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School of Information Sciences

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Recent rankings have reaffirmed the school’s steadily emerging status as a national leader in teaching and research. Last April, the U.S. News & World Report ranking of library and information sciences (LIS) programs placed SIS as the 16th best program in North America.

In September, SIS ranked No. 1 in the nation for per capita journal articles published by its faculty, according to a study by researchers from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Professor Carol Tenopir is ranked as the most research productive library and information science faculty member in the United States.

The study, entitled “Scholarly Productivity of U.S. LIS Faculty,” was published in the Autumn 2006 edition of Library and Information Science Research.

“The per capita ranking is an important and solid measure of a program’s research productivity since it takes into account the significant variability of faculty sizes in LIS programs throughout the United States,” said Professor and Director Ed Cortez. “SIS currently has 13 faculty members, but at the time of the study only 11 faculty lines were filled. Just as per capita income is considered a true measure of a nation’s wealth, a program’s per capita journal articles attests to its true measure of value and productivity. I am very proud of our faculty.”

In the same study, UT’s SIS was ranked No. 2 among all U.S. library and information science programs in the number of journal articles published and No. 3 in the researchers’ cumulative program rankings.

“Research is an essential part of practice and teaching and, in an applied field like LIS, research is particularly important to the future of publishing, libraries and information access,” said Carol Tenopir.
SIS welcomes new CCI Dean

Joel Southern

UT Chancellor Loren Crabtree named Dr. Michael O. Wirth as the new dean of the College of Communication and Information last summer.

Wirth comes to UT from the School of Communication where he was director and chair of the Department of Mass Communications and Journalism Studies at the University of Denver. The new dean has taken a strong interest in SIS and, along with his wife Alice, attended the School’s two day retreat last August at the Alex Haley Farm near Knoxville.

CCI Dean Michael Wirth

SIS launches career resources page

The School of Information Sciences unveiled a comprehensive career resources website last fall that brings a wealth of placement services to students. The site links to hundreds of global academic, public, and special library sites. We’ve added salary calculators, location guides, and career development resources for new librarians and information professionals who are seeking to better understand this broad and opportunity-rich field.

You won’t need to turn down the lights to watch our new career planning videos, spearheaded by Drs. Mike Pemberton and Bill Robinson. A series on personal career planning for information professionals includes “Let’s Think Strategically,” “Creating a Strategic Plan for You, Inc.” and “Using Career Planning Resources.”

We have also developed a Job Hunting Series, which includes “The Cover Letter,” “Resumes,” and “The Winning Interview.” See for yourself at www.sis.utk.edu/careers. Look for more titles soon.

New BOV members represent SIS

Knox County Public Library Director Larry Frank

Four highly regarded individuals accepted nominations to join the College of Communication and Information Board of Visitors last spring. New members include a sitting Congressman and former librarian Major Owens from New York, Peggy Sullivan, Suresh Ponnappa (SIS ’84), and Larry Frank, President of Information International Associates, Bonnie Carroll, has served on the BOV since SIS joined the College of Communication and Information in 2002.

The New York Times named Knox County Public Library Director and BOV member Larry Frank as one of the nation’s top 21 librarians. The newspaper’s Librarian Awards go to those “whose exemplary performance and outstanding community service have made their libraries friendlier and more accessible institutions.”

Frank was selected from 1,300 nominations, and he and the other winners received their awards December 13 in New York.

Frank became the director of KCPL in 2003 and immediately began expanding programs and finding ways to make the library more useful and popular. Under his direction, library use has increased notably.

Former SIS director appointed to National Science Board

President George W. Bush nominated former SIS director Dr. José-Marie Griffiths to serve on the United States National Science Board. Griffiths is dean of the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an internationally acclaimed policy expert and researcher. Griffiths was formerly the director of SIS and Vice Chancellor for Computing and Telecommunications at UT.

Russian library leaders visit SIS

Five librarians from diverse areas of the Russian Federation visited SIS and UT Libraries last July as part of the Open World Program, designed to give emerging Russian leaders a firsthand look at American democracy and civil society. Drs. Cortez and Watson gave a presentation to the librarians, and SIS hosted a pizza lunch in their behalf.

The visiting librarians included a federal government official responsible for libraries throughout Russia; a deputy director of the Chelyabinsk Region Youth Library Resource Center; the head of program development at the Lipetsk Region Children’s Library; the head of user relations at the Khasavyurt City Central Library; and the head librarian at Samara State Technical University.

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, Writer, Designer
Dr. Ed Cortez, Director

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Interface is published twice yearly by the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
Lorraine Normore comes to us with a distinguished career as a consultant with OCLC and Chemical Abstracts Service. Both Kimberly and Lorraine have quickly made their mark by filling instructional gaps and helping provide strategic guidance to the School. We are lucky to have them!

The most exciting news since the last issue is that once again the faculty have brought distinction to the university and the college by being the top library and information sciences school in the U.S. in terms of scholarly productivity. In the survey, SIS was ranked number one ahead of the Universities of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Washington, among others. Research per number of faculty measure used in this study is a valid indicator since it takes into account the significant variability of faculty sizes in LIS programs.

After several years without a SIS Advisory Board, the first meeting of the newly appointed Board took place last fall with great success. During the afternoon session, the Board divided into break-out sessions addressing two major themes. One dealt with the evolving roles of the library and information sciences professions and the other with managing partnerships and collaborations. Results suggested how SIS might improve its policies and procedures in these areas. We are developing a strategy to implement these recommendations. We are fortunate to have the help and support of a distinguished group of library and information professionals with varied experiences and backgrounds. You can read about the SIS Alumni Board’s activities in Roger Myers’ column on page 12.

The SIS student groups have been very active this year and include the various professional association student chapters such as those for ALA, SLA, and ASIS&T. The cohort groups have organized themselves geographically, including the Knoxville campus cohort. We continue to work very hard to treat all students as a single community. Our next step will be to develop ways of integrating the cohort groups so that they share ideas and perhaps have collaborative events such as tours and workshops.

A new addition to the fall student orientation program was to bring alumni and current students together to talk to new students about their insights in being successful candidates for good positions. This addition to the orientation program was well received and will become a permanent component of student orientation.

The faculty logged more miles last year than ever before traveling domestically and internationally to present at conferences, give speeches, and consult with a variety of groups. The countries visited included Spain, Finland, England, Germany, India, Greece, and Japan. This summer I traveled to the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) for the ceremonial signing of our latest Memorandum of Understanding. The details of our first program with UPR are described on page 8-9. In February, I will travel to Uganda to begin negotiations with the East African School of Library and Information Science at Makerere University for the renewal of our current Memorandum of Understanding. In the spring I will join a delegation of LIS educators and practitioners to begin bilateral exchanges with our counterparts in South Africa. The project is sponsored by the Special Libraries Association and the People to People Ambassador Programs.

These are just a few of the great things that are happening at SIS. In this issue of Interface you will read about many more. The School continues to prosper and advance in all of its traditions. I’m confident that we will continue to be presented with many doors of opportunity with an abundance of locks, as well as the challenges to find the right keys for success. With your help and support we can’t fail. Enjoy your reading and be sure to stay in touch!

Noted Scholar Addresses e-Science in SIS Lazerow Lecture

One of the nation’s leading authorities in scientific communication and science policy presented the School of Information Sciences’ Samuel Lazerow Memorial Lecture last October 18.

Christine Borgman, a Professor and Presidential Chair in information studies at the University of California Los Angeles, shared her insights into the drive for e-Science, which is science that uses immense data sets that require grid computing, and the many ways that information and research data can be shared in the digital age.

“Scholars in all fields are taking advantage of new sources of data and new means to publish and distribute their work online,” said Borgman, the author of more than 150 publications in the fields of information studies, computer science, and communication.

“Some fields are more advantaged than others by the array of content now online and by the tools and services available to use it.”

Borgman also talked about the difficulties of sharing raw data rather than finished or published works.

“Scholars in all fields are rewarded for publishing,” she said. “Few are rewarded for managing information.”
Dr. Abby Goodrum presents the keynote talk during the SIS Advisory Board meeting.

SIS Re-establishes Advisory Board

SIS re-established its Advisory Board last September with a meeting of 19 prestigious information professionals across the country appointed to serve three year terms.

The major agenda item for this year’s board was to set priorities for the academic year and to fine-tune the implementation of the School’s new Strategic Plan. The board elected Shawn Collins as President and Angela Roberts as V-P/President-elect.

Dr. Abby Goodrum gave the keynote address entitled “Educating Librarians, and Journalists: Intersections, Gaps, Opportunities, & Challenges.”

She discussed the intersections and gaps between LIS and journalism education with a focus on how each group approaches information seeking, resource discovery, and information retrieval. She also broached opportunities for innovation in media and information studies programs.

Dr. Goodrum holds the Velma Rogers Graham Research Chair in the School of Journalism in Toronto, Ontario.

An earlier SIS Board of Visitors supported the School from the early 1970s to 1996.

SIS Advisory Board

Debra Bade, Editor, News Research and Archives, Chicago Tribune
Elizabeth Bibby (SIS 1996), Director, Baker Library, Harvard Business School
Robert E. “Bob” Conrad (SIS 1983), Library Director, Oak Ridge National Lab
Sue Diehl (SIS 1971), Assistant Professor and Reference Librarian, Montreat College
Amy Disch, News Researcher/Librarian, Editorial Library, The Columbus Dispatch
Allison Evatt (SIS 1997), MLIS Consultant, Graduate Education Program, Thomson Dialog Company
Bonnie Hanks (SIS 2000), Reference Librarian, Jefferson Madison Reg. Library
William Hawk (SIS 1998), Information Resource Specialist, Baltimore City Schools
Annelle Huggins, Executive Director, Tennessee Library Association
Jeannine Hunter (SIS 2005), Web Producer, WTVC, NewsChannel5 in Nashville
Wallace Koehler (SIS 1997), Director, Library and Information Science Program, Valdosta State University
Pat Powell (SIS 1996), Vice-President, Information International Associates
Eleanor Read (SIS 2000), Associate Professor & Social Science Data Services Librarian, UT Libraries
Angela Roberts (SIS 1999), School Library Media Specialist; Photo Researcher, Random House Children’s Books
Samantha Seiple (SIS 1996), Author
Jeanne Sugg, State Librarian and Archivist, Tennessee State Library and Archives
Theresa Venable (SIS 2003), Librarian, Langston Hughes Library, Children’s Defense Fund, Alex Haley Farm
Jeff Weddle (PhD, SIS 2003), Assistant Professor, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alabama
Teresa S. Welsh (SIS 1993), Assistant Professor, School of Library & Information Science, University of Southern Mississippi

IEEE grant findings

Suzie Allard, Carol Tenopir, and Communication Studies’ Ken Levine completed their findings on a grant funded by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). The study hired SIS and college graduate students to record the information-seeking behavior and communication patterns of 108 engineers as they worked at six prominent technology companies in the United States and India.

Allard presented their research findings to the IEEE Board of Directors last June, and IEEE was sufficiently impressed to ask the researchers to expand the project into China this year. Allard will likely visit other high tech companies in Beijing this spring.

The graduate students “shadowed” the engineers in the world’s most innovative high-tech firms in the U.S. and India to learn how they communicate and use information in their daily workflow, be it research, product development, or managing these processes. In what they call “naturalistic observation,” the students logged some 600 hours of observation, plus structured interviews.

Dr. Tenopir’s research confirms that engineers are known to spend nearly 60 percent of their days communicating, and how they collect and communicate information varies greatly between different engineering environments. Interestingly, engineers tend to resist adopting new technologies and innovations, and IEEE considers this research critical since design engineers are some of the heaviest users of information and innovative information technologies.

Drs. Allard, Levine, and Tenopir presented their IEEE research findings at the annual conferences of the American Society of Information Science and Technology and the National Communication Association in San Antonio last fall.
One of the controversial issues about the education of librarians and other information professionals is what to call it.

Our school has had several names over the years and each has a tale to tell. Librarianship served well for many years. It clearly fixed the place of employment and the “ship” suggested a trade with an apprenticeship system of learning. More recently, we moved to Library Service, focusing on a helping profession. Services suggests a profession and moves us to academic rather than on-the-job learning. Then came the big leap to Library Science, perhaps hoping for the status associated with “science.”

Library science graduates remained librarians rather than library scientists, however. Curriculum remained practice oriented. Most students had a humanities background. A major campus problem remained. Many still thought that the library school must be part of the university library. Few academics realized that librarians earned a graduate education.

Library schools increasingly claimed that the skills and knowledge their students learned were widely applicable. Every organization has information problems. But does every organization need a “librarian”? It’s discouraging when the LIS graduate applies for a records management position and is told that there is no need for a librarian. They want someone who can manage records. This is one of the reasons for the growing number of “I” (information) schools and the rapidly declining number of “L” (library) schools.

Names are obviously important, especially since the associations and connotations have considerable power. If you were the chancellor or provost of a major university—especially if you hoped to one day be part of an elite institution—would a library school be seen as an essential part of a forward-moving university? You could perhaps get along without a library school. Could you, however, get along without an information school at a time when information, especially digital, is seen as remaking the future?

One of the problems with the “library” school was that it seemed to limit professional practice to libraries. As Dr. Pember ton says, physicians don’t attend a school of medicine that trains a variety of health professionals to practice in different places and situations. That’s what the information school needs to do. Clearly, “information sciences” rather than “information science” indicates broad scope and inclusiveness.

While the name change in 1994 to School of Information Sciences gives the library and information sciences program more validity and importance on campus, and opens many opportunities for instructional and research partnerships, there are problems. One is that “library” has become much less visible, giving the impression to some that our school no longer focuses on preparation for library positions. In fact, several librarians in Tennessee falsely assumed that we had left the library business when we changed our name.

The major challenge, now and in the future, will be to continue to educate 21st century librarians for library positions while preparing other graduates for careers wherever information problems need to be solved. That may be in a records center, an archive, a publishing house, or almost any organizations that you can identify.

Q&A with the Assistant Director captures Dr. Bill Robinson’s perspective of LIS education based on his three decades of teaching at SIS.
Normore has extensive experience identifying user needs and translating those needs into innovative user interfaces. Her research focuses on ways to identify user needs, on the characteristics of metadata and potential metadata uses, and on the design of systems that optimize the match between user needs and functions available through the user interface.

Since 2004, Normore was a Digital Librarian with the Center for Early Literacy Information (CELI), the Reading Recovery Council of North America, where she managed the establishment and operation of a digital library.

From 1997-2003, she was a consulting research scientist at the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), where she led a cross-divisional team that investigated the metadata needs and practices in the special collections community.

At OCLC, she collaborated on interface design and provided significant design input to a research project that evolved into SciFinder, a highly successful search interface intended for direct use by chemists.

Prior to her work at OCLS, she worked for Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS), where she studied the information needs and usage among chemists to better understand the intellectual processes underlying indexing and abstracting.

She has advanced degrees in psychology and library and information science. Her doctoral dissertation from Ohio State University was in “Strategies in Searching Hierarchical Data Structures.”

Normore, a team from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory’s Computational Sciences and Engineering Division, and Dr. Xueping Li from UT’s Industrial and Information Engineering Dept. submitted a grant last fall to the National Science Foundation to develop a model system of ubiquitous computing that would look at metadata needs and practices of a group of professional engineers, test their abilities of information extraction, and design a prototype user interface for delivery on small handheld communication devices.


She presented a paper at the Human-Computer Interaction Symposium of the 2006 American Society for Information Science annual meeting titled “Measuring the usability of an international user interface: Culture and design representa-

Ed Cortez delivered a poster session at the International Conference on Information Science and Technology in Merida, Spain last October. The poster was entitled “Redesigning REEIS: A Knowledge Management Collaboratory.”

Bharat Mehra received a 2006 UT SARIF grant (co-authored with Dania Bilal) to help a SIS student help interview 10 Asian masters students about their information-seeking behaviors and use of information support services. Another SARIF grant last year helped Mehra and his students create the Diversity Resources Page, a website to help connect Knoxville-area individuals with information about diversity issues, information, and services to meet the needs of underserved populations.

Mehra conducted a workshop on the “Diversity Resources Page: Knowledge Representation for Librarians of Color” at the First Joint Conference of Librarians of Color last fall in Dallas. He received a first place award for the SIGUSE Best Information Behavior Conference Paper at ASIS&T for “Health Information Services Available for People Living with HIV/AIDS: Perspectives of Library and Information Professionals.”

Mike Pemberton has been invited to contribute an extensive article that presents an overview of Records and Information Management for the Encyclopedia of Library and Information Sciences, third edition. Professors Marcia Bates and Mary Niles Maack are the new editors.

Dr. Pemberton and co-authors Anne Pemberton and Peter Fritzler published “Creating Your Career: Minding the Gap” in LSIjobs.com last summer. Dr. Pemberton played a key role in producing the SIS Careers Project, which evolved into the school’s new Career Resources Website at http://www.sis.utk.edu/careers, which brings abundant placement services to students. Dr. Pemberton also took the lead on developing several new career planning videos for students that are available on the website.

Bill Robinson and Paul Poston (SIS ’01) published a study that examines and describes the citation patterns for over 1,500 references from year 2000 issues of several authoritative geography journals. “Literature Use by Geography Scholars” was published in Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian by the Haworth Press last fall.

Robert Sandusky, along with Carol Tenopir and Margaret Casado (SIS ’95), was awarded a grant from CSA to examine “The Value of CSA Deep Indexing for Researchers.” The project studied the usefulness for academic and other researchers of CSA’s newly developed feature (“deep indexing”) that allows indexing of figures and tables in journal articles in CSA databases.

He presented “Knowledge creation and sharing in software problem management: Sensemaking in a distributed community“ as part of a panel entitled “Knowledge Sharing in Online Communities of Practice: Digital Trends.” Sandusky also presented a poster entitled “Shared, persistent user search paths: Social navigation as social classification” as part of the 17th annual SIG/CR Classification Research Workshop: Social Classification: Panacea or Pandora?

At the 2007 ALISE Annual Conference he participated in a panel called “Organizer and moderator for Undergraduate programs in LIS schools: Reflections, Challenges & Opportunities.”

As the Coordinator for the new SIS Undergraduate Minor in Information Studies & Technology, Sandusky worked with SIS faculty to propose five new courses, which will be offered in 2007.

Carol Tenopir was appointed to the Digital Publications Advisory Board of the Association of Computing Machinery.

She traveled to Taiwan to present “How Electronic Journals Are Changing Scholarly Reading Patterns,” at the CONCERT 2006 Annual Meeting; and she spoke to the Chinese Association of Library and Information Science Education on “The Impact of Scholarly Communication on LIS Education.”

At the Library Fair & Forum 2006, in Yokohama, Japan, she presented “Indexing of Tables and Figures: Scientists’ Reaction.”

Tenopir has had numerous articles published in international journals recently, including Information Processing and Management, the Journal of the Medical Library Association, the Journal of Library and Information Science Education, the Journal of Academic Librarianship, and D-Lib Magazine.

Peiling Wang was invited by the Library of Alexander Technology Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Greece, to speak at the September 13-14 Workshop on Preserving Intellectual Assets. She also presented “Use of Internet for Research: Interdisciplinary and Cross-cultural Differences,” at the first International Scientific Conference eRA for the Contribution of Information Technology to Science, Economy, Society, and Education, held September 16-17. During her stay in Greece, she served on a panel of the Cascading Citations Analysis Project as a member of the Extended Advisory Board. The project won the 2005 Thomson ISI Citation Analysis Research Grant.

Wang spoke at the International Seminar on Development of Digital Libraries, held August 8-13 in Taiwan. The event was sponsored by the National Taiwan University. Wang spoke on preserving intellectual resources through institu-
Jinx Watson rode over 200 children's books first published outside the U.S. recently, for the awards committee for USBBY, the U.S. National Section of the International Board on Books for Young People. The committee hopes that publishers will expand their offerings from “little known cultures” as a result of their work. The January 2007 issue of School Library Journal has published the annotated bibliography created by the awards committee meeting that met in New York in December.

She was the invited speaker at the Foothills Librarian Association of Tennessee meeting at Blount County Public Library on December 11, 2006. At their “Coffee and Cheesecake Night,” Watson discussed “Best Children's Books for Your Library covering fiction books, picture books, and a few young adult selections.” Watson also discussed the recent winners of the Best International Children's Books published in the U.S.

In Memoriam

Former SIS adjunct faculty member, Lucile Deaderick, died November 8, 2006. She served as the director of the Knoxville-Knox County Public Library, the head of the McClung Historical Collection, and Lawson McGhee Library. She was an editor of The Heart Of The Valley: A History of Knoxville, Tennessee and co-authored The Founding of Knoxville.

Gretchen Whitney
Information unavailable at time of publication

Intercultural Leadership Toolkit Symposium

When the School of Information Sciences signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Puerto Rico’s (UPR) Escuela Graduada de Ciencias y Tecnologías de la Información last summer, it set several activities into motion. Foremost was the Intercultural Leadership Toolkit Symposium hosted last October 30-31 under the leadership of Drs. Ed Cortez and Nitza Hernández. This watershed event drew members of the public, faculty and students from UPR, and students, faculty, and administrators from a variety of disciplines across UT.

Provost Holub greets audience

Provost and Vice Chancellor Robert Holub introduced the session by sharing his experience as dean of students at the University of California, Berkely, and noting how the world is truly getting smaller. Holub went on to applaud UT’s Ready for the World initiative as an ambitious, comprehensive effort to encourage students to interact with and experience different environments and cultures.

“If students are going to succeed in their careers after they receive their degrees and leave the campus,” he said, “they will need to be able to communicate with individuals whose backgrounds and experiences differ significantly from their own.”

The initiative cosponsored the symposium, and SIS was fortunate to have Ready for the World sponsor Dr. Mary Papke attend and participate in the program. See http://provost.tennessee.edu/announcements/20061030.shtml to read the provost’s full introduction.

Jose Aponte draws a crowd

Latino librarian Jose Aponte’s keynote talk, “Intercultural Leadership in a Global

Information Age,” kicked off the symposium, drawing nearly 100 people. Aponte, Director of the San Diego County library system, began his talk by singing “Looky Looky Yonder” by Alan Lomax, showing that the topic of intercultural awareness begs for an unconventional approach. Aponte artfully explored the topic of leadership, quoting current events illustrating America’s culture of ethical dilemmas and institutionalized racism. He turned to librarians and urged them to relish the considerable value they provide to their patrons. “Community service is the rent we pay,” he said.

Aponte demonstrates what management guru Peter Drucker calls “management by walking around.” A leader, Aponte said, needs to find regular ways to reach out, understand, and show appreciation for his employees. He also noted that large organizations have an intrinsically suppressing effect on the human spirit, and so he helps alleviate this by extending his family to all those who works for him. Much of Aponte’s worldview derives from seeing people around him as part of his extended family, which had much to do with growing up in an immigrant

"... the time of a life years before..."
Hispanic family with Spanish speaking parents. This ethos takes shape for Aponte as he naturally takes on different roles for his staff, such as mentor, teacher, advisor, and coach.

“Common sense is judgment and intelligence in action,” he said, arguing that one must find his or her moral compass and then apply common sense. The world begs for compassion, social justice, and ingenuity, which, he stated, is the stuff that makes a librarian a great librarian.

Aponte went on to define 15 characteristics of leadership that he uses to impart fairness, respect for others, and to promote his vision for his library system. Other elements of successful leadership that Aponte stressed included respect for one’s elders; knowing and respecting one’s followers; developing the idea of having a front porch where one’s humanity is combined with one’s community; a strong customer service ethic; and, most importantly, respecting cultural traditions.

Aponte concluded by saying that the time to influence the life of a child is 100 years before it is born.

Aponte is a tireless organizer and advocate for Latinos and underserved populations. He holds a White House appointment to the Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries Advisory Council and was named the 2004 Trejo Librarian of the Year by REFORMA, a national affiliate of the American Library Association.
Student co-authors book

Patrick O’Daniel and co-author Gina Cordell have written Historic Photos of Memphis, which captures the spirit of the city from Reconstruction through the rise of industry, world wars, and into the modern era. O’Daniel is a librarian in the History–Social Sciences Department of the Memphis Public Library and Information Center, and many of the book’s photos are from the library’s archives.

He has a master’s degree in history from the University of Memphis and has written articles for the West Tennessee Historical Society Papers and the Tennessee Archivist.

Student earns cartography success

Second year student and physician Joel Kovarsky will present at the International Conference on the History of Cartography to be held July 8-13, 2007 in Bern, Switzerland. He has also published “Teaching the History of Cartography: A Case for the Marriage of Special Collections and Distance Learning.” Kovarsky owns The Prime Meridian: Antique Maps & Books.

Students and alumni present at GL8 Conference

Eleven SIS students presented two papers at the 8th International Conference on Grey Literature in New Orleans on December 4-5. The students wrote the papers in Dr. Kendra Albright’s Business Intelligence course and collaborated with David Lambert at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The first paper, “Securing the Future: Saving Costs through Collaboration” was delivered by Timothy A Lepczyk, Timothy Gawne, Gregory March, Alison Connor, Carrie Snesko, and Sara Green.

The second paper, “Nuclear Nonproliferation and Export Control Regulations, Recent Events, and Analysis” was delivered by Laura Maddux, Dorothy Ogdon, Amy Taylor, Kelli Williams, and Liuyan Yang. College Board of Visitors member Bonnie Carroll, President Information International Associates Inc. gave the keynote address at the conference.

Alumna Gina Costello (SIS ’04), library faculty at Louisiana State University chaired the second session on “Metadata Schemes, Repositories, Software, and Standards.” She also presented “Louisiana Coastal Wetlands and Louisiana Coastal Grey Literature: Vanishing Treasures.”

Student awarded TASL Scholarship

The Tennessee Association of School Librarians awarded Joan Lange the 2006 TASL Scholarship Award and a $1000 scholarship. Lange is a second year student and a librarian at Pope John Paul II High School in Hendersonville, Tenn.

Student awarded AR scholarship

Second year student John Boone was awarded a scholarship from the Arkansas Library Association. He attended their annual conference in Fayetteville, AR, last October and was recognized at the awards dinner.

Student awarded grant

When Kathy Grimenstein wrote a successful grant in Dr. Mehra’s Diversity Issues class in fall 2005, she had a genuine drive for the grant to be funded. Though the effort was intended to be a “class exercise,” she submitted a grant for Services for the Disabled from the Tennessee State Library and Archives, and was awarded $12,000 for her library to purchase two workstations for patrons with physical and mental disabilities.

Adaptive tools were added to the workstations for easy accessibility by patrons. Grimenstein is assistant director of the Williamson County Public Library in Franklin, Tenn.

Students work with communications scholar Brenda Dervin

SIS students and a student from the University of Oulu, Finland, earned 3-credits last summer while working on a research project under the leadership of renowned communications scholar Brenda Dervin. Along with teams from other universities across the U.S., students read transcripts of 82 interviews on how experts view research in human-information problems. From those transcripts, each member of the team wrote “impressionist essays,” focusing their perspectives on users, disciplinary gaps, and research-practice gaps. The team then collaborated on a poster and paper that was presented at the 2006 ASIS&T annual conference.

Student groomed to be trainer

Cambridge Statistical Abstracts (CSA) selected second year student Kelli Williams for its Library School Internship program, which CSA offers to select LIS students across the country. CSA trained Williams to provide trainings on its Illumina interface and on its web-based bibliographic management tool RefWorks and awarded her a $1000 stipend. Williams taught workshops for students, faculty, and librarians last fall using both RefWorks and CSA Illumina’s more than 100 proprietary databases.

Student published in national journal

Incoming Students, Fall 2006

91 new students: 41 on campus; 50 DE

Location
57 from Tennessee: (24 from Knoxville)
12 from Virginia
4 from Georgia
3 from Arkansas
3 from West Virginia
1 each from Alaska, Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Ohio, Oklahoma, & Puerto Rico
1 DE student lives in India

Gender & Age
69 Females
22 Males
22 yrs old — Youngest student
63 yrs old — Oldest student
33 yrs old — Average age

Race
9 African American
7 Asian/Island Pacificer
1 American Indian
1 Alaskan Native
1 Hispanic
1 Bi-racial (Caucasian/Asian)
77 White/Caucasian

GPA & GRE
29 students have previous graduate degree
Average undergraduate GPA: 3.39
Average graduate GPA: 3.66
If test taken after October 2002, average GRE score: 1108/4.5 analytical

Previous Majors
English (23), Education (5), History (8), Anthropology, Biology, Business, Computer Science, Fine Arts, Law, Music, Chemical Engineering, Forensic Science

Interests
Some 85% of students’ interests were uniformly scattered across school libraries, public libraries, and academic libraries. Other interests include archives, law librarianship, health science librarianship information systems, reference, and special collections.

Alumni News

Library Journal Mover and Shaker

Jill Grogg (SIS ’01) has been recognized as a Mover and a Shaker by Library Journal. Dr. Carol Tenopir nominated Grogg and says that she is a “young, rising star in the world of academic librarianship.”

An electronic resources librarian and adjunct faculty member at the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies, Jill began publishing while still a student at UT, collaborating with fellow students on an article that was published in College and Research Libraries and with Carol Tenopir on an article that was published in Searcher: The Magazine for Database Professionals.

Jill has published 19 articles in publications such as Technical Services Quarterly, The Serials Librarian, Research Strategies, Library Journal, Computers in Libraries, and Information Today. Her primary research agenda focuses on the subject of full-text linking practices, including the development of the OpenURL, where she has established herself as an expert.


Alumnus starts job in Afghanistan

Jimmy Malone (SIS ’06) moved to Kabul, Afghanistan, in January to become a librarian at the American University of Afghanistan. “I was drawn to this position for several reasons,” says Malone. “I am intrigued with working in a position that can have a tremendous influence on the foundational development of an academic library and the opportunity to work with a student population that is so eager to learn. I have had a life-long fascination with other cultures of all types, and have longed to work and live overseas.” Malone worked on an IEEE-funded research project during the summer of 2005, which involved interacting with individuals in many Asian countries. See his blog at http://firefly-crossroads.blogspot.com.

Thompson moves to TSLA

Pat Thompson (SIS ’01) is the new Special Projects Coordinator for the Tennessee State Library and Archives. Pat was recently Head of Reference at the Blount County Public Library in Maryville, Tenn. She is president of the Tennessee Library Association and is active in professional library activities throughout the state.

Pat has been a trainer for the Tennessee Electronic Library since 2003. She has experience with local history and digital photograph collections and has been instrumental in establishing key partnerships between the Blount County Public Library and the business community.

She is a volunteer tutor for the Blount County Literacy Council and has had past experience as Coordinator of Homebound Services at the Knox County Public Library and as Director of the Stewart County Public Library.

Free UT e-mail

The University of Tennessee is offering free e-mail addresses to all alumni. You first have to register with the UT National Alumni Association Online Community at http://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/UTK/. After you register, you are eligible to sign up for a free e-mail address which would be yourname@utalum.org.
Fellowship awarded to Conner

Tiffani Conner (SIS ’04) was awarded the Digital Library Federation’s Fall 2006 Forum Fellowship. The forum was a 3-day event held last November in Boston. DLF is comprised of 35 partner institutions from around the globe, and UT Libraries is a founding member. She recently accepted a position at UT Hodges Library as an assistant professor, and she is on the SIS Alumni Board.

Alumnus entrepreneur visits SIS

Hunter Hagewood (SIS ’01) visited SIS recently to attract new collaborations with students and faculty interested in his ongoing research into storage virtualization and information management. Hagewood owns Nevoa Networks, a Brazilian software company which offers solutions that simplify the creation of large-scale, high performance storage resources using heterogeneous hardware.

As a student, he managed the storage nodes and content for the Internet2 Distributed Storage Infrastructure project. As operations coordinator for the Logistical Computing and Internetworking Laboratory (LoCI) at UT, he helped deploy the Logistical Backbone, which allows for flexible sharing and utilization of writable storage on a global scale. Logistical networking technology provides the cornerstone of the Nevoa Storage System’s architecture and creates rich opportunities for innovation in policy-oriented information lifecycle management.

Alumni President’s Corner

By Roger Myers, President, SIS Alumni Board

As the President of the Alumni Board, I have had the opportunity to witness many exciting developments at the School of Information Sciences, to meet the exceptional faculty and to work with a fabulous Alumni Board.

The Board met last September to discuss upcoming events and programs, such as the Homecoming Brunch, the SIS Mentoring Program, and the purpose and role of the new Advisory Board. The Board has also gotten involved with the student Practicum Program and is making suggestions about how best to grow this already successful program to make more students aware of practicum opportunities in our LIS network. As President, I am serving as the liaison to the newly constituted Advisory Board, which is also serving a unique and important job in advising SIS faculty about emerging trends in LIS. I enjoyed a dinner meeting with the Advisory Board and thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship of old classmates and new friends who are standing out in their careers in marvelous ways.

One important activity of the Alumni Board is to encourage alumni to help cushion the cost of student’s tuition. Please consider donating to one of the scholarship funds and help a deserving student. More information for scholarships can be found at http://www.sis.utk.edu/admissions/FinancialAid/scholarships.

Most importantly, we are planning an interesting Alumni & Friends Day. As you make plans to attend, please think about an SIS graduate who has been an outstanding professional and consider nominating this person for the Distinguished Alumni Award. E-mail me your nominations (roger.myers@maryvillecollege.edu) by February 9, so that the Board has adequate time to prepare the award for Alumni & Friends Day.

If you want to find alumni from the School, just visit the Alumni Directory, posted at http://www.sis.utk.edu/apps/alumni/directory. And let me know if you have any ideas for the Alumni Board.

We are here for you! I hope to see you March 3.
When, in 2002, John Wilkin (SIS ’86) heard that Google cofounder Larry Page was planning a visit to his alma mater—albeit the computer science department at the University of Michigan—he contacted Page and suggested they meet for lunch. The result of that meeting is the Michigan Digitization Project: a partnership with Google, Inc., which is coordinating all phases of the University of Michigan’s large-scale digitization effort to convert the entire 7 million volume University Library collection. Wilkin oversees the project and negotiates contract terms and Michigan’s portion of implementation.

Wilkin is the co-interim university librarian for the University of Michigan Library and the associate university librarian for Library Information Technology (LIT) and for Technical and Access Services.

Every day, Google collects and digitizes over 30,000 volumes that are scanned off-campus at no financial expense to University of Michigan librarians.

UM is the premiere testing site for Google’s “non-destructive” scanning technology and digitization workflow, and is the first site to implement this technology.

The Google Print project is creating new ways for users to search and access library content, opening up the UM collections to users worldwide. The six-year project provides both Google and Michigan with a copy of the results of that work.

“Although we have engaged in large-scale (preservation-based) conversion of parts of the Library’s collection for several years, we know that only through partnerships of this sort can something of this scale be achieved,” said Wilkin.

“We believe that, beyond providing basic access to library collections, this activity is critically transformative, enabling the University Library to build on and reconceive vital library services for the new millennium.”

As the library content is integrated into Google Print, Google’s users will be able to find books and journals as part of their general searches without charge for access to the public domain library content. Users can search the full-text of all the digitized volumes and view every page of out-of-copyright books.
**1970s**

Aubrey Mitchell ('73), associate dean of Libraries, retired from UT Libraries after 42 years of distinguished service.

Robert Block ('76) is the director of the Bossier Parish Library in La.

**1980s**

Beth Davis-Brown ('84) is executive secretary of library services at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, and is a member of ALA and SLAs Program Committee, the Joint Conference on Digital Libraries. She is responsible for communications and correspondence for the largest division of the Library of Congress. She was previously confidential assistant to the Librarian of Congress.

**1990s**

Kimberly Kerts ('90) is the senior information analyst at McKinsey & Co. in Florham Park, NJ, and is a member of the American Chemical Society.

Peggy Evans ('91) is head of the Acquisitions Department at Shreve Memorial Library in Shreveport, LA, and a member of ALA. Peggy married Jim Evans in August 2005. Jim is head of Technical Services at Noel Memorial Library, Louisiana State Univ.

Kelly Shipman ('91) is a school library specialist at Memphis City Schools and is a member of ALA, AASL, MEA, and NEA.

Cynthia Price ('92) is a librarian at William Blount High School in Maryville, Tenn.

Roger Myers ('93) is assistant professor and head of reference services at Maryville College in Maryville, TN.

Teresa Welsh ('93) is assistant professor at the School of Library & Information Science, University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, and is a member of ASIS&T, SLA, and the Visual Resources Association.

Marilyn (Lynn) Davis ('94) is the program liaison at DOE Office of Scientific and Technical Information in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Aaron Dobbs ('94) is systems and electronic resources librarian at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania in Shippensburg, Pa, and is a member of ALA (LITA, ACRL, ULS, CLS, LHRT, and NMRT. He is running for ALA Council and asks his colleagues to consider voting for him on the ballot this spring.

David King ('94) is acting director of information technology Services at Kansas City Public Library in Kansas City, Mo. View his blog at www.davidleeking.com.

Matthew Stirling ('94) is the senior information specialist at PPD in Morrisville, NC, and is a member of SLA.

George Hoemann ('95) is assistant dean of Distance Education and Independent Study at the University of Tennessee and is a member of the Association for Continuing Higher Education and the Tennessee Alliance for Continuing Higher Education.

Glenna Owens ('95) is associate director at Appalachian School of Law Library in Grundy, VA, and is a member of ALA, AALL, SEAALL, and VLA.

Samantha Seiple ('96), along with her husband Todd, wrote Mutants, Clones, and Killer Corn: Unlocking the Secrets of Biotechnology published in 2005 by Lerner Publications.

Lynn Caruthers ('97) is as a media specialist at Joseph Brown Elementary School in Columbia, Tenn., and is a member of ALA, AASL, and TASH. She is treasurer of TASH.

Kelly McBride ('97) is an instruction librarian/assistant professor at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, and is a member of ALA, ACRL, and NCLA.

David Merchant ('97) is an instructor of English at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, La. He is vice-president of the LA Technology Faculty and Staff Club and is a member of the Society for Technical Communication and ACRL. He stepped down as director of integrated technology at LA Tech to pursue an MA in English, which led to his current job.

Keith Powell ('97) is an acquisitions librarian at the University of California, Irvine, and is a member of ALA and CLA. He and his wife Karen have a beautiful baby girl.

Heidi Syler ('97) is a reference librarian at University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., and is a member of ALA and TLA.

**LEGEND**

AALL American Association of Law Librarians
ACM Association for Computer Machinery
ALA American Library Association
ACRL American College & Research Libraries
MLA Medical Library Association
NCLA North Carolina Library Association
NEA National Education Association
SELA Southeastern Library Association
SLA Special Library Association
TASL TN Association of School Librarians
TLA Tennessee Library Association

**2000s**

William Hawk ('98) is an information resource specialist at Baltimore City Public School System in Baltimore, Md., and is a member of the AASL, ALA, and ISTE.

Shali Zhang ('98) is assistant director for Collections & Technology Services at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and is a member of ALA, ACRL, ALCTS, NCLA, ALAS IRRT and CALA. She was elected to ALA Council 2004-2007; elected to vice-president/president-elect CALA, 2006-2007, and elected to secretary/treasurer of ALA's IRRT, 2005-2007.

Karen Chafin ('99) is a library director at Pikeville College in Pikeville, Ky., and is a member of ALA.

Jean Deck ('99) is a cataloging librarian at Ingram Library Services in LaVergne, Tenn., and is a member of TLA and ALA. She is serving on the editorial board for *Tennessee Libraries* in 2006.

Dawn Frederick ('00) is a literary agent for Sebastian Literary Agency.

Bonnie Hooks ('00) is a reference librarian at Jefferson Madison Regional Library in Charlottesville, Va., and is a member of AASL, ALA, and VEMA.

Alene Sternele ('00) is an information services manager at Fairfax County Public Library in Alexandria, Va., and is a member of ALA, YALSA, and on the education committee of ALSC.

Donna George ('01) is a business analyst at Ingram Book Group. She is responsible for their ipage website and is a liaison between the business units (libraries) and the programmers to change or add functionality to ipage.
Carole Lohman (‘01) is a reference assistant at the University of Virginia Education Library in Charlottesville, Va., and is a member of ALA, ACRL, VLA. She is the co-chair of the VLA Para-professional Forum for 2006-2007.

Chad Boeningter (‘02) is a reference and instruction technology coordinator at Ohio University Libraries in Athens, Oh.

Melissa Byrd (‘03) is a media specialist librarian at Jacksboro Elementary in Jacksboro, Tenn., and is a member of ALA and TLA.

Nakia Carter (‘03) is a reference librarian at the Quillen College of Medicine Library in Johnson City, Tenn.

Amelie Doshi (‘03) is a public services librarian at the University of North Carolina in Wilmington, N.C., and is a member of ALA, ACRL, NCLA, and NEA.

Dan Greene (‘03) is an IT Technologist and Web designer at UT’s Hodges Library and is a member of ALA and LITA.

Livvy Simpson (‘03) is a cataloging and ILL librarian at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin, Tenn.

Judy Bell (‘04) is a reference and instruction librarian at LSU Libraries in Baton Rouge, La., and is a member of ALA, ACRL, ANSS, and the National Storytelling Network.

Tiffani Conner (‘04) is the project manager for Volunteer Voices and is a member of ALA, ACRL, ASIST, IASSIST, LAMA, NMRT, PLG, SRRT, RUSA, and TLA.

Blaine Danielson (‘04) is a library fellow at Eskind Biomedical Library, Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville.

Sara Darling (‘04) is a lower school librarian at St. Agnes Academy in Memphis.

Kat Hall (‘04) is an educational consultant with Usborne Books in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Trent Hanner (‘04) is a public services librarian at Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville.

Ginger Peterson (‘04) is an assistant branch manager at the LaPrade Branch at Chesterfield Public Library in Richmond, Va., and is a member of ALA, PLA, and VLA.

Sarah Sewell (‘04) is a reference and information services manager at Headquarters Library, Cumberland County Public Library & Information Center in Fayetteville, N.C., and is a member of NCLA, ALA, and PLA.

Ginelle Baskin (‘05) is a user services librarian at MTSU Walker Library in Murfreesboro, Tenn., and is a member of TLA.

Donna Cirenza (‘05) is the assistant director at Tennessee Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in Nashville.

Heather Cleland (‘05) is a children’s librarian at Williamson County Public Library in Nashville.

Sara Hyder McGough (‘05) is a librarian at Henderson County Public Library in Hendersonville, N.C.

Beverly Simmons (‘05) is a reference and instruction librarian at UT Chattanooga and is a member of ALA, TLA, ASIST, and CALA.

Kate Stepp (‘05) is the visual resources curator/librarian at Tulane University. She is digitizing their slide inventory, student and faculty artwork and special collections, and redesigning their website.

Bill Stevens (‘05) is an associate consultant/records researcher at Information Management Associates, Inc. in Knoxville, and is a member of Tennessee Records Association, the Society of Tennessee Archivists, Great Chattanooga Chapter, ARMA, ARMA International, and ETLA.

Michal Strutin (‘05) is a science librarian at Santa Clara University in Santa Clara, Ca., and is a member of ALA, ACRL/STS, and CARL.

Jenny Townsend (‘05) is a health systems database analyst at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville.

Meg Webb (‘05) is a youth services librarian at Wilkes County Public Library in North Wilkesboro, N.C., and is a member of NCLA.

Jennifer Anielski (‘06) is a librarian at Technical Services at The Mariners’ Museum in Newport News, Va.

Bethany Baeserlin (‘06) is an Information and Referral Librarian at Cumberland County Public Library in Fayetteville, N.C.

Grover Baker (‘06) is a librarian at the Center for Popular Music in Murfreesboro, Tenn., and a member of the Music Library Association (MLA), SEMLA, and ALA. See http://popmusic.mtsu.edu

Alison Bentley (‘06) is the content specialist with Volunteer Voices digitization project at UT Libraries Special Collections and is a member of ALA and SAA.

Garva Byrd (‘06) is a serials and electronic resources coordinator at Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

Genny Carter (‘06) is a digitization and content specialist at Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville, and is a member of TLA and ALA’s NMRT, RUSA, and LITA.

Rebecca Dickanson (‘06) is a school library media specialist at Eagleton Elementary in Maryville, Tenn., and is a member of TASL, TEA, ETHS, and Mountain Heritage Reading Association.

Kathleen Dolan (‘06) is a reference librarian at Collier County Public Library in Florida.

Chris Dykes (‘06) is a reference librarian at the University of Houston Law Center.

Sheri Edwards (‘06) is a doctoral candidate in UT’s College of Communication and Information and is a member of ASIS&T, ALA, and TLA.

Jude Farrara (‘06) is assistant visual resources curator at the School of Visual Arts in New York, and is a member of SAA ARLIS/NA.

Timothy J. Gawne (‘06) is a science reference librarian at Oak Ridge National Laboratory ORNL Research Library.

Timothy Łępczyk (‘06) is a digital coordinator at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, and is a member of ALA, ASIST, and SAA.

Gregory March (‘06) is a map/GIS librarian at UT Libraries and is a member of ALA, ALA, MAGERT, TLA, SAA, and TGA.

Teresa Moffett (‘06) is a school library media specialist at Northwest Middle School in Knoxville.

Ollie Nolan (‘06) is a library assistant at Roane State Community College in Oak Ridge, Tenn., and is a member of ALA.

Jenny Parker (‘06) is a librarian at Inskip Elementary in Knoxville.

Mary Piper (‘06) is a reference librarian at Willingboro Public Library in Willingboro, NJ.

Anthony Schlager (‘06) is a librarian at the Salinas, CA public library.

Amy Tucker (‘06) is a library supervisor in Serials and Acquisitions at UT Law Library and is a member of ETLA.

Cara Webster (‘06) is a catalog and reference librarian at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tenn. and is a member of ALA, TLA, and TAL.

In Memoriam

Mary Frances Bales Alexander (‘80) held several positions with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Library including Technical Reference Librarian. She was involved in several professional library associations and served as President of the East Tennessee Special Library Association.

James David Pharris (‘04) died on October 21, 2006, at home in his sleep. He was working for the Broward County Library System. He was teaching small business classes in Broward County and planned to get his doctorate and teach at a university. He was a brilliant, creative chef, accomplished writer, and a great speaker.
Alumni & Friends Day 2007

WHEN: March 3, 2007
1 pm – 3 pm | Reception: 3 – 4
WHERE: McClung Museum, UT Campus

Mark your calendars now for the upcoming SIS Alumni & Friends Day.

SIS Faculty

Agenda

✓ Dr. Ed Cortez: Welcome and State of the School Address
✓ Dr. Carol Tenopir: How Electronic Journals Are Changing Scholarly Reading Patterns
✓ Dr. Jinx Watson and Dr. Kimberly Black: Contemporary Issues in Children’s Literature: African-American Literature Roundtable, Best International children’s books, and a “little bit of Sendak”
✓ Recognition of the 2007 Distinguished Alumni Award
✓ Alumni Volunteer Voices Panel
✓ SIS Faculty Poster Session

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