



# The Informed

Included in this issue: ■ Greetings from the Chair ■ Faculty and Staff Features  
■ Student and Alumni News ■ Department Events and Activities



# The Informed

## Volume 2

### Fall 2015

*The Informed is developed and administered by the Advisory Board for the University at Buffalo's Department of Library and Information Studies (LIS).*

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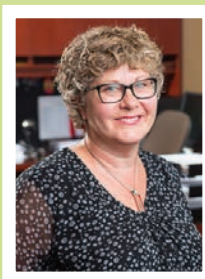
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## Graduate School of Education

**UB** University at Buffalo  
The State University of New York

Dear LIS Community,



We are truly delighted to bring this second edition of *The Informed* to your inbox! This past year has been an intense and exciting experience for the Department of Library and Information Studies; we have so much good news to share!

A very huge sigh of relief and pure pleasure was experienced by all this past summer when we received the good news of our seven-year accreditation from the American Library Association! After three conditional accreditation decisions, we are proud to have addressed our historical challenges, and we look forward to building on all our hard work that has laid solid foundations for the next chapter in the life of the department. The accreditation process gave us the opportunity to examine our operational practices and process, to incorporate planning and assessment into all that we do, and to ensure that our decision-making is informed by appropriate data. In addition, we have worked hard to expand and deepen our relationships with all of our stakeholders, to ensure that their perspectives inform our progress, and to provide our students and graduates with the benefits of those viewpoints. We are confident that our program is meeting its goals, and is shaping knowledgeable, skillful, professionally competent professionals who will mirror the ethic of engagement they experience in the program.

Thanks to all of the faculty members, departmental staff, students, alumni, employers, and adjunct faculty who participated in the accreditation process! Special thanks go to Ben Poremski, our former Accreditation Assistant; without his expertise and dedication, this achievement could not have occurred. Ben, who was profiled in last year's issue of *The Informed*, is now the Assistant to the Chair, following Carole Novak-Lewis' retirement in July 2015. Carole served the department faithfully for many years. I relied heavily on her advice, expertise, and important campus connections during my first two years at UB, and especially during the accreditation process. Farewell and best wishes, Carole!

Among the many other highlights this past year, I would like to draw special attention to our very successful Bobinski Lecture, held in March 2015. Special guest, Dr. David Weinberger, spoke to a filled lecture hall in the Buffalo History Museum about "Library as Platform." Please join us for our spring 2016 Bobinski Lecture, which will be widely advertised soon.

Other highlights include the reappointments of Dr. Amy VanScoy and Dr. Brenda Battleson White, and the addition of a new faculty member, Dr. Guillaume Boutard to our faculty complement (we profile him below). We also said farewell to Dr. Lorna Peterson, who retired at the end of December 2014, and to Jessica Purvis, School Librarianship Program Coordinator. We wish Dr. Peterson and Ms. Purvis the very best in their new endeavors!

The other important piece of news that you may have missed is that we changed the name of our degrees. We now offer the MS in Information and Library Science, and the MS in School Librarianship. The general degree was renamed to reflect our increasing focus on the “information” side of the field, and to give our graduates a leg up when applying for non-traditional jobs as information professionals. The School Librarianship degree was renamed to be consistent with current usage in the field.

Again this year our Advisory Board, and in particular, Chair Chris Hollister, have worked hard to produce this newsletter. Thank you for your fine service and sincere dedication to the department!

We count on all of you to continue to support us, to provide feedback, and to join our events. Please join us in 2016 as the Department celebrates 50 years of education for the information professions! More details of that celebration will be available soon. And, please keep in touch with us through LinkedIn, Facebook, and our alumni listserv (<http://gse.buffalo.edu/lis/alumni>).



**Dr. Heidi Julien**

*Chair, Department of Library and Information Studies*

## LIS PROFILE

### Dr. Guillaume Boutard, Assistant Professor



The newest tenure-track faculty member in LIS started in August 2015. Dr. Guillaume Boutard earned his Ph.D. in Information Studies from McGill University in 2013, and has spent the last two years as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Faculté de Musique at Université de Montréal. Dr. Boutard also holds a M.Sc. in Computer Science and a M.Sc. in Geophysics, both from the Université Pierre & Marie Curie in Paris, France. His academic training in Europe and Canada, together with his 10 years of experience as a research and development engineer at the Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique (IRCAM) in Paris, have prepared him to teach and conduct research in the area of digital preservation and curation. Dr. Boutard’s work has been published in *Journal of Documentation*, *Computer Music Journal*, *Archival Science*, and *the International Journal of Digital Curation*. His unique background and interdisciplinary, international collaborations will significantly enhance the research and teaching profile at UB. Dr. Boutard is passionate about a wide range of music, including contemporary music, mixed music, electroacoustic music, acousmatic music, post-acousmatic music, free jazz, free improvisation, noise, progressive rock, post rock, and psychedelic rock. He is looking forward to exploring Buffalo’s music and media arts scene.

## Interview with Dr. Valerie Nessel, Associate Professor



**James Evans (graduate)  
with Dr. Nessel**

### *How long have you worked at UB?*

I have been at UB for seven years now. I started teaching Indexing and Surrogation and Intellectual Freedom.

### *Why do you like working in this department?*

We're situated in the Graduate School of Education, which is a perfect fit for my research investigating children within an educational context. I find that UB has a lot to offer in terms of collaborative opportunities within GSE, with other UB units, and in the Buffalo community, especially Buffalo Public Schools. In addition to establishing some great collaborations, I have made wonderful friends in Buffalo.

### *What have been the biggest challenges you have faced since coming to Buffalo?*

We have struggled with conditional accreditations, but I'm so proud and greatly relieved to be fully reaccredited. This is an acknowledgement of the awesome team we have here in the department and of the support of our alumni, the university, and wider LIS community.

### *What are your passions?*

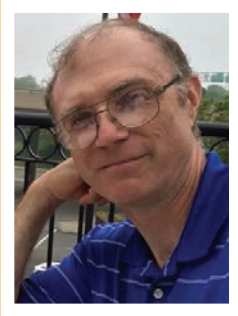
I am passionate about teaching. I am never happier than when I am teaching a class. Now that the majority of students are pursuing their MS online, it can sometimes be a challenge to convey that passion in an online environment but I work hard to do so. I am also passionate about trying to make my little corner of the world a better place. Before I became a professor, I was a "career volunteer," because I was active in so many organizations. Although I no longer have the time or the opportunities to volunteer in the same way, I try to make a difference in the community through my research.

### *Do you have any advice for our students or graduates?*

One of my professors told me at the beginning of my MLIS studies to keep an open mind. I think that is so important, especially because the LIS field is constantly changing. We're not just about libraries anymore—we're about information. My most successful students and graduates have embraced this concept with the understanding that while they are eminently qualified to work in a library setting, they are not restricted to it. Several former students have successful careers as software developers, system analysts, and other non-traditional areas. What they have in common is a mind open to all opportunities and a thirst for learning that doesn't end with the completion of their MS studies. I like to think of librarians/information professionals/information specialists, whatever label is applied, as facilitators, helping clients make the appropriate information choices for their own lives. And for this to happen, an open mind is crucial.

In fall 2015, Dr. Nessel is teaching Introduction to Library and Information Studies, and Intellectual Freedom. In spring 2016, she will enjoy a well-deserved sabbatical!

### James Tammaro, Adjunct Faculty



#### *Can you tell us a bit about your career before teaching for the program?*

I served as records manager for the Town of Amherst, NY from 1981 to 1990 establishing and administering the town's comprehensive records management program, including an archives component. In 1990, I was appointed Archives and Records Management Specialist III for the NY State Archives and held that position until I retired in 2011. In my position, I provided direct technical assistance to local governments in Western New York interested in improving the way their records and information were managed. I also administered a grant program for local governments, which funded activities to improve the management of local government records including archival records.

#### *How long have you taught at UB? What do you teach?*

I've taught for 25 years at UB. I teach three courses: a records management course, an introductory archives course, and an advanced archives course. In addition, I routinely advise and/or supervise students carrying out archives and records management practicums.

#### *Why do you like working in this department?*

The leadership of the department has always been very supportive of my teaching efforts. In addition, as an adjunct professor, I've always found my fellow professors and the staff very welcoming. Further, my fellow professors have always been helpful to me in improving my teaching methods and in exploring new ways to deliver course information to my students. The assistance I've received from my colleagues has been particularly helpful over the last year as I changed from teaching strictly in a classroom to teaching all my courses in the asynchronous online hybrid format.

#### *What are your passions?*

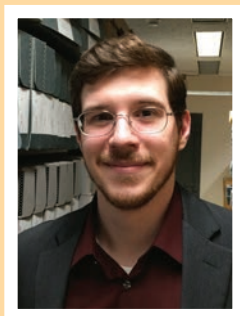
One of my passions is gardening, with a focus on heirloom plants (non-hybrid plants which date to the 19th century and earlier). My interest in heirloom gardening began when I acquired my great-grandmother's flowers from 1912, which are still growing in my garden. My second passion is for teaching my archives and records management courses in LIS, which gives me the opportunity to pass along the knowledge I've gained in the field to students aspiring to be archivists and records managers.

#### *Do you have any advice for our students and graduates?*

**For students:** Commit yourself to a multi-faceted approach to obtaining the knowledge you need for your MS degree by attending formal courses, participating in practicums and attending professional conferences, allowing you to network with other students, professionals in the field, and potential employers.

**For graduates:** Once you've obtained a position in the field, go beyond what is expected of you to demonstrate your strong commitment to your employer and to the field. By working at a level above the norm, you'll be excelling in your current position and be in a position to impress potential employers as your commitment to the field is apparent.

## Joseph Patton



Recent graduate Joseph Patton has been awarded a prestigious junior fellowship at the Library of Congress. Patton will be working on the Veterans History Project, following his graduation from the program in May of 2015. Originally from LeRoy, NY, Patton received his BS from SUNY Brockport, studying military history and warfare, with a minor in film studies.

With his lifetime passion for historical study and appreciation, Patton hopes to help others discover and explore this aspect of world culture, both in his upcoming role as a junior fellow, and in his future work within the profession. Patton credits his graduate work in the department as helping him to “focus [his] passion in a way that makes it a marketable

and valuable entity in the real world.” Highlighting his archives courses as giving him insight into both archival and special collections, Patton said “I’ll be receiving more than just a degree from this program; I’ll be obtaining new avenues for my passions and the skills to pursue them.” The department commends Joseph Patton for his work thus far, and looks forward to following his career as he pursues his passions and encourages others to do the same.

## ADVICE FROM RECENT LIS GRADUATES

“Three years ago, I was an uncertain graduate student getting ready to leave the classroom and head out into the world. I had spent a wonderful two years at UB and truly felt like it was my home. However, I wanted to be closer to my family in East Texas. I asked [my professors] so many questions like, what am I going to do and how will I ever find a job in such a rural area? All told me the exact same thing: be open to any possibility, even if the opportunity is not the one you dreamt about while you were yearning to start your career. They also told me to be flexible about where you go. Not everyone follows the exact path they once thought they would.

Be open to any possibility, be humble about your position, and be positive about the future!”

**-Jenn (Warren) Eldridge (2013)**

My advice to all of you getting ready to venture out into libraryland at large: Don’t be afraid of rejection; it is going to happen and happen a lot. Don’t let it get you down. All you need is one ‘yes’ and it will come when you are least expecting it. Don’t be afraid of taking something that isn’t a ‘Librarian’ position; sometimes it is those jobs that are going to give you the most varied experiences to make getting that ‘Librarian’ job that much easier. I wish all of my future colleagues luck! Enjoy school and learn lots - get out there and do!”

**-Amanda Lowe (2014)**

## APPOINTMENTS, REAPPOINTMENTS, CONTINUING APPOINTMENTS, AND DEPARTURES:

This year we are very excited to introduce our newest tenure-track faculty member **Dr. Guillaume Boutard**, who started his position in August 2015, and who is profiled earlier in this issue. Dr. Boutard will be teaching in the area of data curation. This year we said good-bye to **Dr. Lorna Peterson**, a long-time faculty member. Dr. Peterson taught in the areas of reference services and international publishing, and is a former President of the Association for Library and Information Science Education. We also said farewell to **Ms. Jessica Purvis**, School Librarianship Program Coordinator, who left at the end of August 2015 to pursue a school librarian position; we are currently seeking her replacement. Finally, we are thrilled to announce that **Dr. Amy VanScoy** and **Dr. Brenda Battleson White** were both reappointed this past year.



**Carole Novak-Lewis** cutting her retirement cake

## FACULTY ACTIVITIES:

- **Dr. Sam Abramovich** gave a keynote talk at the Digital Challenges, Teaching and Learning in the Classroom of the Future symposium at UB. He also presented research at the Network for Research in Jewish Education Conference in Los Angeles. Dr. Abramovich presented papers at the American Educational Research Association conference in Philadelphia, and gave a TedX style talk for ELI in New York, NY. In addition, he won a grant from the Covenant Foundation for “Badges for Jewish Education and Identity,” and his team is a current finalist for the College Success Prize hosted by the Robin Hood Foundation in New York City.

■ **Dr. Brenda Battleson White** served on the advisory board of the Church and Synagogue Library Association, and the Erie Community College Library Advisory Board. She is an Open SUNY Fellow with the Open SUNY Center for Online Teaching Excellence.

■ **Dr. Heidi Julien** presented papers at the Social Media & Society conference in Toronto, the Canadian Association for Information Science conference in Ottawa, and at the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) conference in Seattle. She presented the keynote address to the 10th Research Applications in Information & Library Studies Conference in Canberra, Australia, and an invited lecture at Bar-Ilan University in Tel-Aviv, Israel. Dr. Julien was also a response panelist at the UB Educational Technology Forum. This year she served on the OCLC/ALISE Library and Information Science Research Grant Program committee, and is chairing the ALISE/Bodhan S. Wynar Research Paper Competition Committee. She also serves on the Western New York Library Resources Council as Vice-President of the Board of Trustees.

■ **Dr. Valerie Nessel** was a keynote speaker for the UB Digital Challenges event. She also won a UB Civic Engagement and Public Policy grant titled “Developing Curriculum Support for a Model for Information Literacy Instruction for Elementary School Students,” and she is a team member of another grant at the University of Toronto titled “Spinal Ultrasound: Creating an Accredited Online Continuing Education Module for Practicing Anesthesiologists.” Dr. Nessel continues to serve as Book Reviews Editor for the journal *Education for Information*.

■ **Dr. Anne Perrault** presented a poster at the New York State Council for Exceptional Children in Syracuse, NY, and a paper at the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children Conference in Indianapolis, IN.

■ **Dr. Dagobert Soergel** presented a keynote and a submitted paper at the Thirteenth International ISKO Conference in Krakow, Poland. He was an invited speaker at the 2nd Knowledge in Diversity Workshop in Trento, Italy; the Brazilian Information Science Conference Research Day in Belo Horizonte, Brazil; at Peking University; at the National Doctoral Symposium on Library Science, Suzhou, China; at the University of California, Berkeley; and, at the ISKO UK biennial conference. Dr. Soergel also just completed 25 years as a trustee for the Child and Family Network Centers (formerly Alexandria Community Network Preschool).

- **Dr. Ying Sun** is an editorial board member for the *International Journal of Knowledge Engineering*.
- **Dr. Amy VanScoy** presented papers at the Canadian Association for Information Science conference, and the I3 conference in Aberdeen, U.K. She also won the ALA Diversity Grant for a project titled "Including the Voice of Librarians of Color in Reference and Information Service Research."
- **Dr. Larry Nash White** presented two professional development workshops to the Western New York Library Resources Council and two workshops to the Rochester Regional Library Council. He also presented a paper at the Library Assessment Conference in Seattle, WA. He and Dr. Brenda Battleson White worked as project researchers on a SUNY Buffalo State research grant investigating the use of institutional and educational data in decision making and program improvement for the Depew School District, Buffalo, NY.

## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS:

- Wardrip, P.S., **Abramovich, S.**, Bathgate, M. & Kim, Y.J. (in press). A school-based badging system and interest-based learning: An exploratory case study. *International Journal of Learning and Media*.
- Haring, R.C., Skye, W., **Battleson, B. L.**, Wampler, N., Brings-Him-Back-Janis, M., & Muramoto, M. (2014). Preventing dentures and putting aside the fry bread: A systematic review of micro, mezzo, and macro conditions for dental health and obesity interventions for Native American youth. *Journal of Indigenous Social Development*, 3(1), 1-15.
- Bonnici, L., Maatta, S., Klose, K., **Julien, H.**, & Bajjaly, S. (2014). Instructional style and learner-centered approach: A cross-institutional examination of modality preference for online course delivery in a graduate professional program. *Studies in Higher Education* (online, 19 pp.). DOI:10.1080/03075079.2014.977860
- Fourie, I., & **Julien, H.** (2014). Ending the dance: A research agenda for affect and emotion in studies of information behaviour. *Information Research* 19(4) <http://www.informationr.net/ir/19-4/istic/istic09.html>
- Fourie, I., & **Julien, H.** (2014). IRS, information services and LIS research: A reminder about affect and the affective paradigm and a question. *Library HiTech*, 32(1), 190-201. <http://dx.DOI.org/10.1108/LHT-10-2013-0144>
- **Julien, H.**, & Fourie, I. (2015). Reflections of affect in studies of information behavior in HIV/AIDS contexts: A quantitative content analysis. *Library & Information Science Research* 37, 3-9. DOI: 10.1016/j.lisr.2014.09.001
- **Julien, H.**, & O'Brien, M. (2014). Information behavior research: Where have we been, where are we going? *Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science* 38(4), 239-50. DOI: 10.1353/ils.2014.0016
- **Nesset, V.** (2015). Using empirical data to refine a model for information literacy instruction for elementary school students. *Information Research* 20(1) <http://www.informationr.net/ir/20-1/istic2/isticsp14.html#>.
- **Perrault, A.M.** (2015). School libraries and diversity in the 21st century. *School Libraries Worldwide* 21(1) Editor (online).
- Huang, X., **Soergel, D.**, Klavans, J.L. (2015). Modeling and analyzing the topicality of art images. *Journal of the Association of Information Science and Technology* 66(8), 1616-44.
- Li, S., **Sun, Y.**, & **Soergel, D.** (2015). A new method for automatically constructing domain-oriented term taxonomy based on weighted word co-occurrence analysis. *Scientometrics* 103(3):1023-42. DOI:10.1007/s11192
- Li, S., & **Sun, Y.** (2015). A personalized mobile information service framework based on Web request access mode and vibrating algorithm of time unit. *Journal of the China Society for Scientific and Technical Information* (in Chinese).
- Meloche, J., & **Sun, Y.** (2015). A Q methodological study on perceptions of what would enhance distance education. *Management Education: An International Journal* 13(4) 15-27.
- **Sun, Y.** (2014). A text mining approach to analyze public media science coverage and public interest in science. *International Journal of Machine Learning and Computing*, 4(6) 496-500.



- **VanScoy, A.** (in press). Creating the future of reference service. In L.C. Smith & M. Wong (Eds.), *Reference and Information Services: An Introduction* (5th ed.). Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.
- **VanScoy, A.** & Evenstad, S. B. (2015). Interpretative phenomenological analysis for LIS research. *Journal of Documentation* 71(2), 338-357.
- **VanScoy, A.** (2015). Uncertainty in reference and information service. *Information Research* 20(1) <http://www.informationr.net/ir/20-1/isic2/isicsp9.html#.Va93uflViko>.

## DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES 2014-15



Dr. David Weinberger

The department has re-started the Bobinski Lecture series, named for the benefactors whose endowment funds this series: Dr. George Bobinski, a former Dean when LIS was its own school, and his late wife, Mary. This year's Bobinski Lecture was hosted on March 10, 2015 at the Buffalo History Museum, and was generously co-sponsored by UB Libraries and the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. The guest speaker was Dr. David Weinberger, a thought leader who writes about the effect of technology on ideas. He is the author of several books, including his most recent book, *Too Big to Know*, about the Internet's effect on how and what we know. Dr. Weinberger is a senior researcher at the Berkman Center. He has been a philosophy professor, journalist, strategic marketing consultant to high tech companies, Internet

entrepreneur, advisor to several presidential campaigns, and a Franklin Fellow at the US Department of State. For four years he was the co-director of the Harvard Library Innovation Lab, focusing on the future of libraries. The lecture was very well attended, and we look forward to our next Bobinski Lecture in spring 2016!

Please watch for upcoming publicity.



Dr. Heidi Julien and Dr. George Bobinski



Carrie Owens(alumna), Dr. VanScoy and Dr. Abramovich

## RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

We delight in hosting visiting scholars in our Research Seminar Series. This past year, we hosted the following scholars:



■ **Shelagh Genuis, University of Alberta, Canada**

Working with Youth Co-Researchers: Promoting Personal and Community Engagement with Health Information



■ **Ina Fourie, University of Pretoria, South Africa**

Compassion Fatigue and Information Behavior



■ **Lisa Given, Charles Sturt University, Australia**

Research with Impact: Enhancing Your Profile for Academic and Community Engagement



■ **Tayo Nagasawa, Mie University, Japan**

Building Collaboration between Faculty Members and Librarians in University Education



■ **Mary Cavanagh, University of Ottawa**

That Twitter Thing: Meaning and Method Behind Micro-Blogging in Public Libraries

Please watch for details about our 2015-16 speakers, starting September 21 with Professor Archie Dick, University Pretoria, South Africa.

## BETA PHI MU

Congratulations to our latest Beta Phi Mu chapter members, who will be formally inducted in October 2015.

Tracy Dunstan

Sarah S. Easton

Andrea Fetterly

Eileen Bauer Gardner

Christina Karvounis

Amanda F. McCormick

Kimberly J. Whittemore

## GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

We are turning 50! In 2016, our program is turning 50 years young! We plan to celebrate in style, and will be publicizing our plans very soon. Please join us to mark half a century of preparing information professionals for rewarding careers!

The LIS Graduate Student Association met bi-weekly on campus and via Google Hangouts. Our students enjoyed a busy academic year, organizing and participating in a wide range of activities and events, including the following:

- New Student Orientation
- Happy Hours: MacGregors', Brick House, and Duff's
- New York Library Association Conference (Note: A new NYLA student chapter is being formed in the department)
- Hire Me Workshop: Event to assist with job applications, interviews, and starting new careers
- Librarians Loud talent show: Event to break LIS stereotypes and showcase some of our students' extraordinary talents
- Online contests (including a Halloween costume contest)
- Valentine's Day bake/book/card sale: Student fundraiser
- Future Librarians' Day: Presentations from working professionals about careers in school, academic, public, and special libraries
- Graduate School of Education Student Research Symposium: Organized by LIS students this year (<http://gse.buffalo.edu/current/symposium>)
- Outreach activities: Children's story time at local public libraries



LIS students: James Evans, Jessica Bright, Erin Keenan, Glen Benedict, Jennifer Hunt, Meredith Gaylo

The LIS Special Libraries Association organized tours of local and regional libraries and information centers. This past year they toured the UB's History of Medicine Collection in the UB Health Sciences Library, and the School of Medicine Museum of Neuroanatomy (also known as "The Brain Museum").

Three LIS students, Amie Alscheff, Lara Herzellah and Marjorie Prak, were awarded Professional Development Grants by the New York Archives Conference (NYAC) to attend its 2015 annual meeting at SUNY Fredonia.



As an LIS student, I relish opportunities that allow me to step outside the traditional bounds of the library world. I've learned that our roles within libraries are important and well defined, but many other community organizations can also benefit from the skills of information professionals. This past semester (spring 2015) afforded me the opportunity to work with a group of my classmates, Glen Benedict, Colleen Corgel, William Miller and Rhea Shelton, at just such an organization—The Pride Center of Western New York.



**Meredith Gaylo**

The Pride Center is a valuable asset for the Buffalo community. Nestled amid the bustle of downtown, this quaint Victorian building is a hub for the local LGBTQ community and its allies. The Pride Center offers support and guidance for patrons of many ages, as well as health information, computer access, and even book clubs. In many ways, the Pride Center is an information organization. There is great potential for collaboration with libraries and library professionals.

For this special project, our task was to overhaul the Pride Center's book collection—largely donations—to form a user-friendly library. Glen, Colleen and I, being geographically located in WNY, focused on organization and maintenance of the existing collection, while Bill and Rhea, both online students, worked on developing lists of selection recommendations for updating the collection. This challenge was equal parts daunting and invigorating. As with any library, we spent much of our time considering the users' needs. This meant making tough decisions about which information was outdated or irrelevant. Given recent changes in healthcare options for HIV/AIDS, along with the landmark marriage equality Supreme Court ruling, we worked diligently to ensure that the collection is current and informative.

Most of all, we strived to develop a collection that highlights the Pride Center's mission of providing information that is excluded from other sources. My colleagues and I envisioned a Pride Center library with a robust LGBTQ fiction collection (sometimes meager at public libraries), as well as a broad range of related nonfiction topics. In this endeavor, we developed an excellent partnership with our distance classmates. By working together online, those of us in Buffalo sent data about the collection to students from afar, who set to work analyzing gaps and making suggestions for new acquisitions. I was impressed by the elegance of this virtual collaboration.

Of course, we undertook many other tasks to create a welcoming, usable library. A lengthy process of software experimentation preceded our adoption of a cataloging platform. We also worked to develop clear signage and attractive posters that will ideally increase interest in the library. And ultimately, we all took to our keyboards and computers to draft precise rules for cataloging and collection development. After all, our process must survive beyond the completion of our project!

Ultimately, undertaking a special project at the Pride Center was a fantastic opportunity for collaboration and education. Not only were we, as distance and seated students, able to learn a great deal from this organization, but we showed the value of information professionals in the community. We're needed just as much outside traditional libraries as within.

**Meredith Gaylo,**

*MS in School Librarianship Student*



April 3, 2015

Dear Dr. Julien,

I am writing to make you aware of the excellent experience we are having with interns from the University at Buffalo Department of Library and Information Studies on their project currently in progress.

Late last year, we contacted Brenda L. Battleson, PhD to inquire as to whether the reorganization of The Pride Center of WNY's library would be of interest to students from the program. While including many items purchased directly for the Center over the past several years, the collection had largely grown organically from community member donations of their lightly used items. As the collection grew from a few hundred books to a little more than two thousand it became more difficult to browse and easily find something matching a person's particular interest. Further books were in the collection that were either out of date in their information – particularly around health or legal issues – or did not necessarily fit the mission of the Center.

Dr. Battleson assembled a team of three onsite interns – Glen Benedict, Colleen Corgel, and Meredith Gaylo – who have sorted through our existing collection, creating categories of interest for the books to be re-shelved later this spring. They recently met with me to present the definitions developed for each category and I was very impressed with the immense care they had taken in their work. They created stacks of out of date and non-mission related books that were found to be in line with the direction they were given at the beginning of this project.

It is worth noting as well that they are very respectful and friendly with everyone they come in contact with. When I can hear them from my office at all, it is only the sound of them having a good time doing their work.

Additionally, Dr. Battleson has two online students, William Miller and Rhea Shelton, working on the project remotely, including the development of an acquisition list to potentially address holes in our collection.

None of this would be possible for us with our current staffing level, but more than that, without the training and knowledge that the interns have demonstrated. We are very excited to see the completion of the project later this semester and sharing it with our community.

Sincerely,

**Matthew Crehan Higgins**

*Senior Director*



Erin Keenan and Chris Hollister (adjunct faculty)



Molly Poremski (alumna) and Kristin Cangialosi

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO CONGRATULATE OUR GRADUATING CLASS OF TERRIFIC NEW INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS WHO WERE AT OUR COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION BRUNCH ON MAY 15, 2015! BEST WISHES TO OUR NEWEST ALUMNI, AND GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR FIRST PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS!

**MAY 2015**

- Amie Alscheff
- Michelle Beechey
- Jessica Bellini
- Jessica Bright
- Jaime Burwell
- Kamaria Busby
- Lisa Carlson
- Nathan Curtis
- Mary Ann Dannhauser
- Kelly Ehrich
- James Evans
- Sean Greif
- Jillian Hayes
- Ramona Hayes
- Alec Horowitz
- Andrew Johnston
- Erin Keenan
- Alexis Lawrence
- Craig Marasco

- Sarah Marino
- Erin Mazzoni
- Diantha Nickerson
- Jodi Oaks
- Michael O'Brien
- Joseph Patton
- Tiffany Raymond
- Erica Sexton
- Lee Smith
- Abigail Streeter
- Gina Temperato

**FEBRUARY 2015**

- Garrett Adams
- Joanna Battaglia
- Danielle Burns
- Sara Brown
- Kristin Cangialosi
- Rebecca Chapin
- Paul Chasse

- Amber Cheladyn
- Julie Chojecki
- Gabriele Colantoni
- Megan Cross
- Audrey Davis
- Catherine Dillion
- Jarian Jones
- Shannon Klonowski
- Matthew Mccusker
- Kaitlyn Metzger
- Jolene Murphy
- Michelle Parnett
- Elizabeth Portillo
- Marissa Richardson
- Timothy Ryan
- Nissa Thor
- Deborah Wood
- Debora Shon

**SEPTEMBER 2014**

- Michelle Ahearn
- Frances Andreu
- Andrea Badolato
- Michelle Bowers
- Christine Butler
- Nancy Cowan
- Lindsey Dickens
- Tracy Dunstan
- David Durfey
- Audra Everett
- Gregory Fair
- Melissa Friedler
- Judy Joseph
- Melissa Jousma
- Andrea Kingston
- Rose Lovell
- Laura Marceau
- Kathleen Saltis
- Megan Stoffel
- Jennifer Ware



## GREAT TIME TO BE A SCHOOL LIBRARIAN!

This year brought about several exciting changes for future school library media specialists. Graduates from LIS now earn an MS in School Librarianship. This change in degree title from “Library Media Specialist” to “School Librarianship” is only in name though, as the curriculum for the degree to prepare future school librarians to succeed in the field has not changed. The new terminology includes the term “School” to be consistent with other teacher librarian preparation programs in the country, as well as the American Association of School Librarians.



The increased focus on information literacy skills instruction that is present in the Common Core Learning Standards is being reflected in higher education. The new NYSED certification exams present the school librarian as an instructor and an integral collaborator in the school community. A new exam, the Educative Teacher Performance Assessment, has been added to the list, increasing the total number of exams for certification to four. A new Content Specialty Test (CST) also went operational this year with additional subareas assessed. MS in SL candidates continued to succeed on this exam as proven by the 100% passing rate on the first round results released in spring 2015.

LIS adjunct faculty provide quality instruction to our students from a practitioner’s point of view and the department is fortunate to have such a dedicated group of professionals. Sue Janczak, retired School Library Media Specialist Program Coordinator, was welcomed back in fall 2014 as an adjunct professor and fill-in student advisor. Her years of experience with the department and as a school library media specialist have been a huge benefit to the program and current students. LIS alumni, experienced school library media specialist, and Past President of SLAWNY (Western New York’s chapter of NYLA), Maria Muhlbauer, also joined the School Librarianship Program team as an adjunct professor. Maria is teaching LIS 524: Field Experience in fall 2015, and will teach a professional development course in fall 2016 on using Twitter to boost student and colleague engagement with the school library.

Multiple employment opportunities in the field around New York State leave us optimistic that graduates will be able to transition right into the field upon conferral. Seeing graduates participating and presenting at conferences, taking on student teachers, and holding leadership roles in the profession give us reason to believe that they will also be very successful. If you know someone who would be a great benefit to the profession, have them check out our completely online, clinically rich program at <http://gse.buffalo.edu/programs/mls-lms>.

### Jessica Purvis

*Former School Librarianship Program Coordinator*

## 1970s

**Christine D. Frank** (1973) is a director at the Library of Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, IL. This past year, she served as a Mentor in the National Library of Medicine /Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries Leadership Fellow Program.

**Larry Naukam** (1976) retired in 2011 from the Central Library of Rochester and Monroe County NY as the Historical Services Consultant, after 33 years of service. He provided reference services, wrote bibliographies and pathfinders, authored, edited and served on the editorial board of the *Rochester History Quarterly*, developed an intern program at RPL/MCLS, and started a docent program with a local genealogical society (now in its 11th year).

## 1990s

**Karen Russ** (1994) was recently appointed to the Depository Library Council of the U.S. Government Publishing Office. Russ is the Government Documents Librarian at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

**Cynthia Van Ness** (1994), Director of Library and Archives at the Buffalo History Museum, is proud to report "The Newlywed Project," which is, to her knowledge, the first institution in the United States to make an effort to collect memorabilia from legally wed same-sex couples. As Van Ness noted, "We have a hunch that social scientists, anthropologists and historians will want to study how same-sex couples responded to the rituals and cultural expectations we have around weddings at this landmark moment in time."

**Pamela Rose** (1995) has been certified as a Consumer Health Information Specialist level 1, by the Medical Library Association. She is also doing volunteer outreach to the veterinary client community to help them be informed health care advocates for their pets.

**Tom Trinchera** (1996) was recognized for 15 years of service to Dutchess Community College (DCC). He and his colleague MaryAnn Lis-Simmons created and displayed an interactive artistic representation for the novel "Fahrenheit 451" for the Poughkeepsie Library Big Read 2015. Tom has also been keeping busy with professional development by completing LILAC training in 2015, and professional service by serving as the Community Services Committee Chair of DCC's union, Dutchess United Educators.

**Debra Lucas** (1998) has just published her first textbook entitled *Marketing the 21st Century: The Time is Now*. She presented at three marketing-related sessions at ALA's 2015 Annual Conference in San Francisco.

## 2000s

**Midge Coates** (2003) received tenure and promotion at Auburn University Libraries this year. She has been the Digital Projects Librarian there since 2009. From 2005-2009, she created and managed This Goodly Land: Alabama's Literary Landscape, the online literary map for Alabama. In 2014, she published two articles in *Library Hi Tech* and one article in *The Electronic Library* on the use of Google Analytics to evaluate the ways in which end-users find and interact with our digital collections.

**Sarah Watson** (2004) is Communications Officer and Senior Project Manager at the University at Buffalo's School of Social Work.

**Scott Ludwig** (2007) has been working as an archivist at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington, DC for the past seven years. After graduating, he spent a year as the Technical Services Librarian at Green Mountain College in Vermont before moving on to NARA.

## 2010s

**Lina (Terjesen) Sheahan** (2010) is the Music Librarian at Belmont University in Nashville, TN.

**Kellie (Barbato) Cliver** (2011) has been working at the University of Memphis Libraries since October 2014, specifically as an assistant in the music library.

**Christopher Conrad** (2011) joined Nichols School (Buffalo, NY) in 2013 as member of the Information Technology and Library Departments. Prior to joining Nichols School, Conrad spent the previous two years working with FedEx Trade Networks, Inc. and Cardinal O'Hara High School.

**Christina M. Crimi** (2011) was appointed to a law librarian position at the Appellate Division, Fourth Department Law Library in Rochester, NY.

**Ryan Luce** (2011) is a librarian in the Business and Career Library, Brooklyn Public Library.



**Ken Wierzbowski** (2011) is the Systems and Assessment Librarian at Brockport's Drake Memorial Library. In addition, he provides reference and instruction services, and works closely with mobile technology, 3D printing, graphic design projects, and webcasting.

**Rachel Woods** (2011) started as a part-time Library Assistant at the Shaker Heights Public Library in Ohio in April 2012. She was promoted to a full time librarian position in 2014 and among other duties, manages the library's Homebound program.

**George Fuller** (2012) is currently working at the National Archives in St Louis, MO, and credits his UB MLS with helping him to obtain this position.

**Amanda Koziura** (2012) is the Digital Learning & Scholarship Librarian at Case Western Reserve University. Since joining the staff in 2014, she has been managing the operations of the library's Freedman Center for Digital Scholarship, which is a printing, multimedia, digitization, and digital scholarship center for the university.

**Jeremy Lyman** (2012) began a position as library media specialist at Public School 091, better known as the B.U.I.L.D Academy in Buffalo, NY.

**Keith Rey** (2012) is a librarian at the Tempe (AZ) Public library.

**Esther Jackson** (2013). After interning for a year in the Library & Archives Unit at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA, Esther is currently the User Services Librarian in the LuEsther T. Mertz Library at the New York Botanical Garden. She is active with the Special Libraries Association, serving as the webmaster for the Leadership and Management Division. She also serves as a member on the LIS Advisory Board and is a director on the board of UB's Beta Delta Chapter of Beta Phi Mu, the international honor society for LIS.

**Carolyn Klotzbach** (2013) works for SofTrek Corporation as the Marketing Specialist and is an adjunct instructor teaching "Introduction to Information Literacy" online at Bryant & Stratton College. Carolyn also serves on the Nonprofit Technology Network's Research Committee.

**Jennifer (Warren) Eldridge** (2013) is the Youth Services Supervisor for a Children's Department in Longview, TX.

**Jacqueline Coffey Scott** (2014) is working at D'Youville College as a research librarian and serves on the Western New York Library Council Committee for Health Information Access. Scott has been working remotely with three physical therapists with whom she recently co-published the article "Clinical practice guidelines: implementation in acute care physical therapist practice" in the *Journal of Acute Care Physical Therapy*, 5(2), 59-69.

**Amanda Lowe** (2014) is the Information Commons Evening Coordinator, instructional Support Specialist at the University at Albany (SUNY).

**Amanda McCormick** (2014) published the following paper, which derived from coursework for her Intellectual Freedom course with Dr. Valerie Nessel: McCormick, A. (2014). Copyright, fair use and the digital age in academic libraries: A review of the literature. *SJSU School of Information Student Research Journal*, 4(2).

*The current School Library Association of Western New York executive committee is chock full of UB graduates. Current President is Maria Muhlbauer, President-Elects are Beth DiLucente and Christine Tempestoso, Treasurer Jim Clark, and Membership Director is Tina Pierce.*

*We would love to hear from more alumni for our next issue of The Informed. Please contact Dr. Brenda Battleson White at [blb@buffalo.edu](mailto:blb@buffalo.edu) or feel free to post your news to the LIS alumni list, [LIS-LIST@listserv.buffalo.edu](mailto:LIS-LIST@listserv.buffalo.edu). You can also join our Facebook page: SUNY Buffalo Library Science Alumni.*



THE DEPARTMENT IS VERY GRATEFUL TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS WHO SUPPORTED OUR PROGRAMS AND STUDENTS WITH GIFTS IN 2014-15:

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## KEITH MICHAEL FIELS NAMED 2015 GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS



This year we were thrilled to honor one of our own alumni as the Graduate School of Education Distinguished Alumnus of 2015! Keith Michael Fiels has served as Executive Director of the American Library Association (ALA) since 2002. ALA is the largest and oldest library association in the world, and one of the largest professional associations in the country, with a membership of 56,000. Under his leadership, ALA has established a new Office for Library Advocacy, dramatically expanded professional publishing, scholarship and professional development programs, brought thousands of library Friends groups into the association, launched a major community engagement initiative for libraries and, most recently, established a new ALA Center for the Future of Libraries. Prior to that, he served as Director of the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. There, he led efforts to secure over \$500 million in new state funds for public library reconstruction and universal access to shared automated networks.

Keith Fiels earned a B.A. in Philosophy (1970) and an MLS (1971) from the State University of New York, Buffalo, and completed an Advanced Studies program in Library and Information Science at the University of Denver. He is the recipient of the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies Leadership Achievement Award and a Library Public Relations Council Award. He was named to the ALA Association for Library Trustees and Advocates National Advocacy Honor Roll in 2002 and the Massachusetts Library Association Hall of Fame in 2004. Fiels has been a regular columnist for *American Libraries* since 2002. He has co-authored or co-edited several books and authored multiple articles.

During his visit to UB, Keith participated in the graduation ceremonies and joined LIS students, faculty, and staff for a celebratory brunch, where he met and mingled with our graduates and their families.

**Congratulations, Keith!**

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