Interface Newsletter

School of Information Sciences

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Interface, March 2002

School of Information Sciences

Recommended Citation

Two Invitations from the Director

Greetings and welcome to the revised and renewed *Interface.* Please share your copy with others in the information and library science community, for many items will be of interest beyond our own School's alumni. In this quarter's column, I am inviting you to participate in two exciting events in the life of our School.

Call for Participation: SIS Accreditation Activities

First, we invite you to participate in the School's upcoming accreditation activities. In April, the American Library Association's Committee on Accreditation will review our School.

I hope that you will join us for a reception and accreditation briefing on Sunday afternoon, April 7th, at 3:00 P.M. at the University Club. (The University Club is located at the intersection of Neyland Drive and Kingston Pike.) The reception and briefing will give you an opportunity to visit with faculty and staff, your alumni officers, students, and members of the professional and university communities. You will also have the chance to communicate with members of the Committee on Accreditation External Review Panel about your experience, hopes, and visions for the future of our School. The Panel's communication with alumni is an important element of the review, and you—our alumni—are unique in that you can relate, first hand, outcomes of the program. We encourage you to participate!

The reception will welcome the visiting panelists to the University of Tennessee. The members of the visiting team and their home institutions are:

- Danny P. Wallace, Panel Chair (University of Oklahoma)
- Keith M. Cottam (Univer. of Wyoming, Casper College)
- William Goddrich Jones (University of Illinois, Chicago)
- John E. Leide (McGill University)

Two members of the Panel will work with the visiting Panel, but they will not attend the on-campus review. The off-site panelists are:

- Violet H. Harada (University of Hawaii)
- Paula L. Galbraith (Solutia, Inc.)

Even if you cannot attend the reception, you will have the opportunity to communicate by e-mail with the panelists; the School's listserv will announce how to reach the individual panelists.

The School has prepared its accreditation program presentation (nearly 700 pages in print), and made it available on the Web at http://www.sis.utk.edu/admin/coa/. The first two chapters of the document will be of special interest, for they will bring you an overview of the School's history and culture as well as the School's Plan, *Preparing Leaders for the Information Professions: A Plan for the Future of the School of Information Sciences.* I invite you to read the document and to communicate with me, with the alumni board, or with faculty and staff about how we can further improve our School and its degree program. I think you'll find the document to be interesting reading and one that "speaks volumes" about our accomplishments and challenges.

The accreditation review involves both the External Review Panel and the larger ALA committee that they represent. I will appear before the Committee on Accreditation in June in Atlanta, and it will be at the annual ALA conference that the committee will consider our School's application of reaccreditation.

Your participation in this process is one key to our efforts toward "continuous improvement." We look forward to seeing you on April 7 and to hearing from you as well.

Call for Participation: 30th Anniversary Celebration & $30,000 for 30 Years Campaign

$30,000 IN OUR 30TH YEAR

For Endowed Scholarships for The School of Information Sciences

Watch for news of our School's 30th Anniversary (see page 3) and the new $30,000 for 30 Years Campaign. We hope to endow our scholarships with your generous support. See page 7 for more details.

Dr. Elizabeth Aversa is director of the School of Information Sciences and is president of ALISE, the Association of Library and Information Science Educators.

Editor's Desk

Greetings. We at the School are heartened to revive *Interface* and bring you news of the School. My new role as coordinator of public information and development allows me the opportunity to reach out to the School's alumni and share what has been going on around your alma matter. Because mine is a new position, you can expect to see several changes in how the School identifies itself to the world at-large.

For one thing, *Interface* will now be published three times yearly. We will use the newsletter to

1. publish faculty, staff, and alumni news of interest to alumni
2. profile dynamic and successful alumni
3. report on School events and continuing education activities
4. provide a calendar for upcoming SIS events

Interface

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This issue of *Interface* represents its rebirth. Interface will be published 3 times yearly by the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

We encourage you to keep in touch with the School and send us news items, photos, or articles about your role in the wider profession. We welcome your suggestions!

Joel Southern, Editor
Elizabeth Aversa, Director

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E01-2615-005-02

So please let us know where you are, what you are doing, and if you have news of your peers in the library and information science field. You can access the Alumni Information Update Form (http://www.sis.utk.edu/alum-mail.html) or simply fill out the form on page 7 of *Interface* and drop it in the mail.

Starting with the fall 2002 issue of *Interface*, we will begin a Class Notes section, where we will report on where selected alumni are and what they've been doing since graduation. The Web site already posts a Alumni News area where you can find old classmates. But we can't report on you if we don't hear from you, so please do take a moment and tell us what's going on.

Secondly, in addition to engaging in a planning process to guide our alumni and recruiting efforts, we are revising all of the School's outreach materials. We have just revised our Graduate Student Manual, our Brief Profile fact sheet, and we are now designing a new recruiting document that will be colorful, contemporary, and—we believe—better able to attract potential and interested students.

Thirdly, we are planning to redesign the School Web site to keep abreast of changing needs and developments and to introduce useful new topics to better serve alumni and other constituents.

Finally, I will also be writing and distributing periodic press releases about our faculty, as appropriate. Our office is now updating the alumni database, so please do keep in touch with us.

I invite all alumni to attend this year's Alumni Appreciation Day to be held sometime in June. But if you can attend only one School event this year, don't miss the 30th Anniversary Event, which promises to be a remarkable gathering.

On a personal note, I moved here last July from Oregon State University, where I was publications editor and designer for a research organization. My wife and I and our $1^{1}/_{2}$ year old son are happy to be a part of the University community.

Recent Events

Confessions of a Library Lover: Attitudes and Advocates

On October 4, the student chapter of TLA hosted this library advocacy event which brought together four speakers who addressed how attitudes and budgets by local and parent organizations affect libraries, and what individuals can do to lobby for support and funding on behalf of libraries.

Elizabeth Aversa kicked off the meeting by speaking about the history of student advocacy.

Tena Litherland spoke about her work with the Library Advocacy Initiative. A grassroots movement, the LAI educates legislators about library issues.

> **Dean Dewey stated that the job of a library advocate is to remind people of the wonderful and inimitable services and resources that the library provides so that they realize what a tragedy it would be to let the institution fall down.**

Dr. Doug Raber, assistant professor at SIS, spoke of library advocacy from a public library perspective. At the local level, he asserted, it is important to remember that advocacy begins with good public service.

Barbara Dewey, dean of UT Libraries, spoke about advocacy on behalf of university and college libraries. Dean Dewey stated that the job of a library advocate is to remind people of the wonderful and inimitable services and resources that the library provides so that they realize what a tragedy it would be to let the institu-

tion fall down. Dewey focused her talk on advocacy and activism in research libraries.

Student News

SIS Graduates 1st Doctoral Student

August 2001 graduate Rodney Marshall became the School of Information Sciences' first graduate to be awarded a Ph.D. degree in Communications with a concentration in Information Sciences. Rodney is now a faculty member at Eastern Illinois University in the department of Speech Communications. Says Rodney, "Without the tools provided by the School, I would not be able to do what I am doing."

There are now Graduate Teaching Associateships and Research Assistants (both with tuition waivers) available. Contact Dr. Tenopir for information.

Career Night 2001

Career Night brought a lively mix of professional speakers to the lectern. Held on November 2nd at the University Center, some 40 students turned out on a Friday night to hear speakers from diverse professional fields—from a law librarian in Chattanooga to a Webmaster at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, from the manager of the McClung Historical Museum to the director of the Center for Information Studies at UT. Following a reception, the speakers came to present their life work, the joys of their job, and their day-to-day professional challenges. Speakers included:

Elizabeth Aversa, Director of SIS; **Ed Sullivan**, School Media Specialist, Jefferson County Schools; **Cynthia Manley**, Doctoral Student, College of Communications with a concentration in IS; **Terry Byrd**, Computer Analyst, Webmaster, Y-12 Maintenance Org.; **Rhonda Spearman**, Manager, CMS/Enterprise Team, UT Innovative Technology Center; **Scott Bailey**, Director, Library Services at Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel, P.C.; **Stephen Cotham**, Manager, McClung Historical Museum, and Knox County Public Library; **John Shelton**, Director, Center for Information Studies at SIS.

Homecoming 2001

Homecoming was a terrific success! Some 50 alumni and their families joined School faculty and staff at the University Club for coffee and desserts Friday night, November 9. Dr. Aversa welcomed back former students and reported the news of the School. SIS alumni board president, Karen Valentine, told the audience how the Board was involved with the Alumni Appreciation Day, the School's yearly party for alumni. Also, Sherry Ball spoke about the 30th Anniversary Event, as well as the Mentoring Program. Football tickets to the next day's game and other goodies were given as door prizes.

Walt Crawford

30th Anniversary Celebration

2002 marks the 30th year that the School of Information Sciences has hosted an ALA-accredited program at UT. Since 1972, the School has experienced many external reviews, directors, and an evolution of faculty and staff serving the School's mission and has graduated nearly 1,000 graduates. To honor the School's successful mission and role in the regions' library and information professional community, we are planning a dynamic event that will bring social, professional, and continuing education to the School's alumni, university dignitaries, and regional political figures.

We are not being modest in our approach to this event. We want to make this a grand event in every way. We have invited Walt Crawford to be the keynote speaker. A well-known and well-regarded library researcher and futurist, Walt will speak on the future of libraries and media and on the role of technology in information sciences.

Walt Crawford is a senior analyst at the Research Libraries Group (RLG) and has been a full-time professional in library automation since 1968. Crawford is past president of the

Library and Information Technology Association (LITA), a division of the American Library Association. An award-winning writer and speaker, Crawford has written thirteen books and more than 250 articles and columns on libraries, technology, media, publishing, and personal computing.

Crawford writes "The Crawford Files" in *American Libraries*, the "DisContent" column in *EContent Magazine*, and the "PC Monitor" column in *Online Magazine*. He also writes and publishes *Cites & Insights: Crawford at Large*, a Web-distributed print newsletter. His most recent book is *Being Analog: Creating Tomorrow's Libraries* (ALA Editions, 1999).

The 30th Anniversary Celebration will be held on Saturday, September 14, from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. The agenda will include an audiovisual presentation of the School's history (attendees will receive a commemorative CD-ROM), presentations by outstanding alumni, and table talk sessions led by School faculty. Please make a note to come and participate in this very exciting continuing education and anniversary event.

EDITORS NOTE: A compelling realization that emerged from the lengthy process of writing the School's reaccreditation report (see Dr. Aversa's article) is the unbridled excellence of our faculty. The hundreds of exit interviews of students, the national and regional teaching awards earned, and the extensive diversity of faculty interests combine to reveal a faculty who are, on the whole, exceptionally committed to delivering their all in the classroom. SIS faculty really are carrying the mantle of excellence at the University of Tennessee. Below are a few examples.

Carol Tenopir Published in *Nature*

Nature magazine, a leading international scientific periodical, published an article by SIS professor Carol Tenopir and Donald W. King in its October 18 issue. Tenopir and King's article, entitled "Lessons for the Future of Journals," chronicles the history of electronic journals and explains how "continuing perceptions of inadequacies in the journal system and fascination with new technologies have spurred a rash of innovative ideas for enhancing or replacing traditional journals." The article also sums up the feud that has sometimes characterized the relationship between librarians and publishers. Finally, Tenopir and King note that "one potential bridge between publishers and librarians is the expanding use of site licenses, which can minimize the effects of factors that increase prices, and allow librarians and publishers to negotiate their differences." Tenopir has received several international speaking invitations as a result of her research in these areas.

Tenopir Receives 2-Year NSF Grant

The National Science Foundation awarded Dr. Carol Tenopir a $251,961 grant for studying electronic journal use by undergraduates. Dr. Tenopir, a long-time and well-regarded researcher of electronic journals, entitled her proposal "Increasing Effective Student Use of the Scientific Journal Literature," The research is part of a multidisciplinary effort to create a national science, mathematics, engineering and technology digital library (NSDL), which will make collections of high-quality scientific teaching resources available for teaching at all levels. The new digital library will also develop communication networks to facilitate interactions and collaborations among educators, researchers and students.

Dr. Tenopir, the principal investigator, will begin the two-year research project by identifying, implementing and testing software features that will promote the sustained use of digital libraries by undergraduate student users. Once the software features have been prioritized as to their effectiveness, professors Dr. Peiling Wang and Dr. Richard Pollard will construct and manage user testing with the support of the Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information. By enhancing the retrieval options that make digital collections more accessible, Dr. Tenopir's research will help maximize academic users' understanding of the complex presentation of technical information. Tenopir and Richard Pollard attended the National Science Foundation/National Science Digital Library (NSDL) meeting in Washington, D.C. in December to kick-off the NSDL projects.

Robinson Receives Outstanding Service Award

The University of Tennessee Library Friends has selected Dr. Bill Robinson as the 2001 recipient of the Library Friends Outstanding Service Award. Dr. Robinson was recognized for his consistent advocacy for libraries and for the teaching and research needs of students and faculty. Dr. Robinson has long fostered closer collaboration between the Libraries and the School of Information Sciences, and for the last two years has worked fastidiously as the Faculty Senate Library Committee Chair.

At the small awards ceremony held in Hodges Library on October 15, Dean Barbara Dewey acknowledged that this award was well earned. Just as Dean Dewey was about to bestow the award on Dr. Robinson, a cell phone interrupted the event with a surprise call from Dr. Aversa, who was at the Nashville airport between flights. She congratulated Dr. Robinson and brought some fun to an already happy ceremony. On hand for the ceremony were students, library staff and administrators, and SIS staff and faculty.

Dania Bilal

Dania Bilal was recently elected chair-elect of the Information Seeking and Use (SIG USE) of the American Society for Information Science and Technology. Also, her book, *Automating Media Centers and Small Libraries: A Microcomputer Based Approach*, has just been published by Libraries Unlimited. She has published two papers recently, and she presented a paper at the 2001 ASIST conference on "Factors Influencing Children and Adults' Information Seeking on the Web."

Doug Raber

Doug Raber has been recently nominated to the editorial board of the *Reference and User Services Quarterly*. He has also been named book review editor for *Library Resources and Technical Services*. Both of these publications are official ALA journals.

In November, Dr. Raber presented a paper at the Library Research Seminar at the University of Maryland. The paper was entitled "Librarians as Organic Intellectuals." Raber also presented a rousing response to the keynote speaker at this year's ALISE conference. The contents and impact of his response became an informal part of the conference conversation that was heard in hallways and small meeting groups during the conference. In short, his speech was a hit.

Peiling Wang and Carol Tenopir Published in National Information Science Resource

Voume 34 of the *Annual Review of Information Science and Technology* (ARIST) published eight of the defining papers in the information science field. The School of Information Sciences can boast that SIS faculty members Peiling Wang and Carol Tenopir contributed 25 percent of this year's articles. Wang's article, "Methodologies and Methods for User Behavioral Research" examines the methodologies and methods applied in empirical research on user behavior. Tenopir's article, co-written with Donald W. King, is entitled "Using and Reading Scholarly Literature." ARIST is published by ASIST to appraise activities and trends in the information science and technology field.

Collins Weds Mellinger

Shawn Collins, the School's budget director and technology coordinator, married SIS graduate Margaret Mellinger, now a Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources Librarian at UT's Webster Pendergrass Agriculture Veterinary Medicine Library. The newlyweds married in Sandpoint Idaho last July, close to Shawn's childhood home of Spokane Washington. They are making their home in Louisville, TN with their dog, Jake. Shawn is a 1996 graduate of SIS and has worked at Temple Court since 1995. Margaret moved here from Ohio and graduated from SIS in 1999.

Graduating Class 2001

Sixteen students received their master of science degrees from the School of Information Sciences in December 2001. All of the students already have employment. On December 14, SIS hosted a graduation/holiday party to honor graduates who were able to attend, and the following students were given a tribute by a faculty or staff member of their choice: Frankey Goss, Hunter Hagewood, Ed Poston, Lisa Sipes, Emily Urban, Kaye Wallace, and Liz Whitson. Congratulations to all the new graduates. Please stay in touch with your School.

The Center for Children's & Young Adult Literature

The Center for Children's and Young Adult Literature opened its doors on March 1, 1999 with a lecture by Suzanne Fisher Staples, Newbery Award-winning author of *Shabanu, Dangerous Skies*, and other notables for young adult readers. Since that period, the Center, cosponsored by the School of Information Sciences, the Colleges of Education and Human Ecol-

Carolyn Coman

ogy, Hodges Library, and local school systems, has presented a lecture by a notable author or book illustrator each semester. On many occasions, lecturers have spent a day or two in the schools, talking to young students about their work. To date, Richard Peck, Robert Sabuda, Emily McCully, Jack Gantos, amongst others, have spent time on the UT campus and in Knoxville area schools. The latest event included a talk by author Carolyn Coman after she worked with 45 students at Central High School. The Center's commitment to outreach serving area librarians, teachers, parents, and students include its short workshops on using books in the classroom. The Center's campus effort to display the latest publications from approximately 15 major publishing companies has brought visitors to Hodges to view the collection. The books often inspire school librarians' annual orders.

The Center is funded by the generous support of Pi Beta Phi and individual donations, as well as its cosponsors. If you are interested in donating to the Center's efforts, please direct a check of any amount to the University Library, c/o Ken Wise (kwise@utk.edu). Call Jinx Watson (974-8612) to be put on the Center's mailing list for upcoming events.

CALENDAR

Committee on Accreditation Visit to SIS
April 7-9

Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference
March 26-28

American Library Association Annual Conference
(Atlanta) June 14-18

SIS Alumni Appreciation Day
June (To be announced)

30th Anniversary Celebration
September 14, UT Conference Center

By Joel Southern

Ahead of Her Time

Mairéad Martin rides a perpetual learning curve. She wouldn't have it any other way. As director of the Advanced Internet Technologies group at the University of Tennessee, a new unit in the Office for Research and Information Technology, Mairéad's job depends not only on knowing the latest Internet and information technology developments, such as Internet2 and digital rights management, but on actually refining these technologies and working to make them more accessible to the academic community.

A graduate of the class of 1997, Mairéad is an alumna from the School of Information Sciences and an example of one whose educational focus paved the path to her realizing her professional position. Early in the graduate program, Mairéad showed her mettle as a self-starter and proven synthesizer of complex technical information. She started as a GTA for then director José-Marie Griffiths. She advanced quickly and began working with the Emerging Technology group within the Office of Information Technology where she was exposed to Internet2, teleconferencing, digital video, and other emerging technologies and issues— the foundations of her division's current applied research. Keenly observant to the larger trends in information technology research, Mairéad's tenure at SIS ignited in her a passion for realizing the capabilities of innovative IT for the end-user, for which she now works so diligently to bring to the University campus and to the world.

Digital Rights Management

The focus of the Advanced Internet Technologies (AIT) group is on emerging Internet technologies expected to come to fruition within one- to five-years. One of the group's more exciting collaborations is working toward creating a digital rights management (DRM) system for streamlining the permissions process by which librar-

ies, content owners, and licensors are able to access information. Digital rights management focuses not only on security and encryption as a way of solving unauthorized copying of digital material but also the description, identification, trading, protection, monitoring, and tacking of all forms of rights usages, including management of rights holders relationships. AIT, in collaboration with similar groups at other universities and research institutions, are attempting to direct standard development so that digital content can be more easily and securely shared—be it over the Web, via databases, or by e-mail.

Video Development Initiative

In 1998, Mairéad was one of the founding members of an inter-institutional initiative to promote the use of digital video in technology–the Video Development Initiative (ViDe, www.vide.net). This group seeks to deploy digital video technologies on a large scale and in a reliable and secure fashion.

Mairéad is the chair of the ViDe MPEG-4 working group, dedicated to accelerating the deployment of a new and revolutionary standard for digital audiovisual content delivery. She is also chairing the Video-on-Demand effort within the Internet2 VidMid (middleware for video) working group.

Middleware, a kind of digital "glue," is a layer of software that operates between the network and a computer's applications. This software provides services such as identification, authentication, authorization, directories, and security. In today's Internet, applications usually have to provide these services themselves, which leads to competing and incompatible standards. By promoting standardization and interoperability, middleware will make advanced network applications much easier to use.

Recently, AIT formed an Academic Advisory Committee who are working with AIT to help the group be of benefit to the academic enterprise at UT. Richard Pollard and Shawn Collins represent SIS on AIT's committee. AIT is also developing projects with the Department of Speech Communications, UT Libraries and Digital Library Center, and Electrical and Computing Engineering. Notably, Mairéad has developed a research proposal with department head John Haas of Speech Communication, studying the impact of emerging collaborative technologies on communication in higher education.

Experience at SIS

Mairéad is quick to point out how useful the SIS program was to her, considering her strong interest in information technologies.

"A focus on the end-user, and critical analysis of technologies was persistent in the SIS courses I took. That has really stood to me in my professional work. I also realize that, although I may not have appreciated it at the time, writing volumes of papers at SIS has made a significant difference to me, since much of what I do now is writing–white papers, project descriptions, proposals, papers, presentations, and that skill often tends to be in short supply among more technical folks. Everything I know about punctuation, I learned from Bill Robinson. I feel very fortunate to still be able to interact and work with and for SIS faculty, staff, and students. I'm hoping that AIT will find ways to more effectively support SIS in its instructional and research mission. The alliance between SIS and the College of Communications to develop a new IT program looks very promising in that respect."

According to Mairéad, all the classes she took were rewarding and relevant to her work now, but of most relevance to her current work were Dr. Pollard's Information Technologies class (IS 585), Foundations of Information Sciences and Technologies (IS 580), and Information Networking Technologies (IS 589). By the way, she is looking forward to starting her Ph.D. at SIS/Communications in the fall of 2002.

For more information, visit the AIT Web site at http://www.ait.utk.edu/.

SIS Alumni Information Form

http://www.sis.utk.edu/alum-mail.html

NAME _____

IF YOUR LAST NAME HAS CHANGED SINCE GRADUATION, PLEASE INDICATE _____

YEAR OF GRADUATION _____   E-MAIL _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

HOME TELEPHONE _____   POSITION TITLE _____

EMPLOYER AND ADDRESS _____

WORK TELEPHONE _____

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS _____

WHAT'S NEW? TELL US ABOUT ANY RECENT DEGREES, JOB CHANGES OR MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, ETC.

_____

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Donate to Student and Enrichment Funds

Your financial contributions to the School's various scholarship funds help graduate students with tuition and other school-related expenses. Please do what you can to support a student's dream of attending graduate school at SIS.

Carl T. Cox Scholarship Fund
I'd like to contribute: $_____

Carmen Linkous Moulton Fellowship
For students with professional promise and financial need.

I'd like to contribute: $_____

SIS Enrichment Fund
For special programs and resources for students and special events for graduates.

I'd like to contribute: $_____

Excellence in Youth Services
For support of youth services programs in memory of Glenn E. Estes.

I'd like to contribute: $_____

Gary R. Purcell Scholarship Endowment
For students with professional promise in the information sciences.

I'd like to contribute: $_____

John C. Tyson Minority Student Fellowship
For minority students with professional promise.

I'd like to contribute: $_____

Private gifts are becoming increasingly important to SIS as less and less of the University's budget comes from the State. Please consider helping the School help students who are committed to learning and who benefit from your donatation by being able to enroll in classes, attend conferences, fund research, and buy computers.

Please make checks payable to the University of Tennessee.

Send to:

Joel Southern
School of Information Sciences at UT
804 Volunteer Boulevard
Knoxville, TN 37996-4330

New Mentoring Program

The School's alumni board has thought about initiating a mentoring program for many years, and finally launched the program last October. The board paired some 20 students with willing mentors, who are working in various information professions suited to the student's needs. Established to give students personal contact with practicing professionals, the mentoring relationship enables students to investigate and explore work environments that match their career interests and to get to know the field better with a personal, helping hand.

From the first meeting, the mentor and student established the means of communication that works for them. Volunteering to be a mentor will enable both students and mentors to expand their professional networks and for alumni and students to learn together. Having a mentor is an invaluable way of learning the ropes of your field.

If you are interested in being a mentor for next year's students, return the completed form to Joel Southern, or e-mail me and let me know of your interest.

Alumni Mentoring Form

Name _____

Job Title _____

Institution_____

Street Address_____

City, State, and Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail Address and Fax _____

Please indicate the type of professional position you hold and the areas of interest that you would like to share with an SIS student:

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Interface

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Address Correction Requested