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BitCurator NLP will improve born-digital collection curation
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UNC at ALA Orlando 2016
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UNC alumni Marcia Duncan Lowry and Charles B. Lowry (MSLS ’74) make a historic commitment to SILS
Page 6
**Spring Commencement** – May 8, 2016

Read more at [sils.unc.edu/news/2016/spring-commencement](http://sils.unc.edu/news/2016/spring-commencement)

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**Awards & Recognition**

Elfreda Chatman Research Award
Emma Boettcher
Justin Kreft

Dean’s Achievement Award
Emma Boettcher
Meredith Hale

Outstanding Service to the School Award
Mark Riddle
Rachel Sanders

Deborah Barreau Award for Teaching Excellence
Ron Bergquist (full-time faculty)
Emily Vardell (adjunct faculty)

Distinguished Alumni Award
Tim Shearer (Spring 2016)
Mae Lipscomb Rodney (Fall 2015)

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Read more about Shearer and Rodney on page 31

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**Top row:** Graduates and faculty on the steps of Manning Hall. BSIS graduates lift SILS Assistant Professor Mohammad Hossein Jarrahi on their shoulders to celebrate.

**Second row:** Master’s students wait to approach the stage. Professor Barbara Wildemuth delivers the commencement address. Ron Bergquist accepts the Outstanding Teaching Award from Jarrahi. Ericka Patillo (MSLS ’99, PhD ’16) has her hood straightened by SILS Professor Barbara Moran. Third row: Ashlee Edwards (BSIS ’11, PhD ’16) welcomes graduates and guests to the ceremony. BSIS students listen to the commencement address. Emily Vardell accepts the Outstanding Teaching Award from Jarrahi.

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**Fall Commencement** – December 13, 2015

Read more at [sils.unc.edu/news/2015/fall-commencement](http://sils.unc.edu/news/2015/fall-commencement)

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Left: SILS Dean Gary Marchionini shakes hands with student speaker Olivia Danielle Dorsey (BSIS ’14, MSIS ’15) as she approaches the stage to accept her diploma. Above, left: Dr. Mae Lipscomb Rodney (PhD ’86) delivers the commencement address “Life After SILS.” Dr. Rodney was also honored as a SILS Distinguished Alumna. Read more on page 31.

Above: Graduates, faculty, and honored guests on the steps of Wilson Library.
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Marcia Duncan Lowry and Charles B. Lowry have made a commitment to establish the Duncan-Lowry Deanship at SILS. Read more pages 6-9.
Photo by Jon Gardiner, UNC Chapel Hill

Alumna Profile: Meredith Evans (PhD ’06)
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The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science (SILS) newsletter is published annually in the fall for the School’s alumni and friends.

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

Visit sils.unc.edu/news for the latest news and for expanded stories on many of the faculty, students, and alumni featured in this newsletter.

Sign-up for the SILS alumni listserve by sending a message with the subject SUBSCRIBE to contactsil@unc.edu. Once you have subscribed, you can send/receive using sils-alumni@listserv.unc.edu. Among other communications, you will receive the monthly news@sils e-newsletter.

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: contactsil@unc.edu or mail via the U.S. Postal Service to:
SILS Newsletter
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Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3360

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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. As an academic community committed to preparing our graduates to be leaders in an increasingly multicultural and global society, we strive to ensure inclusive leadership, policies and practices; integrate diversity into the curriculum and research; foster a mutually respectful intellectual environment in which diverse opinions are valued; recruit traditionally underrepresented groups of students, faculty, and staff; and participate in outreach to underserved groups in North Carolina.
Dear Colleagues and Friends:

Greetings from Chapel Hill! As I write this, North Carolina is recovering from Hurricane Matthew, which caused extensive flooding and loss of life. It feels surreal to look into a beautiful Carolina blue sky while so many of our neighbors toward the coast wait in shelters for flood waters to recede so they can begin to repair the extensive damage to their homes and communities. This stark juxtaposition of nature reflects the broad range of opportunities and challenges that we face in this second decade of the 21st century.

With students, faculty, staff, and alumni engaging in information work across the globe, SILS is well-positioned to help meet these demands. We strive to be a melting pot of ideas and perspectives that prepare students to be lifelong learners, problem solvers, and bridges to knowledge. We have much to celebrate and much to achieve as we work to instantiate the #UNCWithMe vision to take the values of service and excellence with us wherever we go.

The past year has given us many reasons to feel proud and optimistic. Our BSIS program continues to attract record numbers of applications, our dual BS-MS program continues to grow, and we are preparing to admit our first cohort of BS students in environmental science to our MSIS program. Our master’s programs have stable enrollments as we work to recruit students who value comprehensive and intensive professional degrees. The Post Master’s Certificate degree in data curation is attracting mid-career information professionals who aim to become data curation leaders in their organizations. This program has also given SILS faculty substantial experience in mounting high-quality online courses. We have proposed a new online master’s degree in digital curation that we hope to launch in the fall of 2017. A new PhD in health informatics has been approved for a fall 2017 launch with SILS as the lead partner with six other campus programs.

We continue to transform Manning Hall as a world-class learning space with classroom renovations built around reconfigurable furniture and high quality cameras, microphones, and projectors that open classes to remote guest speakers and students. Additionally, we have implemented a virtual reality lab with two different VR systems, added a collaborative touch table in the lobby of Manning Hall, and upgraded our maker space 3-D printer and sensor kits in the SILS Library. All of these initiatives follow our strategic plan to insure that SILS is the leading information school in the world.

Our faculty continue to break new ground in research and engagement and this newsletter highlights several of these exciting projects and initiatives. On the R&D side, I am especially excited to see another SILS faculty member, Rob Capra, receive an NSF CAREER Award, and Cal Lee adding natural language processing capabilities to the BitCurator Project with new Mellon Foundation support. Faculty continue to engage with communities on many fronts including Sandra Hughes-Hassell’s leadership on the Steinfirst artist-in-residency program and with YALSA, Mary Grace Flaherty’s Fulbright to Malawi, Zeynep Tufekci’s Carnegie Fellowship project and New York Times columns, Brian Sturm’s Story Squad events in local schools and senior centers, Paul Jones’ ibiblio digital library services, Cliff Missen’s global efforts to bring information to underdeveloped regions of the world through WiderNet, Javed Mostafa’s editorship of the Journal of the Society for Information Science and Technology, and my own Morgan-Claypool book series reaching the 50 volumes milestone.

This year we welcomed Joey Landry and Maggie Hite to our staff and look forward to new faculty members joining us in 2017. We will miss Professors Reagan Moore and Diane Kelly. Reagan retired to accolades for his lifetime of innovation on distributed policy-based repositories, and Diane was appointed director of the ILS program at the University of Tennessee. Ron Bergquist has stepped into the role of Associate Dean and Ryan Shaw has stepped into the position of coordinator of the BSIS program. Our staff continues to excel, with Tiffany Harris winning the 2016 Student Undergraduate Staff Award at UNC, Tammy Cox being named University Manager of the Year, and Brian Nussbaum receiving the UNC IT Award.

SILS alumni continue to take leadership positions in enterprises ranging from libraries to corporations and win awards for their service and creativity. We are especially grateful to our alumni and friends who support the school thorough mentoring, recruiting, and financial contributions. This year SILS was honored by Charles Lowry and Marcia Duncan Lowry, who made the largest commitment in the School’s history, and we look forward to meritng their trust and yours in the years ahead as we continue to make a difference in the information life of all who share the planet.

Sincerely,

Gary Marchionini
Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor
SILS hosts notable speakers

Throughout 2016, SILS brought top researchers and scholars to campus to share their expertise and insights on the latest breakthroughs, innovations, and findings in the library and information science field. Among the many engaging events, SILS hosted the 2016 Kilgour Lecture in September with HCI and information visualization pioneer Ben Shneiderman discussing his latest book, *The New ABCs of Research: Achieving Breakthrough Collaborations*. Shneiderman gave an additional talk on interactive visual discovery in event analytics. Also in September, Bebo White, Departmental Associate Emeritus at Stanford University's SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, gave a talk on Bitcoin and Blockchain. SILS alumnus Cassidy R. Sugimoto (MSLS ’07, PhD ’10), Associate Professor at the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University Bloomington, delivered the 2016 Henderson Lecture, “‘What Does it Matter Who is Speaking?’ Disparity and Disruption in Scholarly Communication,” in October. SILS also hosted the Steinfirst Lecture in 2016 (see more on pages 10-11).

“Again and again, the evidence keeps popping up to me and others that the way to get big research breakthroughs is to work on real problems.”

–Ben Shneiderman, 2016 Kilgour Lecture

“The worst possible thing to do in science right now is to be a woman, and to write alone.”

–Cassidy Sugimoto, referring to statistics that show articles by female authors are far less likely to be cited than those by male authors, in her 2016 Henderson Lecture.

“This whole topic of Bitcoin and Blockchain has gotten me just about as excited as I was about the [start of] the web.”

–Bebo White

Connect with SILS on LinkedIn

To help promote the School to prospective students and to strengthen connections with alumni, SILS has created a LinkedIn for Education page. All alumni and current students are encouraged to link directly to the SILS page in the education section of their profiles.

Go to LinkedIn.com, log in to your profile, and scroll down to the section labeled Education. Click + Add Education and in the “School” box, type SILS or begin typing UNC School of Information and Library Science. A list of options should appear including the SILS page. For more detailed directions, visit sils.unc.edu/news/2016/linkedin-launch.

Connecting directly to SILS in the education section of your profile will help raise the School’s overall reputation and standing on this increasingly influential platform.

SILS partnering with Heels for Homes

SILS students, faculty, staff, and alumni are invited to help raise money and roofs as part of an effort to build 10 new homes and complete repairs on 25 homes in Chapel Hill’s Northside Neighborhood. SILS is a partner in the Heels for Homes project, a yearlong initiative of Habitat for Humanity of Orange County and UNC Habitat for Humanity. For more information, visit sils.unc.edu/news/2016/heels-4-homes or email Susan Sylvester at ssylvest@email.unc.edu. Information on fundraising and group builds will also be shared through the SILS email listserves and social media.
On October 27, the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) announced the commitment by Charles B. Lowry (MSLS ’74) and Marcia Duncan Lowry to establish the Duncan-Lowry Deanship at SILS. The commitment is the largest in the School’s history and the first at Carolina to be designated for a deanship. SILS students, faculty, staff, and alumni gathered in the lobby of Manning Hall for the public celebration, which included remarks from SILS Dean Gary Marchionini and UNC Vice Chancellor and Provost James Dean Jr.

“Without a doubt, SILS is an extraordinary part of our great global public research university,” said the Provost. “And it is devoted alumni and donors like the Lowrys who help us ensure its continued excellence into the future.”

He explained the importance of UNC’s upcoming capital campaign, describing it as a “mechanism to articulate our strategic vision for the future of Carolina and harness the enthusiasm of our alumni and friends to provide the resources that will enable us to deliver on those promises.” Following his comments, he unveiled a framed proclamation that summarizes the Lowrys’ motivations for establishing the Duncan-Lowry Deanship, their previous professional contributions, and the historic significance of their commitment.

Charles Lowry shared more about what inspired him and Marcia Duncan Lowry to make their commitment to SILS. He credited his friend and mentor, former SILS Dean Edward Holley, who advocated the philosophy of doing things “for the good of the order.” He also cited his and Marcia’s experiences as fundraisers for the academic institutions where Charles previously held leadership roles.

“Our intent was informed by the understanding that strategic opportunities in universities are often missed because of the lack of resources,” he said. “I certainly learned this as a dean or director of five different university libraries and as interim dean of the iSchool at the University of Maryland. This shaped our desire to support a named deanship at SILS, one that would adhere to the position and not the individual—one that would provide discretionary resources when those strategic opportunities to support teaching, research, new programs, students, and faculty occur.”

Marchionini closed the event by once again thanking the Lowrys and recognizing the enduring legacy of Holley’s “good of the order” directive. “This notion that we’re all part of something larger really does imbue the way that we work, and it’s a very special culture that exists here,” he said. “I am so happy that Ed and others that came before us were able to lay down the foundation for that culture, and inspire people like Charles to believe in that and remember it, because it continues to pay dividends.”

Later in the day the Lowrys were again honored at a private dinner hosted in the SILS Library. Commendations and toasts were offered by Dean Marchionini, as well as Vice Chancellor for University Development David Routh.

In addition to their financial commitment, the Lowrys have agreed to serve as co-chairs of the SILS’ committee for the upcoming university-wide capital campaign. SILS’ dean, faculty and some of the School’s closest leadership alumni and supporters have identified $16 million worth of specific, discrete fundraising priorities that will maximize the student experience, ensure that SILS is the preferred choice of the world’s most outstanding faculty, and build an intentional culture of innovation and impact.

“Without a doubt, SILS is an extraordinary part of our great global public research university. And it is devoted alumni and donors like the Lowrys who help us ensure its continued excellence into the future.”

–UNC Vice Chancellor and Provost James Dean Jr.
“Our intent was informed by the understanding that strategic opportunities in universities are often missed because of the lack of resources.”

–Charles B. Lowry (MSLS ’74)
Ask Charles B. Lowry to tell you about his favorite UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) faculty members, and you will probably be in for a long and pleasant chat as he lists nearly every professor he had while completing his MSLS at Carolina. Fred Roper and Dean Edward Holley team taught the management class, and Jerry Orne invited renowned guest speakers who gave students a deep understanding of how publishing worked. Doralyn Hickey’s cataloging class provided a glimpse of the future through its examination of the impending effects of automation, and Martin Dillon’s automation class that included PL1 programming helped Charles understand how computing capabilities would become part of the world of librarianship. Among all these fine educators, Dean Holley made the most significant impact.

“Ed Holley, for me, became a true friend and mentor for as long as he lived,” Charles said. “Everyone always says he was such a wonderful guy, but he also had a keen intellect and was an enormously effective leader. He understood the role of leadership and management, and to a very great extent I’ve attempted to live by his example.”

Ask Marcia Duncan Lowry to describe how she forged ties to UNC, and her face will light up as she recalls two of the happiest days of her life. First, the day she received a phone call telling her that she had landed her dream job as a humanities reference librarian specializing in art and architecture at UNC Charlotte’s Atkins Library. It was the perfect fit for the interests she had developed while earning her MSLS from Florida State University (FSU), which had allowed her to spend six months in Florence, Italy, studying art. The second was the day she received the letter that she had been accepted to UNC Chapel Hill’s master’s program in art history.

“My experience in the art history department was wonderful,” she said. “It fulfilled everything I was looking for. I learned how to truly do scholarly research. I learned about critical thinking and analysis and how to craft and defend an argument, and how to write and document in a scholarly fashion. From that experience I gained lifelong skills, which I later applied as an editor of a library journal. I have been affiliated with UNC as a student and as a professional, and I don’t think you could ask for a better combination. My appreciation for Carolina is for those lifelong gifts.”

Charles B. Lowry (MSLS ’74) and Marcia Duncan Lowry: Life-changing gifts from Carolina inspire historic commitment to SILS

Ask Marcia Duncan Lowry to describe how she forged ties to UNC, and her face will light up as she recalls two of the happiest days of her life. First, the day she received a phone call telling her that she had landed her dream job as a humanities reference librarian specializing in art and architecture at UNC Charlotte’s Atkins Library. It was the perfect fit for the interests she had developed while earning her MSLS from Florida State University (FSU), which had allowed her to spend six months in Florence, Italy, studying art. The second was the day she received the letter that she had been accepted to UNC Chapel Hill’s master’s program in art history.

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The affection that Charles and Marcia developed for Carolina early in their careers has endured, grown, and deepened, ultimately inspiring them to make the commitment to establish the Duncan-Lowry Deanship at SILS. The commitment is the largest in the School’s history and the first at Carolina to be designated for a deanship.

“When we were reviewing our lives, together and individually, SILS became a natural choice,” Marcia said. “The point of a legacy is to provide a pathway for future generations. It says ‘This is what we did and what we believe in, and we hope this will encourage you in your own journey down this path.’”

Careers at the center of academia and change

Charles enrolled in SILS after developing an appreciation for the work of librarians while earning his PhD in history at the University of Florida. After graduating from UNC in 1974, he embarked on a career that included serving as director of libraries at Elon College, University of South Alabama, and University of Texas at Arlington (UTA); university librarian at Carnegie Mellon University; dean of libraries at the University of Maryland (UMD); and executive director of the Association of Research Libraries in Washington, D.C. He made numerous, influential contributions to teaching, scholarship, and editorial work in the field, and the SILS Alumni Association recognized him as a Distinguished Alumnus in 2001.

Marcia was drawn to working in higher education, and librarianship offered the chance to be at the center of all types of scholarly work, as well as the opportunity to interact with faculty and students. Over the course of her career, she held management positions in both public and university libraries, as well as leadership roles in art librarianship and preservation. She maintained a special affinity for academic librarianship and spent the last years of her career as managing/copy editor of portal: Libraries and the Academy (Johns Hopkins University Press).

She was also an active partner in development activities related to Charles’ senior academic leadership roles, particularly at UTA and UMD, where they successfully coordinated endeavors for the libraries’ involvement in two major university capital campaigns. Her work on the Friends of the UTA Libraries publicity won the ALA’s John Cotton Dana Public Relations Special Award in 1988.

Charles’ and Marcia’s careers coincided with a radical transformation of the library and information science field. Today, instead of heading to the card catalog, people start their searches for information online. This is only possible, Charles points out, thanks to an untold amount of planning, organization, and work done by information professionals, who continue to provide the crucial “human interface” to the digital world.

Despite the echoing cry that the Internet will make (or already has made) libraries obsolete, Marcia and Charles believe the opposite to be true. “In my experience, every step in automation that we did, everything that moved us toward online information, resulted in an immediate increase in people using the library,” he said. “As you make it easier to get information, people want more information.”

This growing appetite means the roles of library and information science professionals will continue to expand as they work to ensure continued access, improve searchability, evaluate resources, navigate copyright law, preserve historical artifacts, manage crucial data and research repositories, and more.

“Our hallmark is we are an evolving profession,” Marcia said. “We have our finger on the pulse, always have, and it will stay there.”

Looking forward, giving back

Having witnessed so many changes, Marcia and Charles do not claim to know exactly what is coming next, but they are confident that SILS and its graduates are well-positioned to play a vital role in that future.

That’s part of why they have committed both financial and personal resources to supporting the School. Charles agreed to serve as a member of the SILS Board of Visitors in 2012 and later as its chair. Now he and Marcia will co-chair the committee that will help steer SILS’ efforts during the university-wide capital campaign.

Their other motivation comes from the gratitude they feel for what Carolina did for them, and for the rewarding careers that followed. “You have some obligation to give to the world that gave something to you,” Charles said. “No one makes it on their own.”

“We all stand on the shoulders of others,” Marcia added.
Expanding the Steinfirst Vision

Residency program connects acclaimed author with local students for exceptional learning collaboration

“Let ’em know you’re here.”

That’s what author Matt de la Peña wrote on the wall of the Mt. Vernon Middle School Library on the last day of his residency there. It’s the distillation of a message he strove to impart to the 14 student-writers selected to work with him for the week—that your voice matters and you should amplify it.

“He connected with the students in such an authentic and touching way,” said SILS Professor Sandra Hughes-Hassell. “You could see them grow in their comfort with him, but also with their own voices. They went from writing very tentatively to being absorbed and trusting what they had to say. They became willing to share with him, with each other, and with us. It was just amazing to see the things they produced, and to watch them begin to see themselves as writers and see that they had ideas that mattered.”

De la Peña’s time at the Wake County middle school marked the inaugural implementation of the Steinfirst Artist-in-Residency Program, an expansion of the Susan Steinfirst Memorial Lecture in Children’s Literature series, which SILS has hosted since 1998. The lecture and residency honor the late Susan Steinfirst, a SILS professor from 1976 to 1996, who dedicated her life to the promotion of children’s literature by teaching future librarians and publishing scholarly works.

Professor Steinfirst’s niece, Julia Steinfirst Howard, approached Hughes-Hassell and Associate Professor Brian Sturm about ways to further develop the lecture in 2014. Howard and her husband, John, made a gift that partly funded the expansion.

“I really admired Brian and Sandra’s vision to take this from behind the podium and into the classroom,” Julia Howard said. “It’s especially important these days when children and young adults have so much screen time. By giving students this opportunity, to have an author or illustrator come into their school, sit side-by-side with them, talk directly to them, write with them or draw with them, that hands-on work, it just gives them that tangible aspect of learning that otherwise might not be possible. I’m pleased that you can put a real human being with their talent and craft together with the people who are the stakeholders in that endeavor.”

Stivers had the 14 students, who had committed to working directly with de la Peña, read some of his works before his arrival, and made sure the entire student body had some familiarity with the author in anticipation of meeting him on the school’s career day.

Another key contributor to the program’s success was current MSLS student Glenna Matteson, who is working under the guidance of Hughes-Hassell and Sturm thanks to the support of the Drs. Barbara and Robert S. Martin Research Assistant program. Hughes-Hassell said Matteson’s support was invaluable in the planning of the residency and lecture, and the execution of both endeavors. For Matteson, the projects provided ideal preparation for the career she wants to have as a public librarian.

“The best thing this work has shown me is how to communicate and coordinate effectively, that it’s not difficult or intimidating to go out into the ‘real world’ and say ‘we have this idea, what can we do to make it a reality?’,” she said. “I feel very lucky to be afforded this chance to work with students, authors, librarians, and members of the community. I wasn’t expecting to get a position that encompassed so much of what I wanted to do. It is a unique opportunity that I don’t think I would have been afforded anywhere else.”

The impact of de la Peña’s residency was immediately apparent, and has the potential to be long lasting. Within a few days of working with the author, students were standing taller and smiling more. Challenging exercises provoked powerful responses. One student proclaimed he wanted to be an author; another usually stoic student burst into tears after a de la Peña gave her a well-deserved compliment. Beyond the observable, Stivers had the participants complete a writing and reading self-efficacy evaluation before and after the experience, and 100% of them chose a higher value to describe their writing ability after working with de la Peña.

“You could see them grow in their comfort with him, but also with their own voices. They went from writing very tentatively to being absorbed and trusting what they had to say.”

—Dr. Sandra Hughes-Hassell

Hughes-Hassell and Sturm said the first artist-in-residency program was a tremendous success, in part because they found the right author to pair with the right students. Today, de la Peña is a New York Times bestselling author of six critically-acclaimed young adult novels and the 2016 Newbery Award winner for the picture book Last Stop on Market Street. But growing up, he was the son of two working-class parents and was more interested in basketball than books. De la Peña was able to share stories about his own life that resonated with the students and helped them develop an authentic connection with him, Sturm said.

The students were well-prepared for de la Peña’s visit thanks to preliminary work done by Mt. Vernon school librarian and SILS alumna Julie Stivers (MSLS ’15).
Sharing the Steinfirst success beyond the Triangle

Not only will the Steinfirst Artist-in-Residency Program benefit students in the Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill areas, but it will also serve as a model for how school and public libraries across the country can coordinate similar experiences. During the week of the residency, Mt. Vernon librarian Julie Stivers (MSLS ’15) and others shared highlights on Twitter using the hashtag #MdP Writers. Stivers also wrote about the experience in her column for School Library Journal’s “Teen Librarian Toolbox” (bit.ly/mdlpwriters).

The planning and execution of the residency has been documented and shared at steinfirstartistresidency.web.unc.edu. Future residencies will also be chronicled on the site, and organizers are promoting the program to librarians across the country. Sandra Hughes-Hassell gave the keynote address focusing on the project at the Conference on Inclusion and Diversity in Library and Information Science in October. SILS post-doctoral researcher Casey Rawson (MSLS ’11, PhD ’16) edited a video about the residency, which is available on the SILS YouTube (youtube.com/uncsils) and Vimeo channels (vimeo.com/uncsils/steinfirst-residency).

Lecture moves off campus and into the community

For the first time since its introduction, the Steinfirst Memorial Lecture moved off campus to the main branch of the Durham County Public Library. Author Matt de la Peña delivered a talk titled “Reading (and Writing) from the Wrong Side of the Tracks,” on Sunday, March 13. The location and date were chosen to attract a larger and more diverse audience, and to introduce more members of the community to SILS. Durham County Library Teen Librarian and SILS alumna Faith Burns (MSLS ’15) helped make the event possible. She and current SILS student Glenna Matteson also worked with teens at the library to introduce them to de la Peña’s writing before the talk, helping to create an audience that was engaged and eager to hear more about his experiences.

2017 RESIDENCY

The Steinfirst Artist-in-Residency Program will bring children’s book author, poet, and photographer Charles R. Smith to work with students at Chapel Hill’s Northside Elementary School, where SILS alumna Kathryn Cole (MSLS ’07) is the school librarian. Learn more about Smith at charliersmithjr.com. Follow the 2017 residency’s progress at steinfirstartistresidency.web.unc.edu. No public lecture is planned for 2017.
Sandra Hughes-Hassell receives IMLS grant for Project READY

SILS Professor Sandra Hughes-Hassell has been awarded a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to develop a continuing education curriculum that will enable school librarians to become more culturally competent educators.

“Project READY: Reimagining Equity and Access for Diverse Youth—A Professional Development Curriculum,” will receive $569,583 through the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarians Program. Hughes-Hassell will direct the project, working with faculty members from SILS and North Carolina Central University (NCCU), as well as staff from the Wake County Public School System (WCPS). The team will design, implement, and evaluate a professional development curriculum that combines in-person and online experiences, and which will ultimately be distributed for free to libraries and school districts across the country.

“The curriculum will help school librarians and their collaborative partners better understand how race and culture affect learning, how they can implement culturally responsive teaching, and how they can demonstrate their commitment to equity literacy,” Hughes-Hassell said. “Through their transformed practice, we hope to improve the educational experiences and outcomes for K-12 youth of color, who current research shows often feel like outsiders in library spaces.”

Project READY launched in June 2016 and will continue through May 2019, but the resulting curriculum and knowledge gained will make an impact for years to come. The IMLS funding provides support for current SILS doctoral student Kimberly Hirsch, as well as post-doctoral scholar Casey Rawson (MSLS ’11, PhD ’16), who is co-principal investigator on the project, leading the development of the curriculum and the online modules.

New book blends research and real-life examples

Libraries, Literacy, and African American Youth aims to aid in the development of culturally responsive school and library programs with the goal of helping to close the achievement gap and improve the quality of life for African American youth.

Drs. Sandra Hughes-Hassell (SILS), Pauletta Brown Bracy (NC Central University), and Casey Rawson (SILS) merge their own work with the findings of other researchers and practitioners. Exemplary programs are highlighted to help readers understand how to put theory and research-based best practices into action and adapt them to meet the needs of their communities.

Julie Stivers (MSLS ’16), Faith Burns (MSLS ’16), Heather Cunningham (MSLS ’11), and SILS Distinguished Alumna Demetria Tucker (MSLS ’78) wrote chapters for the book.

SILS doctoral students bring StorySlam to UNC

StorySlam, an event where volunteers compete by telling brief personal stories related to a theme, made its debut at UNC this spring, thanks to the efforts of the SILS Doctoral Student Association (DSA) and SILS PhD student Sarah Beth Nelson.

About 20 people, mostly UNC undergraduates, gathered on April 14 in the art gallery of the Carolina Union for the inaugural event, which focused on the theme of “Experiment.”

“Open mic themes are always best when they can be interpreted in many ways, so you get a variety of stories,” Nelson said. “I chose ‘Experiment’ because I was hoping to get some science folks interested, but experiment can also refer to plenty of situations outside of science, and lots of experimentation happens in college, so I thought it would be a theme students could relate to.”

Nelson, who is active in the local and national storytelling communities, said the idea for the StorySlam originated the summer before she came to SILS when she met Carolyn Stearns, founder of the Connecticut Campus Slammers.

“Carolyn has a dream of spreading campus slams across the nation, and I told her I would see what I could do in North Carolina,” Nelson said. “I am so excited that we were able to have a story slam here at UNC this year.”

DSA cosponsored the event with the Carolina Union Activities Board, which arranged the venue and provided snacks and small prizes for the winners. DSA recruited the judges, and Nelson served as host for the event. Six volunteers competed, sharing stories about injuries, social experiments, and trying new things.

“One young man talked about how he and his sister had experimented with play-arguing when they were young,” Nelson said. “It turned into a real argument, without him realizing it, and his sister snuck him a peanut-butter and wasabi sandwich.”

Nelson hopes StorySlam will become an annual event, and that she can find another university willing to compete with the UNC slammers. She has reached out to a few nearby campuses to see who might be up for the challenge.
Story Squad expands outreach with support from James Patterson and Scholastic Reading Club

Adapted from a story by Brandon Bieltz, UNC Chapel Hill Communications

Whenever SILS Associate Professor Brian Sturm and his students walk into Estes Hills Elementary School ready to tell a story, librarian Laura Fox (MSLS ’05) prepares for a spike in students browsing the shelves.

“I find out through the students what’s been read because they want to get the book,” said Fox. “They’re excited about reading it once they hear the story.”

Story Squad, a literacy outreach program directed by Sturm, brings storytelling to schools, public libraries, day care centers, and senior citizen homes. Last year, Story Squad began telling folktales to first grade students at Estes Elementary in Chapel Hill as a way to pique their interest not just in the genre, but in different cultures.

After receiving a $5,000 grant from author James Patterson and the Scholastic Reading Club to grow the folktale section of the library, Sturm and Fox have been able to bring more folktales to an even younger audience this year. As the library purchased folktales designed for lower grades, Story Squad began making weekly visits to the school’s three kindergarten classes to get students excited for the genre.

“Our folktales tend to be on the higher side as far as reading level—they’re more for fourth or fifth grade,” Fox said. “The goal was to get the younger readers involved, to get them excited about these stories. Folktales are rich, and they can be complex stories, so maybe a little less likely for a student to choose. With Story Squad coming, that builds the excitement and the students’ desire to get those books. It’s exciting for me to see that, and it’s exciting for the students to feel like the folktale section of the library belongs to them, too.”

Sturm and the Story Squad members don’t just read pages from the books, they present a performance, with sound effects and unique voices for every character.

“My philosophy about story telling is that it’s not about the plot, it’s about the emotions,” Sturm said. “It’s the emotional connection with the audience that’s the powerful communication tool.”

It’s a style that quickly draws in the kindergarteners.

“This is fun because it’s a special weekly event,” said kindergarten teacher Claire Ross. “They look forward to him coming, and they know that they’re going to actively participate in the story with him. He lets them make funny noises, and they love his movements. The children really have just taken to it. They are completely zoned in when he’s speaking. He has all 20 of them: their attention, their eyes, their ears, their bodies are facing him. They want to know what happens next.”

And then, like clockwork, Fox will get another surge of students looking for the tales the Story Squad told.

Fireside Tales to Warm Your Heart

Come enjoy a fun, family-friendly evening of storytelling and music.

Thursday, December 8

5:00-6:30 p.m.
Wilson Library, Pleasants Family Room

WATCH a video about Story Squad’s visits to Estes Elementary at youtube.com/UNCChapelHill (search Story Squad) or at bit.ly/story-squad-16

SILS alumnus has “monstrous” book debut

Mark Riddle (MSLS ’16) is the author of a new picture book published by Enchanted Lion Books in November. Margarash, illustrated by Tim Miller, is about a young boy and a seemingly-nasty monster who realize they need each other. The book has garnered praise from critics, with Kirkus Reviews saying, “Riddle’s prose provides a strong momentum overall, driving page turns and inspiring Miller’s whimsical, childlike illustrations…A sweet tale of a mutual passion and an unlikely friendship.” Riddle, who was born in Australia and lived in Taiwan and Turkey before coming to North Carolina, now works for Chatham Community Library as part of the two-person Youth Services Team for the three libraries in Pittsboro, Goldston, and Siler City.
SILS Assistant Professor Mary Grace Flaherty will use her Fulbright award to study how people acquire and evaluate health information sources in Malawi. While conducting interviews and collecting data, she will teach and advise students at Mzuzu University.

“T is very exciting for this opportunity,” said Flaherty. “To date, my research and teaching on health information seeking and provision has been focused in the United States, and I’m eager to expand my horizons internationally and learn from new colleagues about this universally important topic.”

Flaherty will conduct research in Malawi from January to May 2017, partnering with Mzuzu University and the Kwithu Women’s Group, a community-based organization focused on HIV-AIDS. Her project has two objectives, to explore individuals’ health beliefs and how they are influenced and changed with contradictory information, and to understand which sources of information (including informal sources such as neighbors and ministers) are most valued and trusted by HIV-positive individuals who choose faith-based treatment instead of antiretroviral medication.

“In northern Malawi, several sources have reported that dozens of people have gone off their antiretroviral medications in favor of faith-based, non-medical interventions and subsequently died,” Flaherty said. “In these example cases, empirical evidence makes it clear that rejecting medical guidelines can lead to death, and yet, people continue to make such choices. A better understanding of how people are exposed to, weigh, and evaluate differing information sources can provide a basis for more effective health education efforts and health information delivery.”

SILS alumna Joan Petit (MSLS ’06) and her family departed for Ethiopia in September and will stay through June 2017. Petit, an Associate Professor and Librarian at Portland State University, will be based in the Information Science Department at Jimma University, where she will teach and research.

“Jimma University is an ideal host for my project,” Petit said. “Their information sciences program is one of the few in Ethiopia that offers library and information science education at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The university is well-established and offers a range of programs serving a large number of students.”

Petit will teach information science classes, train staff, and work with the Jimma University Library, as well as conduct a research project focusing on open educational resources in Ethiopia. Open educational resources (OER) are course materials authored by faculty and made available online for free use and adaptation by instructors at other institutions. However, in less economically developed countries, infrastructure limitations can be a barrier to the adaptation and use of OER.

“The city of Jimma is several hours away from the Ethiopian capital and lacks the internet and power infrastructure that follows expats, tourists, and NGOs,” Petit said. “If OER can work well at Jimma, it suggests OER may be a reasonable option for higher education elsewhere in Ethiopia, East Africa, and beyond.”

Petit holds an MSLS and BA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, as well as an MA in English from Western Carolina University. She previously lived abroad for two years when she worked as a librarian at the American University in Cairo.

SILS has strong presence at IFLA events

SILS was well-represented at International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) events in August. Alumni Jennifer Manning (MSLS ’91), Sundeep Mahendra (MSLS ’10), and current master’s student Anna Groves were instrumental in the execution of the 32nd Annual Pre-Conference of the IFLA Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments (IFLAParl) held at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Manning served on a year-long planning committee and as a session emcee, Mahendra helped build and maintain an extensive website, blog, and email and registration system, and Groves, a summer intern, helped pull everything together. IFLAParl welcomed over 150 delegates from almost 50 parliaments and international organizations on six continents.

SILS Assistant Professor Mary Grace Flaherty gave the keynote on a panel presentation about public library services to multicultural populations at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in Columbus, Ohio. “Here, There and Everywhere: Disasters and Public Libraries,” a paper based on her talk can be found at library.ifl a.org/id/eprint/1375. SILS Librarian Rebecca Vargha and several SILS alumni also participated in the conference, including: Gerald Holmes (MSLS ’85), Reference Librarian and Diversity Coordinator for University Libraries, UNC Greensboro; Carla Y. Davis-Castro (MSLS ’14), Librarian for the Indigenous Law Portal, Library of Congress; Mary White (MSLS ’04), Global Public Health Librarian at UNC’s Health Sciences Library; Meg Phillips (MSLS ’97), External Affairs Liaison, National Archives and Records Administration; Kate McNamara (MSLS ’13), Research Specialist at the U.S. Census Bureau, who attended as a national fellowship grantee; and Mea Warren (MSLS ’15), Natural Science and Mathematics Librarian, University of Houston.
SILS adds new summer seminar focusing on information enterprises in Germany and Ireland

SILS is introducing a new international summer seminar for 2017 that will focus on the ways information gathering, dissemination, privacy, and security affect businesses.

Participants will travel to Dublin and Berlin, getting behind-the-scenes access to global technology companies in each city and participating in educational and cultural activities made possible by SILS’ partnerships with University College Dublin and Humboldt University of Berlin. The seminar is an exciting addition, not only because of its information-science focus, but also because students will have the chance to explore the subject in two different countries.

“The Dublin/Berlin summer seminar will give participants an opportunity to gain a pan-cultural view of information technology operations,” said SILS Dean Gary Marchionini. “It will offer especially valuable insights through visits to international companies in both an English and a non-English speaking country. Whether they are current professionals or students about to launch their information science careers, participants should find the perspectives offered by this program extremely useful.”

SILS Professor Paul Jones will lead the seminar, which is available for three (3) hours of credit. As with all SILS’ summer seminars, the program is open to students and professionals and participants do not need to be affiliated with SILS.

“Study abroad is a challenging adventure that provides endless opportunities for both personal and academic growth,” said SILS International Programs Coordinator Kaitlyn Murphy. “The visits to tech companies in Dublin and Berlin will allow on-site learning about global information, communication, and technology straight from the corporations who deal with these issues on a global scale every day. And our partnership with Humboldt and UCD will allow students to experience another iSchool in an international context.”

The two-week seminar will begin in Berlin with the arrival of students on May 22. Participants will tour behind the scenes at Berlin-based global companies and attend presentations by experts in the field of information in Germany. There will also be an organized daytrip to Potsdam, which includes a visit to Sanssouci Palace and park.

Participants will travel by plane on May 30 to Dublin, and will remain in Dublin until the program concludes on June 6. In Dublin, participants will visit additional businesses and partake in lectures from Irish information professionals. Weekends will be free and other free time will be built into the program so that participants can explore on their own.

For more information, visit sils.unc.edu/programs/international

Malawian innovator and author William Kamkwamba working with WiderNet to bridge the know-do gap

When the repercussions of a drought in his home country of Malawi forced him to drop out of school, William Kamkwamba turned to his local library to keep his mind engaged. There, he fed his love for engineering and electronics, and found inspiration to build a windmill that could power electrical appliances in his home. This project drew international media attention and opened a world of new educational opportunities.

In early 2016, Kamkwamba began working with the non-profit WiderNet Project and the WiderNet@UNC research lab at SILS to create learning modules for the eGranary, a server that provides offline access to millions of videos, documents, and websites. SILS Associate Professor and WiderNet Director Cliff Missen said Kamkwamba is helping address the know-do gap.

“Sometimes students are only interested in the knowledge they need to pass their exams,” said Kamkwamba. “That’s a good thing, but I want to see if I can encourage people to take one step further and use the information they’ve learned to make a meaningful project in their own community or to solve a problem.”

After the story of his windmill circulated widely on the Internet, Kamkwamba was invited to deliver a talk at TEDGlobal 2007. His speech moved the audience, and several venture capitalists pledged to finance his education. Ultimately, he graduated from Dartmouth College in 2014.

Kamkwamba has shared his story in the book, *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, as well as through interviews with media outlets. He was also the subject of the docu-
SILS and ENEC partner on dual-degree in environmental informatics

SILS and the UNC Curriculum for the Environment and Ecology (ENEC) have partnered to create a dual-degree program in environmental informatics. Students will earn a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and a Master of Science in Information Science, a particularly valuable combination in an age where data management and smart grid technology industries depend on a knowledgeable workforce to meet their needs.

“Data science is really important to a wide range of environmental fields, but especially for energy and water, which in turn correspond to smart cities and ecological informatics,” said Greg Gangi, Associate Director for Education and Clinical Assistant Professor at the UNC Institute for the Environment. “Dual-degree students will acquire a very unique skillset that will position them well for the job market, or provide an excellent foundation for doctoral research.”

Caroline Hall, an environmental science major planning to pursue the dual degree, said she believes the MSIS will give her a broader set of skills for managing the constantly growing amount of data that renewable energy companies contend with regarding their development and operations.

“It’s my goal to work with a solar energy company and to bring a new perspective to the table by having the interest and knowledge of the environmental sciences degree, but also the ability to understand the informational flow of the company from the master’s program,” she said.

Kathleen Lowry, another undergraduate who intends to earn the dual degree, said she hopes to combine her passion for energy and sustainability with a better understanding of how information systems function and how information is relayed to people.

“I see the MSIS helping me develop the skills to communicate information to people and achieve a comprehensive understanding of how these systems integrate in our lives,” she said. “I would like to focus these understandings to renewable energy systems. I think pursuing a career in consulting will allow me to achieve my goals and execute what I learn during my studies in a way that allows me to help others.”

PhD in Health Informatics launching soon

The Carolina Health Informatics Program (CHIP) has received approval to offer a PhD in health informatics. Students should begin enrolling in 2017. Drawing upon the academic and research strengths of UNC, the new doctoral program will emphasize advanced database management, analytics methods and evaluation, and human-computer interaction.

The program is structured to provide students with opportunities to gain experience in interdisciplinary research, teaching, and project administration. It includes rigorous coursework prior to dissertation research and is designed to adapt to the diverse needs of program students. The coursework portion of the program is based upon five content pillars:
1. Core and frontier topics in health informatics (foundational concepts of informatics)
2. Tools and infrastructure (advanced techniques for manipulating health data)
3. Research methods and execution of research
4. Project management and academic leadership skills
5. Implementation science and translation.

CHIP is an interdisciplinary research and training program that plays a key role in fulfilling UNC-Chapel Hill’s commitment to improving human health through health informatics research, data sharing, development, and education. CHIP draws faculty, health care professionals, and students from across the UNC campus to conduct basic and translational research and to offer graduate training in health informatics for scientists across the disciplines and for clinicians in medicine, nursing, public health, dentistry, and pharmacy.

SILS Professor Javed Mostafa directs the CHIP program, with SILS Associate Professor David Gotz serving as assistant director. The program draws faculty from SILS, the Gillings School of Global Public Health, School of Nursing, School of Medicine, Eshelman School of Pharmacy, School of Dentistry, and Department of Computer Science.

For more information about the PhD program, visit chip.unc.edu/phd-hi

For more information on the dual degree, visit dualesis.web.unc.edu.
SILS is moving forward with the development of a new Professional Science Master’s (PSM) degree program, with hopes of launching in 2017. The PSM in Digital Curation—the first of its kind in the United States—will be offered completely online and will help meet the rapidly expanding educational and organizational needs created by the so-called data deluge of the 21st century.

“It’s focused on curating and stewarding digital content,” said SILS Alumni Distinguished Professor Helen Tibbo, the PSM’s director. “We’ve designed it to be useful for people working in libraries, archives, and museums—our usual audience—but we equally expect to see people working in RTP [Research Triangle Park] and similar places where companies are dealing with large amounts of digital information.”

A feasibility study conducted in preparation for the degree underscored “a shortage of digitally literate professionals and increasing demand from employers seeking professionals to manage digital collections in libraries, museums, media organizations, public offices, research institutions, hospitals, law firms, and private companies.”

The number of educational initiatives in digital curation remains low, particularly those geared toward novices and midcareer professionals.

“Every organization everywhere in the world needs to manage its digital content, and manage it in such a way that it remains authentic and reusable over time,” Tibbo said. “This goes beyond the IT perspective, where you’re looking at capacity and storage. This focuses on the content itself, how to make it accessible in the future, what file formats to choose, how it can be ingested into your repository, what metadata can be added so you can find the information you need again. These are all archival principles and we have developed workflows to make the process successful. Organizations often don’t think this way, though, so this is going to meet a huge need.”

The PSM will be a 30-credit hour degree program providing the core skills, knowledge, and competencies for managing, preserving, and adding value to the growing body of society’s digital assets.

SILS expects many of the students to be working professionals who will pursue the degree on a part-time basis, and since the program is completely online, students may literally be coming from anywhere in the world.

Why is Carolina the ideal place for the country’s 1st Professional Science Master’s Degree in Digital Curation?

Our faculty are world-renowned experts and pioneers in the areas of digital preservation, data curation, archival administration, digital forensics, and electronic records management. SILS and UNC have long-standing reputations for excellence and innovation in educational programming, scholarly research, and practical applications of digital content stewardship. Such preeminence cannot be precisely quantified, but numbers from some recent events and projects certainly reinforce the standing. iPRES2015, the 12th International Conference on Digital Preservation held in Chapel Hill, drew 327 participants from 22 countries. Just six months after its launch in March, the Research Data Management and Sharing (RDMS) Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) had attracted nearly 9,000 visitors and engaged over 2,225 learners; 510 people had completed the entire course and 276 had paid to receive a statement of accomplishment; and the course had received a 4.5 out of 5 stars rating. Since its introduction in 2009, the annual DigCCurr Professional Institute—which fosters skills, knowledge, and community among professionals responsible for the curation of digital materials—has drawn 249 participants from 9 countries and 33 states. BitCurator, BitCurator Access, and BitCurator NLP have been made possible by 4 major grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The most recent review by U.S. News & World Report of library and information studies programs ranked SILS #1 in Archives and Preservation and #1 in Digital Librarianship. In 2016, SILS presented its 1st Digital Preservation Under the Radar Award to musician Roger McGuinn. Read more about some of these initiatives on the next two pages.
Over 20 years ago, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame musician Roger McGuinn decided that on the first day of each month he would upload a recording of a folk song, create a page with lyrics, tablature, and a brief bit of information about each song, and share it all for free on the web. Through his dedication to the Folk Den, which found a home at ibiblio.org shortly after its launch, McGuinn has added archivist and curator to his already impressive list of credentials. In recognition of McGuinn’s work to establish and cultivate this valuable online resource, SILS named him the inaugural recipient of its Digital Preservation Under the Radar Award.

“We hope this award will help spotlight digital preservation pioneers who have made significant contributions in unique and unusual ways, as well as those who have taken non-traditional paths to become notable digital archivists,” said SILS Professor and Director of ibiblio.org, Paul Jones. “The Folk Den, on the other hand, offers exquisite performances, the clearest possible provenance that history will allow, and simple accessible metadata,” Jones said. “It is a model for what a citizen archive should be: unique to itself, informed by passion, built by perseverance, and shared with love and an open heart.”

SILS and UNC’s Odum Institute for Research in Social Science co-presented the 12th International Conference on Digital Preservation (iPRES) November 2-6, 2015, in Chapel Hill. The conference drew 327 delegates from 22 countries, and the program included 12 long papers, 15 short papers, 33 posters, three demos, six workshops, three tutorials, and five panels, as well as several interactive sessions and a Digital Preservation Showcase. iPRES rotates between Asia, Europe, and North America. It had not been in North America since 2009, and it will not return until 2018.

Each of the iPRES2015 contributions can be accessed through the iPRES2015 proceedings collection at http://phaidra.univie.ac.at/o:429627. For the full proceedings volume, see specifically https://phaidra.univie.ac.at/o:429524. Keynote addresses, “The Digital Afterlives of This Bridge Called My Back: Public Feminism and Open Access,” by Lisa Nakamura, Professor in the Department of American Culture at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and “Mass Digitization of Cultural Heritage: Can Copyright Obstacles Be Overcome?” by Pamela Samuelson, Professor of Law and Information at the University of California, Berkeley, are available to watch on the SILS Vimeo page vimeo.com/uncsils.

SILS honors musician Roger McGuinn for digital preservation achievement

Over 20 years ago, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame musician Roger McGuinn decided that on the first day of each month he would upload a recording of a folk song, create a page with lyrics, tablature, and a brief bit of information about each song, and share it all for free on the web. Through his dedication to the Folk Den, which found a home at ibiblio.org shortly after its launch, McGuinn has added archivist and curator to his already impressive list of credentials. In recognition of McGuinn’s work to establish and cultivate this valuable online resource, SILS named him the inaugural recipient of its Digital Preservation Under the Radar Award.

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McGuinn is best known as the lead singer, guitarist, and founding member of The Byrds. He began his career as a teen with an education at the Old Town School of Folk Music. His association with Bob Gibson, Frank Hamilton, and others prepared him for an early professional life touring with the Limeliters, Chad Mitchell Trio, and Bobby Darin. Inspired by the folk movement and the new music of the British rock and roll invasion, McGuinn formed The Byrds, which collectively introduced folk-rock, raga rock, space rock, country rock, and a variety of electronic music innovations.

Before McGuinn began selecting, recording, and sharing music through the Folk Den in November 1995, very little folk music was legally available online and the quality and documentation of what could be found was usually poor, said Paul Jones, SILS Professor and Director of ibiblio.org. “The Folk Den, on the other hand, offers exquisite performances, the clearest possible provenance that history will allow, and simple accessible metadata,” Jones said. “It is a model for what a citizen archive should be: unique to itself, informed by passion, built by perseverance, and shared with love and an open heart.”

Top photo: SILS Dean Gary Marchionini presents Roger McGuinn a proclamation recognizing McGuinn as the recipient of the first Digital Preservation Under the Radar Award prior to McGuinn’s lecture and performance on March 1 at UNC’s CHAT (Collaborations: Humanities, Arts, and Technology) Festival. Above: McGuinn addresses the CHAT Festival audience.
Mellon Foundation grant will support BitCurator expansion to improve analysis and accessibility of born-digital collections

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has received a grant for $750,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support BitCurator NLP, a project that will develop software and protocols for the application of natural language processing (NLP) methods to born-digital library, archives, and museum (LAM) collections. The new tools created by the two-year project will enable professionals at LAMs to more effectively and efficiently curate digital materials, and ultimately make collections more accessible to individuals searching for information or documents.

“We have repeatedly heard that LAMs need tools to help identify and explore information on specific entities such as people, places, organizations, and events that are of interest to curators and researchers,” said SILS Professor Christopher (Cal) Lee, principal investigator of the BitCurator NLP project. “This is particularly important for digital collections that contain thousands or hundreds of thousands of files, when it is impossible to manually inspect materials to determine which of the files are relevant for preservation.”

BitCurator NLP will build on the successes of the BitCurator and BitCurator Access projects, which developed and distributed software tools to help LAMs manage the rapidly growing body of digital materials with cultural value. BitCurator produced an open-source software environment that facilitates the relocation of materials from portable media, such as floppy disks, flash drives, and hard drives, to more sustainable environments. Users can create disk images, analyze files and file systems, extract data and metadata, and identify and redact sensitive information, among other tasks.

BitCurator Access further advanced these activities by producing BCA Webtools, which allows users to dynamically navigate file systems of disk images, as well as search the content of many common files types. BitCurator Access also developed tools for redacting sensitive information and experimented with emulation as an access mechanism for disk image content. The BitCurator and BitCurator Access products and associated communities are being sustained by the independent, member-driven BitCurator Consortium.

BitCurator NLP will produce an open-source software that institutions can use to extract, analyze, and produce reports about relevant features found in the open text of digital materials in their collections. The software will also enable LAMs to improve or implement NLP capabilities to read files from their digital collections and produce reports for end users on demand.

Kam Woods, Research Scientist at SILS, will be the co-principal investigator and technical lead for BitCurator NLP. The project will also employ Sunitha Misra (MSIS ’14) as a full-time software developer and SILS doctoral student Jacob Hill as project manager. The project includes an advisory group of external partners with significant relevant experience to provide guidance and expertise.

SILS alumna Alex Chassanoff awarded CLIR fellowship to join MIT Libraries

Alexandra Chassanoff (MSIS ’09, PhD ’16) joined MIT Libraries on October 1 as a Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) postdoctoral fellow in software curation. In her new role, Chassanoff will lead an investigation to inform the libraries about immediate and long-term implications of collecting and curating software and of providing software curation services to its community of users. As a SILS doctoral student, Chassanoff was project manager for the BitCurator and BitCurator Access projects.

Research Data Management and Sharing MOOC goes live

SILS, the Odum Institute at UNC, and the MANTRA team at the University of Edinburgh introduced a new Coursera Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), titled “Research Data Management and Sharing,” in March. Support for the project came in part from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

The MOOC is intended to help librarians and researchers better understand how to manage data generated by research projects. The Coursera on-demand format provides short, video-based lessons and assessments across a five-week period, but learners can proceed at their own pace. Subjects covered in the 5-week course follow the stages of any research project: (1) Understanding Research Data, (2) Data Management Planning, (3) Working with Data, (4) Sharing Data, (5) Archiving Data.

“Federal funding organizations, as well as some private funders, are now requiring researchers to include data management plans in their proposals,” said SILS Alumni Distinguished Professor Helen Tibbo, who delivers four of the five MOOC’s lessons. “Librarians are being tasked with helping researchers write this portion of the plan, and then many libraries are providing repositories to store the data when the research is complete. This is a new frontier for many librarians who may not have worked with scientific data before, and for scientists who may not have carefully curated their data before. This course is designed to help both of them.”

www.coursera.org/learn/research-data-management-and-sharing #RDMSmooc

CLIR report addresses open data imperative

A report published in July 2016 by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) offers a series of recommendations to improve open data infrastructure and expand the collaboration that is vital to ensuring public access to data. The Open Data Imperative: How the Cultural Heritage Community Can Address the Federal Mandate examines the data curation challenges and opportunities resulting from recent requirements that federal agencies with annual R&D expenditures of more than $100 million create plans for increasing access to scientific research, both as published articles and as data. SILS Professor Cal Lee co-authored the report, which was funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The report is available as a free PDF download at https://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub171/pub171abst.
SILS wishes Professor Reagan Moore a happy retirement

SILS faculty and staff gathered on August 19 for a luncheon to recognize SILS Professor Reagan Moore, who retired at the end of the month. Colleagues presented Moore with a leather briefcase embossed with the UNC Chapel Hill emblem and shared anecdotes and admiration for his many contributions to SILS, UNC’s Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI), the integrated Rule Oriented Data System (iRODS), and the field of data management.

In the 1990s, as research was evolving from analyses done by individuals on single computers into a collaborative activity using interconnected resources, Moore recognized the impending need for software that could manage data and interactions in a widely distributed environment. He secured funding from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), and with a team of talented visionaries and software developers, eventually known as the Data Intensive Computing Environments (DICE) research group, created the Storage Resource Broker (SRB).

“Reagan is a visionary,” said SILS Professor Arcot Rajasekar, who started working with Moore in the mid-1990s and made the move from the San Diego Supercomputer Center to UNC with him in 2008. “He was talking about massive data analysis and data intensive computing a full 15 years before the phrase ‘big data’ was coined. These days the word ‘policy’ in data management, curation, sharing and analysis is becoming mainstream. But Reagan was talking about it a long while back.”

SRB became iRODS, which now boasts more than 20,000 end users spanning six continents and manages more than 100 petabytes of data. The iRODS Consortium, established in 2014 to sustain the continued development of iRODS, now includes 17 members as well as four partner organizations that help with iRODS deployments and support services.

“For more than 30 years, the concepts of the Storage Resource Manager (SRM) and Data Management System (DMS) – the core components of the SRB – have driven the development and evolution of data management and access,” said Frances McColl, Term Professor at SILS, who co-founded the SRB with Moore.

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Professor Moore is a pioneer in defining and creating distributed digital library infrastructure,” said SILS Dean Gary Marchionini. “He is internationally recognized for his work that makes it possible for data scientists and archivists to instantiate data management policies in code that automates preservation activities. The information science community has been strongly influenced by his work over the past quarter century.”

In July 2014, Moore suffered massive heart failure. He was resuscitated three times and spent the next six months facing a major challenge: How to stay away from the work he loves and concentrate on recuperation. “If I were a cat, I’d be on my fourth life, so now seems to be a good time to retire,” he said.

Not surprisingly, he has a longstanding hobby to keep him busy. Moore started doing his family genealogy 26 years ago and decided he needed to derive the properties of a complete genealogy in order to know when the project was complete. “I built a 252,000 person research genealogy, wrote a graph database so I could analyze it, and derived the properties that define when a genealogy is complete. Now I have to start marketing it so other people can take advantage of the results.”

Quotes and excerpts from a story by Karen Green, Communications Director, RENCI, iRODS Consortium, NCDS

Arcot Rajasekar awarded grants for ‘dark data’ illumination and smart communities

Arcot Rajasekar, Frances McColl Term Professor at SILS, leads the DataBridge project, which gathers metadata about data sets to enable investigators to find and utilize data created by other teams of researchers. Such data is often stored locally and not readily accessible, earning it the nickname “dark data.”

Rajasekar has also been awarded a grant from the UNC Research Opportunities Initiative (ROI) for a project titled, “Towards a North Carolina Smart and Connected Communities (S&CC) Initiative.” S&CC is an emerging concept that aims to harness state-of-the-art technologies to exploit “Big Data” and the “Internet of Things” in order to promote sustainable social and economic development across rural and urban communities. S&CC solutions aim to produce positive impact across a range of concerns, including food, energy, and water; access to quality jobs; community planning; and social justice.

The planning grant will support workshops to organize a network of UNC system researchers, as well as industry and government partners, who will lay the foundation for a collaborative research, development, and translational S&CC program that is well-positioned for funding from federal agencies.

Rob Capra receives NSF award to develop better systems for complex searches

SILS Assistant Professor Rob Capra received a National Science Foundation CAREER Award in early 2016 to support his research for the next five years on a project titled “Knowledge Representation and Re-Use for Exploratory and Collaborative Search.” Currently available search engines work well when users are looking for information on specific topics, but do little to support more complex searches that extend across multiple sessions or involve more than one searcher. Capra’s project will develop and evaluate new techniques for capturing, saving, and re-using search information, enabling individuals and collaborators to more efficiently conduct exploratory searches, and providing valuable search assistance to future users.

“Instead of starting from scratch, people will be able to benefit from information saved by others who have completed similar searches,” Capra said. “A goal of this research is to develop search tools that will help people in both the discovery and understanding of information, going beyond what is offered by current search systems. We want to enable people to capture and share the knowledge they acquire during a search in a way that will support collaboration and re-use.”

Capra’s research will provide insights about users’ needs for exploratory searches and how systems can best support them. Throughout the project, research activities will be integrated with a cross-cutting educational plan that will include UNC undergraduate and graduate students engaged through research assistantships and course projects.

“We are delighted that Dr. Capra has won one of these prestigious NSF grants,” said SILS Dean Gary Marchionini. “His work will lead to better support for human information needs that are complex and collaborative, and the project will become one of the centerpiece of SILS’ leadership in information seeking research.”

The outcomes of Capra’s project will not only benefit individual search engine users, but also provide much needed tools for collaborators in a broad range of science, engineering, and other professional settings.

“I’m excited about developing innovative search tools as part of this project, and especially motivated by the opportunities for this work to help people when they are searching for information about unfamiliar or complex topics,” Capra said. “SILS has a strong history of work in this area and is a great place to be doing this type of research. I’m very thankful for this opportunity.”

Capra is the second SILS faculty member with research currently supported by an NSF CAREER Award. Assistant Professor Jaime Arguello received the award in 2015 for his project “Making Aggregated Search Results More Effective and Useful.”

Latest TED Talk by Zeynep Tufekci available online

Associate Professor Zeynep Tufekci’s TED Talk from June 2016, “Machine intelligence makes human morals more important,” is available for viewing at www.ted.com. Searching her name will bring up both her most recent talk and her previous talk from 2014, “Online social change: easy to organize, hard to win.” In the 2016 talk, which had been viewed nearly 775,000 times in the month after its release online, Tufekci explains how intelligent machines can fail in ways we won’t expect and can’t anticipate, making human values and ethics more important than ever.

They continue to be a go-to source for media outlets looking for insights on the impact of social media and the growing influence of machine algorithms. She has written several timely New York Times op-eds this year including:

- “WikiLeaks Isn’t Whistleblowing” (http://nyti.ms/2emAlfW)
- “The Election Won’t Be Rigged. But It Could Be Hacked” (http://nyti.ms/2aHhTSj)
- “The Real Bias Built in at Facebook” (http://nyti.ms/23Y1qlx)

Tufekci also wrote about finding herself in the middle of a coup attempt earlier this year while visiting Turkey, where she is from originally in “How the Internet Saved Turkey’s Internet-Hating President” (http://nyti.ms/29QwzN0).

Amelia Gibson awarded Kilgour Grant to study information seeking by young black women

SILS Assistant Professor Amelia Gibson has been selected to receive the 2016 Eleanor M. and Frederick G. Kilgour Research Grant Award. These competitive awards were established in 2011 to support pilot projects by SILS faculty members. Research proposals are chosen based on their potential to positively impact career development and to receive subsequent funding from external agencies after the completion of preliminary work supported by the Kilgour grant.

Gibson’s project, “Know That! Young Black Women and Personal Geographies of Information Seeking,” is intended to serve both as an examination and a validation of diverse ways of knowing, information seeking, and being in information spaces (such as the library) engaged by a group that is often marginalized in librarianship.

“For many young black women, information seeking is, like other behaviors, negotiated among conflicting needs, resources, and socially imposed limitations,” Gibson said. “Often, their ways of knowing and seeking are not acknowledged as valuable or ‘correct’ in discussions on information literacy and poverty.”

The study will seek to answer how and where young black women seek information about their own well-being, and what factors influence their decision-making.
Ryan Shaw to co-direct IMLS-funded PeriodO project expansion

SILS Associate Professor Ryan Shaw will co-direct an expansion of the PeriodO tool, which eases the task of documenting how scholars define historical, art-historical, and archaeological periods differently. The project, “Periods, Organized (PeriodO) 2: Linking, Discovering, and Reconciling Information about the Past,” was awarded $237,744 in funding from the National Leadership Grants for Libraries program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

“The way humans categorize time can create problems for digital descriptions of historical information,” Shaw said. “Time periods like the Bronze Age or the Anthropocene Epoch may be defined in idiosyncratic ways across different systems, which means users searching for information about those periods will receive incomplete results. PeriodO seeks to solve this problem through the creation of an open-ended linked data gazetteer of period definitions that are authoritative and clearly modeled.”

Adam Rabinowitz, Associate Professor and Assistant Director of the Institute of Classical Archaeology at the University of Texas at Austin, will serve as the PeriodO2 project director, with Shaw and Lorraine Haricombe, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries at UT Austin, as co-directors.

Patrick Golden, a SILS doctoral candidate, will act as lead developer.

The expansion will build on the success of the initial PeriodO project, significantly expanding the usefulness of the platform and dataset beyond archaeology to meet the needs of a broader audience of librarians, data managers, scholars, and students across the academic spectrum.

David Gotz and MSIS student Shun Sun win Best Paper Award at IUI Conference

SILS Associate Professor David Gotz and MSIS student Shun Sun received the Best Paper Award from the ACM Intelligent User Interfaces (IUI) Conference held March 7-10 in Sonoma, Calif. Sun had previously won a student travel grant from ACM IUI to attend the conference, where she presented the paper and accepted the award on March 8. The winning paper, “Adaptive Contextualization: Combating Bias during High-Dimensional Visualization and Data Selection,” was co-authored by Gotz and Sun, and Nan Cao, Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at NYU Shanghai, China. Watch a video about the research at https://vimeo.com/148910636.

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library wins PR recognition from ALA and Library Journal

The Charlotte Mecklenburg Library received the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award from the American Library Association at the 2016 ALA conference in June. The Library won the honor, and $10,000 provided by EBSCO and the HW Wilson Foundation, for its campaign titled “A Library of Possibilities.” The Library created videos featuring the authentic stories of its customers. The videos were shown in ballparks, on movie screens, and via social media. In combination with print materials, the videos increased community awareness of services, programs, and collections. Find the videos at youtube.com/cmlibrary/playlists.

The CML marketing and communications team—made up of Cordelia Anderson, Katy Rust, Angela Haigler, and Sarah Goldstein—also won Library Journal’s first annual Marketer of the Year award.

SILS alumnus and Board of Visitors member David Singleton (MSLS ’92) directs the CML, one of America’s leading urban public libraries, serving a community of over one million North Carolina citizens. Several other SILS alumni work there as well. Since 2013, SILS and the Library have collaborated on an assistantship program to benefit SILS graduate students.

Javed Mostafa appointed editor-in-chief of JASIST

Javed Mostafa, Professor at SILS and the Biomedical Research Imaging Center, became editor-in-chief of the Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology (JASIST) in January.

The ASIS&T Board announced the appointment in November 2015, citing Mostafa’s 21-year history as an author or co-author of 80 peer-reviewed research papers.

At UNC, Mostafa is director of the Carolina Health Informatics Program (CHIP) and the Laboratory of Applied Informatics Research. He also serves as deputy director of the Biomedical Informatics Core at the NC Translational & Clinical Sciences Institute and has current research engagements in biomedical data mining, analysis, visualization, user interface design, and multi-modal human-computer interaction.
Ron Bergquist was named Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in July. Among other duties, he will be responsible for developing the course schedule each semester, working with the faculty to review and revise the curricula, and administering the financial aid offered by SILS. A retired U.S. Air Force Colonel, Bergquist earned his MSLS and PhD from SILS. He joined the faculty in 2006 and had served as Undergraduate Program Coordinator since 2013. He succeeds Professor Barbara Wildemuth, who stepped down as associate dean in preparation for her retirement in 2017.

Ryan Shaw was named Undergraduate Program Coordinator in July, taking over the position from Ron Bergquist. Shaw, who joined SILS in 2010, teaches undergraduate and graduate courses focusing on information organization, Web architecture, and digital humanities. He will help maintain and further develop the Bachelor of Science in Information Science (BSIS) degree program and the Information Systems minor.

Arcot Rajasekar became Director of the SILS Doctoral Program, a role previously held by Barbara Wildemuth.

Sandra Hughes-Hassell was elected to the 2016-19 Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Board of Directors as President-Elect.

Robert Losee and Barbara Moran received Faculty Service Awards in the spring, recognizing their more than 30 years of service.

Brian Sturm was appointed Francis Carroll McColl Term Associate Professor. See more about Sturm’s work on page 13.

Helen Tibbo was re-elected to the National Digital Stewardship Alliance’s (NDSA) Coordinating Committee in October, served as Program Committee Chair for NDSA’s DigiPres2016 conference in November, and served on the advisory committee of the IMLS-funded “Indigenous Digital Archive” project.

Barbara Wildemuth was the keynote speaker at the Empirical Librarians Conference, held at North Carolina A&T State University. In April, she gave an invited speech at the Research Based Practice in Libraries Summit, organized by University College London Qatar and Carnegie Mellon University Qatar, in Doha, Qatar. The second edition of her book, Applications of Social Research Methods to Questions in Information and Library Science, will be available from Libraries Unlimited in November.

Cal Lee was promoted to Professor, effective July 1.

Zeynep Tufekci was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, effective July 1.

David Gotz, Associate Professor and Assistant Director for the Carolina Health Informatics Program (CHIP), received tenure in August.

Ryan Shaw was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure in August.

Diane Kelly accepted a position as Director of the University of Tennessee School of Information Sciences, beginning August 8.

Sarah Michalak, University Librarian and Associate Provost for University Libraries, has announced that she will retire on December 31, 2016. Michalak has been UNC’s library director since 2004.

Ericka Patillo (MSLS ’99, PhD ’16) became Associate Dean of Libraries at Appalachian State University on August 1.

Tiffany Harris, SILS Undergraduate Student Coordinator, received UNC’s 2016 Student Undergraduate Staff Award. Only one staff member at the University is selected for the award each year by the Student Undergraduate Teaching and Staff Awards (SUTASA) Committee, which accepts and reviews nominations from students to determine the winner.

Recipients are chosen on the basis of demonstrated excellence in service, dedication to undergraduate students, and a positive impact on a broad spectrum of Carolina students. Harris received a certificate and monetary award, and was recognized at the Chancellor’s Award Ceremony on April 20.

News of the honor came as no surprise to SILS students who had worked directly with Harris. “Tiff any is so good at what she does because she genuinely cares about the success of both the students and the program,” said Miranda Kalbach (BSIS ’16). “She’s one of the busiest people I know, but she always makes time for me when I stop in with questions or concerns.”

Michael McNeill (BSIS ’16) said Harris’s support started before he even declared his major. “Tiff any has always been there for me when I needed her, even before I got into the BSIS program,” he said. “Not only has she served as an important resource with immense knowledge on the inner workings of SILS and the University, but she is also an excellent friend. She is one of the shining lights of SILS and is undeniably deserving of this award.”

Harris has been with SILS since 2013, and became Undergraduate Student Coordinator in early 2014. In December of 2015, she received the SILS Staff Excellence Award, which recognizes staff members who have demonstrated excellence, commitment, teamwork, and outstanding service to the School.

Brian Nussbaum wins UNC IT Award

Brian Nussbaum, SILS Desktop Support and Help Desk Manager, received the 2016 UNC Information Technology Award at the Carolina Technology Consultants retreat on October 14. The awards are given to individuals and teams to recognize outstanding technical support on campus.

Nussbaum’s colleagues at SILS were not surprised to hear he had received the honor. Many staff and faculty members can readily cite instances where Nussbaum has promptly resolved an issue or found a creative solution to a difficult problem.

“You can never find Brian at his desk—he’s always out helping folks,” said staff member Maggie Hite. “But you can always find him if you need help. You can always find him if you need a system broken down and completely rebuilt. You can always find him when you need desktop support. You can always find him when everything in the building needs to be repaired and rewired. I once asked him, ‘What haven’t you wired?’ His response? ‘Teeth!’ And that’s the other thing, without fail, you will always find him in a good mood, full of humor and possessing whatever expertise you need to deal with your crisis.”
**STAFF NEWS**

**Tammy Cox receives University Manager of the Year Award**

SILS Assistant Dean of Administration Tammy Cox received the Manager of the Year Award from UNC’s University Managers Association (UMA) on May 24 at the UMA Annual Meeting. The award is presented to just one University manager each year, based on the nominee’s career accomplishments, both within and beyond the normal job responsibilities.

Cox has been with SILS since 2009. She oversees the SILS administrative offices, managing the many day-to-day financial and administrative transactions, and directs staff in contract and grants administration, accounting, student services, and human resources. Her exceptional work has been previously recognized with the Kay W. Hovious Award from the Employee Forum in 2015, the Chancellor’s Award in the category of Human Relations in 2011, and the SILS Staff Excellence Award in 2010.

**New staff in Manning Hall**

**Joey Landry**, PHR, SHRM-CP joined SILS in March as the new Human Resources Consultant. Landry has extensive HR experience developed through his roles as Senior HR Generalist at TransEnterix Surgical, a local medical device company; and HR Business Partner at Adreima, a national healthcare revenue cycle management company based in Raleigh. Landry holds a BS from East Carolina University and has earned national certifications from the HR Certification Institute and the Society for Human Resource Management.

**Maggie Hite (MSLS ’06)** joined the front office at SILS in April. She has a long history with libraries, SILS, and UNC, having previously worked for the SILS Library and Davis Library, as well as for the Chapel Hill Public Library. From 1999-2005, she was Assistant Director of the World Library Partnership in Zimbabwe and South Africa. Most recently, she was the Documents Management Coordinator at the UNC Office of Sponsored Research. Maggie holds a BA in history from the University of Akron, Ohio, and is a graduate of SILS, which awarded her the Outstanding Service to the School Award in 2006.

**AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

Bachelor of Science in Information Science (BSIS) students **Jessica Head** and **Aileen Ma** received $1,000 scholarships from SILS for the spring 2016 semester. **Bryan Chu** and **Abba Furry** received the scholarships for the fall 2016 semester. The merit-based scholarships are awarded twice a year to two incoming BSIS students who have demonstrated high scholastic achievement and written outstanding application essays.

BSIS student **Jennie Davidowitz** was one of just 10 UNC students selected to participate in the first **UNC-Lenovo Tech World Global Intern Program** in June. A new initiative inspired by a meeting in Beijing between Chancellor Carol L. Folt and Lenovo Chairman and CEO Yuanqing Yang in January 2016, the program sent students to Beijing and San Francisco to assist with Lenovo’s signature technology showcase event, Tech World.

BSIS student and UNC junior running back **Elijah Hood** was profiled by the *The News & Observer* for an article titled “Scout’s honor: What drives UNC’s Elijah Hood.” In the article, Hood discusses becoming an Eagle Scout, his internship at the state’s capital, and his passion for library science. Read the full article at [www.newsobserver.com/sports/college/acc/unc/article98647772.html](http://www.newsobserver.com/sports/college/acc/unc/article98647772.html).

Master’s student **Erica Brody** won the 2016 **Elfreda Chatman Research Award** for her master’s paper proposal, “A Content Analysis of Patient Education Materials across the Continuum of Care: Consistency and Accessibility.”

**STUDENT NEWS**

**Project Fair showcases student work**

SILS hosted its second annual Project Fair on April 15 in Manning Hall. About 20 graduate and undergraduate students presented their research and creations through poster presentations and demonstrations on laptops and other mobile devices. At the end of the fair, four projects received special recognition:

- **The People’s Choice Award**—**Erica Brody** and **Chen Zhang**: “Redesign of the SILS Career Website.”
- **The Social Impact Award**—**Maria Chiochios**: “The Tweets Heard Around the World: Ferguson Municipal Public Library’s Twitter Use During the 2014 Civil Unrest and its Role in Supporting Community Disaster Resilience.”
- **The Best Project Award**—**Yiqi Wang** and **Huiying Ma**: “Business Event Curation: Merging Human and Automated Approaches,” and **Brad San Martin**: “Crowdsourcing Sound Recordings via Social Media.”
Student organization updates

SILS welcomed new grad students in August with a full day of orientation activities, including lunch co-sponsored by the SILS Alumni Association and breakfast in the sculpture garden (pictured below) hosted by the Information & Library Science Student Association (ILSSA). ILSSA coordinated social events every evening of the first week, and then periodically throughout the fall term.

In the spring, with exams on the way, the Student Chapter of the Society of American Archivists (SCOSAA) invited SILS students to decompress at a #ColorOurCollections-inspired event. In September, the group met with new, archives-oriented SILS students to discuss upcoming archive-related happenings in the Triangle and to get know one another at Linda’s Bar & Grill. Later that month, SCOSAA organized a “backstage tour” of Wilson Special Collections (pictured below) for the Introduction to Archives class and other interested students. To celebrate Archives Month in October, SCOSAA organized a meet-and-greet for SILS students and members of the Society of North Carolina Archivists. President Hanna Wang designed a new website (uncscosaa.web.unc.edu).

Nahali (Holly) Croft (MSLS ’16) and Amelia Holmes (MSLS ’16) received scholarships to attend the Managing Electronic Records (MER) Conference in Chicago, May 23-25. The scholarships, funded by MER sponsor Cohasset Associates, are awarded each year to students from a select set of library and information science schools. SILS Associate Professor Cal Lee introduced the program at SILS in 2006, and two students have benefitted from the support each year since. Holly Croft also received a scholarship to attend the 57th Annual ACRL Rare Books & Manuscripts Section conference held June 21–24 in Coral Gables, Fla.

Bethany Greene and Kimberley Henze, two SILS master’s students, had the opportunity to study international librarianship in Europe for two weeks in May thanks to the Baker & Taylor Scholarships for SILS summer seminars. Greene took part in the London seminar, and Henze traveled to Prague.

Anne Ligon Harding (MSIS ’16) won a student travel grant to attend the Electronic Resources and Libraries (ER&L) Conference April 3-6. Just two students are selected annually for the awards. As a SILS student, Harding was awarded a SHARP-RBS Scholarship to attend rare book school in 2014, a Baker & Taylor Scholarship to take part in the 2015 SILS summer seminar to London, and an RBMS Scholarship for the 2015 conference.

Master’s students David Tenenholtz and Rebecca Tatum received scholarships from Beta Phi Mu Epsilon Chapter at fall orientation.

Three SILS students were accepted to the 2016 Computing Research Association-Women (CRA-W) Graduate Cohort Workshop, held April 15-16 in San Diego. SILS doctoral students Angela Murillo and Grace Shin were selected to receive full support from the CRA-W for the workshop, and Nnenna Ibeanusi, a dual-degree MS in Public Health/MSIS student, received sponsorship from SILS to attend. Murillo and Ibeanusi graduated in 2016.

Doctoral student Kathy Brennan was accepted to the Student and JASIST Award Winning Papers and Doctoral Colloquium at the 2016 ASIS&T conference in Denmark. Brennan’s dissertation studies the effect of cognitive abilities and financial knowledge on search behaviors and mental workload of adults evaluating personal finance information on the web.

Doctoral student Emily Vardell won the 2016 Thomson Reuters/MLA Doctoral Fellowship. Awarded biennially, the fellowship supports research or travel for doctoral work in an area of health sciences librarianship or information sciences. Vardell defended her proposal earlier this year and is currently conducting interviews for her dissertation, “Health Insurance Literacy: How People Understand and Make Health Insurance Purchase Decisions.” She won the Best Paper Award at the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association annual meeting, and coauthored an article with Deborah Charbonneau titled “Health insurance literacy and roles for reference librarian involvement” for The Reference Librarian.
SILS alumna Jaycie Vos and student Maria Ramirez recognized at OHA meeting for work with New Roots/Nuevas Raíces project

SILS alumna Jaycie Vos (MSLS ‘13) and current master’s student Maria Ramirez presented their work with New Roots/Nuevas Raíces: Voices from Carolina del Norte at the Oral History Association (OHA) Annual Meeting on October 14 in Long Beach, Calif. At the meeting, Vos, Ramirez, and New Roots Director Hannah Gill accepted the OHA’s 2016 Elizabeth B. Mason Project Award, which recognizes outstanding oral history projects.

New Roots (newroots.lib.unc.edu) is a research initiative of UNC that documents the migration, settlement, and integration of Latino communities in North Carolina through oral history. Founded in 2007, the project has generated over 160 interviews, with around 40 new interviews conducted annually by bilingual staff and students.

Vos became involved with the project through her work with the Southern Oral History Program (SOHP). As Coordinator of Collections, she manages much of the SOHP’s collecting and curating, and oversees the archival processing for materials. Ramirez was hired as the project’s Bilingual Documentation Archivist. As New Roots students and staff conduct interviews, Vos and Ramirez add them to the SOHP collection.

“We have added new fields to the existing SOHP metadata schema to capture information important to these particular oral histories – including geographic metadata and interview themes – and we developed a themes dictionary to better help our users understand the content of the interviews,” Vos said. “Maria has done a significant amount of translation work to describe each interview in both English and Spanish, and we’ve added metadata fields in Spanish to make the interviews more accessible.”

Vos and Ramirez have also provided outreach services, including speaking at various events about the project, and have an article forthcoming in Southern Cultures (Winter 2016 issue, UNC Press).

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“New Roots provides a good model of how archives can contextualize and describe their digital materials for a diverse, global audience.”

–Maria Ramirez

Ramirez, who received a Mellon Conference Travel Award from the Institute for the Study of the Americas to attend the OHA meeting, said working on the New Voices project has been rewarding both personally and professionally. “As someone who arrived in this country from Venezuela at 9-years-old, the stories collected and disseminated through this digital archive have allowed me to reflect on my own migratory experience and to feel connected to others who now call North Carolina home,” she said. “On a professional level this project gave me hands-on experience with tools like Omeka and CONTENTdm.”

Set to graduate in December, Ramirez’s thesis focuses on how oral history collections from several countries present their materials to users over the web. She believes oral histories can be particularly difficult for archives to integrate into their collections, and she hopes to continue confronting the issues of wider access as she launches her career. “New Roots provides a good model of how archives can contextualize and describe their digital materials for a diverse, global audience,” she said.

Award-winning master’s-level research and writing at SILS

Rachel Walton (MSLS ‘15) received the 2016 Society of American Archivists’ Theodore Calvin Pease Award, which recognizes superior writing achievements by students of archival studies. Entries are judged on innovation, scholarship, pertinence, and clarity. Walton’s paper, “Looking for Answers: A Usability Study of Online Finding Aid Navigation,” presents a usability study on the finding aid interface created by Princeton University Library. She concludes with 10 pragmatic guidelines for designing online archival finding aids with a high degree of usability. The paper will be published in The American Archivist, (Spring/Summer 2017). Walton’s paper had previously been recognized with the 2015 Dean’s Achievement Award from SILS. Since graduating, Walton has been the Digital Archivist and Records Management Coordinator at Rollins College.

Meredith Hale (MSIS ’16) won the 2016 Gerd Muehsam Award for her master’s paper, “Searching for Art: A Log Analysis of the Ackland Art Museum’s Collection Search System.” The award is given annually by the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) to recognize excellence in a graduate student paper on a topic relevant to art librarianship. Hale’s study broadly aims to bring attention to user search behaviors so that systems can be adapted to make it easier for visitors to museum websites to find the art records they need. Her paper also received the 2016 Dean’s Achievement Award from SILS and was published in the Fall 2016 edition of Art Documentation. Hale, who earned a dual degree in information science and art history, is now the Kress Fellow in Art Librarianship at Yale University’s Haas Family Arts Library and the Yale Center for British Art.

Nahali (Holly) Croft (MSLS ’16) received the 2016 Gene J. Williams Award from the Society of North Carolina Archivists. The award is given annually to recognize a paper on an archival topic written for a graduate-level course by an N.C. student. The prize includes publication in the Journal of the Society of North Carolina Archivists. Croft’s win continued SILS’ strong representation in this contest, with the current streak of winners extending back to 2010. An intern at the Campbell University archive, Croft used her paper to confront the emerging need to archive the papers of university presidents from the “e-mail era.” The paper looks at the importance of email preservation and curation, discusses the pros and cons of various tools, and specifies the two tools that can create the best workflow for Campbell’s situation. Croft is now the Digital Archivist at Georgia College.
After many productive years working with libraries and archives connected to institutions of higher learning, Meredith Evans (PhD’06) stepped away from academia for a position connected to the country’s highest office. In November of 2015, Evans became Director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum in Atlanta, Ga. She is the first African-American woman to be appointed as a presidential library director. “It’s different from any of the jobs I’ve had,” she said. “I manage an archive collection that is from President Carter’s administration through post-presidency, and then I have a full-fledged museum. This is the first job that I can directly correlate the records to a permanent exhibit, and at the same time I’m reaching out to a very diverse audience.”

Evans and her staff coordinate programming for nearly 100,000 visitors per year. Students from K-12 are a strong constituency, but the Carter Library also draws researchers from around the world, faculty and students from Atlanta’s colleges and universities, and members of the general public. “That makes my work interesting but also challenging,” Evans said.

While some aspects of the role may be new to her, Evans is no stranger to handling collections of national importance. In her role as director of the Special Collections Research Center at George Washington University, Evans acquired the National Education Association papers and negotiated funding for their preservation. As curator of printed materials at Atlanta University Center’s library, she was part of a project to process and digitize the papers and books of Martin Luther King, Jr. Evans said the project was significant not only because of the materials, but also because the AUC and Boston University collaboration was one of the first times Archivists’ Toolkit was used to create a combined finding aid among two institutions.

Evans has also long been a champion of community archives. Her dissertation focused on the recordkeeping practices of black churches in the Atlanta area. At UNC Charlotte, she helped launch an LGBTQ collection with ties to the local community, and at Washington University in St. Louis, she expanded the library’s Documenting Ferguson Project.

Improving access and preservation through digitization is another recurring theme of Evans’ career. The chance to work with the Documenting the American South (DocSouth) project, a digital publishing initiative of texts, images, and audio files related to southern history, was part of what drew her to SILS. In recent years, she has been excited to watch the evolution of strategic and ethical approaches to the curation of born-digital materials.

“What I’ve seen is the really successful collaboration among IT, librarians, archivists, and humanists—these different disciplines coming together to address and try to create solutions for the challenges in our professions,” she said. “That’s been pretty amazing.”

Through her various senior leadership positions, Evans has expanded her expertise in archives and preservation, as well as her general management and fundraising proficiencies.

For the latter, she drew from the years she spent working in a corporate environment, as well as her own resolve. “If you tell me ‘no’ too many times, I’m just going to figure out a way that allows everyone to benefit,” she said. “That naturally led me into fundraising, which is all about relationship building and the chance to work on cool, interesting projects. Whether it’s through grant writing, organizational donors, or personal donors, you can find resources to do something fresh and new that your existing operating budget can’t support.”

Evans advises young professionals to show similar determination, no matter what restrictions they encounter at their workplaces. “Don’t let anything suppress your ideas and enthusiasm.” She also recommends developing a strong network of professionals who can provide feedback on ideas, and who can attest to the qualifications listed on your resume, so it’s more than just a piece of paper.

Friends and colleagues are one of the most enduring benefits of her time at SILS, Evans said, and she can often recognize other alumni shortly after meeting them. “You can bump into someone from SILS and just know,” she said. “Graduates from SILS are creative thinkers. We’re not just IT people or IS people or LS people—we have an array of skillsets, but the one thing that remains true is that we are thinkers and doers, and that level of innovation lends itself to leadership. When you think about a SILS grad, you think of a leader in the profession.”
SILS and the UNC Library hosted a reception in Orlando, Fla., to coincide with the 2016 American Library Association Conference in June. Alumni, friends, faculty, staff, and current students gathered at the Copper Canyon Grill to catch up with one another and hear the latest news from Chapel Hill. SILS Dean Gary Marchionini and University Librarian and Associate Provost Sarah C. Michalak provided updates on recent developments.

This year, SILS and the Library partnered with the UNC General Alumni Association to bring together even more Carolina alumni from the surrounding area. Among the guests were Beth Holley, leader of the Jacksonville Carolina Club and daughter of former SILS Dean Edward G. Holley, and B.J. Price, who received the Carolina Club Ambassador Corps Award at the event for her leadership of the Orlando Carolina Club.

For more photos, visit the SILS Flickr page at flickr.com/uncsils. Special thanks to SILS doctoral student Emily Vardell for taking all the photos.

Dear SILS Alumni:

Back in August I had the pleasure of attending the SILS fall orientation to speak about the SILS Alumni Association, present the Elfreda Chatman Research Award, and enjoy lunch with incoming students. The orientation made me nostalgic for the start of my own SILS experience and gave me an opportunity to reflect on the great things the School has brought to my life – among them a fulfilling career, a number of enduring friendships, and membership in an outstanding network of information professionals.

I hope you, too, find that the value of your SILS degree continues to grow over time. You need only read the rest of this newsletter to understand that SILS is changing, and that it continues to innovate and lead. As a result, high-achieving graduates emerge from the School each year and join that outstanding network that encompasses all of us. Your future colleagues are, right at this moment, studying and researching under some of the field’s foremost scholars.

One of the great pleasures of working on the UNC campus is the frequency with which I have opportunities to interact with SILS students. They are consistently sharp, curious, and enthusiastic… and they’re eager to meet alumni!

A primary focus of the Alumni Board this year will be introducing students to the SILS network through career-themed programs. In the fall, we’ll host a field experience program and a panel discussion about best practices in job-hunting. In the spring, we’ll hold our annual speed-networking event, which this year will include a reception etiquette component.

It is an honor to serve the School in this capacity, working with a dedicated board, Dean Marchionini, and the SILS faculty and staff to build bridges between alumni and students.

My fellow board members this year are Joe Williams (MSLS ’01), immediate past president; Doug Diesenhaus (MSLS ’12), vice president/president-elect; Erin Holmes (MSIS ’14), treasurer; Liz Overberg (MSLS ’11), secretary; and Anna Sandelli (MSLS ’14), communications director.

The strength of the SILS network depends on the contributions of alumni. On behalf of the Alumni Board, I want to thank you for all you’ve done to make that network stronger. If your ties to the school have loosened over the years, why not take a few moments to think about what you can do to strengthen them?

If you’re local, consider hosting a field experience student or participating in our speed networking event. (If either of those opportunities appeals to you, please contact Lori Haight, SILS Career Services Coordinator, at lhaight@email.unc.edu.) And be on the lookout for an alumni-student social mixer sometime this year. If you live at a distance, consider supporting emerging professionals by mentoring recent graduates in your area. Please also keep an eye out for SILS reunions at professional conferences.

No matter where you live, please stay in touch with us! You can connect with SILS on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. If you’re not on the SILS Alumni email listserv, please join so you never miss out on Alumni Association news and events. (Email “SUBSCRIBE” to contactsils@unc.edu.) Once your email has been added to the listserv, you can send and receive messages from sils/alumni@listserv.unc.edu.

Finally, we’d love to hear from you! If you’re interested in serving on the Alumni Board in the future, if you’d like to nominate someone for a Distinguished Alumni Award, or if you have ideas about how the SILS Alumni Association can serve you better, please let us know. (Email jack@email.unc.edu.) We welcome opportunities to make your SILS network better!

Best wishes,

Emily Jack (MSLS ’07)
SILSAA President

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Gary Fenton Barefoot (AB ’61, MSLS ’68) was honored in late 2015 for his 50-year association with the University of Mount Olive. Barefoot earned an associate’s degree at Mount Olive College (MOC) and, after completing degrees at UNC and working as a public school librarian, returned to serve as director of the MOC Moyer Library for 34 years. He retired in 1999, and was named by the Board of Trustees as director emeritus of library services. His passion for MOC and for the Free Will Baptist denomination led him to do voluntary work on completing the organization and cataloging of the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection and the College Archives, eventually helping to build the most comprehensive collection of materials on the Original Free Will Baptists in existence today.

Fred W. Roper (AB ’60, MSLS ’62) received the John N. Olsgaard Distinguished Service Award from the University of South Carolina (USC) School of Library and Information Science in April. The award recognizes an individual who has made exceptional contributions to the School. Dr. Roper, a SILS Distinguished Alumnus, served as dean of the School at USC for 17 years.

Kathryn Mendenhall (MSLS ’76) retired in late 2015, concluding a 40-year career in librarianship that included 33 years at the Library of Congress (LOC). She found inspiration for her professional path in a book while working at UNC’s Wilson Library in the 1970s. At the LOC, she spent a decade involved in developing and managing the Cataloging Distribution Service, which allows libraries throughout the world to benefit from the bibliographic record files, standards, and tools developed by the LOC. During the last 10 years of her career, she served as the Director of Partnerships and Outreach Programs, with responsibility for multiple disciplinary areas, including Interpretive Programs, Visitor Services, Scholarly Programs, Publishing, Business Enterprises, Center for the Book, FEDLINK, and the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Read more about her distinguished career at sils.unc.edu/news/2016/mendenhall-loc.
Harvey Brenneise (MSLS ’79) retired from the profession as Associate Dean for Research Services, University of Southern Mississippi. Prior to that he served in a variety of professional roles at Andrews University (MI), Michigan Public Health Institute, Seattle Public Library, City University of Seattle, University of La Verne (CA), Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (CA), and Chadron State College (NE).

Teri Lynn Herbert (MSLS ’79) was promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Library Science and Informatics in July 2016 at The Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston S.C. She co-authored articles published in Charleston, University of La Verne (CA), Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (CA), and Chadron State College (NE).

Eva Murphy (MSLS ’79) compiled the new index to The Story of Noble and Greenough School 1866-1966 (Dedham, Mass.: Noble & Greenough School, 1966, 2016) by Richard T. Flood. The book was reissued this fall in a slightly revised edition (with index) for the School’s sesquicentennial.

Susan Bridges Van Dyke (MSLS ’80) completed a master’s degree in art education at Belmont University in Nashville in December. She teaches part-time, owns a jewelry company, and also works as a film and television extra.

Ted Waller (MSLS ’81) received the President’s Award for outstanding service to the college from Meredith College in December 2015. He retired in 2016, after serving as Head of Technical Services at Meredith since 1986.


Margaret Miles (MSLS ’83) successfully competed on Jeopardy in April, and gained international attention by embracing two classic librarian stereotypes—a love for knitting and petting cats—during the interview portion of the show. Miles, a longtime youth services librarian at the New Hanover County Public Library in Wilmington, N.C., took an early lead and dominated the rest of the game on the April 14 broadcast, ultimately winning over $40,000. But it was her banter with host Alex Trebek that really captured viewers’ hearts. Twitter exploded with praise for Miles’ outstanding performance and her hilarious response to Trebek’s question, and the story of her popularity was picked up by a variety of news outlets, including US Weekly, The Huffington Post, and the U.K.’s Daily Mail.

Bob Anthony (MSLS ’85) was named Tarheel of the Week in the June 11, 2016, edition of The News & Observer. Anthony, who describes himself as a “professional North Carolinian” in the article, is Curator of the North Carolina Collection and Director of the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center. The N&O feature charts Anthony’s professional path and highlights the important contributions he has made to preserving North Carolina history and making historical materials more accessible.

Lois Ireland (MSLS ’86) was profiled in the November-December 2015 issue of the Special Libraries Association’s Information Outlook. The article covers her career, including her current position as Director of Corporate Business Services for Freddie Mac, her involvement in SLA, whether she would encourage college students to consider a library career, and why she never left her job to become a seamstress or professional dancer. Read the full profile at sla.org/learn/information-outlook/10-questions-lois-ireland.

Michael Frye (MSLS ’90) was appointed to the Metrolina Library Association Board in December 2015. Metrolina was founded in 1969 and works to foster awareness and cooperation among librarians and para-professionals in academic, public, school, and special libraries, as well as provide continuing education opportunities. Frye has been a master teacher librarian facilitator at Winston Salem State University since 2010.

Jennifer Manning (MSLS ’91) Senior Research Librarian, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, began a three-year term on the UNC Alumni Committee on Racial & Ethnic Diversity (ACRED) in May. She joined fellow SILS alumnus Gerald Holmes (MSLS ’85) on the committee.

Deb Morley (MSLS ’93) is now Director of Data & Digital Stewardship, a new division of the Drexel University Libraries that has brought together the University Archives, Metadata Services, and Discovery Systems departments into a single division. Through the Libraries’ matrixed organizational management, Morley leads staff throughout the Libraries to extend the value of description, discovery, archival preservation, and consultation to transform the Libraries’ role in strengthening connections to scholarship, creating effective library learning environments, and ensuring access to authoritative information. She provides administrative leadership in implementing a strategic direction that extends library knowledge and services for curating research data and expanding campus awareness of research data as institutional assets.

Beth Lyons (MSIS ’94) welcomed her daughter, Hadley Rose Lyons, on August 29, 2016.

Peter McCracken (MSLS ’95) started a position as Electronic Resources Librarian at Cornell University Library in June. McCracken, a SILS Distinguished Alumnus, still runs ShipIndex.org on the side, but says his main focus is now Cornell. McCracken is also a member of the board of trustees for the Tompkins County Public Library (TCPL) in Ithaca, N.Y. In the spring, he
led an initiative that engaged community members to build a 100,000+ piece LEGO replica of the TCPL as a fundraiser and celebration of the completion of the library’s capital campaign. The project received television and newspaper coverage, including the front page of the Ithaca Journal, and Library Journal recognized McCracken and his team in the honorable mention category for their inaugural Marketer of the Year Award.

Jeffery Alpi (MSLS ’97) has been promoted to Web Services Lead at UNC’s Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute. He serves as the primary point of contact between FPG’s researchers and the Web Services team.

Wooseob Jeong (MSLS ’97) was named Dean of the School of Library and Information Management (SLIM) at Emporia State University in Kansas. A faculty member and former interim dean at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Jeong began his role as professor and dean of SLIM on July 5.

Nora Armstrong (MSLS ’97) was promoted in April to Division Manager for Programs & Services at the Cumberland County Public Library. She has been with CCPL for 19 years. She credits the field experience she did there as part of her SILS coursework as instrumental in laying the foundation of her career as a public librarian.

Nick Graham (MSLS ’98) has been appointed University Archivist, based in the Wilson Special Collections Library. He provides vision and leadership for the University Archives and Records Management Services (URAMS).

Miles Efron (MSIS ’00, PhD ’03) has been named the Centennial Scholar for 2015-2016 by the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The award recognizes outstanding accomplishments and/or professional promise in the field of LIS.

Susan Brown (MSLS ’01) had an article published in the November issue of Public Management, the magazine of the ICMA (International City/County Management Association). The article, titled “Public Libraries as Partners: Collaborative Initiatives that Serve Local Governments,” is now free on the ICMA website. Brown, a SILS Distinguished Alumni, will also be teaching the Management for Information Professionals course at SILS in the spring.

Monecia T. Samuel (SILS ’01) completed her third year as a Fulbright Discipline Peer Reviewer for Library Science in September. She is a Research Librarian at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Renée Bosman (MSLS ’04) has been appointed the Government Information Librarian at UNC’s Davis Library. She provides strategic planning, vision, and overall management for the UNC Library’s collection of more than two million federal, international, and U.S. state documents, and for the Library’s microforms collections.

Susan H. Keesee (MSLS ’04) landed a permanent position at UNC-Chapel Hill in August, split between the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and Environmental Sciences and Engineering. Since 2002, Susan worked many temporary gigs with UNC and Duke, and since 2005 has served as contract medical librarian at the Butner Federal Medical Center.

Two new SILS distinguished alumni recognized

Mae Lipscomb Rodney (PhD ’86) and Tim Shearer (MSLS ’97) received the SILS Distinguished Alumni Award in the fall of 2015 and the spring of 2016, respectively. The award is presented by the SILS Alumni Association (SILSAA) to graduates who have made outstanding achievements in library or information science at the national, state, or local levels, and those who have demonstrated exceptional service to the profession and to SILS.

Dr. Rodney earned her MSLS from N.C. Central University before becoming the first African American to graduate from Chapel Hill with a PhD in library science in 1986. She was employed at N.C. Central University from 1967 to 1983, and Winston-Salem State University as library director from July 1983 to June 2015.

“We wanted to recognize her many years strengthening and expanding the O’Kelly Library services and collections at Winston-Salem State University,” said Joe Williams (MSLS ’01), who presented Rodney the award on behalf of SILSAA. “We also wanted to acknowledge the great impact she has had on our profession through her active leadership and years of mentoring and developing new librarians.”

Dr. Rodney continues to help shape and guide our School and profession today in her role on the SILS Board of Visitors.”

After graduating from SILS, Shearer began a notable career path in the UNC Libraries that progressed from cataloging, to programming, to leading a team of programmers, to being appointed Director of Library and Information Technology in May 2015. He also teaches a systems analysis course at SILS, where his engaging style has made him a beloved instructor.

“Tim’s innovative leadership has produced critical library tools and services,” said Emily Jack (MSLS ’07), who presented Shearer with the award at the spring commencement. “His colleagues value his insight, creativity, and sense of humor, as well as his commitment to mentoring students and new librarians.”
ALUMNI UPDATES

Mary White (MSLS ’04) has been appointed Global Public Health Librarian at UNC’s Health Sciences Library. She helps to meet the information needs of people in cross-disciplinary public health courses, programs, and centers.

Jodi Berkowitz (MSLS ’06) is now the Technical Services Archivist based in the Wilson Special Collections Library at UNC. She leads a department that provides expertise in geographic information systems (GIS), geographic data, numeric data, statistics, data visualization, and digital humanities.

Heather McCullough (MSIS ’07) was selected as a 2016 fellow for the Institute of Emerging Leadership in Online Learning (IELOL). The program enables participants to work with colleagues from around the world and join a growing network of higher education leaders.

Rebecca K. Miller (MSLS ’07) was appointed Head of Library Learning Services at Penn State University Libraries in State College, Penn., in October 2015. She left her position as Assistant Director for Learning Services at Virginia Tech in order to step into this new leadership role.

Karen Sobel (MSLS ’07) edited the book Mastering Subject Specialties: Practical Advice from the Field, which was published by Libraries Unlimited in March. Several members of the SILS and UNC Library communities contributed to the book, including Josiah Drewry (MSLS ’07) and Shari Laster (MSLS ’07).

Sarah Gransee Arnaudin (MSLS ’08) transitioned out of children’s services a few years ago and is now the branch manager at the South Buncombe Library in Asheville.

Michael Fitzgerald (MSLS ’08), Electronic Services Librarian at the University of the District of Columbia, wife Katie Fitzgerald, former children’s librarian at the Durham County Public Library, and big sister Margaret Louise welcomed Caroline Grace on September 30, 2015. Caroline weighed 8 lbs 12 oz and was 20.5 inches long. In more professional news, the second edition of Michael’s book Rat Race Blues: The Musical Life of Gigi Gryce was published by Current Research in Jazz, and he was promoted to Assistant Professor in the Learning Resources Division at UDC.

Lisa Gregory (MSLS ’09) was named the Program Coordinator for the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center.

Brian Moynihan (MSIS ’09) is now Head of Health Information Technology Initiatives at the UNC Health Sciences Library.

Kristen Merryman (MSLS ’10) has been appointed Digital Projects Librarian for the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center. She works with staff in institutions and organizations throughout the state to develop and implement new digitization projects.

Claire (Ruswick) Leverett (MSLS ’10) is now Assistant Director of NC LIVE.

Adam Rogers (MSLS ’10), Emerging Technology Services Librarian at NC State University, was one of three NCSU librarians to fill six slots for the “I’ve Got a Hunch” session at the Association of Research Libraries fall association meeting on September 28 in Washington D.C. Roger’s hunch was about the transformative potential of the Internet of Things: “In our Makerspace at the NCSU Libraries, we have built multiple ‘things’ that mediate space access, collect data for learning space assessment, and monitor humidity and temperature for collections preservation, but that’s just the beginning of what’s possible with WiFi-connected platforms dropping below $5 per device.”

Chirag Shah (PhD ’10) has been promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Library and Information Science at the School of Communication and Information at Rutgers University. Shah also received funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Google to support his research.

Meredith Weiss (PhD ’10) left her position as Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration at UNC in August to become Vice President of Administration at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Alice Whiteside (MSLS ’10) has been appointed Head of the Joseph C. Sloane Art Library at UNC Chapel Hill. She will oversee the daily operations of the Library and serve as the primary library liaison to the art department and the Ackland Art Museum.

Will Cross (MSLS ’11) and Kimberly Hirsh (MSIS ’11), current SILS doctoral student, welcomed their first child, a son, Michael Thespis Hirsh Cross, on October 7, 2016.

M. Elizabeth Davidson (MSIS ’11) became Head of Public Services at McDaniel College’s Hoover Library in July.

Alani Perry (BSIS ’11) has joined Cardinal Solutions Group as a Business Analyst/Staff Consultant.

Sofía Becerra-Licha (MSLS ’12) and Jacqueline E. Chapman (MSLS ’12) were selected by the Coalition to Advance Learning in Archives, Libraries, and Museums for the Collective Wisdom: Libraries, Archives, and Museums (LAM) Conference Exchange. Becerra-Licha is the Archivist for the Stan Getz Library at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, and Chapman is the Digital Collections Librarian for the Smithsonian Libraries in Washington, D.C. They and other professionals chosen for this unique experience have formed a learning cohort to help strengthen connections across sectors. Members of the cohort attended three major conferences and engaged in virtual activities together throughout 2016.

BRANCH members reach out to new BSIS students

BRANCH (BSIS Recent Alumni Network of Chapel Hill) members came to BSIS orientations this fall to share their experiences with new students. Pictured from left: Samira Akpan (BSIS ’06), Global Learning Project Manager, GlaxoSmithKline; Patrick Hodges (BSIS ’15), Security Engineer at MetLife; Jimmy Nguyen (BSIS ’10), Net Developer, Atlantic Business Technologies; and Natalie Davis (BSIS ’15), Technical Analyst, Credit Suisse. Marcos Prieto (BSIS ’15), not pictured, also attended on an alternate night.
Evan Carroll (BSIS ’08, MSIS ’12) launched a new business, Evan Carroll and Associates, and published his second book, Blue Goldfish, in early 2016. In the book, Carroll and co-author Stan Phelps examine over 300 examples of companies that are effectively using technology, data, and analytics to benefit customers, rather than simply sell products. Learn more at www.evancarroll.net.

Pamella Lach (MSIS ’12) became the Digital Humanities Librarian at San Diego State University in September. Among her many responsibilities, she’ll be contributing to SDSU’s Digital Humanities Initiative, which began as a grass-roots, faculty-driven initiative and has grown into a strategic Area of Excellence: http://dh.sdsu.edu/.

Emily Vorhies (MSLS ’12) joined the EPA-RTP Library as the Electronic Resources Librarian in July. She is working closely with the EPA-RTP Library Director and EPA Federal Project Officer on all facets of serials and electronic resource management.

Alex Carroll (MSLS ’13) received the Award for Professional Excellence by a New Health Sciences Librarian from the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association on September 28 in Philadelphia. This award is presented annually to a member of the health sciences librarian community with 10 or fewer years of experience who has made outstanding contributions to health sciences librarianship.

Dani Brecher Cook (MSLS ’13) is now Director of Teaching & Learning at the Library of the University of California, Riverside.

Megan England (MSLS ’13) has signed a two-book deal with HarperCollins Children’s. Her first book, a YA space opera titled The Disasters, is set for release in fall 2018. The book has been described as “The Breakfast Club meets Firefly.” England is the YA librarian with the Crozet Library, part of the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library in Va.

Jackson Mayberry (BSIS ’13) was promoted to Senior Analytics Consultant at Deloitte, Chicago, in July.

Alex Poole (MSLS ’09, PhD ’15) joined the College of Computing & Informatics at Drexel University as an Assistant Professor in the fall of 2015.

Latia Ward (MSLS ’15) has been appointed Chair of the American Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division Public Education Committee and Leader of the Young Lawyers Division Law Day Team for the 2016-2017 bar year.

Sumayya Ahmed (PhD ’16) is a lecturer for the Library and Information Studies program at University College London, Qatar.

Jessica Dixon (MSLS ’16) began working as the N.C. Biotechnology Center’s Technical Services Librarian in September 2016.

Ashlee Edwards Bringer (PhD ’16) works for Facebook as a User Experience Researcher at Instagram. Her dissertation received the ProQuest Doctoral Dissertation Honorable Mention at the 2016 ASIS&T Conference.

Alumnae discuss SILS and diversity for video

This spring, we asked three SILS alumnae, Dr. L. Teresa Church (MSLS ’98, PhD ’08), Lori E. Harris (MSLS ’13), and Barrye Brown (MSLS ’14), to discuss their experiences at SILS and the importance of diversity to the future of the School and the profession. Highlights of their conversation were edited for a video that was added to the SILS Vimeo and YouTube channels.

Dr. L. Teresa Church is the sole proprietor of LTC Consulting. In addition to her MSLS and PhD from SILS, she holds a BA in English from Radford University, a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Information Systems from Virginia Commonwealth University, and an MA in English/Creative Writing from Brown University. Dr. Church works as an independent archival consultant and her research interests include the documentation of local African American community history through primary source materials. She has served as a member of exhibit project teams for the Southern Historical Collection and Pacific Studio, the company that designed the exhibit for the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site.

Aside from her work in the archives profession, Dr. Church is an accomplished poet, playwright, and quilter. She was awarded the 1989 Playwrights Fellowship from the N.C. Arts Council for her play depicting the experiences of African American veterans of Vietnam. Her poetry has been published in numerous journals and anthologies, and her quilts have been featured in solo exhibitions.

Dr. Church is a member of the SILS Alumni Inclusion and Diversity (SAID) Committee.

Lori E. Harris is Assistant Director of the Donald C. Harrison Health Sciences Library and the Henry R. Winkler Center for the History of the Health Professions at the University of Cincinnati. Harris joined the Library in 2015 as a National Library of Medicine (NLM) Associate Fellow. She spent the first year of her fellowship at the NLM in Bethesda, Md., learning about NLM’s collections, databases, terminologies, research, and exhibits. She joined the SAID Committee in 2016.

Harris earned her undergraduate degree in American Studies and certificates in archival studies and museum studies from Smith College in Northampton, Mass. As a SILS student, she was awarded an ALA Spectrum Scholarship and the SAA’s Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award. She worked in N.C. State University’s Special Collections Research Center as both a library associate and project archivist. Harris also served as an archivist intern for both the Sophia Smith Collection, Smith College, Northampton, Mass., and the Black Women’s Health Imperative in Washington, D.C.

Barrye Brown is the Reference and Outreach Archivist at the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture at the College of Charleston. She holds a BA in American History from Dillard University and an MA in Atlantic World History from Rice University. As a SILS student, she was awarded an ALA Spectrum Scholarship and an SAA Mosaic Scholarship. She was also a Carolina Academic Library Associate (CALA) with a dual appointment in the Southern Historical Collection and the Sonja Haynes Stone Center Library.
In Deepest Sympathy

SILS extends condolences to the friends and loved ones of alumni, former faculty, and friends of the School who passed away during the previous year. The following were drawn from obituaries published between September 30, 2015, and September 30, 2016.

Eula Virginia K. Wheeler - October 4, 2015
Louise L. LaCroix - October 15, 2015
T. A. Vaughn - October 18, 2015
Maxine Wise - October 20, 2015
Olga C. Schaut - October 22, 2015
Lois W. Smith - December 13, 2015
Naomi K. Young - December 19, 2015
James B. Poteat - January 17, 2016
Mary W. Canada - January 23, 2016
Joyce H. Upham - January 28, 2016
John G. Deasey - February 14, 2016
William N. Kirchner - February 21, 2016
Jean T. Johnson - March 14, 2016
Grayce H. McLamb - April 8, 2016
Katherine M. Levine - April 18, 2016
Dorothy C. Grigg - April 25, 2016
Louise T. Deshaies - June 14, 2016
Herman S. Bekemeyer - August 15, 2016
Susan B. Steele - August 27, 2016

Former SILS Professor David Wildon Carr

David Wildon Carr, former Associate Professor at the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS), died January 31, 2016, at age 70. He was a member of the SILS faculty from 1998 until his retirement in 2010. He received the Teaching Excellence Award from the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) in 1994 and the Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award from SILS in 2001. Friends, colleagues, and former students hosted a memorial gathering in March at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

The following obituary was provided by Dr. Carr’s family:

David was always happy to learn more and that made him an exceptional teacher and mentor to his students, family, and friends. He was generous in sharing and loved to make connections with others he met along the way, whether it was a shared appreciation of a book or the unexpected discovery that his new acquaintances now lived in the house he grew up in hundreds of miles away. David created stories for his grandchildren, happily played Legos, and accepted direction of what role he was to take in their play.

Within his family he took, archived, and shared family photographs and stories. In the neighborhood he was the man who provided and stocked the Little Free Library and geocache, and who was frequently outside creating more gardens. He was—as he encouraged everyone else to be—always learning, whether it was about a historical era, Scandinavian crime fiction, or The Octonauts. There also was so much that he was looking forward to learning and doing, and so much that we will all miss sharing with him.

David taught at Rutgers University in the College of Education and the School of Information and Library Science and then at UNC SILS. He loved teaching and his students knew that and responded to his own enthusiasm. His mentoring relationships turned to strong and warm friendships as his students moved into their own careers and lives. His gift for friendship extended widely.

David’s work with museums such as the Strong Museum, the Indianapolis Children’s Museum, and the Queens Museum of Art led to his sharing of what he was learning about the interplay between these institutions and the learning possible within them in The Promise of Cultural Institutions (2003), A Place Not a Place (2006), and Open Conversations (2011). At the time of his death he was writing more essays for a new collection, as well as preparing for the 2017 keynote address, “Museums and Their Publics in Sites of Confl cted History,” for an international conference being held at the POLIN Museum in Warsaw, Poland.

David was born in Morristown, N.J., to Clifford and Marie Carr. His survivors include his wife, Carol; his daughters, Eve Carr and Anna Halsey; his sons-in-law, Dave Dixon and Brett Halsey; his grandchildren, Maxwell Halsey, Jasper Dixon, and Ella Halsey; and a network of extended family, friends, colleagues, and others whose lives he touched. He cared deeply about all and would wish them all rich and long lives as learners, thinkers, and readers.

Memorial donations may be made in lieu of flowers to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the Hospice Atlanta Center, the Queens Museum of Art, First Book, or any group that promotes help to others. Or just read a good book, or go to a museum, and think of David.

Remembering David Carr

“Dr. Carr was tremendously inspiring and he provided me with words of wisdom that resonated and opened my mind. I’ve passed his words on to others who are struggling to find their path. I am saddened to learn that he is no longer with us, but happy to know he touched so many lives.” - Sarah Falls (MSLS ’05)

“Dr. Carr changed my life. He taught me about libraries, cultural institutions, and community; but even more importantly he taught me to look at the world with a lens that revealed the personal responsibility we all have to understand and respect perspectives different from our own. He taught me to know the world is always a bigger place than I think it is….” - Jim Ruth (MSLS ’07)

Many other former students and colleagues have shared their memories of Dr. Carr with SILS. To read more or leave your own message, visit sils.unc.edu/remembrance/david-carr.
Former UNC Dean and SILS Board of Visitors member William H. “Bill” Graves

William H. “Bill” Graves, PhD, died on April 9, 2016, after a protracted and valiant struggle with brain cancer. He was 75.

Dr. Graves earned his mathematics doctorate at Indiana University, then served on the faculty at UNC Chapel Hill for over 30 years. Dr. Graves also served as UNC’s dean for general education, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, senior IT officer, and founder and director of the Institute for Academic Technology (a partnership with IBM). During those years he also served on boards for CAUSE, EDUCAUSE, and the Coalition for Networked Information, helping to launch Internet2 and co-founding EDUCAUSE’s National Learning Infrastructure Initiative and chairing the NLII’s planning committee.

While on sabbatical from UNC in 1997, he founded and directed the non-profit Collegis Research Institute and, after retiring in 1999 from UNC, founded and chaired the board of Eduprise, Inc., an academic technology services firm that subsequently merged with Collegis, then SunGard Higher Education (now Ellucian), where he served as Senior VP for Academic Strategy until his retirement in 2014. Most recently, Dr. Graves had served on governing or advisory organizations for SILS, Antioch University, IMS Global Learning Consortium, National Center for Academic Transformation, U.S. Department of Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, and the International Association of University Presidents.

Dr. Graves published more than 80 books and papers, gave hundreds of invited presentations, and advised hundreds of institutions based on the hope that “education can learn to harness IT as an agent of institutional self-disruption and self-transformation for improving academic performance.”

SILS alumnus, former dean, and professor emeritus Raymond Leonard Carpenter Jr.

SILS Professor Emeritus Raymond Leonard Carpenter Jr. died peacefully on April 25, 2016, while in hospice care with his wife, Patricia, by his side. He was 89.

After serving in the U.S. Army and earning a BA in sociology from St. Lawrence University, he earned an MA in sociology from UNC in 1951, and his MS in library science in 1959, all while working at the University libraries. He became an instructor in the UNC School of Library Science in 1959. He went on to earn a PhD in sociology and was promoted to Associate Professor of Library Science in 1968. He served as acting Dean of the School of Library Science from 1970 to 1972, and was named a full Professor of Library Science in 1981.

Dr. Carpenter’s passion for teaching and research led to many publications and brought him great joy for over 40 years at UNC. His prodigious research work included a pioneering national study of gender differences in salary and status and a national and state-level analysis of college library operations in terms of the American Library Association’s standards (four-year and two-year).

SILS Honor Roll of Donors

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, 2016. Additionally, it 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)
- 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 our records. You can reach Stephanie Kretz, director of development, at 919-843-9378 or stephanie_kretz@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.

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Associates ($250 to $499)
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For more information on giving to SILS, visit sils.unc.edu/giving.

The background and illustrations for this honor roll are from banners designed by SILS Executive Assistant Susan Sylvester (MSLS ’05). Check out page 8 to see how they look hanging in front of Manning Hall.

List symbol key

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**Fred Roper (MSLS ’62): Combining his love for UNC academics and athletics into one unique gift**

By Hope Baptiste ’87, UNC Development Communications

S eats 6 through 9 in Row F of Section 229 in the Dean Dome have always belonged to Dr. Fred W. Roper (AB ’60 and MSLS ’62). Back when he was associate dean at the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS), he purchased lifetime rights in 1982 as part of the faculty/staff fundraising effort to construct the building.

Roper was there when the Dean Dome opened in 1986 with an epic battle between the top-ranked Tar Heels and Tobacco Road powerhouse and archrival Duke, ranked third. The top spot in the polls hung in the balance. Carolina came away with a 95-92 victory.

For the next three decades, Roper collected many more moments and memories from those seats. Even after becoming dean at the University of South Carolina’s School of Library and Information Science in 1986, where he served for 17 years before retiring as distinguished dean emeritus, Roper came back often to get his Carolina fix.

His love of his alma mater extends beyond the hardwood, the gridiron or the classroom. He’s been involved in the life of the University and SILS, having served on SILS’s Board of Visitors as well as the UNC Board of Visitors. His achievements, scholarship and contributions to the field of librarianship earned him the SILS Distinguished Alumni Award in 1986. As a dual degree holder, former faculty member and administrator, Roper is a passionate supporter of Carolina’s best and brightest, and of SILS in particular.

Now, he’s giving back in a unique and special way—by giving the rights to his Dean Dome seats to SILS. It’s one of only a few gifts like this ever made to Carolina.

“A native of Hendersonville, N.C., Roper has witnessed the University’s evolution over the past 60 years or so, having come to Chapel Hill as a freshman in 1956-57, the year of Carolina’s first NCAA championship. He entered the master’s program in 1960 (there was no PhD program then) and his classes met on the fourth floor of Wilson Library.

“UNC and SILS gave me a stellar education and opportunities to expand in ways that I hadn’t imagined,” he said. “Throughout my 40-plus-year career, I’ve been fortunate to work with incredible people, explore innovative education development and watch SILS become a top school for library science. I am honored to have been a part of that in some way.”

Roper said he’d had many significant people in his life who have encouraged and supported him, specifically his high school librarian, who introduced him to librarianship, and his mother and stepfather who supported and believed in him unconditionally. In 2012, Roper documented a bequest to UNC as part of his estate plan to honor the memory of his mother and stepfather and to acknowledge the educational experience he received at SILS. His gift will create the Mary Alice and George Jones Fund to support and advance SILS’s nationally recognized medical librarianship and health informatics programs.

“It brings me such joy to make these gifts, and to know that they will help create opportunities for future generations.”

–Dr. Fred W. Roper
The first annual ACM SIGIR Conference on Human Information Interaction and Retrieval (CHIIR 2016) was held March 13-17, 2016, in Chapel Hill. Over 130 attendees came from all over the world to share and discuss research on the user-centered aspects of information interaction and information retrieval. CHIIR (pronounced “cheer”) was the merger of two successful previous events, the Information Interaction in Context conference (IIiX) and the Human Computer Information Retrieval symposium (HCIR).

In addition to the usual conference highlights—including poster presentations, paper sessions, keynotes, and workshops—the event featured an early look at Google User Study Mobile, a van the company has equipped to serve as a portable user studies lab. CHIIR was one of the first stops on the lab’s cross-country tour.

For more information on the 2016 conference, visit sigir.org/chiir2016 or check out #CHIIR2016 on Twitter. Full conference proceeding are now available from the ACM Digital Library at bit.ly/chiir-2016 or search CHIIR at dl.acm.org.