Current Masters student Timothy Leonard received the Unsung Hero Love Purple Live Gold award from LSU Campus Life for reactivating the Sigma Tau Alpha English honor society at LSU, where he worked with faculty and staff to complete the paperwork process, to find funding and to recruit members for the reactivation. He also raised almost $3,000 to support members’ participation in an international conference where they presented original research and to support children’s literacy causes. More information at http://www.lsu.edu/english/honorsociety/leonard-highlight.php.


Dr. Brian Coutts (MLS, 1983) was selected as the 2017 recipient of the Louisiana Gilbert Hubbard Award from the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) in honor of his distinguished contributions to reference services and the library profession. This is the highest honor bestowed by the organization and includes a $5,000 award and citation, which was presented to Coutts at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago earlier this year.

Louisa Whitfield-Smith (MLS, 2010), outreach librarian for the Kansas City Kansas Public Library, conceived and implemented a program that surprises public bus passengers with live-action book readings by local figures. The video at https://youtu.be/5jyT4Q9JdDQ

Alyson Gamble (MLIS, 2013) began her doctoral studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Tell us YOUR news. UPDATE your information at http://www.lsu.edu/CHSE/ALUMNI/UPDATE.php

Continued from page 1

Paraprofessionals provide necessary support for the professional library staff and account for over eighty percent of library positions held in U.S. jobs. The 2012 AHEAD Book Handbook predicts that employment for library paraprofessionals will continue to increase at a rate of 5% per year. All courses for the certificate and the minor are offered as 100% asynchronous online classes, allowing individuals to work around their existing schedules.

Graduate Certificates in RM and School Librarianship

In the past two years, SLIS established two graduate certificate programs, one in Records and Information Management (RM) and one in School Librarianship. The 15 credit hour RM certificate prepares graduates for careers such as Records and Information Management Officer, Information Governance Officer, Digital Assets Manager, Enterprise Content Manager, or equivalencies, in various industries, such as government and municipal, healthcare, legal, financial services, insurance services, oil and gas, education, and telecommunications. This certificate is offered in partnership with the Institute of Certified Records Managers. Our first RM certificate graduate will walk across the stage this December.

The 18 credit-hour certificate in School Librarianship is for certified librarians in Louisiana who are seeking add-on certification in school librarianship. Certified librarians develop collections that meet the curricular needs of the school, collaborate with teachers in integrating literature into their lesson plans, and assist students with finding reading materials that are interesting and age-appropriate. Several individuals have successfully completed the certificate program.

All courses for both certificates are offered as 100% asynchronous online classes.

Doctorate of Design

The LSU College of Art & Design implemented a new Doctorate of Design in Cultural Preservation in the Fall 2017 semester. SLIS will play a vital role by offering appropriate coursework in museum studies, cultural heritage resource management, and preservation to students in the doctorate program.

We are pleased to announce the retirement of Dr. Carol Barry as Director of the School of Library and Information Science. Dr. Barry has been a member of the SLIS faculty since 1990. From 2015 through 2017, she served as Interim Director, overseeing significant changes to the program. Currently she is working on her last year with the School and the College of Art + Design.

“I am excited and gratified about this opportunity,” said Barry. “The field of library and information science in the 21st century is undergoing a dramatic transformation. It is critical for information professionals to understand emerging and important career opportunities for librarians, archivists, records managers, information officers and website professionals. It is to name a few. As Director, I feel as if I have the opportunity to educate a larger audience about who we are and what we do.”

Dr. Barry has served various leadership roles within her profession including Associate Editor of the Journal of Library Administration and editorial board member of JASIST and Board Member of AALL. Dr. Barry has served as Vice President of the Faculty Senate, and chair of the Faculty Senate Library Committee and the Courses and Curriculum Committee. She served as chair of the School of Library and Information Science Committee.

We look forward to Dr. Barry’s continued leadership and dedication to the future of SLIS.

Dr. Barry’s name is Baron

Continued on page 4

Fall 2017 Newsletter

What do we look like now?

SLS continues to grow, implementing new and exciting courses and programs. Here are a few highlights from the past two years.

Enrollment

There are currently 207 students enrolled in our graduate degree and certificate programs, which is almost double the enrollment in the Fall of 2015. In addition, undergraduates are now enrolling in our general education class and our minor in Library Science. All signs point towards continued growth.

General Education Course: US 2000, Introduction to Information & Society

In the Fall of 2017 SLS offered its first undergraduate general education course, which is also a Communication Intensive (CIC) course. Introduction to Information & Society educates students about the development of the information society and the ways in which information interacts with modern society. Through the examination of issues such as information access, information power, censorship, intellectual property, privacy, democracy and social networks students expand their understanding of the role of information within a global society.

Undergraduate Minor in Library Science

Students were admitted to the minor beginning in the Spring of 2017. The minor consists of the general education course described above and four additional courses that cover topics such as libraries in the information age, public services in libraries, technical services in libraries, and collection development. The minor appeals to students who wish to know more about the library environment and those considering careers as paraprofessionals in libraries.

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Library Science

This certificate was recently approved by the Board of Regents and will be admitting students for the Spring 2018 semester. The certificate consists of the same five courses as the undergraduate minor. To be admitted to the certificate program, individuals must have earned a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college with a minimum GPA of 2.75. The certificate program and the minor will equip graduates with the skills necessary to provide paraprofessional services in public and academic libraries.

Congratulations to our Spring & Summer 2017 Graduates

Amanda Arceaux
Elizabeth Battle
Samantha Bellmont Sawyer
Jole Bouckesp
Alexander Bourgeois
Wanda Cavalier
Jordan Courteney
Leigh Ashley Davyrie
Alda Fenix
Holly Goodwin
Megan Lumberry
Elon Marsh
Laura Mayoux
Amanda Moak
Amanda Munson
Merlith Petson
Meghan Quabodeaux
Jessie Roovers
Lucy Restellam
Alicia Scharenberch
Catherine Spaulding
Lindsey Stilmac
Kaitlyn Westtreas
Barbara and Dale Biggs created the Roberts D. & Barbara R. Biggs Graduate Student Award in 2011 to recognize a deserving graduate student in the LSU Chemistry Library, and well-deserved," said Dr. Carol Barry, Director of SLIS. "We are lucky to have such a dedicated scholar and teacher in our program."

Dr. Benoit holds a PhD in Information Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (2009), MA in History (2009), and BA in History (2006). Then Interim Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee, Marc A. Mone, highlighted Dr. Benoit’s achievements during the 2014 commencement ceremony recognizing his decades-long academic career at UWM. He noted, “Not only is he working in his field, he is paying it forward by helping to build the next generation. Ed is helping to build the next generation of information scientists through his position at Louisiana State University.”

The award was part of LSU’s 50th Anniversary Gala in September. He was honored at a special anniversary event.

**Faculty News**

**SLS faculty** were well represented at the 45th Annual Conference of the Canadian Institute for Information Science (CANSI) 2017, in Toronto. Dr. Tao Jin and Wendy McLain (MLIS, 1990 & SLIS Adjunct Instructor) presented a poster, “Identifying Interdisciplinary Research Collaboration as Two Scientific Communities.”

Dr. Suzanne Stauffer presented a poster, “Educating for Social Tagging: Professional vs. Amateur Production” at the 2017 ALISE Annual Conference.

Dr. Brenton Stewart presented a paper, “Twitter and the Lack of Participation in Culture and College Libraries” at the 2017 ALISE Annual Conference.

Dr. Suzanne Stauffer and Brenton Stewart both presented papers at the National Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association (NPACAA) Annual Conference.

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**Dr. Benoit Receives Distinguished Alumni**

Assistant Professor Dr. Benoit was chosen as a distinguished alumnus of the UW-Milwaukee School of Information Studies (SOS) because his life and work exemplifies “the breadth, diversity, culture, and spirit of the School of Information Studies and its commitment to academic, practical, and community engagement.” His award recognized his community service following the Louisiana Flood of 2016 providing important public information onavigating family photographs, documents, and heirlooms through various media outlets and professional workshops in the subsequent months.

Additionally, the award recognizes the Virtual Footlocker Project (VFP), one of his recent research developments. The VFP focuses on the development of a cross platform open access application to assist veterans with the digital preservation of their personal records (e.g., photographs, videos, email, etc.). While not specifically directed towards immediate archival impact, this project will preserve future potential manuscript collections for the nation. Likewise, the application will have further uses beyond its immediate goals.

Dr. Benoit’s recognition as a leader in the field of archival studies at this early stage of his academic career is both gratifying and well-deserved,” said Dr. Carol Barry, Director of SLS. “We are lucky to have such a dedicated scholar and teacher in our program.”

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Dr. Edward Benoit, III presented a poster, “Moving Images: Social Tagging, Professional vs. Amateur Production” at the 2017 Society of American Archivists Professional Workshops and Organizing Committee.

Dr. Brenton Stewart was highlighted by the LSU Graduate School in their Faculty Spotlight: see http://lsu.edu/graduateschool/about/news/feature-stories/09GradFacultySpotlight.php.

Dr. Seungwon Yang was quoted by the Wall Street Journal regarding the use of social media following a natural disaster. See: https://www.wsj.com/articles/for-hurricane-irma-information-officials-post-on-social-media-1505148661.

Dr. Edward Benoit, II ran a workshop, “Presenting and Protecting Family Treasures,” at the Ascension Parish Library in Gonzales.

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**Publications**


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**Publications**


amazing internships

This past summer two SLIS students were selected for highly competitive internships. Amanda Munson (MLS, 2017) interned in the Education and Department at the George Eastman Museum (GEM) in Rochester, NY. Based at the Eastman Kodak Company founder’s home, the GEM contains millions of artifacts and records. According to its website, the GEM “is the world’s oldest photography museum and is the hub of the oldest film archives.” Munson mainly worked with the Stills, Posters and Paper Collections division, processing the papers of Thomas Armat (one of the inventors of the film projector) and Kodak’s president, George Eastman. Additionally, she applied the skills she learned in SLIS courses to help teach a class about the history of photography to the public.

Barbara Biggs (MLS, 1981) interned at the Smithsonian Institution's Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archive. The Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage helped me better understand the folksandsounds.org site, which I learned in SLIS courses to help teach a class about the history of photography to the public. Barbara Biggs (MLS, 1981) received a Barbara and Dale Biggs created the Thomas Armat (one of the inventors of the film projector) and Kodak’s president, George Eastman. Additionally, she applied the skills she learned in SLIS courses to help teach a class about the history of photography to the public.

Barbara and Dale Biggs created the Roberts internship program. Roberts also interned at the National Public Radio’s Research, Archives & Data Strategy (RADS) division. Historically, about 8,000 people apply every semester to be NPR interns, and only 50 are hired. Munson and Roberts are just a few of the many SLIS students engaged in summer internships and volunteer opportunities. Over the past year, SLIS students interned or volunteered at a wide range of institutions including the Idaho Aviation Division War Memorial Museum in Bragg, NC; the Bosier City, Louisiana, Department of Transportation Development; the Ohio History Center; the Southern Food and Beverage Museum; and the Louisiana Research Collection (LaRC) at Tulane University. Not only do they learn critical skills, and gain hands on experience, but they greatly support the institutions where they work.

Dr. Edward Benoit, III presented a paper, “Moving Image Strategy,” at the 2017 Archival Education and Research Conference. Dr. Brenton Stewart was highlighted by the LSU Graduate School in their Faculty News. Dr. Tao Jin and Wendy McLain (MLIS, 1990 & SLIS student) presented a poster, “Digital V-Mail & the 21st Century Soldier: Preliminary Findings from the Virtual Footlocker Project.”

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Emily Beck Cogburn (MLS, 2002) recently published two novels, Aivil’s Place (2017) and Louising Saves the Library (2016), both published by New York City-based Kensington Books.

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#SLISintheWild

The School of Library & Information Science is excited to launch its new social media campaign “SLIS in the Wild” to learn about how faculty, current students and alumni are using their degree from LSU to participate just take a selfie showing how you use your degree, and show off your professional environment.

Submit your photos to SLISintheWild@lsu.edu and tag us on Facebook and Twitter (@lsuinfo) with #SLISintheWild to show off what you can do with a degree from SLIS. Be sure to follow our social media accounts to see what your fellow SLISers share.

Continued from page 1

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