Building a National Reputation

Alumnus Draws on Skills Learned at SILS To Found and Grow Seattle-Based Company

By Katie Vick

Peter McCracken (MSLS ’95) is a rare find—he’s a librarian and an entrepreneur. Twice featured on the cover of Library Journal, this former University of Washington librarian and co-founder of Serials Solutions credits SILS for propelling him to prominence.

“I enjoyed my time at SILS,” McCracken said. “I learned so much and it gave me a great introduction to librarianship and information science.”

After completing his undergraduate studies at Oberlin College in Ohio, McCracken decided to attend library school. Although unsure of which school to choose, McCracken was pretty sure he wanted to be in a big city. However, the village atmosphere of Chapel Hill and the school that resides there caught his eye. His decision was also influenced by SILS alum Ray English (Ph.D. ’78), the library director at Oberlin College.

“I liked the attention that SILS gave traditional library science,” he says. “Working in a library and taking classes in information and

Continued on page 2

A Letter from the Dean

School Needs Your Support

This is a very special issue of the SILS newsletter. You will read about contributions from alumni and friends like you, as well as from our outstanding faculty and students. We present these features to illustrate our reliance on your continued involvement. Your support is essential to maintain our position as the leading school of information and library science in the nation.

To date, we have raised $2.5 million toward our $10 million goal in the Carolina First fundraising campaign. The importance of this campaign cannot be overstated. SILS is more dependent on state funds than some other units, and we all know these funds are rapidly decreasing. Currently, only 24 percent of the university’s budget comes from state funds.

It’s time to begin thinking of ourselves as philanthropists and champions of a profession that has given each of us such a range of worthwhile opportunities. My own contribution to the school involves a gift that is spread over a five-year period so that the annual amount is manageable. There are also opportunities for planned giving through wills and investment income that will benefit the school over the long term.

Ensuring the school’s strong future was the aim of Louis Round Wilson when in the 1930s he secured a Carnegie endowment for the school. Other endowed gifts include ones from Ruth Gambee (see page 5) and Hugh McColl (page 6). The commitment and generosity of these individuals continues to touch us today.

I hope you will read this newsletter with pride, for you are an important member of this exceptional community. Please consider how you can support our tradition of excellence and build a bright future for our profession.
### Students and Sponsors Laud Program’s Benefits

#### IS Sites Needed To Help Students Gain Experience

**By Katie Vick**

Each semester, SILS students are encouraged to participate in professional field experience, which provides them with a chance to work in a supervised information science or library science setting. As a result of increased popularity of the information science (IS) major, more IS field sites are needed to continue the success of the program.

This spring, 25 students were involved in field experience, but only a few of them worked at IS sites. Meichun Li was one of those students.

At the North Carolina Emergency Department Database (NCEDD), Li worked on a de-identification component, which is related to information security in medical databases.

“I had fun with this project,” she said. “While I made a contribution to NCEDD, I benefited a great deal from this field work. I learned a lot that can’t be obtained in taking other courses, and I had the chance to get familiar with medical informatics.”

Christopher Peary is a research assistant at UNC Hospitals in the Center for Functional GI and Motility Disorders, an IS field site. Steve Heyman, director of biofeedback services, supervises him. Peary focuses his field experience on improving the structure of the center’s chat room.

“It has already benefited me by opening up new job opportunities,” Peary said. “A library in South Carolina is looking for a reference librarian who could set up a virtual reference desk, which is basically a chat room.

The benefits of field experience are not limited to SILS students, though. Site directors say they benefit from the opportunity to analyze current operations and redesign for efficiency, and interact with SILS students and faculty.

Selden Lamoureux (MSLS ’99) is an IS site director at UNC’s Davis Library. As a serials librarian, working with student Julie Harris provided Lamoureux with high quality work on critical projects in an understaffed library with increased needs related to electronic resources. But the benefits don’t end there, she says.

“I get good candidates for serials librarianship,” said Lamoureux, who has been a site director for two semesters. “I get the personal satisfaction of mentoring and the professional satisfaction of getting work done by highly qualified students.”

Lamoureux also views her role of site director as a way to give back to the professionals she worked with as a student.

Dr. Evelyn Daniel directs the field experience program at SILS. She says field work enables the school to be in touch with practitioners while allowing faculty to visit sites and keep their teaching up-to-date.

Most IS sites are still in the public sector, Daniel says, which means that very few of these experiences are paid.

“We need paid information science jobs in the corporate world,” she said. “It’s good for the corporation because they don’t have to commit to a full-time position, just a few projects.”

Students who participate in field experience must complete 135 hours of work each semester. Students are allowed to choose their sites, but they must get SILS approval. If students do not have a specific site in mind, they can consult with faculty for placement.

Students receive class credit and sometimes pay for their work, usually around $15 an hour. The employer can either pay the student directly or pay through SILS.

A faculty member and a site director supervise each student. The site director must complete an end-of-semester evaluation. While fieldwork normally lasts one semester, some paid jobs can continue for a year. Experience is not confined to regular class schedules.

For more information on field experience or to learn how to participate in the program as a site director, contact Dr. Evelyn Daniel at daniel@ils.unc.edu.

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**McCracken**

*Continued from front page*

After McCracken arrived on campus in 1995, he quickly realized that SILS was the best choice for him. He says his coursework helped him in various ways, both as a librarian and entrepreneur. In particular, he remembers discussions in an academic library class taught by research emeritus professor Dr. Ed Holley. He later published two articles in *College and Research Libraries* that were based on papers he wrote during that class.

McCracken also credits Dr. Evelyn Daniel’s business information services class as significantly influencing the direction of his career.

“I learned a lot about technology resources and cutting-edge web page creation in that class,” he says. “We learned not only about how technology works but how it can be applied.”

SILS also provided McCracken with an assistantship in the art library, which he says enabled him to do almost everything. He says he was able to receive on-the-job training in the library as well as make contacts and join art library groups.

While pursuing a second graduate degree at East Carolina University, McCracken began his first professional position, as a reference librarian in ECU’s Joyner Library.

“My experiences in the Sloane Art Library prepared me well for my first job,” McCracken said. “I was able to apply what I learned during my assistantship, and as a result of my work in the art library, I was asked to be the liaison to the ECU School of Art.”

While McCracken is no longer a librarian at Odegaard Undergraduate Library on the UW campus, he still spends a couple of hours each week at the reference desk. Most of the time, he works as principal and co-founder of Serials Solutions.

McCracken founded his company with the help of his two brothers and a high school friend. Serials Solutions helps librarians find and use electronic journals and offers librarians a reliable way to track full-text electronic journals by providing a comprehensive A-Z list of journals available to each library. It simplifies the amount of data management that librarians once had to maintain.

McCracken maintains ties with his Chapel Hill alma mater, currently serving on the SILS Board of Visitors. He can also claim another connection to UNC — the university is one of Serials Solutions’ most recent clients.

SILS Dean Joanne Gard Marshall says she’s glad that McCracken and SILS remain closer than the 3,000 miles that now separate them.

“Peter is a great example of what our alumni have accomplished,” she says. “He’s taken his work at SILS and parlayed it into a very successful career. We’re proud of his accomplishments and we’re glad that he’s remained, through his work on the board, a valued member of the SILS community.”

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Decades After School’s Founding, Reservoirs Still Need Tapping

“As part of the program of social welfare now being worked out at Chapel Hill, a library school is needed, where librarians, like lawyers and doctors and teachers, may secure expert professional training. With its magnificent new building as a laboratory for the school, such an institution would not only be in harmony with the program on which the University has embarked, it would offer opportunity through the sending out of trained librarians for the South to tap the vast reservoirs of human knowledge.”

— Louis Round Wilson, 1929

More than 70 years ago, Louis Round Wilson crafted an extraordinary vision. He wanted to educate professionals who could connect people to information. His vision and hard work resulted in the creation of what was then known as the School of Library Science.

Through the years, our school has remained true to Dr. Wilson’s dream even as we have embraced technological advances and the emergence of the information science field. Regardless of whether our graduates work in traditional libraries or in cyberspace, we still provide the tools to tap that vast and ever-expanding reservoir that Wilson described more than seven decades ago.

In order to support our cornerstones of teaching excellence, research excellence and putting information to use in the real world, the School of Information and Library Science has embarked on an ambitious campaign to raise $10 million from alumni and friends as a part of the university-wide Carolina First campaign.

Carolina First, with a goal of $1.8 billion, will transform the university and will help keep the school at the pinnacle of excellence by enabling us to invest in four key areas:

1. Students: Educating the leaders of tomorrow through scholarships, international exchanges, fellowships and service learning opportunities.
2. Faculty: Attracting and retaining the best with professorships, faculty development funds, international exchanges and fellowships.
3. Research and Service: Focusing on the public good through research funds, centers of excellence and lifelong learning programs.
4. Manning Hall: Creating a state-of-the-art facility in a classic setting by adding new building space and remaining a technological leader.

The call for librarians and information professionals is only increasing. In the next decade, 48 percent of librarians will reach retirement age while even more new information science jobs will be created. The combination of these factors will make the demand for our well-trained graduates greater than ever.

Our $10 million goal will build the SILS endowment to an unprecedented level, allowing the school to meet the above needs by continuing to produce highly-skilled librarians and information science professionals and to exceed its own standards of excellence.

I hope you enjoy this special campaign edition of our newsletter as we introduce our campaign committee, highlight some success stories of our talented alumni and longtime friends as well as share the ways in which several of the wonderful gifts from our donors are benefiting SILS.

David C. MacDonald
Editor/Desktop Publisher

Katie Vick
Communications Assistant
Junior, School of Journalism and Mass Communication

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is committed to the principles of equal opportunity with regard to its students and its employees.
Profile: McColl Professorship

Love of Books Inspired CEO’s Gift to School

By Katie Vick

The Frances Carroll McColl Term Professorship is the only term professorship offered by SILS. Former chairman and CEO of Bank of America, Hugh McColl Jr. (BSBA ’57) established the professorship in memory of his mother, Frances Carroll McColl, and sister, Frances McColl Covington. This professorship provides honor, distinction and supplemental salary to the recipient for his or her contributions to the school.

McColl said he was inspired by the school’s needs and his mother’s love of literature.

“My mother taught everyone in the family to love books, and we have prospered from having access to them and, perhaps more important, knowing where to turn to find the information we need.”

Dr. Helen Tibbo was a McColl Term Professor from 2000-2002. McColl funds supported her travel to two workshops in 2000 on digital preservation and access at Rice University and Cornell University. The award also helped fund two research projects:

“Managing the Digital University Desktop” and

“Primarily History,” which is an international study of how historians locate primary resources.

“I believe being able to place ‘Frances Carroll McColl Term Professor’ after my name for two years brought with it a great deal of respect and opened doors that otherwise would have needed a bit more prying,” Tibbo said.

The current McColl Professor is Dr. Evelyn Daniel. Previous McColl Professors were Tibbo (2000-02), Dr. Robert M. Losee (1998-2000) and Dr. William M. Shaw Jr. (1996-98).

If you are interested in making a contribution, you may use the gift slip on page 12 or visit http://carolinafirst.unc.edu/gift. For more information about the Frances Carroll McColl Professorship, please contact Shawn Jackson, director of development, at shawn_jackson@unc.edu or (919) 962-8365.

Profile: Hooker Fellowship

Fund Honors Chancellor’s Memory, Promotes Study of Networking

By Katie Vick

The Michael Hooker Graduate Fellowship in Applied Networking was established in 2000 in memory of the late Chancellor Michael Hooker.

In January 1999, Hooker was excited about the possibility of preparing students in networking technology at the School of Information and Library Science. He got the former Cisco Systems executive, Selby Wellman, and Dean Joanne Marshall together to discuss their ideas of partnering to honor the chancellor’s technology vision.

Hooker’s vision included support for students who would become the intellectual capital of Cisco Systems and contribute to the growth of the networking industry, especially here in North Carolina. Though Hooker passed away later that same year, Cisco Systems and SILS were able to formalize the partnership by establishing an endowed graduate fellowship.

The fellowship is used to support graduate students studying the development and management of networked information systems and Internet networking technology at SILS. It is one of the few information science-focused fellowships offered at SILS.

Last year’s recipients of the fellowship were Yanfang Jiang and Meichun Li, who used the funds to purchase a laptop and books necessary for her studies.

The fellowship was highly beneficial for Jiang as well, as he used the funds to cover tuition and the cost of books.

“It meant so much to me to get the fellowship. It was a genuine recognition of my passion and hard work,” Jiang said.

“SILS is a great place to explore your interests and be rewarded for your dedication.”

– SILS Student Yanfang Jiang

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Profile: Budd Gambee Memorial Fund

Gifts Support Library, Honor Professor’s Memory

By Katie Vick

After the death of Dr. Budd L. Gambee Jr., a SILS professor for 20 years, his wife, Ruth, established a special fund in her husband’s name to benefit the SILS library.

The Budd Gambee Memorial Library Fund, established in 1995, has grown over the years, thanks to contributions from Ruth Gambee, SILS alumni and friends of the school. This past year, the fund was used to buy a digital copy of the Gutenberg Bible for one of Dr. Jerry Saye’s classes.

“It’s marvelous that we have this resource,” Saye said. “Budd Gambee would be delighted to know that our students are benefiting from his generosity.”

SILS Librarian Rebecca Vargha said the fund helps further the education and experiences of future librarians and information professionals.

“Especially in this time of economic crisis, I’m doubly grateful for a reserve like the Gambee Fund,” she said. “Without this special fund, purchases like the material requested by Dr. Saye for his class would not be a reality.”

Budd Gambee first arrived at the School of Library Science in 1963. He retired from the school in 1983 as professor emeritus. His teaching specialties included audiovisual librarianship, publishing and library history.

Prior to his career in Chapel Hill, Gambee, a native of Auburn, N.Y., received a bachelor of arts degree with distinction from the University of Rochester (N.Y.) and master’s and doctorate degrees in library science from the University of Michigan.

His career also included library positions at the Detroit Public Library and West Virginia University. He taught at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., and at the State University of New York in Albany.

Budd and Ruth Gambee enjoyed traveling together. Budd received two Fulbright lectureships in library science that allowed the couple to explore Cairo, Egypt, from 1952-1953 and Tehran, Iran, from 1974-1975.

“While in Iran, we had the opportunity to visit Russia, India and Sri Lanka,” Ruth says. “We loved traveling and indulged in it whenever we could.”

Budd Gambee was active in state and national library organizations and served as chairman of the Library History Roundtable of the American Library Association. He participated in the delegation to London when the American Library Association celebrated its 100th anniversary.

After he retired, Gambee became active in the Chapel Hill Historical Society and served as treasurer for several years. He was the director of the project to index issues of The Chapel Hill Weekly during its early years. He also enjoyed painting, and his work was often displayed in shows and competitions. Several of his paintings were on display at a special celebration of SILS’ 70th anniversary in April 2002.

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Profile: Baker & Taylor Scholarship

Company’s Gift Sends Student to Oxford Seminar

By Katie Vick

The annual Oxford Seminar provides a unique opportunity for information and library science professionals and graduate students to discuss trends in academic librarianship with the staff of the Bodleian Library, one of the great library centers of the world. Baker & Taylor provides one scholarship each year for a student at SILS to attend the seminar.

The 11th annual “Libraries and Librarianship: Past, Present and Future” seminar was held May 18-31. The two-week program is presented by SILS, UNC-Chapel Hill, Oxford University and it’s Department of Continuing Education.

Experts from the Bodleian Library and throughout Great Britain guide seminar participants. While the emphasis is on academic libraries, other types of libraries are included in the contemporary survey of librarianship.

The series of presentations is supplemented by visits to the Bodleian Library, some Oxford College libraries and the headquarters of Oxford University Press, as well as Blackwell’s Bookshops. There are opportunities for participants to pursue their own projects and to meet relevant specialists currently working at the Bodleian Library.

Participants in the program may earn three hours of graduate credit from SILS.

George Coe, president of Baker & Taylor in Charlotte, said that the company is proud to sponsor the scholarship. Baker & Taylor is a leading supplier of books, movies, music and information products to libraries and retailers worldwide.

“We are very excited about the opportunity of international exposure and growth this scholarship award offers to the student who earns this scholarship each year,” he said. “We are also very proud of our close association with UNC-CH and how this relationship benefits the students and educational program offered by the University.”

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Profile: SILS Partnership With EPA, NIEHS Libraries

Program Benefits Interns, Staff and School

By Katie Vick

A special partnership between the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and SILS was born on May 6, 1974, when then-dean Ed Holley created a program that would give master's students a chance to intern at the EPA library in Research Triangle Park (RTP). In the mid-1980s, the program was increased through an interagency agreement to include interns at the National Institute of Environmental Health Science (NIEHS) Library.

The relationship between SILS and the EPA is a federal contract. SILS holds the contract to provide library services to the EPA and is the only school to have an agreement of this type with the federal government. SILS was awarded the contract to continue administering the EPA/ NIEHS programs for another five years in 1999.

Under the contract, SILS staff members provide services at the EPA-RTP main library. The contract also provides for the internship program through which 11 to 15 SILS graduate students are employed at the two libraries.

Now, the SILS-EPA internship program is preparing to celebrate its 30th anniversary. Over 300 master's students have interned at either the NIEHS or the EPA, which has recently finished moving all staff to its new campus, the largest facility ever designed and built by the EPA.

The partnership gives students a chance to apply what they are learning in class, to gain professional-level experience and to acquire a better understanding of what they want to do in the future.

EPA and NIEHS interns commit to working 20 hours each week for one year. There are three rotations at the NIEHS library and five rotations at the EPA library through which interns move. Rotations occur in September, January and May.

“The rotations keep the personality of the place changing,” said Debbie Balsamo (MSLS '97), EPA library director, who supervises the interns. “It’s hard to see them go.”

At EPA, each student has an opportunity to choose from among the five rotations within interlibrary loan (ILL), reference, cataloging, online searching and Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) Library Services.

The ILL intern coordinates the delivery of resources and materials requested internally by EPA staff and externally by cooperating libraries. Each day, the intern processes incoming requests for article reprints and monograph loans and searches for items and requests them via the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC).

According to Balsamo, ILL is a very busy department, as it processed over 18,000 requests last year.

“It provides a good opportunity to get some hands-on experience with library applications such as Docline that would not otherwise be available in the classroom setting,” said Renee Siconolfi, a SILS student who is currently in the ILL rotation.

Reference interns provide assistance with the various resources available in the library. The reference intern is the first point of contact for EPA staff and public patrons via phone, e-mail or in person and must respond to a variety of questions, ranging from environmental questions to requests for specific EPA-produced documents.

Cataloging interns perform original cataloging for EPA technical documents, state agency reports and documents, international organization documents, dissertations and monographs. They also use the EPA's online catalog and the library’s circulation system on a daily basis.

Online searching interns perform in-depth database search for researchers and become proficient with using scientific Dialog databases. This intern also maintains departmental records and statistics and manages the library’s information alerting service.

As the OAQPS intern, students are responsible for providing library services to the staff of OAQPS and helping with reference and interlibrary loan. The OAQPS intern is primarily responsible for guiding OAQPS-produced materials through the EPA document publication process.

“I do a lot of work with the publication and distribution of EPA technical and consumer documents related to the air quality standards,” said Megan von Isenburg, a first-year SILS student and current OAQPS intern.

The NIEHS library offers internships in serials, reference and cataloging.

The serials intern is responsible for the daily management of the print serials collection, which involves the receipt, physical preparation, routing, shelving and claiming of all current print serials. The intern also assists in periodic deletion of materials according to the library's retention policies and prepares duplicate materials to donate to clearinghouses or other libraries.

NIEHS reference interns handle incoming patron requests via telephone, fax, e-mail or face-to-face. These interns are responsible for updates to the library’s web site.

It is the responsibility of the NIEHS cataloging intern to create cataloging
Where are They Now?

These former EPA and NIEHS Library interns and SILS alumni are serving in the following professional careers:

- **Angela Andrews** (MSIS ’93, Intern ’90-’91)
  Program Director, Customer Services and Solutions, Computer Sciences Corporation

- **Kitty Bridges** (MSLS ’81, Intern: 1978-79)
  Director of Special Projects, Sentara Williamsburg Community Hospital, Williamsburg, Va.

- **Leslie Pearse Dillon** (MSLS ’79, Intern: 1978-79)
  Information Specialist, OCLC Information Center, Dublin, Ohio

- **Elizabeth A. “Libby” Evans** (MSLS ’82, Intern: 1981-82)
  Project Manager, Administrative Information Services, UNC-Chapel Hill

- **Ernie Evangelista** (MSLS ’94, Intern: 1992-94)
  Information Services Coordinator, Library and Information Center, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

- **Brandi Florence** (MSLS ’02, Intern: 2001-02)
  School Library Media Coordinator, Corinth-Holders School, Johnston County, N.C.

- **Corey Harper** (Intern: 2000-02)
  Catalog Management and Enrichment team leader, Knight Library, University of Oregon

- **Bruce Henson** (MSLS ’97, Intern: 1996-97)
  Head, Information Services Department, Georgia Tech Library

  Academic Personnel Librarian, North Carolina State University Libraries

- **Richard Hinson** (MSLS ’76, Intern: 1975-76)
  Roche Labs, Princeton, N.J.

- **Steven Hirsch** (MSLS ’88, Intern: 1987-88)
  Program Analyst, Office of Rural Health Policy

- **Jens Holley** (MSLS ’83, Intern: 1982-83)
  Unit Head of Resource Sharing, R.M. Cooper Library, University Libraries Faculty Department Chair, Clemson University

- **Gerald Holmes** (MSLS ’84, Intern: 1983-84)
  Assistant Reference Librarian, Jackson Library, UNC-Greensboro

- **Ann Ingram** (MSLS ’84, Intern: 1981-82)
  Senior Information Engineer, Lockheed Martin Corporation

- **Amy Ising** (MSIS ’01, Intern: 1999-2000)
  Technical Team Lead, North Carolina Emergency Department Database

- **Cynthia Keever** (MSLS ’84, Intern: 1992-93)
  Library Director, Hood Theological Seminary Library, Salisbury, N.C.

- **Becky Kornegay** (MSLS ’77, Intern: 1975-76)
  Head of Reference, Hunter Library, Western Carolina University

- **Borree Kwok** (MSLS ’92, Intern: 1991-92)
  Director of Institutional Research, Head Technical Services, Campbell University

- **Selden Durgom Lamoureux** (MSLS ’98, Intern: 1997-98)
  Serials and Electronic Resources Librarian, Acquisitions Department, Davis Library, UNC-Chapel Hill

- **Laurie Leadbetter** (MSLS ’85, Intern: 1985-86)
  Reference Librarian, Carolina Population Center, UNC-Chapel Hill

- **Teresa Leonard** (MSLS ’87, Intern: 1986-87)
  Director, News Research, News & Observer, Raleigh, N.C.

  Head, Library Web Services Department, Duke University

- **Tim Maas** (MSIS ’95, Intern: 1994-95)
  Senior Information Technology Analyst, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

- **Anne L. McFarland** (MSLS ’93, Intern: 1992-93)
  Director of Technical Services, National Baseball Hall of Fame

- **Katherine Fuller McKenzie** (MSLS ’86, Intern: 1985-86)
  Reference Technology Librarian, Swem Library, College of William & Mary

- **Deb Morley** (MSLS ’93, Intern: 1992-93)
  Director of Information Technology Services, Harvard College Library

- **Kathleen E. Pathe** (MSLS ’95, Intern: 1994-95)
  Librarian, Research Division, IBM Corporation, Hawthorne, N.Y.

- **Marlys Ray** (Intern: 1992-93)
  Library Specialist, Institute on Aging Information Center, UNC-Chapel Hill

- **Dave Robertson** (MSLS ’75, Intern: 1974)
  Library Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Science

- **Barbara P. Semonche** (MSLS ’76, Intern: 1974-76)
  Director of Park Library, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, UNC-CH

- **Endrina Tay** (MSLS ’02, Intern: 2001-02)
  Coordinator of Cataloging and Metadata, Thomas Jefferson Foundation Inc.

- **Sue La Paro Trask** (MSLS ’86, Intern: 1985-86)
  Head of Children’s Services, York County Public Library, Yorktown, Va.

- **K.T. Vaughan** (MSLS ’01, Intern: 2000-01)
  User Services Librarian, Health Sciences Library, UNC-Chapel Hill

- **Don Welsh** (MSIS ’80, Intern: 1979-80)
  Head of Reference Services, Swem Library, College of William & Mary

- **Megan Winget** (MSIS ’99, Intern: 1998-99)
  Ph.D Student at SILS and Academic Technology Specialist, UNC-CH

- **Larry L. Wright** (MSLS ’85, Intern: 1984-85)
  Head of Reference Services, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

and classification records. The intern also uses both the cataloging module of the library’s integrated library system and the bibliographic utility to maintain bibliographic and holdings records.

The rotation system has been highly beneficial to the interns, as they are given a chance to learn how all aspects of the library operate.

“By learning how the EPA operates from different positions within the library, I am learning skills applicable to any kind of library, academic, public and even school libraries,” said Jessica Eakin, a first-year SILS student and EPA reference intern.

To qualify for the library internship, interns must be enrolled in at least nine credit hours per semester during the regular academic year and cannot hold any other graduate assistantships. Interns receive a generous stipend as well as health care benefits, generous annual and sick leave and 10 federal holidays. Tuition benefits are available to qualifying students.

“The internships are competitive and students make huge commitments to work here,” Balsamo said. “This is a real job; the federal government depends on us to staff the library when they need us.”

However, the pressures of so many responsibilities, commuting to work each day and finding time to go to regular classes don’t outweigh the rewards of an EPA internship.

“I feel incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to work at the EPA,” Eakin said. “The interns who have worked at the EPA are some of the best prepared students when they leave SILS and I wish there were more opportunities like the EPA so all students could learn the practical skills, responsibility and communication that occurs in a library setting.”

For more information about the EPA internship, please contact Debbie Balsamo at (919) 541-0094 or balsamo.deborah@epa.gov.
Pull of Manning Strong for MacMullen

By Katie Vick

While many students graduate from SILS and start their careers elsewhere, John MacMullen (MSIS ’97) keeps returning to Chapel Hill. After working at Nortel Networks in Research Triangle Park for four years, MacMullen returned to campus in 2001 for a one-year bioinformatics fellowship. This year, he’s back at SILS in the Ph.D. program continuing his research and working toward what he hopes will be an information science faculty position.

MacMullen, who spent his undergraduate years at Northeastern University in Boston, came to SILS to begin work on his MSIS in 1995. He says the school’s cutting-edge research is what attracted him to UNC and Manning Hall.

“I was drawn by the faculty’s reputation and the innovative problems that SILS was working on at the time. That was eight years ago and it is still true today. Some of the best-known people in the field work at SILS,” said MacMullen, who has given donations to many areas of the school to support fellowships, lectures, research, the SILS library and the school in general. Through use of matching gifts from his employer, MacMullen doubled the impact of his gifts in each case.

MacMullen returned to campus in August 2001 on a joint UNC-Duke bioinformatics research fellowship, after first supervising the competitive analysis and strategy department and later managing the global alliances department at Nortel. The fellowship was sponsored in part by the National Library of Medicine, SILS, the UNC Health Sciences Library, UNC Department of Biomedical Engineering, and the UNC Center for Bioinformatics. MacMullen helped the Health Sciences Library plan new ways to serve biomedical researchers, and worked on a methodology for managing metadata about proteins.

“My job was to get information and library science folks involved with researchers and practitioners thinking about new opportunities in biomedical research,” MacMullen said. “Biology isn’t just dissecting anymore; it is moving to computer and data analysis.”

MacMullen worked with the Center for Bioinformatics for a large portion of his research. There, he researched proteomics metadata, helping to develop ways to describe protein features with standard words.

“The goal is to enable labs to share research information using common names,” he said. “It makes collaboration easier.”

Since MacMullen was on a training fellowship, he was allowed to enroll in classes at SILS. He took Dr. Jane Greenberg’s metadata class and Dr. Stephanie Haas’ language seminar.

MacMullen also began a bioinformatics journal club with SILS Assistant Professor Brad Hemminger while working on the fellowship. Today, the club is an actual class at SILS. Each person in the class reads and presents one journal article each week.

“The class is designed to keep students abreast of new research and help information science folks to understand this new area,” he said. “I wanted to introduce that to the SILS community.”

Now in the Ph.D. program at SILS, MacMullen is a full-time student and is involved in another one-year bioinformatics fellowship program. He and Dihui Lu are the only two people from SILS on the fellowship, which is sponsored by SILS, the Carolina Center for Genome Sciences, and several other departments. The fellowship is designed for first- and second-year doctoral students.

“It is a training program to bring people together in the disciplines of bioinformatics. Bioinformatics is an interdisciplinary approach to managing information in biology; using information science,” MacMullen said. “UNC is making large investments in bioinformatics.”

MacMullen hopes to receive his Ph.D. in three or four years. He is excited about all of the different research projects that SILS students are conducting. MacMullen’s ultimate goal is to work as a faculty member at a university in an information science department. Ideally, he would like to focus on information problems in biology and bridge the two disciplines.

John MacMullen, who received his MSIS from SILS in 1997, has returned to Manning Hall to pursue his doctoral degree.

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Assistant Professor Brad Hemminger while working on the fellowship. Today, the club is an actual class at SILS. Each person in the class reads and presents one journal article each week.

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While this year’s Oxford and Prague seminars are over, it isn’t too early for information and library science professionals and graduate students to be thinking about the school’s 2004 international academic adventures.

Dates and rates for next year’s seminars have yet to be finalized. Registration will likely begin sometime later this year. Watch the SILS web site for more information, or contact the SILS office at (919) 962-8366.

2004 will mark the school’s 12th year of offering its Oxford seminar (‘Libraries and Librarianship: Past, Present and Future”) and the third year for its seminar to Prague and the Czech Republic. Both programs run for two weeks and are available for three hours of academic credit.

The Oxford seminar typically takes place the last two weeks of May and the Prague seminar is scheduled for the first two weeks of June this year. Exact dates for the 2004 sessions will be announced as soon as they are available.
School Holds Fond Memories for Miss Freeman

By Katie Vick

On Sept. 1, 1941, Miss Jean Freeman began her first day of work as executive secretary at what was then known as the School of Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill. Thirty-six years, eight deans, two job titles, one building and many students later, Miss Freeman retired from SILS, but not after having left a lasting impact on the school and its rise to prominence as a leader in library science education.

During a recent interview at her home in Raleigh, Miss Freeman, 90, looked back at her years at the school, and shared her thoughts on the many changes that occurred during her tenure. And while she is no longer a fixture in the school’s administrative offices, it is clear that the school still holds a special place in her heart.

Born in Spencer, N.C., and raised in Salisbury, Miss Freeman received her bachelor’s degree in library science from the Woman’s College at Greensboro in 1933. She later added a bachelor’s degree in history from UNC-Chapel Hill to her credentials in 1958.

When Miss Freeman arrived at the still relatively new library school at UNC-Chapel Hill, Susan Grey Akers (who in 1932 had succeeded founding director Dr. Louis Round Wilson) was formally named dean of the school — a significant accomplishment, Miss Freeman recalls, as Miss Akers was not only the first dean of the school, but also the first female dean at the University. “Even Dr. Wilson never held the title of Dean [at this school],” Miss Freeman notes.

During her time, Miss Freeman saw the degree granted by the school change from a bachelor of arts in library science to a bachelor of science in library science (in 1941) and was here when the master’s program in school librarianship was first implemented in 1950.

The first class to graduate from the school during her tenure had only three males and three faculty members in it. “At one point during World War II, we only had 18 students in the whole school,” Miss Freeman notes.

Miss Freeman became a reliable constant in the ever-changing leadership of the school. After Miss Akers retired in 1954, Lucile Kelling Henderson was appointed dean of the school. Miss Freeman spent much of her time supervising admissions and financial aid, helping with student placement in classes, organizing alumni fairs, and making sure that the general administration of the school ran smoothly.

“It was the most pleasant place to work during the early years,” she says.

Her hard work in the office did not go unnoticed. In 1976, the American Library Association Committee on Accreditation commended the school “for the excellent order in which admissions and student records are kept and for the care taken in reviewing applications.” Miss Freeman received the credit for managing the office so well.

Alumni events were an important part of the School of Library Science and were all planned by Miss Freeman. In particular, Miss Freeman organized Alumni Day, which was held every April and featured a lecture and program followed by a luncheon and social events.

“Everyone liked to come back to the school,” she says.

It was the students who had not yet graduated, however, that were Miss Freeman’s true passion, she says. She led a course that introduced students to the School of Library Science. As part of the course, she took students on trips to tour regional libraries, such as the Princeton Library and the New York Public Library.

“The best part of my job was dealing with students,” she recalls. “Several people said that many students would not have finished school if I had not encouraged them.”

According to a former dean of the school, Miss Freeman’s devotion to the students, both past and present, was obvious. Then-Dean Edward Holley wrote the following in the school’s newsletter in the summer of 1977: “[Jean] has also been interested in the student as a graduate and as a professional librarian, always pleased when they achieve honors and especially when they do well and receive positions with increased professional responsibility. Just occasionally she becomes annoyed when the alumni find good jobs and don’t let her know so she can keep the records straight!”

The years of 1960 through 1972 were a time of great transition, as the school underwent the direction of five different deans – Carlyle J. Frarey, Margaret E. Kalp, Walter A. Sedelow Jr., Raymond L. Carpenter Jr., and finally Holley. During those years, Miss Freeman kept all of the deans up to speed and
Service to Profession, Community Drives Holmes

By Robert Albright

Before reaching middle school, Gerald Holmes (MSLS '85) was already helping others with information. Teachers at his elementary school could always count on Holmes to load film reels and set up projectors in the classroom.

Holmes's desire to improve access to information continued well beyond his youthful days as an audiovisual aficionado.

Years later at Greensboro Dudley High School, Holmes became more curious with information sources. After discovering how much he enjoyed reading, Holmes joined the high school's library club and learned of the growing trend of computer-usage in libraries.

"I've always enjoyed being around books," Holmes said. "The quiet environment of libraries is so appealing to me."

After high school, Holmes received his bachelor's of science degree in criminal justice from UNC-Charlotte in 1981 with hopes of becoming a law librarian. But after some work experience in that area, Holmes found that the high caseload would burn him out if he worked there too long.

While pursuing an MSLS degree from what was then known as UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Library Science, Holmes found a different niche with the combination of academic libraries and public service. Holmes said former dean Edward Holley and numerous other faculty members were an inspiration during his time as a master's student.

"After taking one of Dean Holley's classes, I joined three library associations right away because I was so excited about getting involved."

Holmes said he also remembers planned trips with fellow master's students to Washington, D.C., to visit the Library of Congress, bond with each other and make contacts with potential employers.

Since graduating from the school, Holmes has remained devoted to the field as a reference librarian, community leader and minority advisor.

Assistant reference librarian at UNC-Greensboro's Jackson Library since 1998, Holmes coordinates the information service desk for the library's reference department. He also serves as library liaison to students, faculty and staff in the School of Education and the Department of Exercise and Sports Science at UNC-Greensboro.

In addition to his duties as a university employee, Holmes dedicates a large portion of his time to minority issues. Holmes, a member of the Black Caucus of the America Library Association (BCALA), received the BCALAs Leadership Award in 1997 for his mentoring, recruiting and teaching of the underserved, especially African-Americans.

Holmes has helped minority students at UNC-Greensboro as a library faculty panel member for the Black Alumni Council’s "Freshman Check-up" program. Holmes said the program allowed him to meet with minority students in the spring semester to answer any library-related questions.

"I have enjoyed doing outreach and making sure everyone understands what libraries have to offer," Holmes said. "There is so much to take advantage of in libraries."

Holmes is also active in the North Carolina Library Association (NCLA). In October 2001, NCLA members selected Holmes to become vice chair/chair-elect of the Roundtable for Ethnic and Minority Concerns. Under his leadership, Holmes said the committee discussed many issues, including ways of serving the state's growing Hispanic population.

"(The NCLA roundtable) presents an important opportunity for minority staff and librarians to bring up issues and discuss the need for specific services," Holmes said.

As a minority leader in the community, Holmes has also participated in UNC-Greensboro's Conference on African American Culture and Experience. In 1999, he helped prepare the bibliography "The Legacy of Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemmings." In 2000, he prepared "Undoing Racism in the Curriculum and Community, Featuring Bell Hooks."

Aside from his dedication to minority affairs, Holmes has presented workshops and panels on electronic access to resources for North Carolina-based grant seekers. Such workshops featured basic techniques and terminology for using databases.

"By explaining the role of databases, I hope to help researchers and archivists learn how to find different grants," Holmes said.

Holmes has worked for university libraries in Virginia, Georgia and Ohio. He returned to North Carolina in 1997 to work as an information specialist at UNC-Charlotte. The following year he came to UNC-G.

Though nearly 20 years have passed since his years at Chapel Hill, Holmes said he stays connected with faculty and alumni. Relationships with school officials like former dean Barbara Moran are still strong, he said.

He said his days at the School of Library Science instilled in him a desire to devote his career to serving the library community.

"The school has always been doing things in the community, and that drove it home for me," Holmes said. "I'm very proud to be an alumnus of the school and to be serving my community."

Albright, a senior journalism student at UNC-CH, served as communications intern at SILS during his junior year.

Miss Jean Freeman

Continued from preceding page

maintained the school's administration.

Miss Freeman was also at the school during another important change. In 1950, the school moved to the Old Filter Plant for a year during construction of an addition to the University library building. Then, in September 1951, the school moved to the west wing of Wilson Library. In September 1970, the school relocated to Manning Hall, one day before fall registration.

Until her retirement from the school in 1977, Miss Freeman was in charge of Beta Phi Mu and a member of Phi Alpha Theta. She was a member of the Association of American Library Schools, North Carolina Library Association, Southeastern Library Association and the North Carolina Literary and Historical Society. Now, Miss Freeman is a life member of the SILS Alumni Association and also supports the Lucile Kelling Henderson Lecture Fund.

For almost four decades, Miss Freeman helped keep the School of Library Science on course at UNC-Chapel Hill. More than two decades after leaving the school, her impact can still be felt and her contributions continue to help push the school to even greater heights. Perhaps Dr. Holley summed up Miss Freeman's influence best when he quoted Gary Barefoot, saying at her retirement, "We'll have to replace Miss Freeman with one and a half people."
In May 1984, Gina Jones (then known as Gina Rains) graduated from what was then known as the School of Library Science with her library science master's degree.

Seventeen and a half years later, Jones returned to campus to celebrate another SILS graduation – this time that of her daughter, Hannah Rains Toney, who received her information science master’s degree at the school’s December 2001 commencement ceremony.

While the school does not keep records of how many mother-daughter SILS graduates there are out there, the number is likely not a large one. And in this pair's case, it wasn’t a given that they’d even make the list.

“It happened by surprise actually,” says Toney, an emerging technologies analyst with BD Technologies in Research Triangle Park. “It wasn’t really a conscious ‘I’m going to do what my mom did’ type of thing.”

After receiving her bachelor’s degree in history from North Carolina State in December 1998, Toney says she debated whether to continue on toward her Ph.D. in that field or pursue another degree and enter the work world a bit sooner.

Interests in research and computers led her to investigate study at SILS. Her mother's experience at the school helped to seal the deal.

“If my mom hadn’t gone, I really wouldn’t have known about the school,” Toney says. “I investigated it and said ‘This is something I can do and do well.’ ”

The decision to follow in her mother’s footsteps turned out to be a good one, Toney says. “I went forward and loved it and never regretted it. I think it was a good direction to go.”

Nearly two decades ago, Jones returned to academia in Chapel Hill. This was seven years after graduating from Virginia Tech with her bachelor’s of science degree. It wasn’t long before she was able to further narrow her academic focus.

“I was trying to decide between computer work and working as a high school librarian,” Jones says. “After speaking with a high school librarian and finding out that they didn’t actually get summers off, I decided that route wasn’t for me.”

Jones says she had used computers at her previous job with Occidental Insurance and had read about, and was intrigued by, the use of computers in libraries and the automation of information systems. Though the school was still years from introducing its information science degree, Jones’ focus was clearly in that area.

“The core course that the school taught convinced me that was what I wanted to do,” she says.

After graduation, Jones began work as a systems librarian with Burroughs-Welcome in Research Triangle Park. It wasn’t long before she was promoted and really putting her education to good use, helping the pharmaceutical giant implement its first mainframe-based integrated library system.

“We got rid of the card catalog, got rid of the shelf list, the journals printout and the circulation file,” she says. “We got rid of all the paper and really had an integrated system.”

Nearly two decades and several mergers later, Jones continues her work at GlaxoSmithKline as a senior consultant in the emerging technology department in the technology office division. She credits much of her success over the years to her study at the School of Library Science.

And, like her mother, Toney, too, is grateful for her SILS education.

“The great thing about SILS is that it has its finger on the pulse of what employers’ want. ... It’s really with the times, if not ahead of them.”

— Hannah Rains Toney (MSIS ’01)
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