

School of Library and Information Science
2012-2013 Highlights

Website: <http://lis.iupui.edu> (through 6/30/2013)

Introduction:

There are two major developments in our School.

- Merger with the School of Informatics
Following the initiatives laid out in the Jan. 2011 university document, *New Academic Directions* (“Investing in Excellence: The Importance of Strategy and Flexibility”), spring 2011, in May 2012 President McRobbie announced the intention to merge the School of Library and Information Science, a core school with campuses in Bloomington and Indianapolis, with the School of Informatics (and Computing), also a core school.

This proposal was approved by the Board of Trustees in October of 2012, to go into effect July 1, 2013. A formal launch celebration is planned for Fall of 2013.

This proposal has resulted in significant administrative efficiencies, as was proposed in NAD 4(a) “small schools.” The NAD recommendation to “establish a single budget for a core school” was not implemented.

Faculty spent significant time in creating a new cross-campus School constitution, campus-specific School bylaws, and campus-specific P&T process. Staff spent significant time organizing re-coding student and fiscal data, and re-designing webpages.

- The online Masters of Library Science.

SLIS-Indianapolis (SLIS-I), through conscious mission differentiation, has been the vehicle by which Indiana University has brought its respected, long-standing, and highly-ranked masters degree in library science to the whole of the state of Indiana. SLIS-I has accomplished this mission through summer, evening, Friday and Sunday scheduling, through Virtual Indiana Classroom two-way TV to (VIC) to IU regional campuses, and lately through online / web-based learning. Students have been indicating by their enrollments a strong preference for online, flexible learning.

A proposal for an online MLS was developed in summer of 2012, approved by the Graduate Affairs Committee in October 2012, and in June of 2013 was approved by the Board of Trustees. It will become part of the IUOnline system of quality undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees.

In addition:

- In spring of 2013, the update of *U.S. News and World Report* rankings of Library and Information Science programs named Indiana University (Bloomington) as # 8. While this is mostly based on the IU-Bloomington program, the ranking of # 13 for School Library Media is strongly supported by the current and past reputations of SLIS-I faculty and alumni, including Dr. Annette Lamb. (There are 63 accredited library and information science programs in the United States and Canada).

Teaching and Learning

Development of coursework for the online MLS program (see introduction) proceeded.

- The 3rd Annual IUPUI University Library and School of Information and Library Science Joint Research Conference took place on March 22, 2013. The conference showcased research by IU SLIS students and faculty, Indiana librarians, and informatics faculty. This conference promotes mentoring of SLIS students by professional librarians and encourages discussion on topics and issues within the field of library and information science. The conference is organized by a committee of LIS faculty and students and University Library faculty.
- Master of Library Science students presented posters and papers at several national professional conferences, including the American Library Association annual meeting, the Association of College & Research Libraries biennial meeting (held in Indianapolis), and the Medical Library Association.
- SLIS faculty contributed to the support of standards of excellence in academia by being members of and chairing accreditation visiting teams for both the regional accreditor (Higher Learning Commission; Dr. Rachel Applegate) and the professional accreditor (American Library Association Committee on Accreditation; Dr. Marilyn Irwin).
- Library and Information Science and Informatics faculty met to discuss cross-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary learning opportunities. SLIS faculty authorized the use of 6 credits of graduate Informatics courses with advisor approval as electives in the MLS curriculum.

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity

- Dr. Jingfeng Xia and Dr. Hsin-Liang Chen published articles in leading information science journals and also presented papers at conferences in Taiwan and China.

- Dr. Annette Lamb (senior lecturer) and Dr. Danny Callison (past SLIS executive associate dean) published (summer of 2012), *Graphic Inquiry*. Review in *Teacher Librarian*: "This is an amazing book! This is simply the best book on using visuals in education we have seen. Well done, practical, useful, creative, thoughtful, and filled with possibility for great new advances in teaching and learning... a well deserved must read, must own, must use recommendation." - *Teacher Librarian*
- Dr. Copeland, Ms. Albee (lecturer), Dr. Lamb (senior lecturer) Dr. Schilling, Dr. Irwin, Dr. Applegate and others had conference presentations and articles published.

Diversity

- The IUPUI SLIS Graduate Scholarship for Diversity reached the \$10,000 mark to support underrepresented students seeking the Master of Library Science degree. Many gifts were given in gratitude for the teaching, library advocacy, and civic leadership of Dr. Jean Preer who retired at the end of 2012.
- The MLS program renewed ties with the Indianapolis Public Library system, director and human resources office, to enhance internship opportunities for students and increase awareness of the professional degree options for IPL staff. IPL staff represent a strong pool of qualified candidates for the professional degree from groups underrepresented in the profession nationally.

Civic Engagement

- SLIS students completed 3600 hours of service learning activities as part of the S605 Internship course. Examples of community engagement in these internships included organizing and digitizing archival materials held by the Indiana State Library and the IU School of Medicine Library, cataloging materials at a seminary library, and analyzing and entering appropriate information into Databib, an online database of international data repositories directed by a SLIS alumnus at Purdue.
- SLIS-I faculty continue their strong relationship with state and national library organizations. Both SLIS faculty and alumni were very visible at the annual state library conference, a key resource for professional development. Dr. Applegate is an evaluation expert for projects at Monroe County Public Library, the (national) Public Library Association, and the American Library Association Allied Professionals Association.

External Awards and Accomplishments

- Dr. Marilyn Irwin chaired the Schneider Family Book Awards Jury. This jury annually selects three books that best describe the disability experience: one for young children, one for the middle grades, and one young adult. These awards are part of a set of awards announced at and through the American Library Association at its Midwinter meeting, including the Newbery, Caldecott, and Coretta Scott King awards.
- <http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/schneider-family-book-award>