Greetings from Chapel Hill. I hope this annual newsletter finds you in good health and spirit. As I write this, North Carolina is recovering from two hurricanes. Together with our neighbors in other states in the Southeast, people are rising to the challenges with resilience and generosity. Chapel Hill had some flooding from Florence and some wind damage from Michael, however, our communities further east continue to need our support as they rebuild. UNC provided a shelter at the Friday Center, many of us have volunteered to work or donated supplies and funds, and students spent their fall break volunteering through APPLES service learning programs in the Carolina Center for Public Service.

Other than the weather, SILS is having a fantastic 2018. This fall we saw increased enrollments in each of our degree programs and SILS now has the largest student body in its history, well over 400 students in seven programs, plus more than 70 in our information systems minor and affiliated dual master’s programs.

We are pleased to welcome five new faculty and two new staff members. Dr. Sayamindu Dasgupta (MIT) specializes in human-computer interaction and children as data scientists; Dr. Marijel (Maggie) Melo (U. of Arizona) studies maker spaces and collaborative cultures in libraries; Dr. Casey Rawson (UNC-CH) specializes in library education and equity and inclusion for youth; Dr. Yue (Ray) Wang (U. of Mich.) researches machine learning and data mining for information retrieval and health informatics applications; and Megan Winget (UNC-CH) specializes in digital preservation and information organization. Reema Bhattacharya is our new instructional design and development consultant, working with faculty to enhance media for their online and residential courses; and Shirley Parker is our new programs officer, coordinating our executive education and international programs. See these new additions’ profiles in the pages that follow. We are definitely packing Manning Hall with ideas, energy, and excitement!

Early this year, we were thrilled to see Dr. Claudia Gollop’s extensive research and mentorship recognized with the ALISE Award for Professional Contribution. Dr. Melanie Feinberg has been awarded a prestigious Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship that will take her to Denmark in 2019. Two of our associate professors, Dr. Jaime Arguello and Dr. Rob Capra, were appointed as McColl Term Professors for 2018-20, and Dr. Amelia Gibson was selected for the Thorp Faculty Engaged Scholars program.

In the spring of 2018, SILS executed its first spring break in Silicon Valley program through a new course titled “Information Science at Work.” Our dual BS-MSIS program with the curriculum in environment, ecology, and energy continues to attract new students. One trend that will accelerate in the months ahead is our efforts to provide innovative courses and programs in data science. For example, we are a partnering with three departments in the College of Arts and Sciences to offer a new master’s degree in data science.
New research and outreach projects launched and others extended or expanded. Dr. Lukasz Mazur received significant funding from AHRQ to further research that will help improve patient safety. The Extensible Network-Accessible Biomedical & Health Informatics Lifelong Learning Environment (ENABLE), an extension of the Carolina Health Informatics Program (CHIP), was established to encourage students and professionals from diverse backgrounds to explore careers or advanced training in biomedical and health informatics. The program hosted its first boot camp for undergraduate students this summer and received approval to launch an online master’s program.

Project READY (Reimagining Equity and Access for Diverse Youth) continues to make progress in creating a professional development curriculum that will help librarians and educators advance equity literacy in schools. SILS hosted a two-week Cyber Carpentry Workshop funded by NSF this summer, the BitCurator project continues to build and share new tools and techniques for preserving digital assets in archives and other memory institutions, and ibiblio and WiderNet continue to collect, curate, and share large-scale repositories to people around the globe.

The Campaign for Carolina aims to raise $4.5 billion over the next five years guided by two core strategies—“Of the Public, for the Public” and “Innovation Made Fundamental.” A number of initiatives to support student access and excellence, faculty recruitment and retention, and innovative research and projects will arise from this framework (campaign.unc.edu/sils). We are more than half way to our $20 million goal thanks to our alumni and friends who have made generous commitments to our school.

Many of these accomplishments and developments are detailed in this issue and strongly advance our goal to be the best information school in the world. I am proud of our school and our university as we practice informed excellence and leadership in all we do. Enjoy reading the stories included in this newsletter, engage with students, faculty, and fellow alumni to advance the social good, and please participate in our campaign so we can insure that our future is as bright as our past and the present.

Sincerely,

Gary Marchionini
Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor
Our Commitment to Diversity

In support of the University's diversity goals and the mission of the UNC School of Information and Library Science, SILS embraces diversity as an ethical and societal value. We broadly define diversity to include ability, age, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, immigration status, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. 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 perspectives and experiences are valued
- Recruit and retain students, faculty, and staff from traditionally underrepresented groups
- Participate in outreach to underserved groups in North Carolina and beyond

The statement is our commitment to the ongoing cultivation of an academic environment that is open, representative, and reflective of the concepts of equity and fairness.

~The Faculty and Staff of the UNC School of Information and Library Science
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EPA-RTP Library named federal library of the year

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Library in Research Triangle Park (RTP) has been recognized as the Federal Library and Information Network (FEDLINK) Small Library/Information Center of the Year for 2017. FEDLINK announced the EPA Library’s win, along with other recipients of its national awards for federal librarianship, on May 1, 2018, in Washington, D.C.

The awards recognize the many innovative ways that federal libraries, librarians, and library technicians fulfill the information demands of the government, business, scholarly communities, and the American public. The names of the winners will remain on permanent display in the FEDLINK offices at the Library of Congress. Federal libraries and staff throughout the U.S. and abroad competed for the awards.

The UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) has been contracted to operate the EPA-RTP Library for over 40 years. It is one of 25 libraries in the EPA National Library Network, and the only one staffed by university employees. In addition to five full-time staff members, the SILS and EPA-RTP Library partnership provides six to eight internships for SILS master’s students each year.

FEDLINK recognized the EPA-RTP Library for its outstanding service in meeting the needs of the 2,000 EPA staff and contractors at the RTP campus. The library maintained an overall customer-service rating of 98.8%. Its new service, research-impact reports, are designed to highlight the impact of EPA research and expand on traditional bibliometric methods, organizational information, and visualizations in a portfolio-style product. The library also provided customized, on-demand library training for teams and divisions on-site and online and produced short, task-based instructional videos as part of its desktop video series.

“We are thrilled to see the EPA-RTP Library staff recognized nationally for their exceptional service and innovative ideas,” said SILS Dean Gary Marchionini. “Director Susan Forbes and her staff, including the 2017 interns from SILS, have plenty to be proud of. The unique partnership between the EPA-RTP Library and SILS has been beneficial to both institutions for many years, and we look forward to what the future holds.”

Kudos • Congratulations • Well Done • Round of Applause • Three Cheers • Hooray

Devon Murphy, an MSIS and Art History MA dual-degree student, won the 2018 Student Research Award from the ASIS&T Special Interest Group in Arts & Humanities. Murphy adapted the paper, titled “The Information Worlds of Art Museum Curators and Registrars,” from her MSIS thesis. Read more at sils.unc.edu/news/2018/ness-yalsa-stipend.

At the SILS fall orientation in August, Diane Judith Rodden was named the recipient of the 2018 Elfreda Chatman Research Award for best master's paper proposal, and Erin Rutherford and Yaxue Guo received scholarships from Beta Phi Mu Epsilon Chapter.

MSIS students Sangeeta Desai and Erin Gallagher received scholarships to attend the Managing Electronic Records (MER) Conference in Chicago, May 7-9. The scholarships, funded by MER sponsor Cohasset Associates, are awarded each year to students from a select set of library and information science schools. Two SILS students have benefitted from the support each year since 2006 when the scholarship program was introduced at SILS by Professor Cal Lee.

BSIS students Elizabeth Bueche, Lydia Heater, Rishi Champaneria, and Jacob Ryan were selected to receive $1,000 merit-based scholarships from SILS in 2018. The scholarships are given to two incoming information science majors each fall and spring based on their scholastic achievement and admission essays.
SILS ranked #1 in the world on QS 2018 list

The UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) tied for the #1 spot on the 2018 QS World University Rankings for library and information management programs. SILS and the University of Sheffield in the U.K. had the same overall score on the QS list, which evaluated programs based on academic reputation, employer reputation, citations per paper, and H-index citations. In addition to its top overall placement, SILS had a perfect score of 100 for academic reputation.

With offices in London, Paris, Bucharest, Stuttgart, Mumbai, and Singapore, QS endeavors to link high achievers from the graduate, MBA, and executive communities with leading business schools, postgraduate departments, and employers from around the world. QS organizes the largest business education events in the world – the QS World MBA Tour and the QS World Executive MBA Tour – as well as the QS World Grad School Tour.

SILS has been consistently ranked as one of the top schools of library and information studies by U.S. News & World Report. The most recently published review in 2017 ranked SILS at #3 overall and #1 in the digital librarianship and health librarianship specialty areas.

Claudia Gollop recognized with ALISE Award for Professional Contribution

Claudia Gollop, Associate Professor at the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS), received the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) Award for Professional Contribution at the 2018 ALISE conference in February.

The award is presented to ALISE members for regular and sustained service that promotes and strengthens the broad areas of library and information science education through the holding of appropriate offices and positions within the profession.

“Dr. Gollop is known for her work in health information needs and access, particularly of marginalized populations,” wrote one of Gollop’s nominators for the award. “Her groundbreaking research article, ‘Health information-seeking behavior and older African American women,’ has been cited more than 100 times by researchers and scholars in the health related, geriatric, and of course, the LIS professions. Her research demonstrates to other fields what concerns LIS, what it is that we do in research, and how LIS participates in the advancement of knowledge.”

Gollop has been a member of the SILS faculty since 1994, and served as associate dean from 2004-2007. She teaches in the areas of reference services, health information resources and services, and information issues related to diverse user groups. She received the Edward G. Holley for the Good of the Order Award from SILS in 2012, held the Frances Carroll McCol term Professorship at SILS, and received the Round Table for Ethnic and Minority Concerns REMCo Roadbuilders’ Award in Library Education from the North Carolina Library Association in 2009.

“Dr. Gollop has made invaluable contributions to SILS and the LIS field through her scholarship and mentorship of students, as well as junior faculty members and other professionals.”

-SILS Dean Gary Marchionini
The UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) hosted its annual spring commencement ceremony on May 13 at the Frank Porter Graham Student Union. The event included recognition for exceptional student research, excellence in teaching, and outstanding service to the school, as well as the presentation of the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award to Mary Jane Petrowski (MSLS ’78).

Jaime Teevan, Technical Advisor to the CEO of Microsoft, delivered the spring commencement address, sharing details of her own personal and professional journey, and advising students on ways to avoid distractions and detours, both in their workday and in their lives.

For more details, photos, and video highlights, visit sils.unc.edu/news/2018/commencement.

“We here at SILS hold the distinct duty and honor of being stewards of information in a world that is becoming increasingly dependent on the quality and security of its information. And more than anything I believe this: we will be successful out there, because we were successful here.”

-Ryan Theurer (BSIS ’18)
Commencement Student Speaker

“Awards & Recognition

Dean’s Achievement Award
Julia Holubec Gootzeit
Jesse Broders Moore

Outstanding Service to the School Award
Amelea Kim

Deborah Barreau Award for Teaching Excellence
Mary Grace Flaherty (full-time faculty)
Leslie Thomson (adjunct faculty)

Good of the Order Award
Christopher “Cal” Lee

Diversity Advocate Certificate
Brittany Burchett
Ellen Cline
Jennifer Kim Embree
Melissa Fersens
Jeremy Sutton Frye
Matthew Weirick Johnson

“Sit down today and write down your goals. That way you can revisit them in the future when you’re done exploring as a way to reorient yourself.”

-Jaime Teevan,
Technical Advisor to the CEO of Microsoft
SILS Spring Commencement Speaker
Mary Jane Petrowski (MSLS ’78) named distinguished alumna

Mary Jane Petrowski (MSLS ’78) started library school at UNC-Chapel Hill with the intention of becoming a rare book librarian, but a few courses into the curriculum, she began to doubt her decision. Then, through an internship with the EPA-RTP Library and a part-time position with the UNC Health Sciences Library, Petrowski learned how much she enjoyed academic and research librarianship.

“That’s one of the strengths of the program at UNC,” Petrowski said. “You have so many opportunities for hands-on experiences, which can really make a difference for students like me who had never worked in a library before starting the degree program.”

After completing her degree, Petrowski launched a career that has included appointments with the U.S. Department of Defense in Turkey, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Colgate University in New York. Today, she is Associate Director at the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), the largest division of the American Library Association, representing more than 10,500 members from across the nation.

Though her career has taken her far and away from Chapel Hill, she has maintained a close connection to the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS), and is now a member of the SILS Campaign Committee, helping to lead the School’s efforts as part of the historic Campaign for Carolina.

At the 2018 SILS Spring Commencement, the SILS Alumni Association (SILSAA) recognized Petrowski’s professional achievements and service to the School by naming her the 63rd recipient of the SILS Distinguished Alumni Award.

After accepting the framed certificate from SILSAA President Doug Diesenhaus, Petrowski offered the class of 2018 a glowing endorsement and some words of advice.

“Your degree is one of the best investments that you’ll ever make,” she said. “I think you’ve chosen a very rewarding career, and one that is going to allow you to work in many kinds of institutions, not just in the U.S. but all over the world.”
Reema Bhattacharya joined SILS in April as the Instructional Design and Development Consultant. During her 15-year career in the field of education and training, she has developed a strong skill set in instructional design, multimedia development, and learning management system support working with academic and not-for-profit institutions like Fayetteville State University, Duke University, and Local Government Federal Credit Union. She holds an MLS and MA from the University at Buffalo and a Graduate Certificate in Instructional Design from the University of Wisconsin.

SILS launches new website

Just after Spring Commencement in May, the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) went live with a new design and architecture for the School’s website, sils.unc.edu.

During the planning and design stages, faculty, staff, and students were invited to provide critiques of the old website and suggestions for the new iteration. SILS collaborated with New Media Campaigns (NMC) in Carrboro to create the design elements and basic menu structure. Andrea Ross, Web Developer at the FPG Child Development Institute, turned the static design into a functional website using the Drupal content management system. Communications Coordinator Katherine Perales and IT Director Aaron Brubaker oversaw all aspects of the project and worked to edit, rearrange, and populate pages to fit the new layout.

Additional content and functionality will continue to be developed, but we welcome your feedback on the current version. Send an email to contactsils@unc.edu with your comments or suggestions. If referencing a specific page, please include a link to the page.

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Connect, Engage, Impact

SILS hosted its second Symposium on Information for Social Good on April 13 in Manning Hall. The theme of this year’s symposium was “Connect, Engage, Impact.” Posters and panels focused on topics such as big data and public health, climate change and human rights, immigrant services in libraries, crypto currency, and toxic masculinity in librarianship. Learn more at info4socialgood2018.web.unc.edu.

Above: Mara Rosenberg, Sarah Sculnick, Ness Shortley, and Dezarae Osborne at the symposium. In October, the four master’s students gave an updated version of their presentation, “#MeToo in Kidlit: Dealing with the Fallout in Public and School Libraries,” at the North Carolina School Library Media Association Conference.

Fourth Annual SILS Project Fair

SILS graduate and undergraduate students had the opportunity to showcase their work through posters and interactive demonstrations at the annual SILS Project Fair on April 13. Awards were presented in three categories:

**BEST PROJECT AWARD**
- **Wanchen Zhao** – “Visual Query System to Help Users Refine Queries from High-Dimensional Data: A Case Study”

**SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD**
- **Diane Rodden** – “Global Resource Allocation for Tuberculosis Control”

**PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARD**

Above, Wanchen Zhao shares her research at the Project Fair. Below, students show their projects to faculty, guests, and other students.
BSIS graduate Jordan Dodson takes her research to the next level with i3

Jordan Dodson discovered her love for technology in middle school when she and her father built a desktop computer together. Years later, a suggestion from her mother, who holds a master's degree in library science from North Carolina Central University, prompted Dodson to learn more about the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS). On the SILS website, Dodson found the information science major and information systems minor, which she thought would pair well with the computer science major she had already begun to pursue at Carolina.

Through study abroad experiences, industry internships, and research with doctoral students and faculty in the SILS Interactive Information Science Laboratory (IISL), Dodson developed a passion for human-computer interaction and user experience (UX) research. After graduating from UNC with a double major in information science and computer science in May, she was ready for the introductory summer session of the iSchool Inclusion Institute (i3).

Hosted by the University of Pittsburgh, the yearlong research and leadership development program prepares students from underrepresented populations for graduate study and careers in the information sciences. Admission to the program is highly competitive, with only 25 students from across the country selected each year to become i3 Scholars. Students spend four weeks on the Pittsburgh campus during the first summer, work remotely with members of their research team throughout the year, and then return for two weeks to complete the program.

“The thing that really grabbed me was that it was completely research based, not tied to teaching or a degree program,” Dodson said. “I also liked that it was specifically for people from marginalized communities—which is me—and that the research conducted often focuses on those populations as well. I looked through the past research projects and they were amazing. One was teaching computer science using rap and hip-hop; another looked at the user experience of people in marginalized communities in relation to virtual reality technology.”

Read more about Dodson at sils.unc.edu/news/2018/dodson-i3.

Cory Doctorow delivers Kilgour Lecture on the precarious state of the internet

Author, activist, and journalist Cory Doctorow delivered the 2018 OCLC/Frederick G. Kilgour Lecture on April 27 to an overflow crowd at the CURRENT ArtSpace in Chapel Hill. The lecture was part of the 25th anniversary celebration of ibiblio.org.

In his talk, titled “The Internet, Peak Indifference, and the Point of No Return,” Doctorow charted the evolution of general purpose computing and the oppressive regulatory and proprietary actions that have followed. He closed by encouraging audience members to enter a “Ulysses pact” by agreeing to support two core principles: 1) That devices should always obey their owners. 2) That it should always be lawful to disclose defects in devices under any circumstance. Doctorow acknowledged that these are difficult values to uphold.

“I ask you to be hard liners for this, to never contribute to products, designs, or activities that undermine these principles,” he said. “If they don’t call you an unrealistic extremist in your adherence to these principals, you’re not trying hard enough.”

Watch the lecture and the subsequent Q&A on the SILS YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/uncsils.
BSIS student Caleece Nash presents paper at iConference

As an information science major at the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS), Caleece Nash has devoted significant time to researching digital nomads, people who use modern technology to work remotely and who are often characterized as global travelers enjoying adventurous lifestyles.

Nash's research led her on a global adventure of her own when she traveled to the 2018 iConference in Sheffield, U.K., in March to present a paper titled "Digital Nomads Beyond the Buzzword: Defining Digital Nomadic Work and Use of Digital Technologies." Nash was the lead author on the paper, which she co-authored with SILS Assistant Professor Mohammad Hossein Jarrahi, Will Sutherland-Keller (MSIS ’17), and Gabriela Phillips (BSIS ’18).

Nash said the conference provided invaluable networking opportunities and new perspectives.

“It was absolutely amazing,” she said. “I was able to connect with undergraduates, master’s students, and PhD students from all around the globe. Being there and hearing about how information science fits into all of these realms, from AI to data mining to law cases, was just a great opportunity. It kind of made the information science program and major feel like a little bit more of a global community in a sense, which I really loved.”

Jarrahi praised the impressive collaboration that produced the “Digital Nomads Beyond the Buzzword” paper. Sutherland-Keller provided a more comprehensive perspective into the topic and Phillips contributed to the writing and research. Another paper Phillips helped author before she graduated has been accepted by JASIST. Jarrahi said Nash’s determination and her presentation skills led to her success at the iConference.

“We decided to put together this paper on short notice, so she worked really hard for this deadline,” he said. “One thing about Caleece that sets her apart from other students is that she is very confident, so she presented in a very confident manner and that impressed a lot of people because she was just an undergraduate student.”

Read more about Nash’s experiences at sils.unc.edu/news/2018/nash-iConference.

Information Science at Work

In the spring of 2018, SILS introduced INLS 690-074: Information Science at Work–San Francisco, a course designed to give students a realistic view of what information professionals do in a variety of settings. The class visited local alumni at their places of employment, spoke with representatives of start-ups, and met with potential employers, both large and small. Over spring break, students traveled to the Bay Area to visit SILS alumni and friends at Instagram, Apple, LinkedIn, Carbon, Google, IDEO, and the Internet Archive. Led by SILS Professor Paul Jones, the course also examined employment trends like the gig economy, globalization, co-working spaces, and approaches to innovation and ideation. The course is set to return for spring 2019. Learn more at http://infosciatwork19.web.unc.edu.

Top photo: Students visit with Xin Fu (PhD ’08) at LinkedIn’s San Francisco office. In September, Xin Fu moved to a new position as Director of Data Science at Facebook. Lower left: A student takes a photo at the Apple Park Visitor Center. Lower right: Rachel-Anne Spencer, (BSIS ’18) and current SILS master’s student, prepares to step into the Wayback Machine at the Internet Archive.

Photos courtesy of Paul Jones and Rachel-Anne Spencer.
SILS Welcomes Five New Faculty Members

SAYAMINDU DASGUPTA

Sayamindu Dasgupta develops new tools and experiences that support young learners in creating, thinking, and learning with data so that they can be active and empowered participants in the data-driven and data-mediated society in which they live. In this work, he seeks to engage young learners not only in understanding and consuming, but also in creating with data and questioning it. As a part of his research, he designs new computational toolkits that help learners develop data literacies. Additionally, to understand how to best support learning and design for his work, he studies learners as they engage in creative learning activities in a range of contexts and settings. Before coming to SILS, Dasgupta was a Moore/Sloan & WRF Innovation in Data Science postdoctoral fellow at the University of Washington. He received his PhD from MIT in 2016, where he was a part of the team that developed the Scratch programming language and online community.

Research interests: Human-computer interaction, human-centered data science, learning technologies, digital media and learning.

MARIJEL MELO

Marijel (Maggie) Melo earned her PhD at the University of Arizona, where she was an American Association of University Women Fellow. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in portal: Libraries and the Academy, Hybrid Pedagogy, and Computers and Composition Online. She co-founded the University of Arizona’s first publicly accessible and interdisciplinary makerspace – iSpace – and strategically facilitated its growth from a 400-square-foot room in the Science-Engineering Library to a 5,000-square-foot facility soon to be housed in the University’s Main Library. She also founded the Women Techmakers Tucson Hackathon, the Southwest’s first women-only hackathon. She has given keynote addresses and invited-talks at regional and national conferences, including the Google Developer Group’s North American Summit. In October, University of Arizona Libraries presented her with the Top Library Cat Award for her work on the iSpace.

Research interests: Innovation, critical maker culture, and the development of equitable and inclusive collaborative learning spaces (e.g. makerspaces) in academic libraries.
Casey Rawson has been a postdoctoral research associate at SILS, working on Project READY, an IMLS-funded program to create professional development materials for school librarians and their collaborative partners focused on racial equity and culturally sustaining pedagogy (More on page 26). She has also been an adjunct instructor at SILS and at Old Dominion University, teaching online and face-to-face courses in research methods, youth and technology, and instruction and pedagogy for school and public librarians. Before coming to SILS for the Master of Science in Library Science (MSLS) program, she taught middle school science in North Carolina and Kentucky, and earned a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from the University of Louisville. She earned her MSLS from SILS in 2011 and completed her PhD at SILS in 2016.  

**Research interests:** Teacher-librarian collaboration in STEM content areas, LIS education, and equity and inclusion in youth services librarianship.

Yue (Ray) Wang earned his PhD in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Michigan. He is interested in text data mining and machine learning with applications in health informatics. His dissertation focuses on developing principled interactive machine learning approaches that reduce human analysts’ information processing workload. His work is motivated by and applied to various data mining problems, including high-recall information retrieval, clinical natural language processing, and qualitative content analysis. He publishes in both computer science and health informatics venues, including KDD, SIGIR, WSDM, and JAMIA. He and his collaborators won first place in the TREC 2013 Microblog Track, and he received the Best Paper Award and Outstanding Reviewer Award in WSDM 2016.  

**Research interests:** Text data mining, including related areas such as machine learning, information retrieval, natural language processing, social and information network mining, and health informatics.

Megan Winget earned her Master of Science in Information Science (MSIS) from SILS in 1999 and completed her PhD at SILS in 2006. While at Carolina, she worked in the University Archives, the Southern Historical Collection, the Rare Book Room, and for Documenting the American South. From 2006 to 2013, she taught at the University of Texas at Austin, where she specialized in digital preservation, specifically of new media artifacts like video games and new media art. Since 2013, she has worked as an independent consultant for industry, focusing on taxonomy development and leveraging big data to improve business systems. As an adjunct faculty member at SILS, she has taught classes in digital curation, digital preservation, and organizing information.  

**Research interests:** Digital preservation, digital repositories and collecting institutions, representation of non-textual materials, collaborative technologies.
UNC and United Health Foundation launch partnership to train and diversify the next generation of health data experts

To help address the growing need for a larger and more diverse workforce of health care data analysts, technologists, and experts, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and United Health Foundation are expanding access to health informatics educational and professional development resources through the Carolina Health Informatics Program (CHIP).

A three-year, $1.6 million grant from United Health Foundation has facilitated the creation of “Project ENABLE,” the Extensible Network-Accessible Biomedical & Health Informatics Lifelong Learning Environment. The initiative is designed to deliver high-quality biomedical and health informatics training – both online and in person – to people who currently lack access to such resources. It will focus on minority undergraduate students considering health informatics careers, as well as working professionals needing to advance their health informatics skills.

“Our university is committed to tackling tough problems and training the next generation of diverse leaders,” said UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor Carol L. Folt. “We are grateful for United Health Foundation’s support and partnership to expand educational and training resources in the health care technology and analytics field. This partnership means more students, especially minority students from across our state, will have the opportunity to tackle the tough challenges in our health care system.”

Chancellor Folt joined with North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper, UnitedHealth CEO Dave Wichmann, and SILS Dean Gary Marchionini to publicly announce Project ENABLE on Jan. 23. The event received coverage from all the local television stations, as well as other news outlets.

“I thank United Health Foundation for partnering with UNC-Chapel Hill and the Carolina Health Informatics Program to help expand access to the types of training and programs our states’ workers need to learn new skills and expertise in health care technology,” said Gov. Roy Cooper. “This is especially important for students enrolled in historically black colleges and universities who will see expanded training and educational opportunities because of this partnership.”

“Your partnership means more students, especially minority students from across our state, will have the opportunity to tackle the tough challenges in our health care system.”

- Chancellor Carol L. Folt

Learn more about Project ENABLE at enable.unc.edu
HiDAV boot camp enables undergrads from HBCUs to explore career options and the growing impact of health informatics

The spread of influenza, adverse effects of opioid use for pain management, and the risk of opportunistic infections for HIV-positive patients—three issues that have significant implications for health care in North Carolina and beyond. Three issues that students participating in Carolina’s inaugural Health Informatics Data Analytics and Visualization (HiDAV) boot camp chose to tackle using data and information they extracted from research publications, census data, electronic health records, and other resources.

“You had to work fast and be creative, and learn to work collaboratively with people you’d never met before.”
- N.C. A&T Student Dara Bradley

HiDAV boot camp culminated with three teams of students presenting the results of their self-directed research projects. Each team discussed the methods they had used to collect and analyze their data, the challenges they had encountered, their findings, and the ways they or other researchers could proceed in the future.

“Thanks to the dedication and hard work by ENABLE instructors and staff, the boot camp students were able to successfully demonstrate that they can select a problem, and utilizing appropriate methods, analyze diverse data sets to address critical scientific questions,” said Javed Mostafa, director of CHIP and a professor at the UNC School of Information and Library Science and UNC School of Medicine. “The boot camp students’ enthusiasm and deep interest in health data analytics has further motivated us. They have made a lasting impact on ENABLE and CHIP.”

Classes and lectures focused on subjects including data visualization, classification algorithms, and programming languages. Students also visited RTI, SAS, Optum, and UNC’s Lineberger Cancer Center to see how the concepts they were studying are currently shaping research and medicine.

“We did a lot in seven weeks,” said Dara Bradley, a senior from N.C. A&T. “It really required some good time management to attend the lectures, do the homework, work on your project, and go to meetings. You had to work fast and be creative, and learn to work collaboratively with people you’d never met before.”

From left: ENABLE Project Coordinator Shikha Yadav, HiDAV Instructor and SILS PhD Candidate Heejun Kim, boot camp participants Paris Parsons, LaPresha Whitfield, Kashley Rishforth, Joseph Fonseca, Dara Bradley, Kerani Davidson, and Miguel Anderson, and HiDAV Instructor and CHIP PhD Student Malvika Pillai.
SEARCHING FOR BETTER RESULTS

If you pass through the Interactive Information Science Laboratory (IISL) on the ground floor of Manning Hall, you might hear someone mention “the matrix.” The phrase is not a reference to the Keanu Reeves’ sci-fi movies, but rather a nickname for a new tool under development that will allow people to drag and drop information from various websites into a grid for comparison across dimensions. For instance, if you were shopping for a car, you might compare gas mileage, price, cargo space, and other features.

“The matrix” is one of several ongoing projects at the IISL aimed at learning more about how people search for information and improving that process. UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) Associate Professors Jaime Arguello and Rob Capra lead the lab, which includes nine doctoral students, as well as some master’s and undergraduate students assisting with research. Arguello and Capra have each received National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Awards to support their research, as well as a $500,000 NSF grant in 2017 for a project focused on search assistance. In 2018, Arguello and Capra were named Francis Carroll McColl Term Associate Professors at SILS. The two-year professorships recognize faculty excellence and provide salary supplements and funds for research and travel.

Arguello’s CAREER-funded project focuses on aggregated search systems, those that pull results from a variety of other systems and package them together. Previous research has primarily examined which results to present, but Arguello is investigating how results are presented and the impact that can have.

“We’ve been looking at different cognitive abilities that people have and trying to understand how they influence the way they search and to see if certain layouts are better for people with certain abilities or certain skills,” he said. “For example, if you have low perceptual speed that limits how quickly you can scan a visual display, you might benefit more from a layout that’s blocked with clear separations.”

Arguello and Bogeum Choi, an MSIS 2018 graduate who started the PhD program in August, conducted a study in the fall of 2017 to test some of these scenarios. Arguello analyzed the data in the spring and they are now working to publish an article with the findings. Arguello’s CAREER grant has also been facilitating research by PhD student Sandeep Avula, who is investigating how integrating search engines into the Slack messaging platform affects how people search and evaluate results.

As part of his CAREER project, Capra has been looking at how people structure information when they attempt a complicated search. He conducted a study that asked people to take notes on paper while they were searching for information about a topic, first for themselves and then for another person, to see how the organization might differ depending on the intended audience. Among other findings, the analysis revealed that people generally use relatively simple structures to organize information, relying on lists and groups rather than complicated hierarchies or concept maps. Capra collaborated with doctoral students Anita Crescenzi, Yuan Li, and Yinglong Zhang on the study, and the team is now working to publish the results.

At SILS’ Interactive Information Science Laboratory, researchers study how people search for information and interpret results, and develop new tools and approaches to help people find what they need faster.
Another thread of Capra’s CAREER project looks at how structures and organization can help people as they search. One structure that Arguello has been helping to develop is “the matrix,” a tool that supports comparative tasks by letting you drag and drop information into a grid, bookmarking the information’s original source, and providing you with a visual representation of your progress. PhD student Yuan Li is planning to look at how the tool might help with task resumption, and Austin Ward and Kelsey Urgo are contributing to the project.

“One aspect of this is that it can help people keep track of what they’re doing,” Capra said. “Another aspect that would be a little more challenging is if you filled in part of the matrix, could the search system use what you’ve added to fill in the rest. Could it find data that you were having trouble locating on your own?”

For their joint NSF project that launched last year, Arguello and Capra are examining various search assistance tools, including “search trails,” guides that can assist in a current search by displaying the steps someone else took in a previous search. They are also looking at how people use different types of information for different tasks. In a recent study, they gave people simple fact-finding tasks and complex tasks in which they had to create a completely new solution to a problem. A tool developed by PhD student Austin Ward offered participants four different types of information – facts, opinions, insights, and concepts. The team is still analyzing the results, but the outcome may ultimately enable systems to offer more appropriate results depending on the type of task someone is attempting to complete.

“To me all of this falls into the same category,” Capra said. “We’re trying to take information that has come out of someone else’s search and see if it can be helpful to someone in a future search.”

“We’re trying to take information that has come out of someone else’s search and see if it can be helpful to someone in a future search.”

- Rob Capra, Francis Carroll McColl
  Term Associate Professor at SILS

IISL Doctoral Researchers

- **Sandeep Avula**
  [https://asandeepc.bitbucket.io/](https://asandeepc.bitbucket.io/)
  Information retrieval, human-computer interactions, collaborative search, and conversational systems.

- **Bogeum Choi**
  Information seeking behavior, task-based information retrieval, human factors (cognitive and affective factors in HCI), search as learning.

- **Anita Crescenzi**
  [http://amcc.web.unc.edu/](http://amcc.web.unc.edu/)
  Human-computer interactions, interactive information retrieval, collaboration and information seeking and behavior, especially with regard to health.

- **Heejun Kim**
  [http://heejunkim.web.unc.edu/](http://heejunkim.web.unc.edu/)
  Credibility assessment of health information in health-related online communities, dynamics of social and information networks, data analytics, text mining, and machine learning.

- **Yuan Li**
  Human-computer interaction, interactive information behavior, collaborative search, information/knowledge organization, and knowledge re-use.

- **Kelsey Urgo**
  Human-computer interaction and interactive information retrieval, particularly in relation to conversational search systems and shared control.

- **Austin Ward**
  Human-computer interaction, information architecture, and information in virtual and augmented reality.

- **Shenmeng Xu**
  Scientometrics, scholarly communications, altmetrics and related areas.

- **Yinglong Zhang**
  Human-computer interaction, collaborative search, data science, eye-tracking.
PHD STUDENT NEWS

Jonathan Crabtree and Thu-Mai Christian lead project to improve computational reproducibility

The Odum Institute for Research in Social Science has been awarded $500,000 by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for a three-year grant project, “Confirmable Reproducible Research (CoRe2) Environment: Linking Tools to Promote Computational Reproducibility.”

Two SILS master’s program graduates and current doctoral students will be leading the project. Jonathan Crabtree (MSIS ’11), assistant director of cyberinfrastructure at Odum, will serve as principal investigator with Thu-Mai Christian (MSIS ’12), assistant director for archives at Odum, as Co-PI.

Colin Post shares research on artists’ archives, attends Global Conference


Post also participated in the Royster Global Conference in London, part of an ongoing partnership between the Graduate School’s Royster Society of Fellows and King’s College of London.

Megan Threats awarded Clarivate Analytics/MLA Doctoral Fellowship

SILS doctoral candidate Megan Threats received the 2018 Clarivate Analytics/MLA Doctoral Fellowship from the Medical Library Association (MLA). Previously known as the Thomson Reuters/MLA Doctoral Fellowship, the award supports research or travel for doctoral work in an area of health sciences librarianship or information sciences.

Threats also received the Chancellor’s Doctoral Candidacy Award through the Graduate School’s Initiative for Minority Excellence (IME). She had previously received the Chancellor’s Doctoral Advancement Award through IME in 2017.

Threats’ research focuses on the effects of information behaviors on the adoption of HIV protective and risk reduction behaviors. Threats says the motivation for her research is to “examine the impact that information and the rapid expansion of new technologies have on the utilization of HIV prevention, treatment, and care services among high risk populations.” She hopes that her research will aid in efforts to close the gap between information utilization and health behavior adoption. In the future, she would like to design technology-based HIV prevention and treatment interventions, and improve the user experience of consumer health websites and applications.

In 2018, she presented a poster at the ALISE Conference, was accepted to the ASIS&T Doctoral Colloquium, and co-authored a book chapter and two journal articles.

Charlene Finley receives support from MLA to attend annual meeting

PhD student Charlene Finley received funding from the research section of the Medical Library Association (MLA) to attend the MLA 2018 Annual Meeting and Exhibition, May 18-23 in Atlanta, Ga.

For her dissertation, Finley plans to focus on the health information and decision-making of veteran women as they leave active military service and begin to utilize the Veteran’s Health Administration (VA).

“Despite the growing number of veteran women using the VA, they represent a small population in the VA health care system, and are considered a ‘special’ population by the VA,” Finley said. “My dissertation will seek to explore the dynamics of societal norms, gender, and power structures within the VA, and how these factors influence the health information seeking behavior and decision-making of veteran women during their transition to civilian life.”

Paper by Emily Roscoe selected for SAA panel presentation

PhD student Emily Roscoe co-authored a journal article, titled “Privacy and Public Real Estate Records: Preserving Legacy System Reliability Against Modern Threats,” that was published in The Urban Lawyer, Volume 29, Number 3 (2017). The publication was one of three papers selected by the Society of American Archivists for the graduate student paper presentation panel at SAA’s 2018 annual conference in Washington, D.C. in August.

Sandeep Avula publishes research on SearchBots

Samantha Kaplan, Heejun Kim, and Bogeum Choi present winning posters

Samantha Kaplan, who graduated with her PhD in May, won the doctoral student research poster competition at the 2018 ALISE Conference. Her poster, “The Everyday Life and Health Information Practices of a Natural Immunity Advocate,” relates to her dissertation research on vaccination behavior and understanding the context in which problematic information is considered more trustworthy than traditionally authoritative sources.

Heejun Kim and Bogeum Choi won the ASIS&T SIG-HLTH student poster competition for their poster, “A Comparative Examination of Factors that Affect the Credibility of Health Information on Social Media,” which they presented at the 2018 ASIS&T Annual Meeting in November. Kim presented a full paper, titled “Evaluation of Features to Predict the Usefulness of Online Reviews,” at the 2017 ASIS&T meeting.

Shenmeng Xu awarded Altmetric grant to study WeChat

Alternative metrics provider Altmetric has awarded its annual research grant for 2018 to Shenmeng Xu, a PhD candidate at SILS. Xu’s project, titled “An Exploration of the Communication of Scholarly Articles on WeChat,” will focus on the Chinese messaging and social media “super app” WeChat, which boasts more than 950 million active monthly users.

Xu will lead the study as principal investigator, along with co-investigators Bradley Hemminger, SILS Associate Professor, and Xianwen Wang, Professor at the Dalian University of Technology in China. The researchers will examine the role that WeChat Official Accounts play in the dissemination of scholarship by translating, posting, and commenting upon journal articles.

“This project will help us better understand not only whether WeChat can be a potential altmetrics source, but also the nuances of tracking WeChat data,” Xu said. “Our research will provide new insights into cross-language and cross-cultural scholarly communication.”

In addition to the Altmetric grant, Xu authored or coauthored several papers this year that were published in *Scientometrics*, *The Journal of Informetrics*, *Aslib Journal of Information Management*, *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, and *Frontiers in Research Metrics and Analytics*. At the ASIS&T pre-conference workshop, she presented a paper and she had two posters accepted at the ASIS&T Annual Meeting.

Over the past year, she served as the Secretary/Treasurer in the ASIS&T Special Interest Group in Metrics (SIG/MET), and was elected as the Chair-elect of SIG/MET for the following year (2018-2019).

UNC Research spotlights Thu-Mai Christian and Sarah Beth Nelson

Thu-Mai Christian, PhD student and assistant director for archives at the Odum Institute for Social Science, was profiled by the UNC Research publication *Endeavors* in August. In her Q&A, she discusses how she took the “scenic route” to find her passion for information science. Read the full article at [https://endeavors.unc.edu/thu-mai-christian](https://endeavors.unc.edu/thu-mai-christian).

Doctoral candidate Sarah Beth Nelson grew up with a passion for listening to and retelling stories, which eventually led her to library and information science. A feature by *Endeavors* in September highlights Nelson’s research, and her participation in Carapace, a storytelling event held at Manuel’s Tavern in Atlanta, Georgia. Read the full profile at [https://endeavors.unc.edu/whats-your-story](https://endeavors.unc.edu/whats-your-story).

“Without tangible incentives to share data, it has been essential that I and other archivists articulate the benefits of data sharing to both the researcher and the scientific community as a whole.”

-Thu-Mai Christian
*Endeavors*, Aug. 2018

“For storytellers, it can be therapeutic to voice things that they haven’t had a platform for before, and for audience members, it’s therapeutic to know that other people have the same things going on in their lives.”

-Sarah Beth Nelson
*Endeavors*, Sept. 2018
Milestones in the evolution of the BitCurator environment

BitCurator, Phase I
The UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) receives a $600,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for BitCurator, a project to develop open source software for collecting professionals that incorporates the functionality of many digital forensics tools. A joint effort led by SILS and the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities (MITH), BitCurator seeks to address the needs and opportunities identified in two previous projects supported by Mellon Foundation grants. SILS Associate Professor (now Professor) Christopher (Cal) Lee is principal investigator with Matthew Kirschenbaum of MITH as co-PI.

“From Bitstreams to Heritage” White Paper
SILS and MITH publish a white paper, titled “From Bitstreams to Heritage: Putting Digital Forensics into Practice in Collecting Institutions,” which examines the application of digital forensics methods to materials in collecting institutions. Authors include SILS Professor Cal Lee, SILS Research Associate Kam Woods, Matthew Kirschenbaum from MITH, and SILS doctoral student (now graduate) Alexandra Chassanoff (PhD ’16). Download the pdf at http://bit.ly/bitstream2heritage.

BitCurator, Phase II
SILS receives a $456,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support the second phase of the BitCurator project to develop, distribute, and integrate open source forensic software tools to help libraries, archives, and museums (LAMs) grappling with increasing amounts of “born digital” materials. More information at bitcurator.net/bitcurator.

BitCurator Consortium
As the BitCurator project is drawing to a close, the BitCurator Consortium (BCC) forms. An independent, community-led membership association, it serves as the center of administrative, user, and community support for the BitCurator environment. More information at www.bitcuratorconsortium.org.

BitCurator 1.0 Release
A free and open-source digital forensics software environment, BitCurator 1.0 can be installed as a Linux environment, run as a virtual machine on top of other operating systems (Windows, Mac, Unix/Linux), or run as individual software tools, packages, support scripts and documentation.

BitCurator Access
SILS receives a $750,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for BitCurator Access. Over two years, the project develops BCA Webtools, which allows users to dynamically navigate file systems of disk images, as well as search the content of many common files types, and other tools for redacting sensitive information. More information at bitcurator.net/bitcurator-access.
SILS, in collaboration with the Educopia Institute, the BitCurator Consortium, and the Council of State Archivists (CoSA), is studying and expanding the adoption of digital forensics tools through professional education with the support of an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant worth nearly $500,000. BitCurator.edu is exploring the institutional and technological factors that influence the adoption of digital forensics tools and methods in library and information science/preservation program classes in different educational settings. Researchers are also working to identify the most viable mechanisms for sustaining collaboration among LIS programs on the adoption of digital forensics tools and methods. The project team, led by principal investigator Cal Lee, will work with members of an advisory board to test and implement several models for administering digital forensics education. The board represents a diverse set of schools, including Catholic University, Indiana University, New York University (Moving Image Archiving and Preservation Program), San Jose State University, University of Illinois, University of Maryland, University of Michigan, University of Texas, and Wayne State University.

**BitCurator 2.0**

BitCurator 2.0 (July 20, 2018) is now based on the 18.04 Long Term Service release of Ubuntu Linux. To download and read more about the latest release, visit [https://github.com/BitCurator/bitcurator-distro/wiki/Releases](https://github.com/BitCurator/bitcurator-distro/wiki/Releases).

**BitCurator NLP**

SILS receives a grant for $750,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support BitCurator NLP, a project to develop software and protocols for the application of natural language processing (NLP) methods to 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. More information at [bitcurator.net/bitcurator-nlp](http://bitcurator.net/bitcurator-nlp).

**OSSArcFlow**

The Educopia Institute and SILS receive a grant worth over $681,000 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for OSSArcFlow, a project to document and enhance digital curation workflows by LAMs. Educopia Executive Director Katherine Skinner is principal investigator (PI) with SILS’ Cal Lee and Kam Woods and Educopia Preservation Communities Manager Sam Meister serving as co-Pls. The research team is engaging with 12 partner institutions to research, devise, and test various strategies for implementing three leading open source software (OSS) technologies: ArchivesSpace, the BitCurator environment, and Archivematica. More information at [educopia.org/ossarcflow](http://educopia.org/ossarcflow).

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**Inaugural BitCurator Users Forum**

Hosted by the BitCurator Consortium, this annual event brings together BitCurator users from around the globe to focus on current use and future development of the software environment. For more information, visit [bitcuratorconsortium.org](http://bitcuratorconsortium.org) and choose Events from the drop down menu.
NSF Cyber Carpentry Prepares Early-Career Researchers for Data-Intensive Projects

Big data is only getting bigger, and that can cause big problems for researchers who need to store and share their work. Twenty doctoral students and post-doctoral associates from across the county learned the tools and techniques to solve these problems at the inaugural Cyber Carpentry Workshop at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and hosted by the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS), the two-week workshop in July introduced students to a variety of applications, platforms, and processes for data life-cycle management and data-intensive computation.

“Previously, you had maybe a thousand files, maybe ten thousand,” said Arcot Rajasekar, SILS professor and director of the Cyber Carpentry Workshop. “Now, you’re talking about a 100 million files and doing simulations and emulations that can create petabytes of data. Managing that just by human interaction is not going to be effective; you need some automation there. In addition to the volume of data, you have to consider the velocity of data coming in and the multiple varieties of data you’re collecting. This is not easily done without a good level of management.”

The workshop familiarized participants with the concepts of virtualization, automation, and federation as defined through the Datnet Federation Consortium (DFC), an NSF-funded project that promotes sharing within and across science and engineering disciplines. Instructors introduced specific DFC web portals, including CyVerse, Dataverse, DataONE, and Hydroshare, as well as relevant software, meta-data management strategies, and large-scale workflows.

Jocelyn Colella, a PhD candidate in evolutionary genomics at the University of New Mexico, said gaining experience with containers – programs that can virtualize entire scientific workflows, including software, libraries, and data – was one of the highlights of her experience, and the introduction to the JetStream and CyVerse virtual environments had significant implications for her research.

“Coming from a smaller lab, it has been incredibly expensive to build the computing resources and data archival infrastructure necessary to deal with terabytes of genomic data,” she said. “Learning about the free computational and storage resources available through NSF-funded projects has revolutionized how I conceptualize my own workflows and will alter how I apply for grants going into the future.”

“Learning about the free computational and storage resources available through NSF-funded projects has revolutionized how I conceptualize my own workflows and will alter how I apply for grants going into the future.”

-Jocelyn Colella, PhD Candidate
University of New Mexico

Read more about the 2018 Cyber Carpentry Workshop and watch a video featuring interviews with instructors and students at sils.unc.edu/news/2018/cyber-carpentry. For information about the 2019 summer workshop, visit cybercarpentry.web.unc.edu.
Nourishing minds at the Kwithu Kitchen

In the spring of 2017, UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) Assistant Professor Mary Grace Flaherty and Associate Professor Cliff Missen were in Mzuzu, Malawi, she as Fulbright scholar and he through his role as director of the WiderNet Project. They were both impressed with how the Kwithu Kitchen not only provided food for orphans and others affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, but also served as an informal information outlet and community hub. It seemed like the ideal place to establish an information resource center.

They applied for and received funding to establish such a center from the U.S. Embassy’s Public Diplomacy Small Grants Program, and returned to Mzuzu in May 2018, accompanied by SILS master’s student Julie Fieldsteel. The SILS team brought laptops, books, processing supplies, and a battery-powered computer server with access to the eGranary digital library. Kwithu Community-Based Organization (CBO) Founder and Director Dr. Anna Msowoya Keys and her staff had selected a building for the library, assembled new bookshelves, and enlisted several eager local librarian trainees.

As she helped process the books for the center, Fieldsteel got a glimpse into the lives of the women who worked at the Kwithu CBO, which like the Kitchen and other programs, is supported by the non-profit organization Maloto, which Dr. Msowoya Keys founded. Fieldsteel saw first-hand the impact that good information can have.

“One woman said that because of the HIV awareness Maloto works to spread, she learned that she could pass the virus down through breast milk to her child and how to prevent that. Because of Maloto, her son now tests negative,” Fieldsteel said. “This isn’t necessarily my best memory, but it is the most meaningful one.”

See more photos at www.widernet.org/digitallibrary/Kwithu2018.

WiderNet becomes founding member of new international consortium for “offline content”

At an international summit held in Tempe, Ariz., in early 2018, WiderNet became one of 15 organizations to establish a new consortium and issue a declaration of principles for advancing projects, strategies, and technologies that can provide access to important digital content for people in places without adequate internet connectivity. Cliff Missen, SILS Associate Professor and Director of both the research lab WiderNet@UNC and nonprofit WiderNet Project, attended the summit and contributed to the Tempe Declaration, which states that access to the information commons should be recognized as a fundamental human right. Read the full declaration at www.offline-internet.org/statement-from-the-summit.
Getting librarians ready to connect with learners from diverse backgrounds

For students to get the most of their school libraries, they first need to feel like they belong in those libraries. Unfortunately, that is not the reality for many youth of color. Research shows that school librarians want to make spaces more welcoming and instruction more meaningful for their students, but are unsure how to gain the cultural knowledge and awareness necessary to enact those changes.

That’s where Project READY (Reimagining Equity and Access for Diverse Youth) comes in. UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) Professor Sandra Hughes-Hassell and Teaching Assistant Professor Casey Rawson have been working with faculty members, researchers, and educators from SILS, North Carolina Central University, and the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) to design a professional development curriculum focused on culturally relevant pedagogy and equity literacy.

The project received funding from an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant in 2016. During the 2017-18 school year, the Project READY team worked with school librarians, literacy coaches and classroom teachers from WCPSS to implement and evaluate an initial version of the curriculum. The partnership with WCPSS made such a positive impact, Project READY received the UNC-Chapel Hill Provost Engaged Scholarship Award in April 2018.

“The amazing school librarians and teachers have embraced this work in ways we could never have imagined,” said Rawson. “One high school librarian decided that the people who knew the most about the equity needs within her school were the students themselves, so she helped create a student-led equity team that is now making critical decisions for their school. One group of elementary school students did an equity audit of their school’s playground, comparing it to other playgrounds in the area and making recommendations for change. We have been so inspired by stories like these, and we are excited to see where this project goes in the future.”

Project READY researchers are now using what they learned from the face-to-face sessions to refine the curriculum and convert it into an online professional development tool that will be distributed for free to libraries and school districts across the country. Learn more at projectready.web.unc.edu.

Award-winning Latina author Meg Medina delivered the Susan Steinfirst Community Lecture in Children’s Literature on April 8 at The ArtsCenter in Carrboro. In her talk, “Writing La Vida Loca: How Your Nutty Life Can Help You Become a Writer,” she explained how her family’s Cuban heritage and especially her Abuela’s dramatic stories of life in Cuba shaped her as an author. Having written both picture books and young adult novels, Medina told the audience, “You need courage to tell the truth, especially when you write for young people.”

Medina spent the following week as the Steinfirst Artist-in-Residence at Carrboro Elementary, working with fourth-grade students in the school’s dual language program. Throughout the week, students worked to produce and personalize their own zines with poetry focusing on imagery, memory, and family. Carrboro Elementary Librarian Liz Porter (MSLS ’15) and Melissa Ferens (MSLS ’18) helped facilitate activities before and during the residency. Ferens, recipient of the Drs. Barbara and Robert S. Martin Research Assistantship at SILS, also helped organize Medina’s visit.

The Steinfirst Lecture honors the memory of Susan Steinfirst, a professor of children’s and young adult literature at SILS. The lecture is made possible by the Steinfirst Memorial Fund, which was established by Professor Steinfirst’s husband, Gene Story, and other family members and friends, in 1997. Introduced in 2016, the annual artist-in-residency program was partly funded by a gift from Professor Steinfirst’s niece, Julia Steinfirst Howard, and her husband, John.
What do you do when you can’t find a textbook that comprehensively addresses the topic you want to teach? If you’re Casey Rawson, Teaching Assistant Professor at the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS), you collaborate with SILS master’s students to create a new text and publish it online as an open educational resource.

The book began as the final project for Rawson’s fall 2017 course “Instruction for Youth in School and Public Libraries.” She and 12 students from the course continued to work together during the spring 2018 semester to edit and prepare the text for publication this fall.

“As an instructor, this was an incredibly rewarding experience and well worth the extra investment of my time compared to a more typical final course project,” Rawson said. “Both the students and I were excited about having an authentic purpose and audience for our work, and since the website was published, we have heard from several librarians and other public library stakeholders who are reading and enjoying the material.”

The text, Instruction and Pedagogy for Youth in Public Libraries, encourages public librarians to embrace teaching as a core part of their professional practice. Each chapter includes real-world examples of libraries and librarians who have implemented effective programming to help educate children and teens.

“Public librarians, library assistants, and other library staff have been doing instruction for years but haven’t been talking about it in that way,” said master’s student Ness Shortley, who not only wrote a chapter but also helped copy edit the entire book. “I was excited to be part of a project that would be a one-stop resource for them.”

Rawson, Shortley, and master’s student Mara Rosenberg will be leading a YALSA webinar in December focused on the project, and Rawson has submitted a proposal for next summer’s ALA Annual Conference. The book can now be read online and downloaded as a PDF at publiclibraryinstruction.web.unc.edu. You can also purchase a print copy of the book from Lulu.com.

Instruction and Pedagogy for Youth in Public Libraries includes chapters by Jim Curry, Melissa Ferens, Tessa Gibson, Haley Young Ferreira, Rachel Morris, Dezarae Osborne, Casey H. Rawson, Mara Rosenberg, Ness Clarke Shortley, Brittany Soder, Rachel-Anne Spencer, Alexa Dunbar Stewart, and Gina Wessinger.

AND RESIDENCY

Learn more at steinfirstartistinresidency.web.unc.edu

Left: Students show off their finished poetry zines. Above: Meg Medina and students from Carrboro Elementary get ready for another day of writing. Background photos of finished zines.
Melanie Feinberg awarded Marie Sklodowska-Curie fellowship for international research

UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) Associate Professor Melanie Feinberg has been awarded a Marie Sklodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship by the European Commission. The fellowship enables experienced researchers to conduct projects outside of their home countries with the goal of facilitating international collaboration and creating breakthrough impacts.

Feinberg’s project, Data Stories, involves understanding data variation from a humanist perspective. When people tell different stories about the same event, we are interested in their stories for the variations, Feinberg said. One storyteller may emphasize details about the setting, while another may focus more on the plot. This type of variation is generally unwelcome when it comes to data collection.

“When we collect data about the same phenomenon, we usually want to eliminate that kind of variation,” Feinberg said. “In Data Stories, I will investigate how we might value the variation in data just as we value the variation in stories.”

Feinberg will be at the Department of Information Studies at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, for the 2019-2020 academic year. The department focuses on using humanist approaches to understand information structures as cultural forms, making it a great environment for her project.

“I’m grateful for the opportunity to concentrate on research ideas that have been percolating for a long time,” she said. “I am looking forward to working with collaborators such as Jens-Erik Mai, Jack Andersen, and Laura Skouvig, and to a vibrant intellectual exchange of ideas.”

Amelia Gibson selected for Thorp Faculty Engaged Scholars Program

SILS Assistant Professor Amelia Gibson is one of 10 Carolina faculty members selected for the seventh class of Thorp Faculty Engaged Scholars.

Every other year, the program brings together faculty members from various fields across campus for an experiential, competency-based curriculum, designed to further their scholarship and engage with the community.

Gibson studies health, wellness, and information practices and access in local communities and on the internet. Her current work focuses on information poverty and marginalization, and how intersections of identity, place, space, and social and economic power/privilege influence information access and information behavior among young women of color and people with disabilities.

Community Engaged Disability Informatics Lecture Series

SILS Assistant Professor Amelia Gibson leads the Community Engaged Disability Informatics (CEDI) Lab at UNC-Chapel Hill. CEDI’s spring lecture series on disability informatics and information services will be open to the public and available remotely via Zoom. Topics will include disability frameworks, disability and the law, designing enabling technologies, and library accessibility. Learn more and see the schedule at cedi.web.unc.edu/2019-cedi-lecture-series.

Amelia Gibson

5-Minute Madness with SILS Faculty

SILS faculty members gave brief talks on their teaching, research interests, and projects on Sept. 28 as part of SILS’ first 5-Minute Madness event. You can watch the talks on the SILS YouTube channel. Go to youtube.com/uncsils and click on the SILS Faculty Research playlist. Not every current faculty member was able to participate in the event, but the playlist contains keynotes, TED Talks, and presentations from several of the absent faculty, providing great insights into research at SILS.

Amelia Gibson

LISTEN

SILS Assistant Professor Amelia Gibson was a guest on WNCU’s “The Measure of Everyday Life” radio program in November. Listen to the full interview at https://measure-radio.libsyn.com/autism-and-family-life.

SILS Associate Professor Brian Sturm shared his research on how people become immersed in what they hear or read on Focus Carolina, an exclusive WCHL radio program sponsored by the university. Listen to the full interview at https://chapelboro.com/wchl/features/focus-carolina/focus-carolina-brian-sturm.
Lukasz Mazur awarded $785K AHRQ grant to develop simulation-based training for radiation therapists

Lukasz Mazur, Associate Professor at the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) and UNC School of Medicine (SOM), has been awarded a $785,000 grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to support a three-year project titled “Simulation-Based Research to Enhance Performance of Radiation Therapists.” Errors in radiation therapy (RT) are estimated to occur in up to 5% of the more than 600,000 patients receiving RT per year in the U.S., with serious/lethal events occurring at a rate of about 1 in 1,000-10,000 patients. Mazur’s project aims to develop and assess the impact of generalized simulation based training and neurofeedback intervention on radiation therapists mental workload, situation awareness, and performance.

“Radiation therapy therapists, or RTTs, are the professionals who deliver the prescribed radiation and thus are the last line of defense to catch any upstream errors,” Mazur said. “Indeed, about 40% of the errors reported to a national event registry were discovered by RTTs.” Traditionally, RTTs performed quality assurance with an active, hands-on mindset, completing tasks such as checking the light field or measurements on the patient’s skin, Mazur explained. With the advent of newer technologies, RTTs perform quality assurance efforts in a more-passive manner, relying on computer-generated data.

“Given the present safety gap within the RT field, and the key role that RTTs play in the detection of errors and in the delivery of the treatment, there is a critical need to develop and assess the impact of simulation-based training on RTTs’ performance,” Mazur said. The AHRQ grant will enable Mazur and his team to develop new, innovative simulation-based trainings and measure their impact. The grant will also provide support for radiation oncology residents working on the project and summer internships for SILS graduate students.

In addition to his joint appointment with SILS and the SOM, Mazur directs the Division of Healthcare Engineering (DHE) based at the Radiation Oncology Department in the SOM. He is a core faculty member in the interdisciplinary Carolina Health Informatics Program (CHIP).

Cliff Missen leading IMLS-funded project to expand and improve off-line digital education resources for correctional institutions

Cliff Missen, Associate Professor at SILS and Director of WiderNet@UNC, has been awarded a $50,000 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to assemble a coalition of librarians and educators from correctional institutions to further develop and manage a secure off-line platform for correctional education.

Missen and the WiderNet@UNC team will bring together stakeholders to create a collaborative platform to engage prison educators and librarians, including staff members and volunteers, in the development of customized libraries and educational resources. Outcomes for the one-year project will include a prototype collection and a blueprint for a long-term effort to improve information access for librarians, educators, and students in correctional institutions. The larger outcome will be a prototype collaborative platform that can be used to build custom collections for underserved communities.

“Many communities across America have specific information needs but lack the fiscal, infrastructural, and professional means to deliver the relevant information to their audiences,” Missen said. “However, they can afford to do so cooperatively and build collections that have a broader impact beyond their distinct communities. This project aims to develop and demonstrate a cloud-based and off-line platform to ‘crowd source’ the development of community-centric collections.”

WiderNet@UNC is the research and development component of the non-profit WiderNet. Their Corrections Off-Line Education Platform (COEP) is already installed in 25 U.S. prisons. The new coalition will provide strong guidance for WiderNet@UNC’s collection development work, Missen said.
Zeynep Tufekci unpacks data privacy issues and disinformation campaigns in multiple op-eds and interviews

In interviews and written analyses, UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) Associate Professor Zeynep Tufekci repeatedly stressed the importance of data security and privacy, especially after the Cambridge Analytica data siphoning scandal. In the New York Times op-ed “Facebook’s Surveillance Machine” (https://nyti.ms/2GIBJJM), Tufekci breaks down how the voter-profiling company harvested data from about 50 million Facebook users without their knowledge and usually without their direct consent.

Another high-profile topic Tufekci frequently addressed was the threat of intentionally spread disinformation to democratic and social institutions. “It’s the (Democracy-Poisoning) Golden Age of Free Speech” (http://bit.ly/2TUPJ9F), serves as the anchor story for WIRED’s February edition.

“The most effective forms of censorship today involve meddling with trust and attention, not muzzling speech,” Tufekci writes. “These tactics usually don’t break any laws or set off any First Amendment alarm bells. But they all serve the same purpose that the old forms of censorship did: They are the best available tools to stop ideas from spreading and gaining purchase.”

Tufekci explains how digital technologies went from instruments for spreading democracy to weapons for attacking it in “How social media took us from Tahrir Square to Donald Trump,” published by MIT Technology Review (http://bit.ly/2zx41EL). On the eve of the election, the New York Times published her op-ed “The Election Has Already Been Hacked” (https://nyti.ms/2ySeyKe), in which she argues that even if no actual tampering occurs, the 2018 mid-term election has been compromised because so many now doubt the legitimacy of the process.

Tufekci was repeatedly tapped for interviews by national and international news venues throughout the year, and is featured prominently in FRONTLINE PBS’ two-part documentary The Facebook Dilemma, now available on YouTube at https://youtu.be/T48KFiHwexM and https://youtu.be/Enq4xPbpQF.

Story Squad using Heineman Foundation gift to continue building digital folktale library

Story Squad, a literacy initiative led by SILS Associate Professor Brian Sturm, received a $31,000 gift from the Heineman Foundation in early 2018. The gift expands the foundation’s previous support for Story Squad’s efforts to establish a Folktale Storytelling Digital Library (FSDL) and measure the value of video storytelling for children.

“We have a vision for bringing folktale storytelling back to communities, schools, and libraries across the nation to help motivate young children to pick up books and read,” said Sturm. “The Heineman Foundation’s generosity will enable us to hire more student storytellers to create the video content, and an information science student to help us design the webpage and searchable web database that will be the backbone of FSDL.”

For more information on Story Squad, visit http://storysquad.net.

Members of Story Squad pose with the organization’s logo in Manning Hall in January. Front row, from left: Ameliaa Kim, Lauren Li, Jasmine Jackson. Back row, from left: Brian Sturm, Jim Curry, Vennela Medapati, Areej Hussein. Not pictured: Emily Cameron.
Helen Tibbo presented IU ILS Distinguished Alumni Award

Helen Tibbo, UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) Alumni Distinguished Professor, has been named the 41st recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Indiana University-Bloomington Information and Library Science program at the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering (SICE). She accepted the award at the SICE reception during ALA in June.

Tibbo developed the Archives and Records Management (ARM) concentration for SILS master’s students and the Professional Science Master’s Degree in Digital Curation and Management, which she now directs. She has been principal investigator on several Institute for Museum and Library Services-funded projects that have helped define digital curation best practices, particularly for government and scientific research data. She has served as the president of the Society of American Archivists and is an SAA Fellow.

Gary Marchionini elected to iSchools Board of Directors

UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) Dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor Gary Marchionini was elected to the iSchools Board of Directors for the North America region in June.

The iSchools Organization is a consortium of more than 90 universities and institutions dedicated to advancing the information field. Every year, the organization presents the iConference, a forum in which information scholars, researchers, and professionals share their insights on critical information issues in contemporary society. Learn more at https://ischools.org.

Carolina honors Susan Grey Akers

After several years as director of the newly established UNC School of Library Science, Susan Grey Akers was named dean of the School in 1942, becoming the first woman appointed to the role at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Akers retired in 1954, but continued to teach for several years and remained active in the field of librarianship until her death in 1984.

Alumni of the School, now known as the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS), established a scholarship to recognize Akers at the time of her retirement. The fund continues to provide support for SILS students.

In 2018, the University identified Akers as one of 19 Bridge Builders, affiliates whose work, advocacy, and personal example helped forge a more inclusive, unified, and aspirational Carolina community. A need-based undergraduate scholarship is now named in Akers’ honor.

SILS alumni account for 10% of 2018 ALA Emerging Leaders

Five of the 50 library and information professionals selected for the American Library Association (ALA) 2018 class of Emerging Leaders are graduates of the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS).

The Emerging Leaders program enables participants to contribute to problem-solving work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity. Below is a list of the SILS alumni chosen for the program:

- **Stephen Krueger (MSLS ’17)**, Access and Outreach Services Librarian at Randolph College in Lynchburg, Va., sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table.
- **Garrison Libby (MSLS ’13)**, Reference Librarian at Tidewater Community College, Norfolk, Va., sponsored by the Virginia Library Association.
- **Julie Stivers (MSLS ’15)**, Librarian at Mount Vernon School in Wake County, N.C., sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians.
- **Ashlyn Elizabeth Velte (MSLS ’16)**, Archivist at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho, sponsored by the Idaho Library Association.
- **Mea Warren (MSLS ’15)**, Natural Science and Mathematics Librarian at the University of Houston, sponsored by the ACRL Science and Technology Section.

Three SILS alumni selected for Library Senior Fellows program

Rosalyn Metz (MSLS ’06), Director Library Technology and Digital Strategies for Emory LITS (Library and Information Technology Services), Tim Shearer (MSLS ’97), Associate University Librarian for Digital Strategies and Intellectual Property at UNC Libraries, and Monica McCormick (MSLS ’06), Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Publishing and Research at the University of Delaware, were three of the 17 academic library managers chosen for the 2018 Library Senior Fellows at UCLA.

Scheduled every two years, this intensive, three-week residential program combines management perspectives, strategic thinking, and practical and theoretical approaches to the issues confronting academic institutions and their libraries. Nearly half of its 250 alumni have gone on to positions as library directors. Learn more at https://seniorfellows.library.ucla.edu.

New SILSAA Officers

Congratulations to Sarah Carrier (MSIS ’08), newly elected SILS Alumni Association (SILSAA) Vice-President / President-Elect; Kim Henze (MSLS ’17), newly elected Communications Director; and Jamie Patrick-Burns (MSLS ’15), newly elected Treasurer. They join President Claire Leverett (MSLS ’10), Immediate Past President Doug Diesenhaus (MSLS ’12), and Secretary Hillary Fox (MSLS ’14) on the SILSAA Board. Learn more at sils.unc.edu/alumni/alumni-board.
Elinor Dixon Hawkins (BSLS '50) has been honored with a “Bern Bear” in recognition for her lifetime of achievement and contributions to eastern North Carolina. While there are several Bern Bear statues around New Bern, N.C., this is the first one created to honor an individual. A dedication ceremony was held Nov. 4 at Tryon Palace History Center in New Bern. Hawkins is affectionately known as the “Story Lady,” for her long-running “Telestory Time” broadcast, which began in 1963 and continues to this day.

Larry P. Alford (MSLS '77), Chief Librarian at the University of Toronto, received the 2018 Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award, an honor jointly sponsored by four divisions of the American Library Association. The award recognizes a librarian who has made significant contributions toward library automation or management or has made notable improvements in library services or research. Alford received the SILS Distinguished Alumni Award in 2005 and serves on the SILS Board of Visitors.

Stefanie Mendell (MSLS ’78) has been elected to the Raleigh City Council.

Duncan Smith (MSLS ’80) has retired from NoveList, the company he co-founded, and started a part-time role at EBSCO Information Services as Chief Strategist for Public Libraries. Read more at http://bit.ly/NoveList-founders. He was also featured in November’s edition of Information World in an article titled “10 Experts Talk Library Positivity.”

Susan Bennett (MSIS ’91), CNN Library Executive Director, visited SILS in April to share details of how she and her team provide video archives management, editorial research, and content systems support to all of CNN’s networks and platforms. She discussed how they react to breaking news of the day by finding just the right footage or information needed to complete a story. Bennett also highlighted that she gets to work with two other SILS alumni at CNN. Jordan Bross (MSLS ’10) is a taxonomist and Tim Obert (MSLS ’10) is a content systems librarian.

Mélina (Brown) Mangal (MSLS ’94) had her picture-book biography, The Vast Wonder of the World: Biologist Ernest Everett Just, published in November. The book has received glowing reviews in Kirkus, Publisher’s Weekly, and a starred review in School Library Journal. In addition to writing, Mangal is still working as an elementary school librarian in Minneapolis. “I enjoy highlighting the lives of amazing people to our youngest readers, planting the seeds of possibility early on,” she said. Learn more about her and her books at melinamangal.com.

L. Teresa Church (MSLS ’98, PhD ’08) coauthored One Window’s Light, a collection of haiku published by Unicorn Press. One of her quilts is featured on the cover.

Danielle Borasky (MSLS ’99) has been named Vice President of NoveList, taking over for company co-founder Duncan Smith, who retired in early 2018. Read an interview with Danielle from this spring when she started her new leadership role at http://bit.ly/borasky-qa.

Elisabeth Bacon Warren (MSLS ’01) was awarded a Master’s in National Security Strategy from the National War College / National Defense University.

Kelly Wooten (MSLS ’02), Research Services and Collection Development Librarian for the Sallie Bingham Center for Women’s History and Culture at Duke University, was elected president of the Society of North Carolina Archivists.

Sarah Falls (MSLS ’05) was appointed University Librarian at UNC School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, NC, in July.

Jessica Zellers (MSLS ’05) is co-author of a book titled The ABCs of ERM: Demystifying Electronic Resource Management for Public and Academic Librarians, which has been published by ABC-CLIO.

Laura W. Gariepy (MSLS ’09) was named Associate University Librarian for Research and Learning at Virginia Commonwealth University in October. In her new role, she will direct all aspects of learning, teaching, and research outreach by VCU Libraries for the 28,000 VCU community members. Working with the division’s five department heads, she will oversee faculty and research support, undergraduate and graduate education, access to spaces, equipment, and expertise for media and makerspace technologies, and the spaces of the nationally renowned James Branch Cabell Library.

Erik T. Mitchell (PhD ’10) was appointed University Librarian at the University of California San Diego. In his new role, he will manage UC San Diego Library’s four locations, its collections, and its 235 librarians and professional staff. He will also oversee the Geisel Library Revitalization Initiative, an effort to transform the interior public spaces into a modern, technology-rich spaces that enhance user experience.


M.K. England (MSLS ’13) has her first YA fiction title set for publication on Dec. 18 by HarperTeen. *The Disasters* is described as “The Breakfast Club meets Guardians of the Galaxy.” The book has received positive reviews and Mackenzi Lee, author of *A Gentleman’s Guide to Vice and Virtue*, said it’s “A clever, cosmic thrill ride packed with nonstop action and starring a motley crew that won me over from page one.” Learn more at http://mkengland.com.

Chelcie Juliet Rowell (MSIS ’13) became Team Lead, Digital Scholarship, Tisch Library, Tufts University in October.

Carla Davis-Castro (MSLS ’14) started a new position as a research librarian with the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress in October. “I am proud to say there are many Tar Heels in CRS,” she wrote.

Kai Ewing (MSLS ’15) was named the first-ever winner of the Faculty/Staff/Post-doc LGBTQ Advocacy Award from the LGBTQ Center at UNC-Chapel Hill in May. They are the Reserves Processing Assistant/Evening Circulation Supervisor at the Undergraduate Library. They were recognized for their service on the diversity committees of UNC Libraries and SILS and their volunteer work at the LGBTQ Center of Durham's Library. “They have been described as an excellent role model and dedicated public servant as well as hard-working, humble, and kind,” said the award citation. “Graduate assistants who work with this person expressed enthusiastic gratitude for such a wonderful example of passionate and committed advocacy.”

Caroline Hallam (MSLS ’15) has been promoted to Open Educational Resources Librarian at NC LIVE.

Alex Poole (PhD ’15) has been awarded ASIS&T’s 2018 Bob Williams History Fund Award for his research paper titled “Harold T. Pinkett and the Lonely Crusade of African American Archivists in the 20th Century.” Poole is an assistant professor in information science at the Drexel University College of Computing & Informatics.

Latia Ward (MSLS ’15) works as a Research Services Librarian and Diversity Fellow at Cornell University Law School.

Amanda Bennett Click (PhD ’16), Business Librarian at American University, published part of her dissertation research in *Library and Information Science Research*: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0740818816301529.

Hannah Pope (MSLS ’16), Emerging Technologies Librarian at Appalachian State University, had an analysis on virtual and augmented reality in libraries published in *Library Technology Reports* (vol. 54, no. 6), and adapted into a dispatch for *American Libraries* in September. Read the dispatch at http://bit.ly/amlib-vr.


In Deepest Sympathy

SILS extends condolences to the family and friends of alumni who passed away during the previous year. The following were drawn from obituaries published from October 1, 2017, to November 1, 2018.

Lynne W. Barnette – July 2, 2018
William A. Brown – September 15, 2018
Christian Brun – October 10, 2017
Rhoda M. Burgess – April 5, 2018
Carlene G. Crisp – February 6, 2018
David M. Jones – March 23, 2018
Marikan G. Krugman – May 10, 2018
Deborah L. Larson – October 7, 2018
Sidney E. Matthews – October 29, 2018
Mary G. McMullen – April 24, 2018
Amy E. Morgan – October 29, 2017
Phyllis H. Myron – December 12, 2017
Mark A. Nesse – October 14, 2018
Georgianna H. Niven – November 1, 2017
Charlotte T. Ou – January 14, 2018
Eva W. Sitton – February 21, 2018
Linda L. Smith – October 13, 2018
Carol A. Southerland – August 5, 2018
Madelyn Strickland – June 14, 2018
Ellen D. Sutton – July 15, 2018
J. B. Sutton – August 4, 2018
Sarah M. Thrash – February 22, 2018
Gary M. Tinker – November 13, 2017
Nellie L. Waltner – July 14, 2018
Martha S. Weaver – February 13, 2018
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Beverly B. Worsham – July 31, 2018
Daniel A. Yanchisin – June 23, 2018
An avid reader since childhood, Amy Elizabeth Morgan (MSLS ’08) devoted her career to supporting libraries and encouraging reading. She was a juvenile materials specialist and worked as a Metadata Librarian with NoveList for eight years prior to her death in October 2017. Inspired by her professional dedication and vibrant personality, her colleagues at NoveList have established an assistantship at the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) to support outstanding master’s students. In addition to covering most educational expenses, the one-year renewable assistantship provides a generous stipend and experiential learning opportunity at NoveList.

On September 29, 2018, SILS hosted a gathering of family, friends, and NoveList colleagues to formally announce the Amy Elizabeth Morgan Assistantship. Several SILS faculty members and the first recipient of the assistantship, MSLS student Isabel Crevasse, also attended the luncheon held at the SILS Library.

Duncan Smith (MSLS ’80), founder of NoveList, explained why an assistantship at SILS felt like the right choice to honor Amy Morgan.

“I suspect that what Amy learned here about her future vocation is that our profession is committed to the stewardship not just of the containers of our thoughts and imagination, but the preservation and curation of ideas and dreams themselves,” he said. “What she was signing up for was not just putting labels on books and putting them on the shelves, but ensuring that those items found their way into the hands of the individuals whose lives they will change. I believe that, like me, Amy was probably changed by her time here in Manning Hall. I certainly saw the evidence of that with the time that she spent with us at NoveList.”

Christy Cutts, Amy Morgan’s roommate while she was earning her undergraduate degree in art history at Carolina, spoke on behalf of family and friends. She shared stories about her friend, and expressed gratitude for this special tribute.

“Sometimes when you lose someone, it helps to know how much they meant to other people,” she said. “So we would very much like to thank Duncan and everyone at NoveList for the environment that you created at work and for the assistantship today . . . This is really lovely.”

Assistantships are crucial to SILS’ mission to make education more accessible and affordable. About 50% of admitted students who do not enroll at SILS identify cost as the #1 barrier. Crevasse said the assistantship and the opportunity to work at NoveList factored into her decision to attend SILS, as well as the school’s excellent reputation for youth librarianship. Since starting the MSLS program in fall 2018, she has been working on metadata enhancement for juvenile materials on the Book Discovery team at NoveList.

“I absolutely love everything I am learning in the classroom and at work,” she said. “I can’t wait to experience everything the next year and a half has to hold.”
Joyce Ogburn (MSLS ’82): Continuing the tradition of innovative information education at Carolina

When Joyce Ogburn (MSLS ’82) began graduate study at Carolina in 1980, she embarked on a journey of discovery. Chapel Hill was the perfect place for someone who, as Ogburn puts it, is naturally inquisitive. Couple that curiosity with a cutting-edge education from the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) and Ogburn would go on to become a leader, helping to reimagine libraries, scholarship, and higher education for a new age. Her professional journey has introduced her to new cultures and countries, leadership opportunities, university affiliations, and philosophies, not to mention many new people. (She would even meet her husband in a library.)

At Carolina, Ogburn was an early adopter of technology, utilizing some of the first personal computers, learning operating systems, and helping her fellow students master statistical analysis software. And she was the first master’s student to submit a paper printed using a state-of-the-art dot matrix printer. Faculty members, such as Lester Asheim, Fred Roper, and then-dean Ed Holley, invested their time in her. And the School’s eye toward the future and its investment in student experiences led her to an internship at the Environmental Protection Agency’s RTP library.

Her time at the EPA Library – SILS’ longest-running internship program which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2015 – put her curiosity and education to work, locating the best information for its researchers. At the reference desk, she doggedly tracked down the answers to tough questions that were often “all over the place.”

“I still think back to that,” she said. “It was hard because you had to figure out who knew the answers. I just had to keep calling to get the right answers and the right people for our researchers.”

Those same kinds of challenges informed her successes throughout a 30-year library career that took her to libraries at Yale, Old Dominion, Penn State, the University of Washington, the University of Utah, and Appalachian State.

At Utah, as the J. Willard Marriott Dean and University Librarian, she oversaw an $80-million renovation of a half million square-foot space. She had plans for the project to follow, but she still had to fully engage those ideas and her colleagues to make decisions and quickly maneuver within the process.

“It was the biggest and most challenging project of my career,” she said.

The same dedication she brought to answering the questions of EPA researchers, she applied to making sure the four-and-a-half-year renovation best served library users.

During her career, she also served as president of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), implementing a new strategic plan, revising the organization’s structure, issuing new Standards for Libraries in Higher Education, and launching an initiative to integrate information literacy and scholarly communication. She also served on a number of other national boards and committees.

“I have been able to engage with knowledge thoughtfully, critically, joyfully, and in ways that would not be possible without SILS,” she said. “My education was hands-on, intellectual, technological and transformative. It set my grounding and direction for life. It has allowed me to reach out to others about how knowledge can transform their lives.”

So in 2018 as part of the Campaign for Carolina, Ogburn and her husband, Steven A. Eichner, who is a museum professional, made a $1.1 million commitment – a combination of current and estate giving – to SILS. As the School works to increase the volume and pace at which important ideas improve lives, this commitment will enable Dean Gary Marchionini and the faculty to expand the School’s role as a research enterprise that drives innovation and to educate the next generation of researchers and librarians.

As an unrestricted gift, the current portion of the commitment is helping fund SILS new master’s degree in Digital Curation and Management. The first master’s program in the nation focused on digital curation, this degree will help students become experts in managing data and other digital assets for public and private enterprises.

“While Joyce earned her degree at Carolina, she was surrounded by innovation,” said Marchionini.

“That environment provided her the tools to be a leader in all the work she pursued. Since then, we have continued to push the boundaries of the library and information fields, and her commitment will provide valuable resources to foster an innovative culture.”

“My biggest joy is helping younger librarians get their footing and seeing them takeover,” Ogburn said.

“They’re the future, and they’re doing great things.”

“I have been able to engage with knowledge thoughtfully, critically, joyfully, and in ways that would not be possible without SILS.”

Joyce Ogburn (MSLS ’82)
School of Information & Library Science

Unit priorities & commitments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Commitments ($)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Students and the Educational Experience</td>
<td>2,192,512</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty and Scholarship</td>
<td>7,119,098</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culture of Innovation and Impact</td>
<td>4,932,469</td>
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FY18 was a record fundraising year for the School of Information and Library Science. With measurable momentum, our campaign is a catalyst for sustained, increased private support. FY18 commitments exceeded $4M, roughly doubling its prior year commitments. In the summer of 2017, we increased SILS’ campaign goal from $16M to $20M in commitments. We may increase the goal again as generous supporters have committed $14.2M so far. Lead gifts include a commitment for the first endowed deanship in the history of Carolina. The SILS Campaign Committee inspires and leads our efforts. SILS is a case study for how comprehensive fundraising campaigns help stakeholders focus resources, build momentum, and increase results.

For more information about the SILS Campaign, please visit sils.unc.edu/giving.

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VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP
Campaign Co-Chairs: Marcia Duncan Lowry and Charles Lowry

Campaign data through June 30, 2018.
When Marcia Duncan Lowry and Charles Lowry enthusiastically accepted the Dean’s invitation to co-chair the SILS Campaign, they were equally clear that they’d serve in this role for half the campaign. Being that we are at the campaign’s midpoint, Duncan Smith has accepted Dean Gary Marchionini’s invitation (effective Jan 1, 2019) to succeed the Lowrys, who will serve on the committee through 2019.

The service of Duncan (BA ’76, MSLS ’80) for SILS is strong and deep. In addition to the Campaign Committee, he serves on the SILS Board of Visitors and is a SILS Distinguished Alumnus (1999). He also played a key role in the establishment of the EBSCO NoveList-funded, new Amy Elizabeth Morgan Assistantship (see page 34). In June 2018, Duncan retired from his position as General Manager of NoveList and became Chief Strategist for Public Libraries for EBSCO Information Services. He lives in Chapel Hill. His campaign giving supports the Assistantship and the Barbara B. Moran Fund for Global Programs.

The Lowrys’ leadership and service are likewise deep. Charles (MSLS ’74) was the dean/director of five university libraries during his career and is professor emeritus at the University of Maryland and the retired director of the Association of Research Libraries. Marcia (MSLS ’75, Beta Phi Mu, Florida State University; and matriculated ’80-82 UNC Graduate Art History program) was both an academic and public librarian and is a retired library-journal editor. Their campaign commitment is to endow the SILS deanship. This is the first named deanship in Carolina history. Charles serves on the Board of Visitors (past chair) and is a SILS Distinguished Alumnus (2001) The Lowrys live in Chapel Hill.

“Inspired, engaged volunteer leadership, especially including the SILS Campaign Committee, is core to our success,” said Dean Marchionini. “Our vision will drive our success. So will philanthropic investment – specifically, the gifts and pledges of our leadership alumni and other key SILS stakeholders. What Charles, Marcia, and Duncan have helped us accomplish can be transformative for SILS. Crucial financial support will nourish big ideas and bold ambitions. I salute them and also thank the full Committee.”

The Campaign for Carolina seeks to raise an unprecedented $4.25 billion by Dec. 31, 2022, to move the University forward and make a difference in more people’s lives. This infographic reflects the campaign’s progress as of Nov. 1. For more information, visit campaign.unc.edu
SILS in Charlotte & Raleigh

The UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) hosted receptions for alumni and friends in Charlotte on June 27 and in Raleigh on October 4. Thanks to the hard work of our host committee members, both events were well attended, offering SILS affiliates a great chance to network and learn more about the future of SILS.

In Charlotte, alumni and friends came to the Charlotte Center City Building, a venue at the heart of the city offering impressive views of Charlotte’s light rail extension and First Ward Park. Those attending the reception in Raleigh just had to look for the building with the big globe attached to the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. Guests enjoyed drinks and light refreshments surrounded by vibrant, fascinating museum exhibits.

At both events, host committee chairs welcomed guests, SILS Dean Gary Marchionini shared details about his bold vision for SILS’ future, and SILS Board of Visitors Chair Tim Gunter (MSLS ’88) talked about the importance of supporting the School.

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SILS in Charlotte Host Committee

Tim Gunter (BA ’85, MSLS ’88)
Partner, KPMG

Gerald Holmes (MSLS ’85)
Reference Librarian/Diversity Coordinator, UNC Greensboro

Anne Cooper Moore, Chair (MSLS ’84)
Dean, Library, UNC Charlotte

Mike Moyer (MSLS ’83)
Strategy Consultant, Corporate Properties, Wells Fargo

Heather McCullough (BA ’90, MA ’93, MSIS ’07)
Associate Director, Center for Teaching and Learning, UNC Charlotte

Martha McPhail (BA ’68, MSLS ’71)
Librarian (retired), San Diego State University

David Singleton (BA ’84, MSLS ’92)
Former Director, Libraries, Charlotte Mecklenburg Library

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From left: David Singleton, Heather McCullough, Anne Cooper Moore, Martha McPhail, and Gerald Holmes.

Alumni and friends at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences.

Left photo: Kevin Lanning and Gary Marchionini. Right photo: Alani Perry and other SILS alumni at the NC Museum of Natural Science.

Photo by Gary Marchionini

Photos by Caitlin Penna, www.caitlinpennaphoto.com
SILS in Raleigh Host Committee

Evan Carroll (BSIS ’08, MSIS ’12)
President, Evan Carroll and Associates

Doug Diesenhaus (MSLS ’12)
Director of Strategic Initiatives and Special Projects
UNC-Chapel Hill

Terry Hill (MSLS ’04)
Deputy Director, Durham County Library

Jimmy Nguyen (BSIS ’10)
Senior Software Engineer, Allscripts

Alani Perry (BSIS ’11)
Senior Business Analyst Consultant, Cardinal Solutions

Jill Sexton, Chair (MSIS ’99)
Associate Director for the Digital Library,
NC State University Libraries

Katrina Vernon (MSLS ’08)
Management and Policy Analyst,
Wake County Public Library System

Left photo: Jeanne Marie Tan and Lewis Church. Right photo: Caroline Hallam, Claire Leverett, and Kim Henze.
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has been celebrating its 225th anniversary throughout the year with special events, announcements, and stories that spotlight the ways the University is preparing students to thrive in a dynamic society and how it is opening the doors for great minds to make transformative discoveries.

The spotlight turned to the UNC School of Information and Library Science (SILS) on Oct. 29. SILS was the top feature on the University’s homepage (screenshot to the right) for the week. A specially produced video and graphic linked to a package that included Dean Gary Marchionini’s vision for SILS and stories on recent research and projects at the School.