.A. degree in English with a specialty in creative writing from UNT in 2007 and was a poetry contributor to the North Texas Review. In addition to her studies, Trisha works part-time in youth services at the Lewisville (TX) Public Library. She enjoys many different creative pursuits including photography, writing, music, and crafts. While she is excited about being a youth librarian, her dream job would be librarian at the Rock ‘n Roll Hall of Fame.

Amanda Ziegler is focusing on youth librarianship. In addition to her studies at LIS, she fills her days as children’s librarian at the Wichita Falls (TX) Public Library. She also has had experience working in the Teen Services Department at the Pikes Peak (CO) Library District and in various para-professional positions at libraries across the country. A native of Detroit Lakes, MN, she spent four years in Saint Paul, MN while attending Macalester College, graduating in 2006 with a degree in Hispanic studies and geography. She and her husband, a U.S. Air Force pilot, have lived in Wichita Falls since 2007. Amanda reports that she is thoroughly enjoying her time at UNT and has learned a lot.

Kristie Munger has had 15 years of teaching experience and is specializing in the elementary school media area. She states that she has “been amazed at the lives that I have not only touched, but had a hand in changing. I have had so many students over the years who told me they never liked to read before entering my class and now they love it.” In thanking the Alumni Society for the scholarship, she says “your generous act of kindness is such a blessing to me and I plan to inspire others by touching young lives.” Her projected completion date is summer 2009.

LIS SCHOLARSHIPS AND ENDOWMENTS

Master’s Scholarship Funds*
Clarke, Kennerly, Thomas Scholarship, $15,000
Donald B. and Ana D. Cleveland Houston Scholarship, $25,300
Dorothy J. Hickey Memorial Fund, $1,000
Dorothy Thomas Scholarship, $12,500
Frasier McConnell Memorial Fund, $20,200
H. W. Wilson Scholarship Fund, $31,000
Virginia Clarke Scholarship, $22,100
Kenneth L. Ferstl Scholarship, $23,000
Leon M. Liddell Scholarship, $13,560
Margaret Irby Nichols Endowment, $49,500
Ruth Brock & Alan Saxe Scholarship, $21,000
Flora Richardson Wilhite Endowed Scholarship, $47,450
Melba Harvill Endowment Scholarship, $26,500
Sarah Law Kennerly Scholarship, $15,900
Dean’s Fund
John P. Medders Endowment, $33,300
Professorships
Hazel Harvey Peace Professorship, $294,000
Sarah Law Kennerly Professorship, $1,928,000
Doctoral Fellowships
Ana D. and Donald B. Cleveland Fellowship in Medical Informatics, $18,160
Dewey E. and Betty Carroll Fellowship, $72,390
Margaret A. Carroll Endowment Interdisciplinary PhD Award, $14,900
Mark Rovig Endowed Graduate Fellowship, $77,800
Howard Greisdorf Fellowship, $14,260
Alumni Society Scholarship
The Lady Kate Medders Alumni Society Scholarship Fund, $31,600

*All amounts are estimates based on April, 2009 financial statements.
A GALLANT PAST AND ILLUSTRIOUS FUTURE: 70 YEARS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I
n my fall 2008 column, I explained the excitement of two milestones: our move to Discovery Park and the consolidation of the School of Library and Information Science (LIS) with the Department of Learning Technologies (LT) to form the College of Information. (See p. 7 for information on the name change.) Consequently, this issue of Call Number includes the accomplishments and activities of both LIS and LT.

As we celebrate this 70th anniversary, I cannot help but think of LIS’s gallant past. LIS’s upward climb was evident even during the fledgling years from the establishment of the Department of Library Service in 1939 to its addition of new programs in the late 1940s/early 1950s. It continued to thrive with the creation of the Master of Library Science (MLS) degree in 1963 to the first accreditation of its master’s program by the American Library Association (ALA) in 1965. Always looking toward its illustrious future, LIS created the Doctor of Philosophy degree and reorganized to create the School of Library and Information Science in 1967, a step that would necessitate the addition of five faculty members in 1977 (and the first associate dean). The national and international growth of information studies would eventually lead to the 1983 change in the MLS to the Master of Science with concentrations in either library science or information science.

After another reorganization in 1987, that included the addition of Margaret Ithely Nichols as Assistant Dean, as well as subsequent curriculum changes, the School became the largest in the State by 1999. Soon after the 1991 foundation of the still-standing Houston program, the PhD degree in library science was phased out upon recommendations from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The School faced the challenge of creating the Interdisciplinary Information Science PhD program in 1992, a program that is still growing.

The 1999 offering of the first online school library Learning Resource Endowment in the nation brought the University and LIS great recognition and respect with the Inception of Web Institutes, LIS’s enrollment increased 40% from spring 2000 to spring 2001! The Texas Center for Digital Knowledge (TxCDK) was established in 2000, and the first Nehru Coalition began in 2002, and in 2004, LIS would experience yet another jump in enrollment of 45% from spring 2003 to spring 2004.

Thanks to Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS) grants, the Rio Grande Initiative and the first PhD cohort began in 2004.

In 2005, I announced my Vision 2020 that included expanding the faculty and creating three new programs. After the arduous task of preparing a self study for reaffirmation of IMLS accreditation in 2006, LIS was able to concentrate on some of the Vision 2020 goals. LIS’s enrollment continued to increase and in 2007, five new faculty positions were added and the Digital Knowledge Management program was initiated! With the establishment of all-Pass in 2007, Virginia and Georgia in 2008, as well as the fall 2008 move to Discovery Park and creation of CI, LIS has much to celebrate about her gallant past.

Her future looks just as bright. A fifth Las Vegas cohort will commence in fall 2009, as well as a new cohort in California. Research endeavors are on the upswing with activities in CI’s three research centers. See details in “CI Research Centers” on page 7.

We formally recognize all accomplishments of LIS faculty, students and staff at the celebrating 70th Anniversary Celebration at the Houston Club—and as you may know, I have had the pleasure of working 32 of those 70 years with LIS’s phenomenal faculty, staff, and administration! Those who attended the Celebration will testify that we enjoyed lovely dining and outstanding entertainment. The synergy among the alumni and guests proved enduring, not only for LIS’s gallant past, but also for her illustrious future! Let’s continue to celebrate her herman l. toppen

Herman L. Totten

Dean Totten can be reached at 940-565-2731 or at herman.totten@unt.edu