First Annual Edible Book Contest

The first "Annual Edible Book Contest" was held in the SILS Library in April 2014. Local bibliophiles, artists, and bakers joined SILS faculty, staff, and students for a celebration of books. Participants created edible representations of a book title and were judged for creativity, humor, and concept. The collection range was diverse, from children's literature to computer science books.

Best Concept
Christy Cherney
Fellowship of the Ring
by J.R.R. Tolkien

Best Entry Based on a Children's Book
Elena Elms
Blue Ridge Billy
by Lois Lenski

Best in Show
Brian Sturm
Free Fall
by David Wiesner

Judging the contest was hard work!

The cover image was designed by incoming SILS graduate student Melissa Denby. Denby has worked as a graphic designer for over six years. The image depicts SILS' vision of the role of information science in the future of health care.

Special thanks are due to Susan Marston and Chuck Cox for their copy-editing services throughout the production of this newsletter.
Greetings from the Dean

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Over the years SILS faculty and students have developed significant partnerships with colleagues in UNC’s health affairs schools as well as with organizations in the state and region that are devoted to health services and health information resources. Health care is nearing 20% of the U.S. GDP and SILS is fortunate to be on a campus with premier schools of Medicine, Public Health, Pharmacy, Nursing, and Dentistry, and in a region with world-class hospital systems such as UNC, Duke, and WakeMed. In this issue we highlight SILS’ leadership in health informatics at UNC and beyond. Through joint degree and certificate programs and collaborative research projects, SILS has developed productive partnerships and deep expertise in wide areas of health.

SILS has taken the lead on several campus initiatives to offer certificates in biomedical informatics, nursing informatics, and public health informatics and is a key partner in a new interdisciplinary professional science master’s degree that begins in the Fall of 2014. We consider health informatics broadly to include needs ranging from personal control over healthy behavior to clinical information systems to basic research in biomedical science. We are proud of our students, alumni, and faculty who study and work in the health sector.

We also highlight some of the innovative basic research underway by SILS faculty and students. SILS scholars are leveraging devices ranging from simple activity sensors to more sophisticated physiological sensors to measure heart rate, galvanic skin response, and eye movement, and even fMRI machines to measure brain activity with the goals of understanding health behavior, information seeking behavior, personal information management, and to establish baseline measures of physical activity. These are exciting investigations that demonstrate how SILS collaboratories in information interaction and data management are setting the pace for new discoveries in our field.

The past year saw the culmination of the reaccreditation process for our MSLS and MSIS degrees and we are delighted to know that our programs have been reaccredited for the 2014-2021 period. The 2013-14 academic year saw continued growth in our BSIS program with 68 majors enrolled and 85% placement rates in jobs at graduation. Given the interest and applications coming in, we expect another increase in BSIS enrollments for the 2014-15 academic year. SILS also launched its first online program in the summer of 2014—the Post-Master’s Certificate in Data Curation. This program aims to help mid-career professionals to become leaders in data management and curation. In 2013-14 we welcomed Dr. David Gotz and Dr. Amelia Gibson to the faculty, Kenny Jones and Kesley Mumpower to the Information Center, and Herrison Chicas, Kay Hill, and Larisa Rodgers to our administrative staff. This year also brought two retirements to SILS. Ms. Wanda Monroe, our Director of Communications and the voice of SILS around the world, retired and will be dearly missed. Wanda organized this newsletter before leaving and thanks are due to Lara Markovits and Edgar Marston who completed the final product. A search for a new Communications Director is underway. Dr. Joanne Marshall completed her phased retirement program at SILS but we are pleased that she will continue to conduct research at SILS and remain active in the life of the school.

I hope that you enjoy this issue of the SILS newsletter and will stay in touch and share your news with us. We are especially grateful to our devoted alumni and friends who sustain us with generous gifts that help us support the talented people who come to the “Southern Part of Heaven” and forever become part of the SILS community.

Sincerely,

Gary Marchionini
Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor


The School regularly provides our alumni with services such as information about networking, job opportunities, special events and professional news.

The best way to ensure you always get this information is to make sure we know how to contact you. We appreciate e-mail addresses as well as home/work information, name changes, life additions and other news.

Visit sils.unc.edu/alumni/alumni-directory to update your information.

Gary Marchionini
Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor
During summer 2013, SILS acquired new space in the garden level of Manning Hall. This space was previously occupied by the Odum Institute, which is now located on the 2nd floor of the Davis Graduate Library. In an effort to utilize the new space in the most efficient manner, Dean Gary Marchionini, IT Director Aaron Brubaker, and other support staff commenced a year-long process of evaluating proposals submitted by faculty members, researching new technologies, and negotiating services with contractors and vendors. SILS administration is proud to announce the completion of the renovation along with the addition of three research cluster areas, two classrooms, a video production studio, and a seminar room.

**Research Cluster Areas**

Reflecting the spirit of collaboration common among SILS faculty, staff and students, the School has added three new cluster areas to SILS research facilities. “For the first time ever, we are able to group faculty members by research domain and to co-locate many graduate students in the same space,” says Brubaker. These areas feature conference rooms with white-board wall paint, flat-screen display units, laboratories, break rooms, and offices.

- The Interactive Information Systems Laboratory supports the research of associate professors Diane Kelly and Brad Hemminger, assistant professors Rob Capra and Jaime Arguello, and their project teams. The lab fosters research aimed at understanding how people interact with search systems to satisfy their information needs and how interactive systems can better support these needs.

- The Data Intensive Cyber Environments (DICE) Group includes director and professor Reagan Moore, professor Arcot Rajasekar, and their project teams. The DICE center provides expertise and software technologies in the areas of large-scale data management.

- The WiderNet cluster area is directed by clinical associate professor Cliff Missen and houses his research teams. The focus of WiderNet is the research and development of appropriate ways to deliver information to those with poor digital communication resources.

**Instructional Design and Video Editing Studio**

Room 27 has been converted into a multimedia design studio featuring the latest hardware and software, including screen-capture software, HD video camera, web-conferencing setup, SmartPodium monitor, studio lighting, Wacom tablet, state-of-the-art microphone, headsets, video editing software, and other equipment and applications. These features have been carefully selected to facilitate the recording of presentations, interviews and talks. The studio will provide faculty, staff, and students with access to professional tools and equipment for producing quality video content. The Video Editing Studio is available for use by faculty, students and staff any time the SILS Library is open.

**Classrooms**

Classrooms located in rooms 01 and 14 are both newly equipped with state-of-the-art digital technology and web-conferencing capability to improve the quality of instruction for distance-instruction activities such as webinars and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Other features include sound-dampening tiles and wall-mounted cameras and ceiling microphones. The room 14 also includes new moveable furniture to improve comfort and flexibility in instruction.

**Changes to Third Floor Classrooms**

The acquisition of space in the garden level prompted some reorganization of the upper floors of the building, resulting in the creation a new seminar space in room 303. This seminar room features new moveable furniture and whiteboard paint on two walls. Room 304 now has specially designed, moveable “node chairs.” Node chairs are mobile, flexible chairs that allow for a variety of classroom activities and arrangements. These chairs enable students and instructors to transition easily from lecture mode to group work, and have a surface large enough for laptops and writing.
One of the newly-created collaborative spaces made possible by the acquisition of the Garden Level of Manning Hall is the Interactive Information Systems Laboratory (IISL), located in rooms 08-13. The lab houses one faculty member, seven PhD students, and two master’s students. In addition, numerous other students join the lab for the weekly meeting to discuss research. One of the advantages of the new space is increased visibility and convenience for lab visitors. Diane Kelly, associate professor, elaborates: “The location of the IISL is easily accessible to research participants and also highly visible, not only to SILS students, but other students passing through the building, which helps with advertising who we are and what we do at SILS.”

The renovations to this space were largely carried out by students and faculty, under the direction of Dr. Diane Kelly. IISL faculty, which include Dr. Kelly, and professors Bradley Hemminger, Jaime Arguello and Rob Capra, all contributed funds to purchase new furniture for the lab from University Surplus. Faculty and students alike approached these renovations with dedication and enthusiasm, holding volunteer “painting parties” that sometimes lasted late into the night.

Dr. Kelly said that the renovation of the space was a community effort, “We, as a group, have been meeting for several years to discuss research and share ideas. We’ve also been conducting our research studies in various locations throughout the SILS building and campus. Everyone was so excited to be assigned this space because it is a place for us to come together on a daily basis and help each other solve problems. During the renovations, we cleared trash, moved furniture, cleaned the floors, washed bookshelves and walls, and painted. The investment of our own labor and care makes the place all the more special.”

Anyone interested in touring the IISL should contact Dr. Diane Kelly at dianek@email.unc.edu.
One of the many collaborative research projects housed in the Carolina Health Informatics Program (CHIP) is the Stress-induced Neural Activation Patterns, or SNAP. Specifically, SNAP unites faculty from the School of Information and Library Science (SILS) and the UNC School of Medicine’s Biomedical Research Imaging Center to examine neurophysiological responses to information retrieval tasks involving human-to-computer interactions. CHIP Director and Professor Javed Mostafa spearheads the SNAP project with help from postdoctoral research fellow and CHIP alum Dr. Vincent Carrasco and associate professor in UNC’s Department of Psychology Kelly Giovanello.

**Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI)**

Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) technology enables researchers to pinpoint the location of blood flow changes, indicative of neuronal activity, in the brain. fMRI has been used for over a decade to study memory, language, pain and emotion in both healthy and diseased brains. SNAP is unique in that it is the first time this technology has been used to explore brain functions associated with human-to-computer interactions.

For their research, Drs. Mostafa and Carrasco have established a set of information retrieval tasks of varying degrees of difficulty. For example, an “easy” task would be to use a search engine to determine the capital of Argentina. A “difficult” task would be to find the name of the most influential economist in the world today. Each task is presented to study participants while inside the fMRI machine, along with a list of potential search results. Participants are given 29 seconds to identify the result most likely to contain the answer to the prompting question. These tasks constitute the stress stimuli that will prompt neuronal activity, which is recorded in the form of a high-resolution image like the ones pictured above.

Presently, the research team is working to establish a baseline understanding of characteristic neuronal response patterns in healthy adult populations. Dr. Mostafa hypothesizes that the patterns of neuronal activity prompted by completion of “easy” tasks will be distinctive from those prompted by “difficult” tasks. Specifically, easy and hard search tasks will prompt activity in different regions of the brain.
Stress-Induced Neural Activation Patterns

Next Steps

Drs. Mostafa and Carrasco plan to engage subjects with limited cognitive abilities, including older adults and individuals with Alzheimer’s disease or traumatic brain injury. Ultimately, this research seeks to expand our understanding of the “digital divide” between the young and old and to improve the quality of life for older adults who are likely to experience stress as they are increasingly confronted with modern user interfaces. These technologies may also facilitate sorely needed improvements in screening procedures for mental deficits associated with neurological conditions such as Alzheimer’s disease or Traumatic Brain Injury.

While the practical applications for this research are promising, Dr. Carrasco believes that the greatest value of the SNAP project lies in its contribution to our understanding of search behavior, which he describes as a “fundamental human trait originating in prehistoric times.” He continues, “We are at the dawning of a new branch of information science that will enable us to study the physiological underpinnings of existing theories regarding search behavior.”

Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor Gary Marchionini reflects on the SNAP project’s contribution to SILS’s research: “The SNAP project is an excellent example of how information scientists collect and analyze data using sophisticated technologies to make inferences and models of human behavior. In this case, Drs. Mostafa and Carrasco are using classical information retrieval tasks as the setting for establishing baseline readings of brain activity under different cognitive loads. This innovative work is demanding but promises to inform our understanding of both information seeking behavior and how mental abilities change over time.”

More Information
To learn more about the SNAP project, visit the Carolina Health Informatics Program’s website at chip.unc.edu.
New professor Dr. Mary Grace Flaherty’s research, for which she was awarded an Eleanor M. and Frederick G. Kilgour Research Grant, focuses on health information access in public libraries. Her current project, titled “Assessing Health Information Resource Use in NC Public Libraries,” aims to evaluate knowledge of resources for patrons seeking information on healthcare topics and the role of public libraries in health promotion.

As technological advances alter the way we access and share information, public libraries have adapted to fulfill new roles for communities. For example, the spread of the Maker Movement and the emergence of Makerspaces, providing expert advice and tools including 3-D printers and laser cutters, reflect the potential for libraries to serve as incubators for innovation. Another emerging role for public libraries is that of community health promotion. Public libraries have long been regarded as a place to engage one’s mind but are not as readily associated with physical health promotion. Dr. Flaherty’s research seeks to explore the potential that public libraries hold for improving health outcomes.

“Dr. Flaherty will visit 60 public libraries in North Carolina and she will conduct in-person interviews with library directors to determine frequency of health queries; areas covered by those queries; librarian attitudes toward handling health questions; knowledge and interest in skills training and preferences; and resources used to answer health questions,” said Dr. Gary Marchionini, dean of SILS and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor.

As part of this endeavor, Dr. Flaherty is leveraging an existing partnership between SILS and the Charlotte Mecklenberg Library to assess the feasibility of a new health promotion installation targeting physical activity in teenagers. The installation will initially be housed at ImaginOn™, a public space dedicated to using theatre and storytelling to promote youth literacy. ImaginOn is a collaborative effort between the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library System and the Children’s Theatre of Charlotte. The program, which serves approximately 300,000 visitors annually, strives to empower children and adolescents through innovative learning programs. The new installation, which was designed and manufactured by Phoenix-based company Alternative Sustainable Energy LLC, is a stationary bicycle that generates electricity. The bike includes a light box with six power sockets. From the manufacturer: “The first 3 [sockets] are filled with a 25w CFL, a 40w incandescent, and the last with 100w incandescent. As the rider pedals the lights turn on, then off, one by one. The lights stay on for 6 seconds. This demonstrates to patrons the difference in resistance for each level of wattage. The more watts produced, the harder it is to pedal. As an added benefit, the light box has a power monitor that displays the volts, amps, watts, and watt hours the bike is producing.”

The remaining three sockets can be adapted to accommodate a number of appliances such as radios or television sets. Dr. Flaherty and ImaginOn staff hope that teens will use the bike to power personal computing devices such as cellphones and laptops. The aim is to leverage teens’ affinity for tech devices for the purpose of encouraging physical activity, with the added benefit of promoting awareness of energy production and consumption.

Obesity, particularly among children and adolescents, is a significant health problem in North Carolina. The NC Division of Health and Human Services reports that in 2009, North Carolina had the 12th-highest rate of obesity in the US and that health costs associated with obesity in the state average $4.3 billion annually. Researchers have identified links between teens’ level of engagement with technology, commonly referred to as “screen-time,” and obesity in young adulthood. These researchers point to decreased physical activity among youth who report greater amounts of screen time as a potential reason for this correlation. In fact, the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey found that in 2012, only one-quarter of
teens aged 12 to 15 met the Centers for Disease Control’s guidelines suggesting a minimum of 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per day.

Currently Dr. Flaherty is using the bike installation to gauge how receptive teen patrons are to the idea of incorporating physical health activities into public library settings. She is also interested in seeing how the librarians at ImaginOn choose to incorporate the bike into their existing programs. Dr. Flaherty herself has not designated any specific uses or developed any programs for the bike. Eventually she plans to assess changes in knowledge of energy production and/or conservation through pre- and post-testing.

Another strategy Dr. Flaherty has implemented to link health promotion and library services is the distribution of pedometers in a small sample of public libraries in various regions of North Carolina. Again, Dr. Flaherty not only is interested in how these devices are received and used by library patrons, but also hopes to promote innovative approaches among librarians. Thus far, the pedometers have been well-received by both library staff and patrons. Though this endeavor and many like it, SILS faculty hope to both improve the overall health of North Carolinians and promote engagement with public libraries.

References:


A majority of American adults routinely monitor progress towards health and fitness goals. Pew Research reports that in 2012, 69% of adults tracked at least one health indicator such as weight, blood pressure or physical activity. The same study found that 11% of adults used some form of mobile technology to track health indicators. Given the general trend towards the expansion of technology use in our daily lives, we can expect the use of health tracking devices to continue to grow.

In fact, the market for tech devices used for monitoring health has exploded in recent years, particularly those devices designed for tracking physical activity. While pedometers, which count the number of steps taken by the wearer, have existed since the late 18th century, devices like the Fitbit, Garmin Vivofit, and Jawbone represent the latest in wearable fitness technology. These new devices are equipped with a wide range of additional capabilities including wireless connectivity, GPS tracking, sleep monitoring and social networking. New features are being added constantly to available product lines. Some devices can be programmed to signal that the wearer has been inactive for too long, a feature that could be particularly useful for individuals working desk jobs.

In keeping with the School of Information and Library Science’s leadership in the field of health informatics, Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor Gary Marchionini initiated a program designed to generate research interest and encourage healthy behavior through the use of Fitbit activity trackers, which were distributed to select SILS staff and faculty. Participants meet occasionally and send email updates on their impressions of how the devices work and how the data influence behavior. In addition to promoting a healthier community at SILS, Marchionini hopes to better understand how these technologies might fit into our daily lives.

In addition to the Fitbit devices, SILS has purchased 1,000 inexpensive pedometers with the SILS logo and web address. These pedometers are distributed at school recruiting events and, in cooperation with Dr. Mary Grace Flaherty, to patrons in public libraries around North Carolina to promote health literacy.

Dean Marchionini hopes to expand this line of research by evaluating the public’s receptiveness to fitness trackers. He and Dr. Flaherty are currently working with SILS alumnus and senior cyber consultant for Van Dyke Technology Group Leo Yakutis (MSIS ’91) to launch a crowd-funding effort to purchase 10,000 pedometers to distribute throughout North Carolina public libraries as part of a health literacy program.

One of the most enthusiastic participants in Dean Marchionini’s research on fitness trackers is Tom Caruso, whose own research evaluates the accuracy of and potential uses for health data collected with digital devices. Dr. Caruso holds a joint appointment as the Health Information Liaison Research Associate at SILS and RTI Visiting Scholar with the Center for the Advancement of Health Information Technology at RTI International. Through this research partnership, Caruso and colleagues are spearheading the development of information technologies that facilitate secure communication of
Dr. Tom Caruso, health informatics liaison research associate, displays the many activity trackers he wears regularly.

health-related information for consumers, researchers, and clinicians. SILS and RTI have forged a new partnership with Our Health Data Cooperative (OHDC), a patient-owned consortium with the goal of developing “the largest data set of anonymous personal health records in the world” for use by practitioners and researchers.

SILS, RTI, and OHDC have, under Caruso’s direction, enlisted the expertise of Validic, a leading health technology platform, and Promantis Inc., an information technology company, in their newest endeavor, the Self-Generated Health Information Exchange, or SGHIx. SGHIx is an application that will allow individuals to upload health-related data from activity trackers and other digital apps and devices for use in clinical research studies.

In exchange for sharing data, participants will receive incentives including free and discounted health products and services. One of SGHIx’s most promising features is the interface, which not only allows users to control the amount and type of data they share, but keeps users informed regarding who is accessing their data and why. The SGHIx is currently in the prototype phase of development, but Caruso demonstrated the application at the 2014 Health Datapalooza, a national conference focused on accessing health data, and bringing together the companies, startups, academics, government agencies, and individuals with the most innovative and effective uses of health data to improve patient outcomes.

Dr. Caruso’s personal experience with the activity trackers provided by Dean Marchionini has been mostly positive, although he has identified some potential improvements as well. He reports, “It’s been a good experience being able to monitor my activity and sleep patterns, but I’m frustrated with not being able to monitor across multiple devices.” Of course, the SGHIx solves this problem. He also states that he’s been successfully using the devices to improve his fitness behaviors and found that the social networking features of some of the devices create an atmosphere of friendly competition that he found highly motivating.

The Surgeon General’s Vision for a Healthy and Fit Nation, released in 2010, recommends a minimum of 150 minutes of physical activity each week for adults. However, according to a report by the Centers for Disease Control, fewer than 20% of American adults meet that standard. The efforts of Dean Marchionini, Dr. Flaherty, and Dr. Caruso illustrate the crucial roles that information science plays in the future of health promotion.

Stay fit and stay healthy with the aid of information technologies and health data management strategies!
Alumna Debbie Travers began her health care career as an emergency department nurse, where she discovered she had a knack for information technology (IT). She took on IT tasks out of necessity as she and her colleagues encountered the same documentation problem health care professionals across the state of North Carolina were experiencing on a daily basis: a lack of reporting standards across institutions. Each hospital in the state maintained its own system to document clinical information, with unique data standards and language, making the sharing of clinical information a laborious and error-prone task. So began Travers's interest in the field of health care informatics.

After earning her master's degree in Health Care Systems at UNC’s School of Nursing, Travers began working with policy and academic leaders in the health care field on an effort to merge emergency department data from multiple health care institutions. The initial project, funded by the Centers for Disease Control, incorporated data derived from UNC Hospitals, the Academic Medical Center in Greenville, and the New Hanover Regional Medical Center located in Wilmington.

This initial project laid the groundwork for the development of a system that aggregates emergency department information from across the entire state to track trends in public health indicators. The North Carolina Disease Event Tracking and Epidemiologic Collection Tool (NC DETECT) initially released in 2006, is currently North Carolina's public health data-monitoring system.

Interest in public health data surveillance was sparked by the 9/11 attacks, amidst fears of bioterrorism. Nowadays, data generated through NC DETECT is invaluable for researchers and policymakers. It is used to inform statewide programs that are responsible for managing public health surveillance and response to disease outbreaks, and for reducing the impact of both acute and chronic diseases and injuries in North Carolina.

To demonstrate how these data are used to influence policy and improve public health, Travers explained that, prior to this project, public health efforts aimed at the prevention of heat-related emergencies focused on the elderly population, who were thought to be most at risk. The data generated through NC DETECT revealed that young, healthy adults were also at high risk for heat-related emergencies because they are often active outdoors in spite of extreme heat. This knowledge helped public health officials focus prevention efforts on all at-risk populations.

After serving as NC DETECT’s initial principal investigator (PI), Travers returned to school to earn her doctorate in Information Science from SILS with a minor in Medical Informatics. Although she surrendered her role as PI to colleague Anna Waller, who still holds this position, Travers remains involved with NC DETECT. She is listed as a “vocabulary consultant” to the project, reflecting her current research in free-text processing. When care providers input data into the NC DETECT system, a number of fields are free-text, as opposed to selection from a list of options. The designation for “chief complaint,” for example, is a text field. Aggregating this kind of data is challenging, and Travers’s current research is aimed at resolving this problem.

No matter what research problem Travers tackles, she has a knack for seeing practical implications. Her mentor at SILS, professor Stephanie Haas, explains, “One of Debbie’s strengths as a researcher is that she maintains strong relationships with clinicians and practitioners. Their perspectives and concerns inform the questions and problems she investigates. Being interesting isn’t sufficient; they must have the potential to improve health care in some way. A satisfying research outcome for her isn’t just a discovery; it is a change in how people do things.”

In addition to her ongoing work with NC DETECT, Travers is an assistant professor at UNC’s School of Nursing, holds a joint appointment in Emergency Medicine, and has adjunct status in the School of Public Health.
When you search for information on the internet, do you have a specific search engine that you like to use? Why do you prefer this search engine over the others? Do you ever use the “advanced search” function on your chosen search engine, or do you simply type a few words into a single field and sift through the results to find your answers? Which kinds of searches cause you the most frustration?

These are the questions that interest current Ph.D. student and alumna Ashlee Edwards (BSIS ’11). In her dissertation work, she incorporates the recording of physiological data during information searches to explore the link between search interface design, search behaviors, and stress. Edwards measures physiological indicators of stress including galvanic skin response and electrocardiography data using a device called a BioPac, housed in the Interactive Information Systems Laboratory. Edwards describes this process as “especially challenging because physiology is so susceptible to changes in the environment, which causes a great deal of variability. We have to be extra careful to control the environment during testing. Our new laboratory space has been extremely helpful in this regard.”

Edwards’s most recent project is collaborative work with her advisor, Associate Professor Diane Kelly, and is a follow-up study to one that Kelly and a colleague from Glasgow University conducted a few years ago, when they found evidence indicating that traditional search interfaces had more negative affective outcomes than an interface designed to slow people down when posing their queries.

Like other researchers at SILS, Edwards appreciates the school’s commitment to providing access to quality facilities and new technologies such as the BioPac, which enable her to answer questions about the human-computer interaction. Dr. Kelly says of Edwards’s work: “Ashlee has invested a tremendous amount of time getting the BioPac up and running and figuring out how to analyze the huge amounts of data it produces. It’s unusual to have physiological data in our field. Ashlee’s efforts have made a significant contribution to this line of research and will establish her as an expert in the use of this type of data in information retrieval research.”
Alumnus Colonel David Parramore

Through 26 years of distinguished military service, alumnus Colonel Dave Parramore, USA, Retired, who holds a Master’s of Science in Information Science from SILS (’02), has proven himself to be a leader in the field of health information technology. As the chief technology officer for Army Medical, a $10 billion health care business that cares for more than 3.95 million beneficiaries, including active-duty members of all services, retirees and their family members, Parramore oversaw operations for eight Army medical centers, 27 medical departments, and numerous clinics in the United States, Europe, Korea and Japan. He also served as principal health information management advisor to the Army Surgeon General during the development of systems used by the Department of Defense to support beneficiary needs throughout the world.

Prior to this assignment, Parramore served as the chief information officer for the Europe Regional Medical Command and for the 44th Medical Command in Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he championed the initial delivery of AHLTA (Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application) Theater to forces deployed in Iraq. AHLTA-Theater allows care providers to digitally document clinical services in areas with limited internet connectivity, particularly combat zones, and was therefore critical to supplying quality medical care for troops throughout the Iraq conflict. AHLTA-Theater is currently in use by all branches of the US Armed Forces.

As co-author of the Information Systems Subcommittee report for the President’s Commission on Care for America’s Returning Wounded Warriors, delivered in 2007, Parramore played a key role in defining health care information management for the entire Department of Defense. The Commission’s report advocated for the implementation of a patient-centered system that would facilitate access to high-quality care, and it outlined strategies to improve the efficiency of health care delivery. The recommendations have triggered landmark efforts between the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs to integrate processes and support data-sharing initiatives.

This year, Parramore is transitioning to the next phase of his career as he begins working as the Director of Strategic Healthcare Initiatives for IBM. In his new position, he will lead initiative development for cloud, analytics, mobile, social media, and security as key software-enablers in health care. These technologies reflect the future of health care information management, as described by Parramore: “Now, we’ve entered a new era of cloud where data has become the world’s new natural resource. The health care industry will soon transform through contiguous use of cognitive and insight-driven solutions that collect data from a myriad of sensors, medical devices, business systems, and patient-generated tools. Patients will engage with their health care providers in innovative ways involving social and mobile platforms, provided as a service. Learning technologies will serve as enablers in cures for cancer and other chronic diseases. These data will also produce common relevant visualizations that will revolutionize health care business practices across the continuum of health care delivery, life sciences, eligibility, and benefits. Given current events in a world that often seems so bleak, health care has an exceedingly bright future, and SILS serves as an accomplished generating force for the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed in this industry.”

About his time at UNC, Parramore recalls: “When I attended UNC from 2000 to 2002, SILS was a pioneer for information science as a society epidemic. We were just on the leading edge of disruptive technologies such as predictive analytics and insight-driven information solutions. When my team deployed the first electronic health care record in combat in 2004 in Iraq, I saw first-hand the value of data in the cloud as we moved patients across an 8,000-mile operating room from point of injury back to the US, giving trauma specialists the clinical tools to see patient data in real time.”

Parramore is also an experienced endurance athlete. His event participation includes the Ironman Hawaii Triathlon World Championship, Ironcross IV and V, and epic cycling sportives in Europe. He uses a Fitbit to monitor his training goals and logged over four million steps last year alone. This experience has directed Parramore’s interests towards finding innovative ways to use mobile sensors to influence health-related behavior, such as increasing activity and improving diet and sleep habits.
Alumni Ashraf Farrag (MSIS ‘10 & CHIP Certificate ‘11) and Robert Bradford (CHIP Certificate ‘13) won 1st place for their poster at UNC’s University Research Day in the Computer Science category. The symposium of posters and presentations showcasing research from all across campus took place on March 4, 2014 in the Frank Porter Graham Student Union.

Upon completing his MSIS degree and the CHIP certificate, Farrag mentored Bradford, a student in the Carolina Health Informatics Program, throughout his practicum, which he completed along with earning his certificate in December 2013. Bradford currently works at the NCTraCS Institute as research analyst in the Carolina Data Warehouse Health group. Farrag recently left the NCTraCS Institute and now owns several businesses in the Triangle area.

Their poster, titled “Implementing i2b2 as a Research Portal for NC TraCS,” not only won during UNC’s Research Day, but it was also accepted for a talk at the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Joint Summit in 2014 and was well received by peer Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) institutions in attendance. In addition, Bradford was invited to present the poster at the Annual Graduate Student Recognition Celebration in April.

Their project focused on Informatics for Integrating Biology and the Bedside (i2b2), which is an ontology-based object-oriented database system with a flexible database schema and a user-friendly Web client interface. The ease of use of the i2b2 Web client made it a prime target to be incorporated into a query translation system called OpenFurther. It is an open source system that connects i2b2 to a federated query engine that allows users to combine and relate data from multiple data sources. By attaching i2b2 to OpenFurther, the need to extract and transform data and insert it into i2b2 is removed. Instead, the OpenFurther engine handles the transformation of data in real time through a series of associations defined for each data source from which information is dynamically retrieved.

Since 2004, the Carolina Data Warehouse for Health (CDW-H) has served as a central repository for clinical, research and administrative data collected from within the University of North Carolina Health Care System. Farrag and Bradford formulated a plan for a proof of concept practicum for connecting OpenFurther to the CDW-H. For an initial proof of concept, a single domain representing the patient demographic information in the CDW-H was successfully connected to OpenFurther. This process required a test environment that included a shadow schema of CDW-H loaded with a set of non-specific sample patient data, and ran through the OpenFurther server.

At the conclusion of the practicum, a user is able to log into the i2b2 web client, submit a query on the various demographic attributes of patients, and retrieve a count of patients that satisfy the query based off data in the model of the CDW-H. Achieving this connection demonstrates the ability to configure the OpenFurther engine to communicate with the local data source, the CDW-H. Additionally, it provides confidence in our ability to expand upon the information, such as clinical or administrative data, connected to the engine in the future.
Herrison J. Chicas

Herrison J. Chicas is the new administrative support specialist in the School’s administrative offices. Chicas assists with a number of office responsibilities including welcoming visitors and interacting with faculty, students and alumni while working closely with administrative areas such as Finance, Student Services, Communications and Development. Chicas is a recent graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he obtained his Bachelor’s degree in Psychology and Sociology. He worked as a Project Uplift Counselor in the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, where he counseled prospective students via educational workshops, collegiate panels and campus tours. Chicas has also been a facilities coordinator at the Sonja Haynes Stone Center, providing administrative support for planning, marketing and managing events and meetings. He is a spoken word artist, creating dynamic performances and poetic workshops at a variety of universities around the country in his spare time. He performed an original spoken word piece, “Living While Dying,” as one of the selected speakers at TEDxUNC in spring 2013.

Amelia N. Gibson

Amelia N. Gibson joined the faculty as assistant professor in July 2014. Gibson comes to SILS from the Information Use Management and Policy Institute in the School of Information Studies at Florida State University (FSU), where she worked as a research associate. Her primary interests include information access and practices within communities, health information behavior and information policy, focusing specifically on place-based communities as information systems, and the effect of community structure on health and government information access. “Amelia’s areas of research focus on the tooles that place plays on the information behaviors of individuals and communities of practice,” said Dean Marchionini. “She will add valuable research and teaching capabilities to SILS.”

Gibson is a graduate of the College of Communication and Information at FSU in Tallahassee, Florida. She received her A.B. from Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, and her Master’s in Library and Information Science and Ph.D. in Information Studies from FSU. While at Florida State, Gibson was a McKnight Fellow. She is a member of the Beta Phi Mu Honor Society. This fall, Gibson will teach INLS 500, “Human Information Interactions.”

David Gotz, PhD

David Gotz joined the faculty as associate professor and assistant director of the Carolina Health Informatics Program (CHIP) in January 2014. Gotz comes to SILS from the Healthcare Analytics Research Group at IBM’s T.J. Watson Research Center, where he was the lead researcher for Visual Analytics for healthcare. His research interests include visual analytics, information visualization, and medical informatics systems. Prior to joining IBM Research, Gotz graduated with highest honors from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a bachelor of science in Computer Science and Certificate in Economics. He received his master’s and Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. “David is a great addition to our faculty and to the health informatics program that has been popular with our students and to the entire campus,” said Dr. Gary Marchionini, Dean of SILS and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor. “His experience in healthcare analytics and the visualization innovations he has created will be important additions to this learning track. We’re delighted to welcome him to SILS!”

After his first semester last spring, when he taught “Systems Analysis,” Gotz will offer two courses this fall.

Kenny Jones

Kenny Jones joined the SILS Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in May 2013 as university library assistant. Jones comes to the SILS Library from Interlibrary Loan Office in Davis Library, where he has served as an interlibrary borrowing assistant since 2007. He was responsible for processing borrowing requests, interacting with patrons and providing support for the Interlibrary Loan Office. Jones has served on the SPA Forum Committee in various positions, most recently as chair from 2011 to 2012. He also has served on several North Carolina Interlibrary Loan Users Groups.

In his new position, Jones will be an integral part of the supervisory team of the SILS Library, with responsibilities ranging from recruiting, hiring, training and supervising student assistants to processing materials for reserves. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He replaces SILS alumnus Billy Cook (MSLS ’12), who recently was appointed business project senior specialist at CIGNA.
Comings & Goings

Kay Hill

Kay Hill was appointed in July 2014 as the Contract and Grant Specialist in the School’s administrative office. Her responsibilities include proposal submissions, budget management, Office of Sponsored Research (OSR) liaison, check requests, and travel coordinator. In 2010, Hill retired from her position as Business Officer in the Department of Psychology at UNC-Chapel Hill, where she served for ten years. She has extensive experience in both academic and health affairs. Since her retirement, she has worked in the OSR processing proposals and managing EPA Position Control, Dual Employment, approvals of state budget revisions, and Annual Raise Process.

Retiring: Communications Director Wanda Monroe

The SILS community would like to extend its gratitude and warm wishes to outgoing Director of Communications Wanda Monroe, who retired in July 2014. Monroe has managed communications for SILS for nearly ten years. Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor Gary Marchionini expressed his appreciation for her work at SILS by stating, “Wanda Monroe has been crucial to SILS on many fronts. As the Director of Communications she shaped the brand and messaging of our school and was enormously effective in telling the world about the many achievements of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. As a member of the senior administrative team, Wanda has been instrumental in planning and executing the many special programs that SILS offers each year. As a colleague, she fosters collaboration and makes us all more effective as individuals and as a team. Her contributions to SILS are myriad and although we will miss her energy and vision greatly, we are stronger and more effective because of the many years of service she gave to SILS.”

Monroe and her husband, Dave, will be returning to their home state of Michigan to be closer to family, including their two grandchildren. In addition to her family duties, Monroe plans to dedicate time to oil painting and working on the family’s apple orchard. Very best wishes, Wanda!

Larisa Rodgers

Larisa Rodgers is the health informatics coordinator for the Carolina Health Informatics Program. In her new position, Rodgers provides guidance to prospective and current students interested in pursuing academic tracks in the Health Informatics (HI) program, and tracks finances and generates status reports. She assists in marketing the HI program and assisting in maintaining the program website. She also provides assistance in grant proposal development.

Rodgers comes to SILS from the Kings County Hospital Center in New York City, where she was a social worker participating in multi-disciplinary teams, policy review committees and clinical treatment. In addition, she worked as a case manager in Harlem, where she maintained housing entitlements and performed assessments and treatment planning. Rodgers worked at the University of Connecticut for six years prior to her arrival in New York. She has a Master of Social Work degree in Casework, Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Sociology. She is an honors scholar who graduated cum laude.

Kesley Mumpower

Kesley Mumpower has been appointed desktop support and Help Desk manager for the School. Along with providing personal computing support for the faculty, staff, and students within SILS, he is responsible for installing, configuring, supporting and administering personal computing for all end-users of SILS. This includes technical and analytical assistance in support of computing needs as they pertain to academic, research and administrative activities. He will also provide desktop support and training in operating systems and applications, and is responsible for moving and changing equipment.

Mumpower comes to SILS from the University of South Carolina’s Department of English, where he worked as an Information Technology manager with over 200 users and a broad range of technological needs. Prior to his appointment at USC, he was an “easy technical lead” and sales associate at Staples, Inc., where he provided in-store technology support for customers. Mumpower has an associate of science degree from Midlands Technical College in West Columbia, South Carolina. He received his B.A. in Political Science at the University of South Carolina.
New This Fall! Master of Professional Science in Biomedical and Health Informatics

A new degree program that focuses on biomedical and health informatics at the master’s level is now available through the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Graduate School.

The Master of Professional Science in Biomedical and Health Informatics is interdisciplinary, building on the combined strengths of several top-ranked professional schools on the UNC campus, including the School of Information and Library Science (SILS). Several SILS faculty will be part of the program that includes the Gillings School of Global Public Health, School of Nursing, School of Medicine, Eshelman School of Pharmacy and School of Dentistry.

While the graduate program is intended to be completed in three semesters of full-time study, it is also open to part-time students. The program requires 35 credits to graduate and has two tracks: the Clinical Informatics track and the Public Health Informatics track. Students begin their study by completing core courses in “Informatics” and go on to enroll for “Professional Skills” courses. They then take “Biomedical and Health Informatics Foundation” courses and then move on to one track or the other. Finally, all students complete a practicum consisting of an internship in a health care, public health, health research or health IT organization that includes a project, which synthesizes knowledge gleaned from the entire program curriculum.

The Master of Professional Science in Biomedical and Health Informatics is the first Professional Science Master’s to be offered by UNC-Chapel Hill. The Graduate School will provide general administration of Professional Science Master’s programs, and the curriculum will be supported and managed by the partner schools.

SILS Master’s Programs Reaccredited

The Master of Science in Information Science and the Master of Science in Library Science programs at the School of Information and Library Science have been reaccredited by the American Library Association’s (ALA) Committee on Accreditation. The approval is granted for a period of seven years.

The process began in 2012 with an extensive self-study process led by Drs. Stephanie Haas, Brian Sturm and Gary Marchionini. Many faculty, students, alumni and staff contributed to the self-study. An evaluation team visited the School this past spring. Members of the group met with many faculty, staff, campus colleagues and alumni.

There are 63 ALA-accredited programs that have undergone an external review and meet ALA’s standards. Many jobs associated with the library world require their employees to have graduated from an accredited program.

Post-Master’s Certificates in Information and Library Science

SILS is pleased to announce our first online program! The Post-Master’s Certificate (PMC) is a post-master’s degree that is designed for practitioners who seek a continuing education program to enhance their professional development in Information and Library Science. The PMC is a hybrid program with residential and online components. The typical pattern begins with a two-week intensive kick-off offered during the first session of summer school on the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill campus and then includes a set of courses taken online.

The PMC allows students to customize their coursework depending on their goals. The main requirement of the program is successful completion of an additional 30 hours of coursework.

This post-master’s program is distinct from the School’s Ph.D. program, which prepares individuals to undertake research. The PMC program consists of 30 semester hours of coursework selected from the School’s curriculum and other departments and schools of the University on the basis of the individual’s needs and objectives. The student selects courses in consultation with a faculty advisor.

For more information about the Post-Master’s Certificate please contact Student Services Coordinator Lara Bailey, via e-mail at ljbailey@email.unc.edu, or call 919.962.7601.

In Memory of Dr. Mary Emily Kingsbury

On April 4, 2014, Dr. Mary Emily Kingsbury, former professor at the School of Information and Library Science (SILS) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, died peacefully after a long illness. Dr. Kingsbury taught Children’s Literature and Storytelling courses at SILS from July 1, 1973 until her retirement on June 30, 1994.

Her many contributions to children’s literature and services span her teaching, research and publishing career. For those who knew Dr. Kingsbury, you will remember her spunky personality and her beloved schnauzers. She was incredibly generous, donating numerous valuable volumes of books to UNC Libraries in 2006. “Mary Kingsbury was one of the most outrageously honest people I have ever met,” said Dr. Helen Tibbo, Alumni Distinguished Professor and Kingsbury’s close friend and guardian. Her remains have been placed in the Riverview Abbey Mausoleum in Portland, Oregon.
Alumni Distinguished Professor Joanne Gard Marshall Retired in June 2014

Professor Joanne Gard Marshall retired June 30, 2014, after a long and distinguished career. Dr. Marshall arrived at the School of Information and Library Science as Dean and Professor in January 1999. During her five-year tenure as Dean, the school saw a four-fold increase in research funding and developed important new educational programs that helped the School achieve prominence nationally and internationally.

Professor Marshall has received a multitude of the most prestigious professional awards, and was granted an Alumni Distinguished Professorship. She has published widely, over a hundred articles, and has given numerous presentations at meetings of professional associations. In May 2004 she was elected president of the Medical Library Association, and in 2014 she received the Marcia C. Noyes Award, the highest honor conferred by the Medical Library Association.

An example of Professor Marshall’s diverse research interests was the WILIS program, for which she was co-principal investigator. The Workforce Issues in Library and Information Science (WILIS) was a program of research designed to study the educational, workplace, career and retention issues faced by library and information science (LIS) graduates. WILIS included a comprehensive web-based survey that was used to collect data on the long-term career patterns of those who graduated from LIS programs in North Carolina between 1964 and 2009.

Dr. Marshall also recently completed a study on the value and impact of health sciences library and information services funded by the National Library of Medicine. Fifty-six library sites serving 118 hospitals in the U.S. and Canada participated in the study. Over 16,000 physicians, residents and nurses responded to the survey, providing details of the ways in which using the information resources improved patient care outcomes and decreased adverse events.

Dean Gary Marchionini has high praise for his colleague: “Dr. Marshall came to SILS with an international reputation in health science librarianship and helped to establish the theory and tradition of evidence-based practice at SILS and in the broader information community. She led our school as Dean during a time when we transitioned from desktop information services to web-based services and continues to conduct research and speak at international venues regularly.”

Professor Marshall and her husband, Victor, plan to remain in Chapel Hill. She will continue her research and publishing as well as teaching her well-attended yoga classes; gardening remains a love. As expressed by Dean Marchionini, “We look forward to benefitting from her vigor and wisdom as she continues her affiliation with SILS into her retirement.” Dr. Marshall will continue to hold an appointment as Distinguished Research Professor at SILS.

Remembering Marilyn L. Miller, Library Leader, Educator and Advocate

Former UNC SILS faculty member Dr. Marilyn Lea Miller, 83, Professor Emeritus, Department of Library and Information Studies, University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG), passed away on May 22. Miller’s career advanced education, research and practice in library service to children broadly and school librarianship specifically. Throughout her career, Miller was active in professional associations and served in many leadership positions, including president of the American Library Association from 1992 to 1993. The Dr. Marilyn L. Miller Scholarship Award is established in her name at UNCG, to recognize her long and distinguished service to the School of Education and to the University. Donations may be made in the name of the “Dr. Marilyn L. Miller Scholarship” at http://advancement.uncg.edu/giving/.
Hughes Hassell appointed Francis McColl Term Professor

Sandra Hughes Hassell, professor, has been appointed Francis Carroll McColl Term Professor effective July 1, 2014. “Sandra is a national expert in school library media whose current research focuses on literacy for African American male youth,” said Gary Marchionini, dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor. “She is an award-winning teacher recognized by SILS, the University, and the Association for Library and Information Science Education. She continues to receive awards related to youth and diversity, and she and her students are increasingly active in the community as well as programs at SILS and on campus. It is fitting that the Administrative Board has selected her as the next McColl Professor.” In May, Hughes-Hassell participated in the American Library Association’s invitational “Summit on the Future of Libraries.” This past spring, she received the 2014 Virginia Hamilton Essay Honor Award for her paper “Multicultural Young Adult Literature as a Form of Counter-Storytelling,” a publication that was included in The Library Quarterly. She also co-authored a Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) publication titled “The Future of Library Services for and with Teens: A Call to Action.”

SILS Dean Gary Marchionini Delivered Keynote Address at Libraries in the Digital Age (LIDA) Conference in Croatia

Gary Marchionini, Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor, was named guest of honor and keynote speaker for the 2014 Libraries in the Digital Age (LIDA) conference held in Zadar, Croatia in June 2014. LIDA is a biennial gathering of international library and information science leaders and experts. Dean Marchionini’s presentation, titled “Libraries and Literacies: From I to We,” focused on collaborative literacy and assessment.

From an article about the conference in D-Lib Magazine, written by Darko Lacović and Mate Juric: “Guest of Honor Professor Gary Marchionini (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA), gave a presentation titled ‘Libraries and Literacies: from I to We.’ He explained how libraries can ‘collect people’ by helping them to properly manage their various lifetime profiles and cyberidentities, such as electronic health records, personal genome, digital identities (e.g. passwords), electronic learning records, and financial profiles and credit reports, gathered from sources such as Google Scholar, MS Academic, ResearchGate, and Klout, by using identity trusts to make ‘tie networks’ and to facilitate reading and writing. The speaker showed how libraries can serve many different groups of people.”

Alumnus, Dr. Fred Stutzman, Receives NC IDEA Grant

SILS alumnus and former visiting faculty member Fred Stutzman (Ph.D. ’11) began developing the productivity-boosting apps Freedom and Anti-Social in 2008. These apps, which allow users to selectively block access to distracting websites during specified time periods, generated so much buzz that Stutzman launched a new business venture called 80Pct Solutions. In June 2014, 80Pct Solutions was one of six businesses selected from a pool of over 130 applicants to win a $46,000 grant from NC IDEA, which recognizes North Carolina-based startups developing promising technology solutions. As founder and CEO of 80Pct Solutions, Stutzman views this award as critical to the success of his new business.
Dr. Zeynep Tufekci Named One of “100 Most Influential Tech People on Twitter” by Business Insider

There are those who communicate only through Twitter, Facebook and other social media sites, and then there are those who use e-mail and face-to-face encounters to communicate. For one who specializes on all things to do with social media, Zeynep Tufekci, assistant professor at SILS, uses various means of communicating — including Twitter. She tweets about her popular blog, www.technosociology.org, which has now gained her inclusion on the “100 Most Influential Tech People on Twitter.” Follow Dr. Tufekci: @zeynep.

Joanne Gard Marshall Recognized with Two Awards by MLA

Joanne Gard Marshall, alumni distinguished professor, was presented with the Marcia C. Noyes Award and the Ida and George Eliot Prize at the 2014 Medical Library Association’s Annual Conference. The Noyes Award is the highest professional distinction of the Medical Library Association. It was established in 1947 to recognize individuals who have made lasting, outstanding contributions to health sciences librarianship. The Eliot Prize recognizes a published work that has furthered medical librarianship. Marshall earned this year’s prize with her article titled “The value of library and information services in patient care: results of a multisite study.”

Lori Harris and Erin Foster, SILS Alumni, Selected for NLM Fellowships

Two recent SILS graduates, Erin Foster (MSLS ’14) and Lori Harris (MSLS ’13), have been selected for the Associate Fellowship Program at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland.

The one-year training program offers fellows “an insider’s view of the world’s largest medical library” and includes a wide range of project work from data analysis to outreach via social media, to creating online tutorials and videos, to website enhancement, legislative tracking and more.

Elizabeth DeBold and Rebecca Carlson Present at ALA

Elizabeth DeBold (MSLS ’13) and Rebecca Carlson (MSLS ’12) both presented at the American Library Association’s Annual Conference in Las Vegas this past summer. Carlson delivered a presentation titled “Everyone Lives in the Greatest Place on Earth: Librarian as Local Area Guide and Advocate” at the Ignite Monday Session, as well as a poster titled “Inclusive Instruction: Information Literacy for Adult Learners.” Her Ignite Monday talk was sampled at the beginning of ALA’s Highlights video.

DeBold presented a short paper, “Permission to Launch: Seeking Copyright Permission for the Religion in North Carolina Digital Collection,” at the ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) Preconference.

Alumni Mike Nutt and Jason Casden Tie for Best Poster at the Digital Library Federation Forum

Jason Casden (MSLS ’06) and Mike Nutt (MSIS ’11) tied with one other entry for the “best poster” award at the annual Digital Library Federation Forum held in Austin in November 2013. Their poster, “How to Turn Your Library into a Storytelling Building,” discussed the ways in which libraries can blend architecture and digital media to share stories that fuel conversations about our campuses and the world.
Lori Haight, career services coordinator, enlisted the help of Barbara Moran and Rebecca Vargha to offer the SILS Negotiation Workshop, which aimed to prepare students entering the job market with the skills needed to negotiate salary and benefits. The workshop was recorded and posted online. Visit the Events page on the SILS website for more details. Haight and Wanda Monroe, director of Communications, co-taught the “Job Search Bootcamp” in spring 2014. The 16 students who were enrolled in the workshop learned techniques for researching companies they would like to work for, and how to write cover letters, resumes and follow-up thank you letters.

Mohammad Jarrahi, assistant professor, developed a panel proposal, “Social informatics and social media: Theoretical reflections,” which was accepted for the annual meeting of the Association for Information Science and Technology. The same meeting will feature Jarrahi’s paper titled “Experiencing Practice, Structural, and Interpretive Dimensions of Technology Assemblages: The Case of Social Technology Use by Knowledge Workers.” His article “Theorizing on the Take-up of Social Technologies, Organizational Policies and Norms, and Consultants’ Knowledge-sharing Practices” was accepted for publication in the Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology.

Mary Grace Flaherty, assistant professor, contributed a chapter titled “Strategic Planning for Success” in the recently published text The Medical Library Association Guide to Providing Consumer and Patient Health Information, edited by Michele Spatz. In December, she delivered a presentation titled “SILS, Public Libraries & Health Promotion” at the NC Public Library Directors Association Annual Meeting.

Paul Jones, clinical professor, published a chapter titled “News Media Strategic Visions and Speculative Futures” in the book Content is King, published by Bloomsbury Academic. He has been quoted in numerous articles from publications including ComputerWorld, The Chronicle of Higher Education’s Vitae, and The Deseret News. His work is referenced in “The 2014 Survey: The biggest internet impacts by 2015” as part of the Pew Research Network’s Internet and American Life Project. Jones appears in the recent film #FiberedUp about efforts to establish Google Fiber in the Triangle; he appears at the 43:00 mark. Jones’s commitment, since 2011, to quit using email has garnered a great deal of attention. He was featured in an article titled “UNC professor Paul Jones went from pioneering to protesting email,” in the February 3, 2014 issue of the Daily Tar Heel, and he has been invited to speak about his opinions regarding email at MetLife in Research Triangle Park and the Second Annual Robert Ballard Lecture for Carolinas Chapter.
Arcot Rajasekar and Reagan Moore, professors, have been leading the implementation of the Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (iRODS) data grid software through the Data Intensive Cyber Environments (DICE) Center. The iRODS software manages distributed data collections while enforcing management policies. For long-term sustainability, an iRODS Consortium has been formed in collaboration with the Renaissance Computing Institute to promote continued development of the software. All future releases of the iRODS software will be done through the iRODS Consortium, marking the transition of the iRODS software to a consortium support open-source product. Moore and Rajasekar’s work has recently been published in the Journal of Open Research Software, the Journal of Computer and Communications, and the International Journal of Digital Curation. In June, they submitted a paper titled “Reproducible Research within the DataNet Federation Consortium” to the 7th International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software.

Zeynep Tufekci, assistant professor, has accepted an invitation to deliver the closing keynote address at the Association for Computing Machinery’s Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW 2015), which will be held during March 2015 in Vancouver, BC. This is the premier conference at the intersection of sociology and technology.

Rebecca Vargha, librarian and adjunct instructor at SILS, was recently appointed to the Oxford University Press Global Library Advisory Council. Additionally, she gave presentations on pop-up books at the Carolina Meadows retirement community in February and at the North Carolina Literary Festival at the Hunt Library in April.

Joanne Gard Marshall, alumni distinguished professor, attended an invitational symposium at the National Library of Medicine titled “Voyaging to the Future: NLM 1984-2014” in Chicago. While there, she presented three papers on her work for the Value of Library and Information Services in Patient Care Study. She also traveled to Japan to deliver presentations at the Japan Medical Library Association and Keio University.

Barbara Wildemuth, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor, presented a workshop titled “Applying grounded theory methods to library and user assessment” at the Libraries in the Digital Age conference held in Zadar, Croatia in June.
Doctoral student **Amanda Click** was selected as one of the Leadership Development Scholars for the 2013-2014 academic year in the first cohort offered by the UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate School. Click’s proposal was to develop a panel discussion with prominent leaders in library sciences to foster leadership development.

Doctoral candidate **Kaitlin Costello** was awarded a Dissertation Completion Fellowship from the UNC Royster Society of Fellows (SOF). SOF Dissertation Completion Fellowships support the most promising students in the final year of dissertation work. As an SOF Fellow, Costello will participate in interdisciplinary research seminars and leadership development activities and will serve as a student ambassador to university stakeholders.

Doctoral student **Nina Exner**’s article “Research Information Literacy: Addressing Original Researchers’ Needs” was accepted by the *Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

**Meredith Hale** and **Julie Stivers** were selected as winners of the 2014 Baker & Taylor Scholarships for summer seminars in Europe. The awards cover travel and program costs. Stivers traveled to London to participate in a seminar titled “British Libraries and Librarianship: Past, Present and Future.” Hale traveled to Prague to attend a seminar titled “Libraries and Librarianship in the Czech Republic.” Hale was also awarded a Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education to study the Czech language and pursue additional coursework related to Central European culture. In addition, as the Kress Fellow in Library and Information Science, she worked at UNC’s Ackland Art Museum during summer 2014 creating educational resources on Louis-Léopold Boilly’s *The Flood*.

The National Consortium for Data Science (NCDS) Data Innovation Showcase has selected doctoral candidate and teaching fellow **Angela Murillo** as winner of one of the Best Poster awards for her poster “Infrastructure, Data Sharing, and Data Reuse in the Sciences: The Case of DataONE.” The Best Poster Award included a cash prize and the opportunity to present her research at the NCDS Data Innovation Showcase in May 2014. Murillo’s poster was recognized for “work of scientific merit that relates to the missions and goals of the National Consortium for Data Science.”

Doctoral candidate **Alex Poole** was awarded the Thomas F. Ferdinand Digital Humanities Summer Research Fellowship offered by the UNC-Chapel Hill Graduate School. The non-service award is presented to students who are working on research projects in order to enable them to focus exclusively on their research.

Doctoral student **Sarah Ramdeen** was asked to serve on the board of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists’ Datapages, which archives and catalogs geological publications. She received an Outstanding Student Paper Award at the American Geophysical Union’s fall 2013 meeting. In addition, from the Federation of Earth Science Information Partners she received a grant enabling her to develop further a project titled “Making the Case for Data Stewardship Use Cases: A Community Building and Engagement Exercise.”

**Kyle Shaffer**, a second-year MSIS student, spent his summer putting skills learned at SILS into practice through a fellowship to the “Data Science for Social Good” summer program hosted by Georgia Tech and the City of Atlanta. Shaffer, using a combination of data science and social science skills, created tools that can be used by nonprofits and city organizations to solve problems.

Doctoral student **Emily Vardell** was selected as a 2014-16 Association of Information Science and Technology New Leader. The Association recruits and engages new members and identifies potential for new leadership in the organization. Vardell was also invited to participate in the UNC-Chapel Hill Future Faculty Fellowship Program, which is designed to prepare graduate students to serve as independent instructors and to understand the roles and responsibilities of faculty members in higher education.
Mea Warren, a second-year MSLS student, was selected as an Association for Research Libraries Career Enhancement Program Fellow. This fellowship included a leadership development symposium in Philadelphia and a summer internship at North Carolina State University Libraries.

Docotrul student Shenmeng Xu’s paper “Network structural analysis of technology: a study from patent perspective,” which was published in the Journal of Science and Technology Policy in China, recently won the 2014 Highly Commended Paper award by publisher Emerald Journals. Xu’s paper was one of only three selected for recognition by the journal.

SILS PhD Student Ayoung Yoon was awarded the Kenneth G. Young Summer Research Fellowship for summer 2013 as well as a GPSF (Graduate and Professional Student Federation) Travel Award for spring 2014. She also earned the Best Poster Award at the Special Interest Group: Digital Liaisons Panel at the Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) for her co-authored presentation titled “Developing Preservation Policy for Dryad Digital Repository.”

Laura Sheble and Annie Chen attended the 2014 International Conference on Social Computing, Behavioral Modeling and Prediction in Washington, D. C., where they co-presented a poster titled “Contexts of Diffusion: Adoption of Research Synthesis in Social Work and Women’s Studies.” Sheble and Chen also presented at the Visual Analytics in Health Care Workshop at the American Medical Informatics Association’s annual meeting held in Washington, D. C., in December 2013. The demonstration was titled “Topic Modeling and Network Visualization to Explore Patient Experiences.”

Amanda Click presented “Motivations, Definitions, and the ‘Plagiarism Trap’: Perceptions of Academic Integrity across Cultures” at the International Conference on Academic Integrity in Jacksonville, Florida, in May 2014.

Amanda MacDonald co-presented a poster, “The Map is Not the Territory: A Staff Development Travelogue,” at the Association for Library and Information Science Education Conference in Philadelphia in January 2014.

Armanda Gonzalez traveled to Berlin, Germany, for the 2014 iConference, where she presented on a group research project she conducted with the iSchool Inclusion Institute. Her poster was titled “Entering the Boys’ Club: An Analysis of Female Representation in Game Industry Culture and Design.”

Sarah Ramdeen attended the American Geophysical Union’s Fall Meeting in San Francisco in December 2013, where she led a town hall and presented a poster titled “ESIP’s Emerging Provenance and Context Content Standard Use Cases: Developing Examples and Models for Data Stewardship.”

Patrick Golden co-presented a poster with assistant professor Ryan Shaw titled “Taking Entity Reconciliation Offline” at the 76th annual meeting of the Association of Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) in November 2013.

John Mark Bojanski travelled to Pittsburgh to present at the annual meeting for the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association in October 2013. His presentation was titled “Rebirth of a Radio Show Website Leads to New Roles and New Publicity for Librarians.”

Sandeep Avula presented with colleagues, including SILS assistant professor Jaime Arguello, at the Text Retrieval Conference in Washington, D. C., in November 2013. His presentation was titled “A Nearest Neighbor Approach to Contextual Suggestion.”

Student News

Professional Activity Travel Awards for Students

Every year, SILS students present their research at both national and international conferences and meetings. In sharing their work, presenters are helping to enhance the visibility of the school and contributing to the exchange of information relevant to the field of information and library science. In appreciation of these efforts, SILS allocates funds to defray travel expenses for students who wish to present at conferences. The following students were selected from a pool of applicants to receive funding from the School:

Julia Feerrar shared her presentation “Let the Distance Bring Us Together: Using Concept-Based Videos to Improve Library Instruction” at the Innovative Library Classroom Conference in Radford, Virginia in May 2014.

John D. Martin III travelled to Lima, Peru, to co-deliver a presentation titled “The Poetics of the Syllabus: Close and Distant Readings of an Overlooked Form” at the 2014 Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC) Conference in April.
SILS and the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

Through more than a century of service, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (the Library) has provided residents of the region with free access to an impressive collection of learning resources. David Singleton is the Director of Libraries and an alumnus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He said, “I’m honored to work with an exceptionally talented and dedicated group of staff to meet the changing needs of this diverse community of over a million residents. We serve the community from 20 library facilities and through innovative outreach programs across the county. We have a world-class library for youth in ImaginOn: The Joe and Joan Martin Center, which will be celebrating its 10th anniversary next year. And our work is guided by a strategic plan developed with extensive feedback from the community.”

This past July, SILS renewed its collaboration with the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, concluding a successful and productive first year. Out of this unique partnership grew a research and teaching assistantship that provided one SILS graduate student the opportunity to gain direct experience in the Library. To this end, the Library generously contributed funds to support the student throughout the duration of the assistantship while SILS agreed to cover 100% of the indirect, administrative costs associated with the assistantship program. Singleton commented, “The SILS assistantship for the past year helped to coordinate the library’s large Digital Strategy project, involving more than 70 staff in workgroups and a Steering Committee. One of the products of that collaborative work is a set of guiding principles for digital services and the user experience, which we are now beginning to implement with support from Mecklenburg County and several project grants. Our ambitious plan will result in the removal of barriers to digital access for our customers, and we have great excitement in the organization and the community about the possibilities.”

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library worked with SILS to establish educational objectives and devise methods for implementation for the assistantship program. The Library provided orientation, training, and professional supervision for the student, and SILS supplemented the student’s fieldwork through academic instruction and mentoring.

SILS Dean Gary Marchionini describes the program thus: “As preeminent organizations in our field, the Library and SILS produce leaders of today and tomorrow. Our inaugural Library-funded recipient personifies this. The student was outstanding even before SILS selected her, and her educational accomplishments today as well as prospective professional success tomorrow are further enhanced because of this important student support she has received.”

Given the success of this collaboration with the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, SILS hopes to establish more such partnerships and invites interested parties to reach out to SILS staff. To learn more about supporting SILS, contact Stephanie Cole, SILS director of development at 919-843-9378 or sbcole@email.unc.edu.

The Flora S. Lockridge Endowment

The Flora S. Lockridge Endowment was established in 2014 through a generous estate gift from SILS alumna Flora S. Lockridge and Virginia L. Coleman. A member of the UNC Class of 1952, Ms. Lockridge earned her degree in library science after serving in World War II as a private in the Woman’s Army Corps.

The Lockridge Endowment provides need-based scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students majoring in the disciplines of information and library science, with preference for residents of the state of Virginia. The first award is expected to be made in 2015. Philanthropic gifts like the Lockridge Endowment allow the best and brightest students to come to SILS. Donor gifts are essential; 46% of the 2013-2014 SILS student body received SILS-administered student support, according to most recent data.

SILS Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor Gary Marchionini says: “The Lockridge Endowment is the latest example of an accomplished alum supporting promising SILS students in perpetuity. Our school is honored to have alumni who value the education that launched their careers and invest in insuring that such education is accessible to others.”
Much of what SILS is and aspires to be is a result of gifts from alumni, friends, faculty, parents, students, foundations, corporations and others. Thank you!

This honor roll of donors reflects cumulative gifts for SILS during the 12 months ending June 30, 2014. Additionally, the honor roll recognizes:

- planned-giving donors (living individuals who have informed us that SILS is in their estate plans);
- recent alumni donors (SILS graduates within the past five years); and
- sustaining donors (monthly, recurring donors via credit card, bank draft or payroll deduction).

If we have made any mistakes, please accept our apologies and contact us so that we may correct records. You may contact Stephanie Cole, director of development, at 919-843-9378 or stephanie_cole@unc.edu.

SILS’ Giving Societies

SILS’ giving societies reflect our history and heritage. Recognition is calculated on gifts for SILS during our July 1-June 30 fiscal year.

Legacy Society ($1,000,000 or more)
Louise Round Wilson Society ($100,000 to $999,999)
Susan Grey Akers Affiliates ($50,000 to $99,999)
Lucille K. Henderson Affiliates ($10,000 to $49,999)
Edward G. Holley Affiliates ($5,000 to $9,999)
Dean’s Club ($1,000 to $4,999)
Lester Asheim Affiliates ($500 to $999)
Associates ($250 to $499)
Supporters (up to $249)

SILS Planned Giving Donors
Gary Fenton Barefoot ’68
Mary L. Boone ’73
Mary Whitfield Canada ’56
Stephanie B. Cole
Revaath A-Davidson and Russ Tobias Davidson ’78
Julia Adair Foster ’75
Vonna K. Graves and William H. Graves
Loretta Kizer Mershon ’79 and Donald Hartland Mershon
Carol Smib Nielson and T. Brian Nielson ’93
Fred Wilbir Roger ’62
Caroline Mitchell Smith ’72
Duncan Franklin Smith ’80
Ann Cutler Stringfield ’79
Patricia Leona Thibodeau and Steven Jay Melamus ’99
Rebecca Brogden Vargha and Stephen Daniel Vargha
Kimberly Ann Warren
Anonymous (3)

Louis Round Wilson Society
Duke University
Estate of Emil Ferdinand Frey
Estate of Flora S. Lockridge & Virginia L. Coleman
Anonymous (1)

Susan Grey Akers Affiliates
Ochiltree Foundation

Lucille K. Henderson Affiliates
Baker & Taylor, Inc.
Charlotte Mecklenburg Library
Vonna K. Graves and William H. Graves
H. W. Wilson Foundation, Inc.
University of California San Diego
Janice A. Wilson and Hebert A. Wilson
Stacey Miller Yusko ’03 and Mark William Yusko

Edward G. Holley Affiliates
Jerry Dean Campbell ’72
Dean S. Edmonds Foundation
Dean S. Edmonds III
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Lynda H. Thomas Living Trust
Susan Lane Perry ’56
Lynda Herman Thomas ’74
Edith E. Yakutis and Leo Yakutis ’91

Dean’s Club
Samita Nitia Akpan ’06
Larry Paul Alfred ’78
Gail R. Austin and William Joseph Austin Jr.
Barbara Bayer Bertram ’92 and David Alfred Dodd
Ruth Roden Boyer ’69 and Calvin J. Boyer
Stephanie B. Cole #
Julia Diggs and Timothy N. Diggs
Ruth R. Gambee
GlasO’SmithKline Matching Gifts
Neil Bost Glenn
Gratinger Matching Gifts
Timothy Lee Gutter ’88
Katsuko Tsuzuki Hotelling ’86
Julia Steinfest Howard and John L. Howard
Tara Back Kester ’87 and Jack Bevel Kester Jr.
Marcia Duncan Lowry and Charles Bryan Lowry ’74
Suzanne Marchionini and Gary Marchionini
Microsoft Corporation Matching Gifts
Lois Blake Mcgirt Miller ’66
Nancy Prothro Norton ’78

Joyce Lanier Ogburn ’82
Irene Owens ’95
Evelyn M. Poole-Kober ’97
Procter & Gambel Matching Gifts
Eliza S. Robertson and W. Davenport Robertson ’75
Mae Lipscomb Rodney ’86
Mabel Marie Shaw
Shell Oil Company Matching Gifts
Duncan Franklin Smith ’80
W. Gene Story
Wells Fargo Foundation Educational Matching Gifts
Conception Shimizu Wilson ’74
Jo Ann Hardison Wootten ’66 ’80
Anonymous (1)

Lester Asheim Affiliates
Denise Jenny Chen ’95 and Timothy Wayne Maas ’95
Robert E. Coley ’72 #
Sharon A. Collins and John F. Steinfirst
Russ Tobias Davidson ’79
Vicki Grey Davis and Gordon William Davis
Elizabeth Anna Evans ’82
Harold Steve Farkow ’80
Robert Guthrie
Patricia Rocca Harris ’70 and Howard Stanley Harris ’71
Lindsay Iesdon ’88
Phebe Weisner Kirkham ’72
Barbara L. Martin and Robert Sidney Martin ’88
Kristin Krause McDonough ’70
Wanda Monroe
Priscilla Saine Moyer and J. Michael Moyer ’83
Network for Good
Anna Kemp Norris ’00
Rosanne B. Palmatter ’74
PG&E Corporation Matching Gifts
Dear SILS Alumni:

Greetings from Chapel Hill. As I write, it’s the end of summer. Faculty and staff are working hard to get things ready for the return of students, new students and their parents who are here for orientation wander the university grounds in awe of the size and beauty (and heat!), and traffic ebbs and flows depending on what’s happening on campus. By the time you read this, fall semester will be fully under way. It’s a time of excitement, energy and enthusiasm, and great things are happening at SILS.

As the incoming president of the SILS Alumni Association, it is my pleasure to be a part of the welcoming committee, greeting the incoming first-year SILS students, and seeing familiar faces among the returning students. I am privileged to be working with Dean Marchionini, the SILS faculty and staff, and a group of wonderful volunteers on the SILSAA Board to serve the School, students and alumni. We’re already planning our activities for the year: a welcome reception in the fall, a field experience program, and the always-popular speed networking event, where students and library and information professionals come together to make new connections in the profession. If you are an alumnus and would like to help with any of these – do you have a field experience placement for a SILS student? would you like to participate in the speed networking event? – please contact Lori Haight, SILS Career Service Coordinator, at lhaight@email.unc.edu.

SILSAA is also excited about our growing partnership with SAID, the SILS Alumni Inclusion and Diversity committee. Look for more information coming soon about a special project for Homecoming 2014.

Coming into a new year, I am reminded of my years at SILS and the friendships formed with fellow students and faculty. It is my hope that the new students will form fast and lasting friendships as they grow in the profession. You too can rekindle old friendships (and expand your professional network) by reconnecting and staying in touch — visit campus during the school year, attend a SILS alumni reception at one of the major conferences, and be sure to join SILS on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, or the SILS alumni e-mail list (sils-alumni@listserv.unc.edu).

All my best,

Tiffany Allen (MSLS ’00), SILSAA President

In Deepest Sympathy

Mary Kemp Allen  1933  ABL S  2/5/2014
Emily Stewart Boyce  1968  MSLS  4/22/2014
Albert James Diaz  1956  MSLS  3/23/2014
Phyllis Eisenberg  1977  MSLS  12/10/2013
Mary Sewell Helvey  1949  BLS  11/7/2013
Richard Earl Jones  1971  MSLS  11/16/2013
Arlene Moore  1949  BLS  4/24/2014
Albert Arnold Nelius  1969  MSLS  1/1/2014
Nancy Fox Scism  1971  MSLS  2/18/2014
Ellen Lee Tillett  1979  MSLS  5/27/2014
Robert A. Whitesides  1970  MSLS  12/12/2013
Emily V. Williams  1945  BLS  3/6/2014
SILS Alumni Promote the “Maker Movement” at NCSU

The library system of North Carolina State University currently employs about 30 SILS alumni. These graduates are implementing cutting-edge strategies to engage and inform students and other library patrons at NC State’s D. H. Hill Library and the new James B. Hunt, Jr. Library. Most recently, they are involved with the “Maker Movement,” a growing initiative that libraries across the nation are establishing to provide spaces, materials and expertise for primarily young patrons to design their own creations.

SILS graduates and NC State Librarians Adam Rogers (MSLS ’10), Emerging Technology Services Librarian; Brendan O’Connell (MSLS ’12), NC State Fellow; Josh Boyer (MSLS ’99), Head, User Experience Department; and David Woodbury (MSIS ’09), Associate Head, User Experience, have established Makerspaces at both the Hunt and Hill Libraries. They have also coordinated several events inspired by the Maker Movement, including open workshops on 3D Printing, Arduino, and MaKey MaKey and an end-of-semester “Make Break” for students to explore electronics and let off steam during finals.

These new facilities and events have been so well received that outside libraries and other information science entities regularly seek out the expertise of the SILS alumni who made them possible. For example, in December, Adam Rogers was invited to deliver a presentation on the process of launching makerspaces in academic libraries at the Association of College and Research Libraries.

1970

Kristin McDonough (MSLS) is the director of the Science, Industry and Business Library at The New York Public Library, where she spearheaded NYPL’s partnership with the Brooklyn and Queens library systems for a social enterprise that was awarded $100,000 from the NYC Economic Development Corporation’s THRIVE competition. The tri-library partnership garnered the funding first to pilot and then to execute “Blueprint for Your Business Future,” which is an educational and advisory program to teach established immigrant business owners critical succession-planning skills.

1977

After over three decades of success in the bookstore business, alumna Lisa Howorth (MSLS) has launched a new career as a novelist, with the release of her first novel, Flying Shoes, published by Bloomsbury in June 2014. Writing Flying Shoes was a challenging process for Howorth, as it is a fictional account of a painfully real event from her past. In 1966, her 9-year old younger brother was kidnapped and murdered in a still unresolved case. Despite the tragic inspiration for the novel, Flying Shoes has plenty of light-hearted moments and a cast of flamboyantly-southern characters. Howorth credits her time at SILS for providing her with excellent learning opportunities, such as an assistantship in the Rare Books Collection at Wilson Library on UNC’s campus. Her advice to her fellow alumni: “Never forget the handwritten word, or the book! It’s a perfect invention, like a bicycle or a sailboat, It ain’t going nowhere!”

Lisa Howorth and Flying Shoes are profiled in the June 17, 2014 issue of the New York Times. Flying Shoes is currently available in stores and online.
1981

*Rebecca Knight (MSLS)* was recognized for her work at the University of Delaware’s Morris Library with a 30-year service award.

*John Ulmschneider (MSLS)*, University Librarian at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), was elected to the Steering Committee of the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition. Also, an article highlighting the personal passions of faculty and administrators at VCU featured Ulmschneider for his love of cycling.

*Susan Wood (MSLS)* retired from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) in December 2013. She worked for 23 years in global corporate services at GSK and, prior to that, at UNC-CH Libraries for 17 years.

1982

*Elizabeth “Libby” A. Evans (MSLS)* presented a poster at the 2014 EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI) annual meeting in New Orleans. Her poster, “Making Videos: The Practical... and the Imaginative,” provided guidance on the creation of lecture videos for content delivery in the context of teaching in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Since 2012, Evans has been working at the Duke Digital Initiative, where she manages video production for many of Duke University’s MOOCs.

1985

*Barbara Tysinger (MSLS)* received the 2013 Award of Distinguished Service from UNC’s Health Sciences Library (HSL). From the award announcement: “Tysinger received this award not only for her excellent work as a cataloger, but also for playing a key role with the special collections research and reference questions from our users in the absence of a permanent Special Collections Librarian.” Tysinger was instrumental in the identification of a 12th-century manuscript fragment housed in the HSL.

1987

In January 2014, *David Bickford (MSLS)* accepted a position as director of the Arizona Health Sciences Library at Northern Arizona University’s Phoenix Biomedical Campus. Bickford’s responsibilities in this new position include oversight of day-to-day operations, coordination with nearby institutions, and promotion of the effective use of information technologies among partnering schools’ educators.

1993

*Deb Morley (MSLS)* has been appointed head of the Reference and Instructional Services Department at the University of Delaware Library, effective August 2014. Morley had been serving as the head of Specialized Content and Services at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she provided leadership in the planning, implementation, administration and assessment of a suite of robust and growing services focused on specialized formats and technology-intensive data types. In addition to her MSLS, Morley holds master’s and bachelor’s degrees in Industrial and Systems Engineering from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. She is currently working to complete a Master of Education at Salem State University in Massachusetts.

1998

*Shannon Tennant (MSLS)* and *Anna Craft (MSLS ’08)* presented at the first-ever Triad Area Library Association Paraprofessional Conference titled “Academic Libraries: Staying Relevant in Times of change.”

1999

*Amelia K. Mitchell (MSLS)* moved to Fairbanks, Alaska, with her new husband, Tim Swenby. Following a 14-year career as a high school librarian in North Carolina, Mitchell has started working as a middle school librarian. In addition, she serves as state secretary for the Alaska Association of School Librarians and received a grant to attend the Alaska Library Association’s conference in Anchorage in February 2014.
2001

Jamie Roth (MSLS), deputy director of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, has been elected to serve a three-year term on the Society of American Archivists (SAA) Council, SAA's governing body. The SAA is North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association, with responsibilities including the formation and implementation of financial and strategic plans, coordination with outside entities, and executive oversight.

2003

Pnina Fichman (Ph.D.) has accepted an appointment as the new chair of the Department of Information and Library Science at the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University Bloomington. She brings substantial academic and administrative experience to her new position. She serves as the director of the Master's in Library Science Program, and is the co-director of the Rob Kling Center for Social Informatics and the Doctoral minor in Social Informatics. Fichman has been at IU since 2004.

2004

Jason Griffey (MSLS) was awarded a John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Prototype grant to promote further development of LibraryBox, a portable digital file distribution tool designed by Griffey to connect locations with limited Internet connectivity with digital information. He has launched a new business called Evenly Distributed LLC to provide consultation to libraries in need of expertise in technology planning and implementation and Makerspace development.

Michelle Mascaro (MSLS) co-authored an article for the 2012 issue of the journal Provenance. The article, “Faster Digital Output Using Student Workers to Create Metadata for a Grant-Funded Project,” won the 2012 David B. Gracy II Award for her superior contribution to the journal.

Cynthia Thomes (MSLS) co-authored a book chapter titled “Embedded librarianship within the context of the global distance education environment” in Alice Daugherty and Michael Russo’s book Embedded librarianship: What every academic librarian should know.

2005

The second in a series of children's books about rescue animals has been published by Kelly Johnson Lee (MSIS). The book, Wags to Riches: Emma Lu, The True Story of a Dog's Journey from a Lonely Highway to Love follows the story of the puppy’s rescue from a lonely highway. Using some of the skills she learned as a student at SILS, Lee manages the website, contributes to the social media efforts, and serves on the board of directors of the Caring Community Foundation, a non-profit that provides financial assistance for cancer patients in need. Lee donates the proceeds of her books to animal rescue efforts. Order your copy now at Authorhouse.com, amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com in print or as an e-book.

2006

Jennifer Lohmann (MSLS), 2010 Romance Writers of America Librarian of the Year and Durham County Library librarian, has released two new novels, Weekends in Carolina and A Promise for the Baby.

Joan Petit (MSLS) published an article titled “A Family-Friendly Study Room for Student-Parents and Their Children at Portland State University Library” in the Oregon Library Association Quarterly.

2007

Thea Allen (MSLS) was appointed Metadata Librarian at the Stanford University School of Medicine's Lane Library, effective November 2013.

The Reverend Janice Hodges (MSLS) was accepted into the master’s degree program at the Duke Divinity School. She plans to ultimately pursue a PhD in the program. She also celebrated the birth of her first grandchild, a girl named Karter Danielle Hodges, in September 2013.
Heather McCullough (MSIS) accepted a new position as Associate Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at UNC Charlotte. In her new role, she will lead the Instructional Programs staff and implement the major instructional programs, large-scale instructional projects, and new initiatives offered by the Center.

Jill Morris (MSLS) is the recipient of the 2013-14 ER&L (Electronic Resources and Libraries)/EBSCO Library Research Fellowship for her project “Making Usage Data Meaningful.” This fellowship is granted through a collaborative effort between EBSCO Information Services and ER&L and provides funding for research on managing electronic resources.

Emily Jack (MSLS), Digital Projects and Outreach Librarian for the Wilson Special Collections Library at UNC, published a book chapter titled “In the Library with the Candlestick: Adapting Clue for the Special Collections Library” that she co-authored with UNC’s Undergraduate Experience Librarian Jonathan McMichael. The chapter was published in the book Games in Libraries: Essays on Using Play to Connect and Instruct.

2008

Johanna Russ (MSLS) left Wayne State University’s Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs in Detroit after five years. In October 2013 she began work as a Senior Archival Specialist at the Chicago Public Library.

2009
Thomas Jones (BSIS) recently began a new job as a Security Specialist for UNC’s Information Technology Services.

David Woodbury (MSIS) was one of the keynote speakers at the 7th Annual Canadian Learning Commons Conference in Quebec, Canada this past June. His presentation was titled “Learning from Hunt Library: Supporting New Literacies.” He also delivered an invited workshop, “Creating Engaging Learning Spaces Through User-Centered Design,” at the American International Consortium of Academic Libraries’ (AMICAL) annual conference in Athens, Greece.

2010
Rachael Posey (MSLS) was appointed pharmacy librarian at UNC-Chapel Hill’s Health Sciences Library, effective June 2014. In her new role, she will identify information needs and provide proactive, client-centered education and research services for the faculty, students, researchers and staff of the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. Prior to this appointment, Posey was the research librarian at the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at UNC-Chapel Hill.

2011
Tyler Dzuba (MSLS) was selected to serve as the inaugural chair of the New Professionals Section (NPS) of the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA) in January 2014. The NPS aims to provide leadership and management opportunities for library professionals at the outset of their careers.

Frances McVay (MSLS) began work in December 2013 as a Library Associate at FHI 360 in downtown Durham. FHI 360 is an international public health NGO, and its librarians support staff located all over the world.

2012
Marla Sullivan (BSIS) has recently earned a new position as production associate at the UNC William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education.

2013
Megan England (MSLS) is leading a Makerspace initiative for the Atlantic City Free Public Library, where she recently spearheaded and won a contract award from the New Jersey Library Association. The $7,500 award, which was augmented by funds from the City of Atlantic City, facilitated the creation of the Makerspace for teenagers.
Welcome Baby Tar Heels

It is love at first sight! **Marisa Ramirez (MSLS ’05)** and Philippe Soenen were thrilled to announce the arrival of a baby girl, Sabina Lyn Soenen, on June 11, 2014. Sabina weighed 7 pounds and was 20 inches long at birth.

On February 8, 2014, **Mike Nutt (MSIS ’11)** and his wife, Ellie Morris, welcomed baby Otis Arthur Morris Nutt to the world. Otis was 5 pounds 10 ounces and 19.75 inches long at birth. Here is Otis hanging out at the Hunt Library on the NC State Campus.

**Michael Fitzgerald (MSLS ’08),** Electronic Services Librarian at the University of the District of Columbia, and wife Katie Fitzgerald, former children’s librarian at the DC Public Library, welcomed Margaret Louise (Meg) on November 28, 2013 (Thanksgiving Day). Meg weighed 7 pounds and 14 ounces and was 20 inches long.

**Charlie (MSIS ’11) and Jill Morris (MSLS ’07)** welcomed their little one, James Robinson Morris, on October 31, 2013, at 7 pounds and 19.5 inches. Charlie is currently the User Experience Developer at NC State University Libraries, and Jill Morris is the Assistant Director of NC LIVE.
Our Commitment to Diversity
In support of the University’s diversity goals and the mission of the School of Information and Library Science, we embrace diversity as an ethical and societal value. We broadly define diversity to include race, gender, national origin, ethnicity, religion, social class, age, sexual orientation and physical and learning ability. We are committed to the development and maintenance of an academic environment that is open, representative, reflective and committed to the concepts of equity and fairness.

We welcome your submissions. If you’ve received an honor or award, moved to a new position, had a baby or have other news to share, please send it to:

news@ils.unc.edu
or mail via the U.S. Postal Service to:

SILS Newsletter
CB #3360
100 Manning Hall
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3360

To ensure your contact information is correct, or to make changes, please visit: sils.unc.edu/alumni/alumni-directory

If you would like to connect with the SILS Alumni Association, contact:

TIFFANY ALLEN
SILSAA President
919.843.5078
twallen@email.unc.edu

Learn more about opportunities for giving to the School of Information and Library Science by contacting:

STEPHANIE COLE
919.843.9378
stephanie_cole@unc.edu

Ways to Give
Giving to SILS is safe and secure, easy and effective.

Online Gifts
Please visit http://giving.unc.edu/gift/sils.
UNC accepts American Express, MasterCard and VISA.

Check
Make checks payable to UNC-CH and notate either “SILS” or a specific SILS initiative in the memo line. Mail your check to UNC School of Information and Library Science, Post Office Box 309, Chapel Hill, NC 27514-0309.