



the informed

A publication of the Department of Information Science

[IN THIS ISSUE]

1 FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Dan Albertson on updates in Information Science

2 FEATURES

Updates from departmental faculty and staff

3 IN THE NEWS

Stories of students and alumni impacting their communities

4 EVENTS

A year of noteworthy departmental activities

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In Memoriam

We are saddened to share that Dr. Neil Yerkey passed away on July 30, 2023. Professor Yerkey was a member of the faculty from 1977 to his retirement in 2006. He remained in touch with the department over the years and attended a recent alumni event.

More details about him can be found in an article reporting his retirement in the UB Reporter:
<https://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/archive/vol37/vol37n31/articles/YerkeyRetires.html>.

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Dr. Dan Albertson

Dear Colleagues,

I hope this year's column finds you well. It is always great to be able to check in with you through *The Informed*. This past year was a very important one for the department. Our comprehensive review by the Committee on Accreditation (COA) of the American Library Association (ALA) took place; the last review was all the way back in 2015. In February (2023), we welcomed a terrific five-member review panel to UB who engaged with our entire community to learn all about our academic programs. Luckily, the weather held out, and there were no travel difficulties for our guests.

I am happy to report that the outcome of the comprehensive review was successful! Moreover, at the most recent ALA Annual Conference in Chicago (June 2023), the COA granted our MS programs continued accreditation. This outcome is a testament to the engagement, excellence, and commitment of our entire community - from faculty, staff, students, student leaders, adjuncts, and community partners - go above and beyond to support our mission of academic excellence. This was certainly evident to the review panel and the COA and helped lead to our successful decision. Thanks to all of you for your support! Our next comprehensive review will take place in spring 2030. We are also grateful to the review panel and COA for serving our profession and providing valuable input to our programs.

There are plenty of other positive things happening around the department. This year we are so fortunate to bring in a new tenure track faculty member. Dr. Saguna Shankar (PhD, British Columbia) officially starts at UB in August 2023. The entire department couldn't be happier about Dr. Shankar deciding to join us. Also, we were excited to receive the news of Dr. Amy VanScoy being selected to the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program for a project that she will conduct over the next academic year with partnering institutions in Ghana. Additionally, Dr. Heidi Julien recently received notice from President Tripathi that she was awarded the UB Exceptional Scholar – Sustained Achievement Award. These are only a few of the many reasons why the department continues to be on the rise, as made evident by impactful research, a reputation for academic excellence, attracting the best students, and serving our communities. We are proud to be an important part of an officially designated New York State Flagship University.

I hope everyone has a productive and satisfying academic year ahead. I look forward to checking in with you next year.

Dan Albertson
Chair
Department of Information Science

1970s

CHARLES PRIORE (1977)

Charles is the Science Librarian at Carlton College and St. Olaf College. He recently published the *Ammo Encyclopedia: The Shooters and Collector's Guide to Centerfire, Rimfire & Shotgun Cartridges* (7th edition). Blue Book Publications, ISBN:978-1947314351

1990s

BRENDA (BATTLES) WHITE (1996)

In 2022, Brenda was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor at the University at Buffalo, where she is a faculty member in the Department of Information Science.

KIM (DAVIES) HOFFMAN (1997)

In March 2023, Kim began a new position as Interim Assistant Dean of Learning & Research, River Campus Libraries at the University of Rochester (NY).

2000s

ROSE ORCUTT (2000)

Rose is the Architecture and Planning Librarian at the University at Buffalo Libraries and was lead author on the following article: **Orcutt, R.**, Campbell, L., Gervits, M., & Opar, B. (2022). The Post-Pandemic transformation of art and architecture libraries. *Encyclopedia*, 2(4), 1893-1901. <https://doi.org/10.3390/encyclopedia2040131>

JULIA GRAEPEL (2001)

Julia worked for the Max Planck Digital Library in Munich, Germany, with exciting highlights like negotiating and implementing the first transformative OA agreements with publishers such as Springer and Taylor & Francis. She also managed two big Germany-wide transformative OA agreements with Wiley and SpringerNature as part of Projekt DEAL. Now Julia is moving on the work at Volkswagen in Wolfsburg, Germany as a license manager for software at the Volkswagen Software Asset Management GmbH, which is providing software licenses for the hundreds of Volkswagen companies all around the globe.

CYNTHIA TYSICK (2001)

Cynthia leads the Education Services team at the University at Buffalo Libraries. She is also a 2023 Fulbright Specialist and works internationally with colleges and universities to incorporate digital

dissemination and creation tools to better deliver instruction. In 2023 she co-edited *Intellectual Curiosity and the Role of Libraries: The First and Second Year College Experience* (SUNY Pressbooks) with Tiffany Walsh (2004).

ROBIN COMEAU (2003)

In 2023 Robin published *Every Place Has a Story: A Compendium of Pioneers | Early Settlers & Merchants of Tomahawk, Wisconsin* (ISBN:979-8-8459-6811-1) and in 2021 she published *Bradley Park: Pride of Tomahawk, Wisconsin: A Pictorial History* (ISBN:979-8-4854-1302-6). After 32 years of service at UB, Robin retired in 2023.

TIFFANY WALSH (2004)

Tiffany is a Student Support & Engagement Librarian at the University at Buffalo Libraries. In 2023 she co-edited *Intellectual Curiosity and the Role of Libraries: The First and Second Year College Experience* (SUNY Pressbooks) with Cynthia Tysick (2001).

JILL (TARABULA) DABY (2005)

Jill is Regional Medical Librarian for Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital (UVMHN), located in Plattsburgh, NY. She was lead author on the recent article in JMLA:

Tarabula, J., Gibson, D. S., Jivanelli, B., Lindsay, J. M., Macias, A., McGowan, S., Mills, L., & McLaughlin, L. (2022). Special Report: Standards of practice for hospital libraries and librarians, 2022: Medical Library Association Hospital Libraries Caucus Standards Task Force. *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, 110(4). <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2022.1590>

2010s

MARIE CURRAN-HEADLEY (2010)

In 2021, Marie earned her PhD in Educational Culture, Policy, and Society. Since 2017, she has been the Director of Athletics at the SUNY College of Agriculture and Technology at Cobleskill in Cobleskill, NY.

KENNETH WIERZBOWSKI (2011)

In 2022, after nearly 10 years as a librarian at SUNY Brockport, Kenneth began his current position is Discovery Services Librarian at the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY.

KATHERINE (KATIE) BERTEL (2012)

In 2022, Katie started a new position as Senior Instructional Designer at Princeton University.

REBECCA MATTSON (2012)

Rebecca, who is Head of Faculty and Research Services and Professor of Legal Research and the Pennsylvania State University Law School, was promoted to the rank of Librarian in July 2023.

AMANDA (KIESL) MURRAY (2012)

In November 2022, Amanda became the Program Manager for Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York (DHPSNY).

KRISTIN SQUIRE (2012)

Kristin started a new position as Director, Product Enablement Lead at Edelman, a public relations and communications services firm in Rochester, NY.

BREDNY RODRIGUEZ (2013)

In 2023, Bredny took a position as Supervising Librarian at the New York Public Library.

ELIZABETH PORTILLO (2015)

Elizabeth is the Head of Youth Services at Finkelstein Memorial Library in Spring Valley, NY. In 2022, she was the recipient of NYLA's 2022 Intellectual Freedom Award. This award recognizes an individual or group for their contribution to and support of intellectual freedom.

KATIE (GOLDBACH) SCHALLER (2016)

Katie is now an instructional designer and curriculum developer with Service Oklahoma in Oklahoma City, OK.

ABBAS AMARSHI (2017)

Abbas is now the Library Manager of Markham Public Library in Markham, Ontario, Canada.

COURTNEY CAREY (2017)

In 2022, Courtney became the Director of the Tupper Lake Public Library in Tupper Lake, NY.

MELISSA LAIDMAN (2017)

Melissa is the Public Services and Instruction Librarian at Hilbert College in Hamburg, NY. In 2023, she and Cloe Santangelo (2019) coauthored a book chapter, "A space of their own: Creating a welcoming learning commons to support student intellectual curiosity and success." This chapter appears in Tysick and Walsh, *Intellectual Curiosity and the Role of Libraries: The First and Second Year College Experience*. (SUNY Pressbooks.)

ZACH BASLER (2018)

In May 2023, Zach became the Adult and Teen Services Manager at Mobile (AL) Public Library. He is also a book reviewer for *School Library Journal*.

JESSICA MAXFIELD (2018)

Jessica is the High School Student Success Coach at Genesee Community College, in Rochester NY. In this position she provides academic and career advisement for rural high school students and coaches students in creating clear curricular and career paths. Jessica also earned an MA in History from the University at Buffalo in 2023.

ZACHARY ROUSE (2018)

Zak is now the Head of Technical Services and Collection Management at Avery Library, Columbia University.

CLOE SANTANGELO (2019)

Cloe is the Director of McGrath Library at Hilbert College in Hamburg, NY. She and Melissa Laidman (2017) recently coauthored a book chapter, "A space of their own: Creating a welcoming learning commons to support student intellectual curiosity and success." This chapter appears in Tysick and Walsh, (2023), *Intellectual Curiosity and the Role of Libraries: The First and Second Year College Experience*. (SUNY Pressbooks.)

2020s

JILL BOTTICELLI (2021)

Jill is now Director of Libraries for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX. This position is responsible for overseeing two free-standing libraries and a bookstore. She has also been appointed as an instructor of history as she pursues her PhD in History.

ELIZABETH (LAVINE) RUSSELL (2021)

Elizabeth has been working as a school library media specialist at the Bedford Hills

School District. She was recently accepted into the PhD program in Education at Johns Hopkins University.

DEVON COZAD (2022)

Devon is now the Research and Instruction Librarian at Daemen University in Amherst NY. She is also serving on WNYLRC's High School to College Committee.

ELISABETH DAVIS, PHD, MS (2022)

Elisabeth recently published the following article:

Davis, E. (2022). "It Was about Time for Our Children to Learn How to Read": Ruby Duncan, Operation Life, and the West Las Vegas Library. *Libraries: Culture, History, and Society*, 6(2), 238-257. <https://doi.org/10.5325/libraries.6.2.0238>

JAKE DION (2022)

Jake is Daemen University's Digital Services librarian. Daemen University is located in Amherst, NY.

JOHN KAPRIELIAN (2022)

John is now the Digital Asset Management Librarian for Callisto Media, Inc.

CAITLIN (CAITIE) MOORE (2022)

Caitlin began a new position as the Evening West Side Librarian at the School of Visual Arts (SVA) in New York City.

SUSAN BERNIER

In late 2022, Susan began as Head of Collections Strategy at the University Library at Florida Gulf Coast University. This was quite a feat since her interviews were accomplished over a 1 week period spanning the disruptions of Hurricane Ian.

DEATHS

FRANCIS (FRANK) CAREY (1989)

Frank was the retired director of the Research and Information Commons and library services at Daemen College, now Daemen University in Amherst, NY. In retirement, Frank volunteered with Friends of the Niagara Falls Public Library and was curator for the Historical Association of Lewiston and its museum. He also assisted at the Outreach Food Pantry at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

PUBLICATIONS BY ALUMNI

LISE HAMILTON HALL

MS in ILS program

Hall, L. H. (2022). Overview of access to justice via public law libraries in New York State. *Law Library Journal*, 114(2), 189-208.

[NOTES]

We would love to hear from more alumni for our next issue of *The Informed*. Please contact Dr. Brenda White at blb@buffalo.edu or feel free to post your news to the LIS alumni list, is-alumni-list@listserv.buffalo.edu.

BETA PHI MU

Congratulations to our Beta Delta Chapter Inductees
2022 Graduates



Devon A. Cozad
John V. Kaprielian
Diana Krueger
Caitlin Moore
Jessie Moore
Annie B. Peters



KATIE (GOLDBACH) SHALLER

How have you been putting your degree to work since graduating?

After graduation, I spent two years in a traditional library setting. I spent most of my time there teaching but found that opportunities were limited. I stumbled upon instructional design one day and found a local company building eLearning courseware. Although my background wasn't a perfect match, the MLIS sold them, and I was hired as an Instructional Systems Designer/Project Manager. I researched and wrote full-time for a year or so before I began branching out. I discovered knowledgebase building, and it's a perfect match for librarians. At the same time, I was learning basic coding, managing projects and the employees working on them, and keeping things organized with our digital assets. Unfortunately, the company was purchased late in 2022, and the majority of employees were laid off. I landed a great opportunity through networking, and now work for a new agency in state government. My title is Curriculum Developer, but I do a little bit of that, a little bit of course design, and a little bit of coordination/facilitation support. I've been here for about 4 months, and truly enjoy what I do.

What has been your most satisfying professional accomplishment thus far?

I worked at a downtown library branch that served primarily as a day shelter for people who were currently unhoused. We had a big binder full of resources, but it was ancient. So, I decided to just... fix it. I spent several weeks contacting every single listed organization, finding any new non-profits in our area that provided resources, and dumped the binder for a digital brochure. I also created "one-pagers" with multiple resources based on our most requested ones and made them easily accessible. We went through hundreds in the first week or so.

How did your experiences as a student in the Department prepare you for your current role?

I think there are two major things. One, reference interviewing has been beneficial in both my personal and professional life. It improves communication and forces you to keep asking why until you realize that they *think* they want a course in oil and gas, but they actually need a construction course. Two, learning how to organize materials and building a cataloging system of random objects from scratch really gave me a solid foundation for file management and building knowledgebases, both of which are high-demand skills.

What are your passions?

I love teaching adults and helping them. One of my favorite memories of working in the library system was when I taught computer classes. I met with a retired woman who was originally from a country in Central America. She had moved here at a young age and had never been back. Unfortunately, traveling there simply wasn't an option. On my last day with her (she was moving to be closer to family), I realized I had one thing I could give her. So, we took a little trip on Google Maps and headed to her hometown, where we walked the streets and she reminisced. It sold me on teaching adults. Outside of work, I love PC gaming, reading, and spending time with my spouse and our three cats.



What advice would you give current students?

Be willing to move and use your degree creatively.

I was employed within 5 months of graduation. I had to move halfway across the country to a state I wouldn't have otherwise picked, but I was a librarian. When I was ready to find a new job, I realized I needed to think about the core elements of my degree (learning, collecting/ organizing/sharing information, and connecting with people) and how I could use them elsewhere. Be creative and think of where else things you've learned might be useful. Don't ever be afraid to apply for a role you're not 100% qualified for, you may be exactly what they need!

Take every single opportunity to practice your skills. Volunteer, do the practicum, work in a local library or on campus, etc. The more you can showcase work you've actually done, the better off you'll be.



[PROGRAM UPDATES]

COMBINED DEGREE PROGRAM

We are delighted to announce a new combined degree program, a BA in History/MS in School Librarianship. This new program formally combines UB's existing BA in History with the MS in School Librarianship and takes effect in Fall 2023. This approval follows the earlier approval of the combined BA in English/MS in Information and Library Science program or MS in School Librarianship.

MS IN INFORMATION AND LIBRARY SCIENCE

Dr. Jianqiang Wang, Director of the MS in Information and Library Science program, shares that this program, which is fully accredited by the American Library Association, successfully underwent a scheduled external review in the Spring 2023 semester. The program continues its recent trend of attracting prospective students, with 72 new students starting the program in Spring 2023 and 146 applications received for Fall 2023 admissions (as of July 24, 2023). The overall total student headcount in the department has now topped 500.

MS IN SCHOOL LIBRARIANSHIP

Ms. Mary Jo Sicurella, Coordinator of the MS in School Librarianship program, shares that this program continues to grow, with over 120 students enrolled for fall. We now have ten enrolled in the BA English/MS School Librarianship combined program with several starting their graduate coursework this Fall. Since NYSED (New York State Education Department) discontinued the edTPA requirement, the program coordinators for the school librarianship programs across the state were tasked with creating a new assessment in its place. The coordinators from SUNY Buffalo, Syracuse University, St. John Fisher, SUNY Albany, Queens College, and Long Island University met virtually to create an assessment all felt was appropriate. The assessment, based largely on the digital portfolio being used by UB adjunct instructor Susan Allen, was accepted by both SUNY and NYSED. Our students continue to have strong scores on the other two state assessments, with a 100% pass rate on the Content Specialty Test and a 98% pass rate on the Educating All Students test (the state pass rate was 92%).

PHD IN INFORMATION SCIENCE

Dr. Amy VanScoy, Director of the PhD in Information Science program, shares that it has been another great year for the Information Science doctoral program. Six new students joined the program last fall, and five new students will start in Fall 2023. Three students earned the status of Doctoral Candidate this year: Heather Ball, Laureen Cantwell-Jurkovic, and Derek Moser. They have completed all the requirements of the program except their dissertations, so they are now working on their research. Congratulations to our new Doctoral Candidates, as well as all of our students who continue to work hard, juggling their full-time jobs and their doctoral studies.



PhD Students Enjoy Residency Week 2022

The past year has seen a few new initiatives for our program. We introduced a new course, Doctoral Seminar in Information Science, to help students situate their work in the discipline and learn the genres of academic writing necessary for a successful doctoral experience. We also held our first Doctoral Student Writing Retreat in January. Most of the students joined in the hybrid event. All attendees reported making progress on their writing, thinking, or reading. We are also planning for a one-day online symposium next February featuring Dr. John Budd (Emeritus, University of Missouri), who will lead discussions with the doctoral students.

2022-2023

[SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED]

A. BENJAMIN AND HELEN RAVIN SCHOLARSHIP

Carol Lockhart

Rebecca Mayglothing

E. ALBERTA RIGGS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Adelina DiPalo

JOSEPH B. ROUNDS FUND FOR EXCELLENCE IN LIBRARIANSHIP

Heidi Bofinger

Matt Burke

Lauren Sosnowski

MARY B. CASSATA LIBRARY STUDIES AND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Carol Lockhart

Matthew Burke

Rebecca Mayglothing

Richard Deverell

Taylor Kozlin

DR. MARIE ROSS WOLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Allison Crutchfield

Nina MacClean

NEW SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Department was honored to receive a gift from the Laraway family that will go to support information science students. Further, the gift is in memory of Priscilla “Nell” Laraway, a UB alumnus and devoted librarian. The gift establishes the Priscilla “Nell” Laraway ‘70 Graduate Fellowship in Librarianship fund. The purpose of the new Laraway fund is to provide fellowships to recruit and retain students in information science programs.

The department greatly appreciates the Laraway family for their generosity and commitment to supporting the profession.

a note of [THANKS]

We count on the support of our alumni and friends to benefit our students directly, to provide excellent programming, to enhance our infrastructure, and to bolster faculty activities. Our endowments are critical to keeping us ahead of the curve! Please consider supporting us with a one-time gift, a regular donation, or a legacy commitment.

DONORS 2022-23

Dr. Samuel J. Abramovich

Dr. Dan E. Albertson

Ms. Arlene S. Balkansky

Dr. George S. Bobinski, Sr.

Dr. Thomas A. Bolze

Dr. James W. Bourg

Ms. Rosemary C. Derocher

Ms. Lorraine Florczyk

Dr. Erwin H. Ford II & Mrs.

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Ms. Bonnie L. Kay

Ms. Sheryl L. Knab

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Mrs. Mary E. Maley

Dr. Terrence J. McGovern

Ms. Ellen T. McGrath

Mr. Martin L. Schlabach

Mr. Mark A. Stein

Ms. Mary L. Strife

Ms. Anne V. Tofalo

Ms. Daisy P. Waters

Dr. Shaguna Shankar **Welcome!**



Why have you chosen to come to our Department, and what do you expect to teach?

It is a joy to join this thriving community of students, alums, faculty, and staff! I was

drawn to the Department because of its members' strong commitments to excellence in research, teaching, and service. I very much look forward to working with students and learning more about their ambitions as I teach several courses, including LIS 580: Information Policy and LIS 575: Introduction to Research Methods.

Can you tell us about your research?

My research focuses on information practice and ethics. I am interested in how librarians, archivists, and other information professionals may better care for diverse communities and ecosystems through the design of information interactions, policies, and services. Most recently, I studied how a network of stakeholders in the domain of immigration enact care for newcomers' data in the course of service provision, systems design, academic research, advocacy, and government policymaking in Canada. In my work to date, I have found that caring for people and information can be a complicated form of labor – involving different cultural norms, ethical dilemmas, power dynamics, and values.

What excites you about teaching and research?

I am excited that teaching and research are exchanges through which co-learners can influence each other's ways of knowing.

I am also eager to continue teaching online, a modality in which I have seen how students draw on their day jobs and lived experience, as they integrate that knowledge with skills from evidence-based, theoretically informed scholarship.

What are your passions outside of work?

After moving to Buffalo, I joined a local community garden. I am still a newbie and am far from having a green thumb. Still, it is a lot of fun seeing the signs of life returning in the spring, spending time in the garden throughout the summer, and sharing harvests in the fall.

What challenges do you anticipate for information science in the next five years?

I expect we will need to better understand difference and conflict in the years ahead. As information professionals and researchers, we have the capacity to become more attuned to how people access and make sense of information in a plurality of ways. Given the social and ecological crises that we are facing, we need a range of skills and capacities for hosting dialogues, addressing conflicts, and strategically planning for coordination on shared short- and long-term goals in our organizations.

What advice would you give our graduates?

Graduates, you will likely end up in positions of power to influence not only how we manage information, but also how we grapple with our field's legacies and shift the course of the profession. I suspect that the work ahead will call for us all to reflect on changes we would like to see, to seek out allies and supporters, and to strategize with others so we can build coalitions around shared concerns and bold visions of the future.

JULIA GRAEPEL

MLS Alumnus



How have you been putting your degree to work?

My first position immediately after graduating with my M.L.S. in 2001 was as assistant director and music librarian of the Dwight Anderson Music Library at the University of Louisville. This position was a great first, generalist job; I was responsible for cataloging in the music library as well as information literacy training

projects such as redoing the music library website. Whilst there I also completed a second master's degree in music performance on flute on a part-time basis. After four years at UofL I decided in 2005 to take on a position in my home country, working as part of a small team of librarians in the Information Resource Center of the small private International University Bremen (later Jacobs University, now Constructor University) in northern Germany. The library was modeled after American libraries and they were looking for someone who could catalog according to AACR2 in MARC format. Besides cataloging and acquisitions with a focus on e-only, I was once again involved in information literacy sessions and together with the systems librarian successfully implemented several new products (link resolver, federated search, ERM system). After four years in Bremen, I accepted a position in 2009 as a scientific librarian and license manager at the Max Planck Digital Library (MPDL), which is one of the largest purchasers/licensees of scientific information resources in Europe. MPDL is a central service unit within the prestigious Max Planck Society, one of the large research organizations in Germany with 80+ research institutes. In 2014 I became the deputy head of the department Scientific Information Provision, even though I was only working part-time due to our small child. After 13 years with many exciting projects and highlights such as negotiating and implementing the first transformative Open Access agreements with major publishers, I am now diving into new waters after having been recruited to work at Volkswagen in Wolfsburg as a license manager for software (Microsoft in my case) at the Volkswagen Software Asset Management GmbH, which provides software licenses for hundreds of Volkswagen companies (VW, Audi, Porsche, Navistar, Scania, etc.) all around the globe.

What has been your most satisfying professional accomplishment thus far?

I have had many highlights in my career thus far (working on the first SCOAP3 agreement texts at CERN in Switzerland, negotiating the first transformative OA agreements, establishing new workflows, etc.), however I have to say that the most satisfying

professional accomplishment for me has been mentoring (younger) colleagues and students. Discovering them, supporting/mentoring them along the way and seeing them grow and develop into their potential has been extremely satisfying for me. I am always very willing "to invest" time in new colleagues or promising students as it is almost always a very rewarding, positive experience. I have benefited from some truly wonderful mentors along the way myself.

How did your experiences as a student in the Department prepare you for your current role?

My time studying in the department seems fairly brief (summer, fall, spring and summer semester) from hindsight more than 20 years later. Nonetheless it was an important time that has set the course for my professional life since then. During my studies I focused on music librarianship but also supplemented with courses of a broader spectrum (e.g., literature for young adults), which I think is always a good idea. I think some of the most important experiences during my studies were especially the opportunities for "practical"—training, partially as part of the degree (practicum and a database project as directed study (instead of a thesis)) and working as a student or graduate assistant in the UB Music Library along the side of wonderful professionals who were also great mentors.

What are your passions?

I like to improve and make processes more efficient whilst keeping the big picture in mind. I am always open for new ideas or developments and providing a good service has always been important to me. My true passion, however, lies outside the library/information field.

I am passionate about making music together with others, especially playing flute. After a very long period of not playing in an ensemble, I got the chance to join the Brunswick Cathedral Symphony Orchestra in the fall of 2022 and I have tremendously enjoyed rehearsing and performing as part of this ensemble since then. This is one major source of energy, which motivates me every week.

What advice would you give current students?

Seek out as many practical training opportunities as you can in addition to a well-rounded course portfolio and don't hesitate to make adjustments along the way if you feel something is not working out for you. Seek out good mentors! And above all: be open for anything that comes along your path that you might not have considered. Who would have thought I would end up in software licensing at a major automobile company when I left UB with a master in library science, specializing in music librarianship in 2001.

The Information Science Graduate Student Association (IS-GSA) was re-established in the Fall of 2022, with a purpose of creating lasting interpersonal and professional connections and forming a valuable network amongst both current students and alumni. Our mission is to assist students in strengthening skills in public speaking, resume building, professional development, leadership, and other vital things to know in the library field through peer-to-peer learning and connections with faculty. After just a year, we have accomplished great things, and are looking forward to what we will do in the upcoming school year.

Events

The IS-GSA has held a variety of events to keep students engaged. Our main event types include monthly meetings, informational workshops, faculty information sessions, and chats with the chair. Our monthly meetings serve to keep students up to date with what the IS-GSA has been working on and what is coming up, as well as provide students with the opportunity to chat with other students and ask advice. Our informational workshops vary by semester, such as “Time management for online classes” and “How to make the most out of your LinkedIn profile.” Faculty information sessions aim to help build the relationship between faculty and students, as well as help disburse important information like how to complete your portfolio for graduation, or things to know as a School Librarianship student. Finally, our “Chat with the Chair” events help students communicate directly with the Information Science department chair, Dr. Albertson, to voice questions, comments, and concerns regarding the department, classes, and more.

Discord Server

In addition to our events, we strive to keep student interaction going between events through our Discord server. This server is for students and alumni only, providing a place for us to chat freely about our experiences in classes, discuss hobbies, think about our future careers, and make friends with fellow information science students. We have found this server to be a vital part of our association as it provides much needed student connection, which is otherwise difficult to get in an online asynchronous class environment. At the current moment we have almost 250 members on the server! If you are a student or alumni interested in joining our Discord server, please join using the following link: <https://bit.ly/ub-is-gsa-discord>

Spring Report

We gained a lot of traction in the spring semester 2023, holding a total of 13 events, attracting a total of 79 unique attendees over the course of the semester. Our Discord server gained 78 new members, and we introduced forums to chat about classes in a more organized fashion. If you are interested in seeing our spring report, you can view that here: <https://bit.ly/ub-is-gsa-spring2023report>.

Staying Connected

If you're a current student and are interested in getting involved with the IS-GSA this upcoming semester, or have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at ayianacr@buffalo.edu. If you'd like more information about the IS-GSA, or to stay up to date with what we do throughout the upcoming year, check out our website: <https://ubwp.buffalo.edu/isgsa/>.



Thanks for reading,

Ayiana Crabtree (she/they)
IS-GSA President

2022-2023
[GRADUATES]

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR GRADUATES!**
SUMMER 2022 TO SPRING 2023!



114
GRADUATES
JOINED OUR
4,900+
ALUMNI

MS IN INFORMATION AND LIBRARY SCIENCE ←

Anderson, William	Hoeffner, Erin Ann	Meskill, Brigitte Christine	Rendeiro Jr, John Charles
Berney, Donn	Hoesl, Kristin	Michalski, Nicholas William	Richardson, Joey Mack
Beutel, Michelle Lee	Honis, Elizabeth	Miller, Mikayla	Roca, Riann
Blake, Susan Jean	Isbell, Rebecca Ann	Mills, Kevin	Runyan, Jennifer
Chandra, Gretchen	Johnson, Tia Jade	Mindock, Rebecca	Santiago IV, Ralph Howard
Chavez Ramirez, Ulises	Kimmel, Kamin	Moore, Caitlin	Serrano-Liew, Elaine Y.
Octavio	Knapp, Stephanie	Moretti, Andrea	Shatan-Pardo, Sarah Rose
Cicero, Stephanie	Kozlin, Taylor Michelle	Needrith, Christa	Shaw, Emily Maria
Cockfield, Ravonne Denise	Krueger, Diana	Nelsen-Epstein, Jacob	Sidoni, Erin Maureen
Colbert, Margaret	Langridge, Karisa Leigh	Neto, Jessica	Somoza, Melissa Ann
Colomban, Rachel Elizabeth	Lanza, Alexis	Newman, April Ann	Souza, Laurie
Cosgrove, Benedict D.	Libardi, Antonietta	Nguyen, Jeanie Le	Stoddard, Katharine
Costa, Daniel Joseph	Lucas-Beruan, Rachel	Nicklas, Paul	Elizabeth
Costa, Michelle Elizabeth	Catherine	Novak, Kelly	Sutter, Laura Genevieve
Deacon, Abigail	Madonna, Giovanni Antonio	Ohman, Elizabeth	Thomson, Megan Hope
Devlin, Natalia Mikhailovna	Maloney, Erin	Oliva, Jane Marie	Thurmond, Samantha
DiMascio, Angelina Rosanna	Manchester, Shelby Yvonne	O'Shea, Delaney Angeline	Michelle
Farrell, Kristi	Marren, Sarah Mary Jean	Ostoyich, Thomas	Tyburczy, Molly
Farrokh, Tanya J	Martin, David	Patton, Erik Flynn	Vella-Garrido, Rachael
Garcia, Rebecca Judith	Martin, Karlee Mae	Perkins, Palmer	Vergara-Cruz Roman, Sydel J
Grover, Noah Michael	Matthew, Merriem Pria	Perrone, Angela Nicole	VerHage, KC A
Gugliuzza, James	McCranie, Rebecca Blue	Perry, Araea Nicole	Whalen, Kayla Ruth
Hammett, Katelyn Rose	Medina, Kaitlin	Perry, Nicole Rebecca Soam	Wilson, Alex Reed
Heinrich, Ursula	Mercer, Scout	Radziszewicz, Ewa	Wilson, Patricia Lynn
Heyboer, Laurie Ann	Merritt, Phoenix Gale	Ramos, Morgan Leigh	Zdon, Lisa R

MS IN SCHOOL LIBRARIANSHIP ←

Arena, Marra Christina	Evans, Nicole Elizabeth	Morgan, Kate Noelle	Shippers, Michelle Louise
Bohan, Maria	Galofaro, Jacob	Ozay, Amy Elizabeth	Inclema
Brenner, Larissa Louise	Hart, Clare	Rell, Bianca G.	Vargo, Erin Elizabeth
Bruttomesso, Wendy	Lehner, Renee Mary Jaszcz	Rinow, Kimberly Ann	Waller, Kevin R
Cittadino, Peter	Moore, Chelsea Marie	Schneider, Kaitlin Anne	

Graduation Brunch

Graduates and their families were celebrated at our annual Graduation Brunch, hosted in the Department. We are always grateful for the opportunity to meet our students in person, to share our congratulations on their achievements, and to wish them well in their future endeavors.



Please tell us about your experience in the MS in ILS program. Why did you choose information science? Why did you choose UB?

After graduating with my bachelor's degree in 2021, I was in a place where I wasn't quite sure what I wanted to do for a career but I knew that whatever I chose would most likely require a master's. I decided to look into information science because I have always loved my local public library

and I love reading (who doesn't?). I love what public libraries stand for and offer everybody and I decided that I wanted to be a part of this world! Before I applied to UB, I was looking at a few different schools, one local and others out-of-state, and finally chose UB based on the courses offered in the MS in ILS program. I love the broad array of courses that align with all of my interests within public libraries. I knew that I was starting in the right place when I started choosing courses that I wanted to take before I was even accepted.

Please tell us about your activities outside of the program. What work or volunteer roles have you had?

At the start of my time in this program, I volunteered weekly at my local public library where I shelved books, created book displays, and spent a lot of time discussing my classes and libraries with the director. Within a few months of volunteering, a position opened at that library. I interviewed for the role of Library Assistant and was offered the position! In this role I mainly work at the main circulation desk, review and process library card applications, repair materials, and process new items. I have also volunteered as the graphic designer for the UB-ALA Student Chapter.

How are you connecting your learning in the program with your work or volunteer roles? Does your work or volunteer experience inform your learning in the program?

I have had the opportunity to connect my learning in most aspects of my job. In LIS 587 - Collection Development, I worked with a group to write an entire collection development policy which allowed me to view my library's policy in a different light, understand some of the decisions made, and be able to suggest changes. LIS 571 - Information Organization has especially helped when I process books and review and edit item records. I read about reference interviews and interactions in LIS 518 - Reference & Information Services which helped me adjust how I interact with patrons and ask questions when they need specific information or materials.

Things like working closely with patrons, exploring the library website, assisting patrons with and using e-resources, and cataloging have definitely informed my learning in the program. I feel like I am closer to and have a better grasp of what I'm learning in this program since starting my job at a public library. I also feel confident when interacting with other students on discussion boards and group projects because I have first-hand experience with or knowledge of some of the things that I am learning about. I appreciate the opportunity to learn about these things in further detail.

How do you anticipate you will use your learning in the program to inform your future career? What are your ambitions?

Once I graduate, I hope to take what I have learned in this program to be a well-rounded librarian in a system, where I would like to work with young adults or adults. My main priority while working in public libraries is to provide users with the materials that they want and that they need, whether that is a physical book or a mobile hotspot. I love seeing patrons' faces light up when I can find a book they are looking for. I have chosen to take a broad array of courses and spend a longer amount of time in the program and taking more credits than I need because I want to have a strong base of knowledge within the library and information science profession before I pursue higher roles.

Can you tell us more about yourself – your passions and interests?

I, of course, love to read. I love books and I like to collect and use virtual library cards, of which I have five! I enjoy sharing the novels that I read on social media with family and friends. Right now, I recommend Convenience Store Woman by Sayaka Murata to everyone I talk to. Outside of this program and libraries, although they're a big aspect of my identity, I enjoy journaling, drawing, painting, and watching videos.

Do you have any advice for prospective students in our program?

My advice for prospective students is to not pressure yourself to rush through the program. If you have the time (and finances), use it to explore courses that are interesting to you and build relationships with your classmates and professors. It can be hard to connect with others in an online program, especially if you live out of state, as I do. I have enjoyed interacting and learning from classmates and those in the program that I have met through student associations. Volunteering in libraries can also inform your learning and help build connections with librarians and staff where you live and may work in the future. They know what you are learning, feeling, and experiencing where family and friends might not!

Allison is a 2022/23 recipient of the IS Department's Dr. Marie Ross Wolcott Memorial Scholarship.

[DEPARTMENT NEWS]

Professor Dagobert Soergel has retired from the Department. He joined UB in 2009 as Professor and Department Chair, a role he held until 2012. Dr. Soergel led a long and distinguished career, earning many accolades, including the Association for Information Science & Technology Award of Merit in 1997, that association's highest honor.

We wish him well for his next chapter!



Professor Dagobert Soergel



Professor Heidi Julien

Professor Heidi Julien won the inaugural Canadian Association for Information Science Career Achievement Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize the exceptional achievements of a researcher or practitioner who has greatly contributed to the advancement of the information field in Canada or internationally. She also won a UB Exceptional Scholar – Sustained Achievement Award. An issue of the Journal of the Association for Information Science & Technology, for which she served as co-editor, won SIG publication of the year from ASIS&T.

Assistant Professor Africa Hands was quoted in a Library Journal article focusing on how librarians are prepared for professional work (<https://www.libraryjournal.com/story/do-lis-programs-prepare-future-librarians-for-real-world-challenges>).

Dr. Hands said many programs have courses on diversity, equity, and inclusion; work with multicultural populations; serve and do outreach into different communities; and offer specialized courses about targeting materials to different populations. One of the definitions of politics Hands teaches her students is “the total complex of relations between people living in society...that’s why you really need to be involved. You have to advocate. You have to lobby. You need to get the right people in the room to get on your side.” Dr. Hands also won the 2023 Association for Library and Information Science Education Research Grant. The award is \$5,000 for a project titled “Positioning LIS Students for Career Success.” The project examines career planning services and programming in LIS graduate programs using a descriptive research approach. Data will be collected via surveys of current LIS program administrators and enrolled graduate students. Insights from this research will inform the creation or improvement of career services for LIS students, advance discussion of career services for graduate students, and identify exemplars that can be used to guide programming efforts.



Asst. Professor Africa Hands

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Associate Professor Amy VanScoy was selected to the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. Her project, “Developing the Library and Information Services Infrastructure in Ghana” addresses the critical need to provide increased access to professional education for librarians in Ghana. In Spring 2024, she will be working with the University of Cape Coast to develop a library and information science program to supplement the one program that currently exists at the University of Ghana. She will also mentor librarians currently working on their doctorates and provide lectures and workshops to support these students and encourage more librarians to become involved in research and pursue doctoral studies. In addition, she will collaborate with local scholars on research projects of mutual interest, including expanding her ongoing research on the professional orientations of librarians in the Ghanaian context. Dr. VanScoy also won a \$20,000 grant from the UB Associate Professor Fund for International and Global Research for a project titled “Orientations to Reference Practice from a Global Perspective.” She will be gathering data for that project in Pakistan, Ghana, Thailand, and the Philippines. Along with a Slovenian colleague, Dr. VanScoy also received funding from the Slovenian Research Agency for the project “Perception and Use of Information Science Concepts and Theories by Librarians.” She and her co-authors won a Best Short Paper Award (third place) at the annual ASIS&T conference.



Assistant Professor Sam Dodson won Best Poster Award (second place) at the annual conference of the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T). Dr. Dodson was successful in his first reappointment.

BOBINSKI LECTURE | **Dr. Emily Knox**

The Department of Information Science was honored to host Dr. Emily Knox as our 2023 Bobinski Lecture speaker, presented on April 19. Dr. Knox is an associate professor in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research interests include information access and intellectual freedom and censorship. Her most recent book, *Foundations of Intellectual Freedom*, was published by ALA Neal-Schuman in 2022. Her previous book, *Book Banning in 21st Century America*, is the first monograph in the Beta Phi Mu Scholars' Series. Dr. Knox serves on the board of the National Coalition Against Censorship. She is also editor of the *Journal of Intellectual Freedom and Privacy*. Emily received her PhD from the doctoral program at the Rutgers University School of Communication & Information. Dr. Knox spoke on "Books and the Culture War".



Dr. Emily Knox

This lecture series is supported by The George and Mary Bobinski Lecture Fund. George S. Bobinski, Emeritus Professor and former Dean, School of Information and Library Studies, is a library historian and noted scholar. Mary Bobinski was a former director Amherst Public Libraries, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. This fund was established to bring scholars of significant standing and high quality to address important topics in library and information science.

RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

The Department hosts a series of research seminars each year, bringing in scholars from around the world to share their work and ideas with faculty and students. These talks are recorded, and are available for viewing at: <https://ed.buffalo.edu/information/research/seminar-series.html>.

This past year we were pleased to host the following scholars.



Dr. Rexwhite T. Enakrire
Ph.D. Department of Informatics,
University of Pretoria/
University of South Africa
ICT-related Training and Support
Programmes for Information
Professionals
October 20, 2022



Dr. Boryung Ju
School of Library &
Information Science,
Louisiana State University
Assessing the Quality of
Online Information from the
User's Perspective
March 29, 2023



PATRICK MALACARO
MS in ILS student

Please tell us about your experience in the MS in ILS program. Why did you choose information science? Why did you choose UB?

I enjoyed my first semester in the ILS program, gaining a better understanding of Information Sciences, how to best present information,

as well as how information is received by various groups. I gained valuable experience thinking critically about subject matter that has interested me for years but I did not have a direct knowledge of. I chose UB because it offered me the flexibility I need to be able to complete my graduate degree in an online setting due to my current job role.

Please tell us about your activities outside of the program. What work or volunteer roles have you had?

I am currently the Manager of Baseball Communications for the Buffalo Bisons, a Minor League baseball team in Buffalo. Part of my responsibilities include me serving as the team's broadcaster. In that role, I view myself as part historian. Not only someone who helps tell the story of living history as it happens, but to educate fans and listeners on the history of our great franchise that spans back to 1877.

How are you connecting your learning in the program with your work or volunteer roles? Does your work or volunteer experience inform your learning in the program?

I am always trying to better educate myself and the listeners on what has happened previously for the Buffalo Bisons franchise in the role of a storyteller. That includes researching information online and through our archives, which admittedly could use

some cleaning up after years of neglect. It is because of that, I see my role with the team evolving into an historian position as much as a broadcaster. Through my first semester in the MS in ILS program I have been able to start thinking about the ways in which we convey information to listeners as well as local media members that cover the team.

How do you anticipate you will use your learning in the program to inform your future career? What are your ambitions?

Especially with the Toronto Blue Jays using Buffalo as its home for a year and a half, there is a wealth of history that will need to be catalogued and preserved for future generations. As I reflected on the weekly assignments this past semester, I was thinking of ways to better complete that task over time. I hope that over the next several semesters I will be able to continue to refine those ideas and make them as useful and impactful for fans and listeners.

Can you tell us more about yourself – your passions and interests?

Sports is what I work in, it is not just a job but a passion of mine because I grew up in Buffalo. Following the Buffalo Bills, Sabres, and Bisons is something I have done all of my life and continue to enjoy. Outside of work, I am a classic movie fan. One of my favorites in 'North by Northwest', an all-time classic. Studying and watching classics is something I would like to do more of in the future. I am also a big believer in the growth of Buffalo and Western New York. I truly think some of our area's greatest years are yet to come, and the start of the 2020s was just a speed bump on the long road to what's next for our beautiful spot along Lake Erie.

Do you have any advice for prospective students in our program?

I am a firm believer that everything we do can impact our jobs and future responsibilities. Try and take something from every job or class you take to make yourself better both personally and professionally. I find that the more I do that, the more I am able to assist my colleagues and friends.

faculty [ACTIVITIES]

Dr. Sam Abramovich gave presentations at Play Make Learn in Madison, WI, as well as a paper and three posters at the International Conference of the Learning Sciences in Montreal. He serves on the editorial board for *Library & Information Science Research* and is the Financial Officer for the International Society of the Learning Sciences.

Dr. Dan Albertson gave a presentation at the of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference in New Orleans and served as Chair of the Association for Library and Information Science Education Service Award Committee.

Dr. Sam Dodson gave papers at the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) annual meeting and the ACM Conference on Human Information Interaction and Retrieval (CHIIR) in Austin, TX. He served as a reviewer for the ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, and as a program committee member for CHIIR and for the ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries.

Dr. Africa Hands presented a paper at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL, and at the Libraries in the Digital Age (LIDA) conference in Croatia. She also presented posters at the ASIS&T 2023 Mid-Year Conference (online), the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) annual conference, the ASIS&T annual meeting (both in Pittsburgh, PA), the LIDA conference in Croatia, and the the International Conference on Digital Transformation and Inclusiveness of the Higher Education Institutions in the Time of Crisis Situations in Croatia. She served as a member of the Association for Library Service to Children Batchelder Book Award Committee, a Planning Committee Member and Moderator of the Signature Leadership Panel at the Virginia Tech Faculty Women of Color in the Academy Conference, and as Past-Chair of the American Library Association Library Research Round Table.



Professors VanScoy, Hands, Julien, and Saunders at ALISE conference 2022

Dr. Heidi Julien served on panels at the ALISE and ASIS&T annual conferences in Pittsburgh, PA, as well as the ISIC: The Information Behavior Conference in Berlin, Germany, where she also gave a paper. She also presented posters at the ALISE and ASIS&T annual conferences. She presented five talks at the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur and talks to doctoral students at the University of Tennessee and Emporia State University. Dr. Julien served on the editorial boards of *Journal of the Association for Information Science & Technology*, *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*, *Pakistan Journal of Information Management and Libraries*, *Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science*, *Information and Learning Sciences*, *Open Information Science*, *Public Library Quarterly*, and *Annual Review of Information Science and Technology*. She also serves on the Advisory Board for *The Information Literacy Handbook: Charting the Discipline*, which is currently in development. She provided ad hoc manuscript reviews for several journals, provided multiple external tenure and promotion reviews, and reviewed a grant for the Swiss National Science Foundation. She served in multiple roles for ALISE, ASIS&T, and the Western New York Library Resources Council, and provided interviews to multiple news organizations on the topic of misinformation.



Dr. Dagobert Soergel presented a paper at the 2nd International Symposium on Educational Research in Saudi Arabia. He served on the UB Faculty Senate Academic Planning and Assessment Committee and served as Chair of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee for the International Society for Knowledge Organization.

Dr. Amy VanScoy gave presentations at the LIDA conference in Croatia, the ASIS&T and ALISE annual meetings (both in Pittsburgh, PA), and at ISIC: The Information Behaviour Conference in Berlin, Germany. She also gave an invited talk at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. She served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Education for Library & Information Science* and *Library & Information Science Research*. Dr. VanScoy also served as School Representative and Vice-Chair of the Community Building Committee in ALISE, and as Chair of the ASIS&T ProQuest Dissertation Award and member of the Awards and Honors Committee for ASIS&T. She was a member of the Senior Program Committee for the ASIS&T annual conference and served on the Conference Planning Committee for Libraries in the Digital Age. She served as an ad hoc reviewer for the *Journal of the Association for Information Science & Technology*, and for the *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*.

Dr. Jianqiang Wang presented a paper at the ASIS&T Mid-Year conference (online).

faculty [PUBLICATIONS]

McMoser, D.W., & **Abramovich, S.** (2023, in press). How six religious pedagogies can inform ACRL threshold concepts for IL Instruction training. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

Albertson, D., & Johnston, M. P. (2023). Content, tools, and surrogates: Assessing teachers' criteria for interactively searching for digital video. *Digital Library Perspectives*, 39(1), 62-73.

Albertson, D., & Rogers, M. (2023). Twitter interactions in the era of the virtual academic conference: A comparison of between years. *Open Information Science*, 7(1), 20220139. <https://doi.org/10.1515/opis-2022-0139>

Crumb, L., Chambers, C., Azano, A., **Hands, A.**, Cuthrell, K., & Avent, M. (2023). Rural cultural wealth: Dismantling deficit ideologies of rurality. *Journal of Multicultural Education*.

Rapchak, M., **Hands, A.**, & Hensley, M. (2023). Moving toward equity: Experiences with ungrading. *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*, 64(1), 89-98.

Latham, D., Gross, M., & **Julien, H.** (2023, in press). Community college librarian views of student information literacy needs. *College and Research Libraries*.

VanScoy, A. (2023). "We bring change to the people" or not: Librarians' views on reference and information service as social change work. *Library Quarterly* 93(2).

VanScoy, A., **Julien H.**, Buckley, A., & Goodell, J. (2022). Theory usage in empirical research in ISIC conference papers (1996-2020). In *Proceedings of ISIC: The information behaviour conference*, Berlin, Germany, 26-29 September 2022, *Information Research*, 27 (Special issue), isic2227. <http://InformationR.net/ir/isic22/isic2227.html>

VanScoy, A. (2021). Using Q methodology to understand conflicting conceptualizations of reference and information service. *Library & Information Science Research* 43(3).



-----> TONI OLIVAS



Photo shared by Toni Olivas

Toni Olivas, who teaches an elective course in the department, shared the following with us.

What do you teach for the department?

I am an adjunct professor in the Graduate School of Education, and I teach Special Topics in Information Library Science Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (LIS 503). It’s my FAVORITE class to teach because the topics come directly from current trends and headlines. Personally, I think it is a misnomer to say that I am the “teacher” in this class because my students teach each other quite a bit through discussion and active learning. I model the first 6 to 7 weeks of instruction and then assign students into groups where they work on a learning module together. Each week one of the groups will lead the learning activities, and they do a fantastic job!

Tell us about your day job.

I am the Head of User Services at Cal State University San Marcos (CSUSM), and that means I get to lead the most diverse and awesome group of people in the library! I didn’t start off doing this job. I’ve been here at CSUSM for nearly 17 years, and I started out as a Reference and Instruction Librarian (specifically Education and Sociology), then I moved on to being the Outreach Librarian, and now I am in User Services as head of the department. Where to next? Hmmm... I’m pretty happy where I am now so I’m not even thinking about “next”.

What are your passions?

There are several, but for the most part I have a passion for travel (hence the photo of my recent trip to the Tuscan countryside), education (both the teaching and the learning aspects), community service (volunteering at local shelters and hospitals with my therapy dog), advocating for social issues (fundamental human rights, especially for those from marginalized communities) and basically anything having to do with the safety and well-being of animals (especially dogs).

Do you have any advice for our students?

My advice is to develop strong, positive habits for your learning success. What does that look like exactly? Make sure you are organized so you can stay ahead of multiple due dates from multiple professors. Build a community of scholars to help keep you accountable with your study time and those due dates (maybe meet for a couple of hours every week... bring snacks, make it a productive and inviting environment so you will want to be there to study and work on homework). Finally, and I can’t stress this enough, SLEEP! Don’t underestimate the power of a good night’s sleep. If you have to sacrifice something while in this program, don’t sacrifice your quality and quantity of sleep. Everything else seems much more manageable when you are completely rested.

Sincere thanks to our adjunct professors who shared their expertise with our students in 2022-23!

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Susan Allen | Chris Hollister | Toni Olivas |
| James Belair | Kathleen Jaccarino | Anne Perrault |
| Marie Bindeman | Jessica Lacher-Feldman | Molly Poremski |
| Angela Boccuzzi-Reichert | Sara Manus | Elizabeth Stellrecht |
| Laureen Cantwell | Mark McBride | Alicia Thompson |
| Marie Elia | Sauda Mitchell | |
| Diane Fulkerson | Derek Moser | |

The background of the top half of the image is white with a complex pattern of blue lines and arrows. Some lines are solid, while others are dashed. The arrows point in various directions, creating a sense of movement and connectivity. The text is centered and follows a logical flow from top to bottom.

Here
IS HOW
↓
you make
information your
super power.

Explore our program opportunities.



University at Buffalo
Department of
Information Science
Graduate School of Education

ed.buffalo.edu/information



Master's Degrees
Advanced Certificates
Undergraduate Minor
PhD in Information Science