We welcome another Jennifer to the faculty of School of Library and Information Science! Jennifer Marshall hails most recently from the University of Pittsburgh, although she has family in both Pennsylvania and South Carolina. Having received her undergraduate degree in Russian from George-town University, Jennifer received her Master’s from Pitt and is one step away from receiving her Ph.D., also from the University of Pittsburgh. She will defend her dissertation in April, an interesting international study in the documentation of archival appraisal. Jennifer’s first position was in a law firm, where she developed an interest in records and information management. For those who complete doctoral degrees in the archives field, there are often two career paths: management or teaching. Jennifer said she wasn’t sure which she preferred until she started teaching students and really enjoyed the interaction and felt she not only had a desire to help them succeed but had much to learn from them as well.

Jennifer’s arrival at Davis College is particularly important for a number of reasons. First, she will be teaching the school’s premier course CLIS 701, which will be an asset to summer students. In addition, with her extensive knowledge and experience in archives, SLIS will be offering a new course in access and advocacy for archival institutions, for now under the umbrella of “Special Topics” but hopefully, to become part of a richer archival program. She is getting familiar with the Distance Education program at SLIS, and is looking forward to exploring opportunities for expanding the School of Library and Information Science’s course offerings in archives and records management via distance education.

Coming to South Carolina presented many positives for Jennifer. She explains that SLIS and the university are in a very good position to be strong in the archives field because of Columbia’s resources (e.g., The South Carolina Department of Archives and History, the State Library, the South Caroliniana library), the joint degree program with the history department and good campus technological resources. In fact, USC is one of four schools in the SAEC–Southeast Archives Education Collaborative (http://slis.lsu.edu/saec/saec.html), an IMLS funded research project which provides students at four institutions (LSU, Auburn, USC and Kentucky) a more comprehensive program in archives management than currently offered at their school alone. The strides being made in the program reinforce Jennifer’s belief that graduate archival education can be successfully delivered via distance education. One other positive of the position at Davis is that Jennifer has family nearby in Clemson, SC and Charlotte, NC which is always an added bonus when moving to a new town.

Jennifer is excited to be working with the students. “I am impressed with the students here,” she said. She has a strong desire to help students find their vocation and to develop a passion for their work in libraries and archives. Does our new professor have any advice for students? “Remember first it’s your education and be more proactive about planning your academic program.” She urges students who have an interest in a particular area to be thoughtful in their planning, talk to the faculty, look at syllabi and do some background reading, and encourages them to take ownership over their degree with good course planning and as many internships and field placements as possible. From all of us, welcome Jennifer!
PLANTING THE SEEDS:
HISPANIC LITERACY SUMMIT

Las Semillas: A South Carolina Hispanic Literacy Summit takes place on Tuesday, March 9, 2004 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Russell House University Union. Population demographics for Hispanics and Latinos in South Carolina are only one indicator of the most critical issues facing their successful integration into the social, cultural, and economic life of the state. The most critical of these issues is education, beginning with a focus on literacy skills in English. There are numerous programs already engaged in literacy work, but they are scattered and often isolated from each other. The purpose of this Literacy Summit is to

• provide a forum to help link all South Carolina groups and organizations currently working with, or interested in working with, Hispanic literacy programs;
• facilitate a more cohesive and effective statewide program reaching all interested members of the Hispanic/Latino community;
• recommend a process for improved statewide coordination and collaboration and
• develop coalitions for action.

At least one representative of all these groups and organizations are invited to attend. Future steps include collecting information on all groups and organizations to create a Web accessible directory that includes substantial details on each organization; design and build Web pages for each of these organizations that does not currently have a Web presence, train staff about how to maintain it, and provide 5 years of free hosting of the Web sites. For more information contact Dr. Patricia Feehan at pfreehan@gwm.sc.edu. To register, please contact Carolyn Delton at delton@gwm.sc.edu.

MEET CHRIS NOSTRANT

If you have ever called or stopped into Student Services at SLIS, you have probably talked to Chris Nostrant. With a background in fine arts, Chris and his wife relocated to Columbia from Boston. It has been a good change. “Columbia has the things I like best about a college town,” he said.

Our highest priority in the student services office is to help the students. “When in doubt, just call us,” says Chris. There are no bad questions. With experience in other admissions offices, he likes to help people with their problems, troubleshoot issues and steer them in the right direction. We are happy that he does!

LISSA’S PHILANTHROPY NEWS

Thank you to everyone who purchased homemade goodies from the February 14th bake sale. All benefits from the bake sale went to support Children’s Garden, one of the organizations that LISSA supports on a regular basis. Children’s Garden is a licensed childcare center which focuses on serving homeless families, providing support for children and families as they move through crisis and into stabilization.

Another organization that LISSA supports on a regular basis with is Sistercare, a program of services for battered women and their children residing in Richland and nearby counties. LISSA is collecting supplies such as paper products, toiletries, personal items, non-perishable foods, and/or monetary donations for Sistercare through Spring Break. A box is located in the small computer lab at Davis College. For more information on LISSA’s service projects, please contact Sarah Willis, LISSA Service Coordinator at sarahlea@byu.edu.
SUCCESS STORIES!

Congratulations to some of our SLIS alumni and future grads who have new jobs or been promoted! If there is anyone I missed or if you have good news to announce, please email your good news to: USC_LISSA@yahoo.com.

2001
Paula Childers: Became Manager of the Children’s Library in 2003 and will be at the Doctors Bruce & Lee Foundation Library when it opens Spring 2004 in Florence, SC
Theresa Robards: Media Specialist at Lincoln High School in McClellanville, SC
August 2002
Jim La Mee: Reference Librarian at Belmont Abbey College
Linda Estridge: Media Specialist at Dennis Intermediate, Bishopville SC

December 2003
Mary Jo Gliduce: Assistant Branch Manager/Forest Green-Children’s Programming Manager/Forest Green and Audelia Road Branches, Dallas Public Library, Dallas, TX
Russell Liner: Information Librarian and Serials Manager for the East Central Georgia Regional Library System, headquartered in Augusta, GA.

May 2004
Marianne Archard: Library Media Specialist at Dirigo High School, Dixfield, Maine

SLIS SHOWCASE AT ICOMM WEEK!

Don’t miss out. There is a call for Student Posters for the I-COMM Week Student Poster Session which is a great way to showcase your accomplishments and the work you are doing at the School of Library and Information Science. The SLIS invites you to present a poster during I-Comm Week on the USC Campus on April 3, 2004. The objective of the student Poster Sessions is to demonstrate how SLIS students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to become librarians and information professionals.

This is an opportunity for students to present their course-related projects, share knowledge with peers campus and state-wide, demonstrate their goals for career development and showcase their accomplishments. Students are encouraged to submit project abstracts related to any topics done through coursework or related to courses available in the SLIS. The receipt deadline for abstracts is March 1, 2004. Abstracts received after that date may be considered if space is available. Abstracts written in English of 250-300 words should be sent via email to Dr. Feili Tu at feilitu@sc.edu or tuf@gwm.sc.edu. For more information, please consult the website at http://www.libsci.sc.edu/feilitu/icommweek/intro.htm.

THANK YOU MIMI!

We at the School of Library and Information Science and the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies wish to thank Mimi Parrott, Manager of Student Services for her years of service to our school and college. Mimi retired on the last day of January and friends and colleagues gave her a special SLIS send off on February 13th at Davis College. Thank you Mimi for your many years of service and for all that you have done to make the SLIS such a great place to work and learn.
MEET LISSA’S OFFICERS

In case you have not had a chance to meet LISSA’s new executive board, here is your chance!

Introducing President Gerri Corson (pictured front left), Secretary Juliann Terrell (pictured front right) and pictured from left to right in the back: VP Public Relations & Communications and SLISten UP! Editor Denise Lyons, Vice-President of Student Relations Tiffanie Scott, Service Projects Chair Sarah Willis; and Vice-President of Community Relations Briget Livingston. (Not pictured Treasurer Abigail Rush, webmaster Katie Miller.)

LISSA DESIGN CONTEST

WHAT DOES SLIS MEAN TO YOU?

LISSA is sponsoring a design contest for the creation of new School of Library and Information Science t-shirts and water bottles. All we need form you is a simple design and catchy slogan and we’ll do the rest! (“School of Library and Information Science” will appear on the items somewhere—you may choose to incorporate it into your design or slogan.) The winner will receive a t-shirt, free LISSA membership and recognition in the next issue of SLISten UP! The deadline is March 5th. Entries (including any questions you have) may be emailed to USC_LISSA@yahoo.com or mail a disk to LISSA, Design Contest, School of Library and Information Science, USC-Davis College, Columbia, SC 29208.