Dr. Samantha K. Hastings addressed a group of more than 30 students and faculty during the first of three presentations to be made as part of the Fall Faculty Colloquium, a joint effort of LISSA and the university’s student chapter of ASIS&T, the American Society for Information Science and Technology.

Dr. Hastings, a past president of ASIS&T, spoke about 3-D Image Retrieval and the applications of 3-D imaging. In addition to those in the Davis College classroom, distance education students were able to view the presentation and ask questions via a live Breeze Presentation.

Matt Landau, a co-organizer of the Colloquium and the co-chair of the ASIS&T student group, considered the event a success.

“I was pleased,” Landau said. “I was happy with the turnout and very happy that distance ed. students were able to participate.”

Landau, who worked with LISSA President Travis Ferrell and Vice-President Patrick McLaughlin to initiate the Colloquium, said they viewed it as a way of improving the learning environment for SLIS students and of building a sense of community. The Colloquium gives students the opportunity to witness professors make presentations regarding areas of expertise in which they have done research.

In her wide-ranging presentation, Dr. Hastings discussed 3-D imaging methods such as x-ray computed tomography, which allows the viewer to see inside an object and has practical applications in the fields of medicine, archaeology, and forensic science. An archive of such images is available online from the Digital Morphology Group at the University of Texas at Austin.

The full lecture can be viewed through the LISSA website: http://students.libsci.sc.edu/lissa/presentations.html

The Fall Colloquium continues with presentations on October 25 by Dr. Feili Tu and on November 8 by Dr. Anne Marie Perrault.
President’s Notes
By Travis Ferrell

Hello,

I hope everyone’s semester is going well. LISSA is doing a lot this semester, and I can’t talk about everything coming up here, but I would like to talk about a few events that we are very excited about.

First, LISSA & ASIS&T are hosting a faculty colloquium in Davis College, Room 216 this fall. Drs. Hastings, Tu, and Perrault have very graciously agreed to informally present personal research to SLIS students. The idea is for students to gain a better understanding of the profession, of research, and of how to do presentations. We all hope to learn a lot and have a little fun.

We were very happy with the turnout for the first session with Dr. Hastings, both in person and through Breeze, and we hope you can join us for the remaining sessions:
Dr. Feili Tu, 10/25/07
Dr. Anne Marie Perrault, 11/08/07

This is a really exciting opportunity, and we are very grateful that these professors have been willing to give their time to present to us.

Second, Banned Books Week was recognized last week. LISSA is interested in your thoughts on the Freedom to Learn. On the LISSA Forum under the General Discussion Thread (http://129.252.169.69/LISSAforum/index.php?board=3.0), we have put up some message boards. One of them is simply labeled “Freedom to Read.” Please post your general thoughts on the topic there.

We are also trying to have a little fun as well. We placed a number of other threads up under the General Discussion Thread, with the names of each of the books on ALA’s 10 Most Challenged Books of 2006 list.

If you have read any of these books, please post your feelings and thoughts about them under their respective posting: if you thought they were any good or not, if you would recommend it or not, even just if you would like your library to have it in its collection. If you haven’t read any of them but you’d like to see what books have been challenged, give one or two of the books a try.

Either way, please rate the book on a scale from 1 (terrible, can’t believe that got published) to 10 (fantastic, best thing ever). The three books that have the highest average scores by the end of the semester, LISSA will buy one copy of each and give them to a library in need.

This is a chance to have your say on a very important discussion in the profession, and to have a little fun while learning more about the new ways students have to communicate with one another. The only thing we ask is that we are adults and respectful of everyone’s thoughts and feelings. All SLIS students and professors are welcome to contribute.

We have also but up a display in Davis College with some challenged books you are free to browse.

(PS The Forum is also a great place for distance education students in different states to get in touch with one another to talk, make plans, or share ideas. The state-based threads are at this address: http://129.252.169.69/LISSAforum/index.php Scroll down to “Regional Boards” and you will find them: one for North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, and Maine.)

Third, I wanted to thank the South Carolina Center for Children’s Books and Literacy for inviting us to their library for our first LISSA Field Trip of the Semester. Our next field trips are planned for the South Carolina State Library and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Please consult the Calendar of Events on the LISSA web site for dates and times: http://students.libsci.sc.edu/lissa/news.html. Attendance is free, and it should be a great time.

Please visit the LISSA Wiki: http://lissawiki.pbwiki.com/. This is a great place to share information about scholarships, jobs, or listserves you have found useful with other students.

Also, Anne Orange, of USC Career Services, will do a live Breeze presentation on the services that Career Services provides to students (in Columbia or Distance Ed) to get jobs. They have a number of online interviewing programs, so they really aren’t Columbia-specific. We did this last year and it was a great success. This will be on Thursday, Nov. 15th at 6 p.m.

She will be answering some questions from viewers, and has asked that any SLIS students who are graduating please send a list of questions that potential employers have asked you. It is the kind of feedback that can really help future students down the line. Just send them to the LISSA e-mail: slis_lissa@yahoo.com

Last, best of luck this semester!
LISSA’s Revamped Website Unveiled
By Patrick McLaughlin

One of LISSA’s projects for 2007 was to revamp our website (http://students.libsci.sc.edu/lissa). We felt that the previous version of our website did not offer enough to our students aside from basic organizational information.

Our focus for the redesign of the new website was to a) create a virtual community for SLIS students (and faculty and staff as well) to communicate and share their ideas with each other, b) to contribute to the professional growth and development of SLIS students, and c) to serve distance education students better by surmounting the geographical barrier. In order to achieve these goals, we have “2.0ed” the website.

LISSA 2.0 includes a blog, a professional development wiki, a Flickr page, and a forum (not exactly 2.0, but there’s nothing wrong with pushing boundaries, right?). The website also features a calendar of events, a student survival guide, and many other great features.

This week, thanks to the efforts of SLIS student Stewart Baker, a job database was added as the newest feature of the site.

If you have any suggestions for the LISSA website, please send us an e-mail (slis_lissa@yahoo.com).

Volunteers Needed

- Sunday, Oct. 21, South Carolina Center for Children’s Books & Literacy, 2-4 p.m. They need some assistance reshelving books.
- Oct. 31-Nov. 2, South Carolina Library Association. Volunteers will staff a desk for two hours and can attend the conference for free. For times: http://students.libsci.sc.edu/lissa/2007/09/volunteers-still-needed-scla.html
- Saturday, Nov. 24, Haiti Library Project, Davis College, 2-5 p.m. See LISSA Service Notes on page 5.

The School of Library and Information Science’s Panning for Gold Continuing Education series of workshops continues in October with sessions conducted by SLIS faculty and other experts in the field of library and information science.

On Friday, October 12, Heidi Hoerman will lead a session on Cataloging the Internet from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. On Friday, October 19, Dr. Pat Feehan will lead a storytelling workshop, in which the basics of the art and technique of storytelling can be learned. This session takes place from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Also on October 19, architects David R. Moore, Craig Gaulden Davis, and Mary Pat Crozier will lead a session on sustainable library design from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All of these sessions will take place in Davis College.

For more information on these and future workshops, go to http://www.libsci.sc.edu/ce/pangold.htm.
As both a historian and an archivist in training, I spend much of my time doing research, particularly on the experiences of male same-sex desire and encounters in the South. Finding information on the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community in South Carolina is difficult for a wide range of reasons, which makes doing this research sometimes seem impossible. For far too long, information professionals have overlooked (and, in the process, silenced) the LGBTQ community in Columbia and in other areas of the state. Times are changing, though.

The South Caroliniana Library (SCL) is now actively collecting and preserving materials that reflect Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) experiences in the Palmetto State. The archive grew out of an oral history internship I am currently completing, under the guidance of Nicholas Meriwether, SCL Oral Historian, and with the wisdom of Dr. Ed Madden, Associate Professor of English. Much like the archive itself, the oral history project is aimed at documenting LGBTQ experiences – from the early activist efforts to the bar, drag, leather, and other interests that created and fostered a largely hidden community over the past four decades. In addition to oral histories, the SCL is also seeking out correspondence, photographs, newsletters, pamphlets, business records, and other materials that give evidence to the LGBTQ community. While there is still much to be done, the archive will one day stand as a tool for researchers to understand the complexity and diversity that exists in LGBTQ communities in the state; it will show the bravery and commitment that so many display in this community and will undoubtedly dispel countless stereotypes that still impact the lives of countless LGBTQ people.

If you are interested in learning more about the ways that the SCL is preserving the memories, records, and voices of South Carolina’s LGBTQ communities, please contact me at thomps34@mailbox.sc.edu.
LISSA Service Notes
By Mary Anne Hamblen, LISSA Secretary

LISSA strives to serve the students of the USC School of Library and Information Science in a number of ways, but we are first and foremost a service organization. This year is proving to be full of volunteer opportunities, some with our long-time partners, and a few new connections as well. Remember, volunteering is not only fun and makes you feel good; valuable skills are acquired, real-world job contacts are made, and it looks good on a resume! A few of the opportunities available to Library and Information Science students this fall are highlighted below.

The South Carolina Center for Children’s Books and Literacy (SCCCBL) offers a pleasant environment in which to immerse oneself in the latest children’s and young adult literature. Housed on the second floor of the South Carolina State Library and open to the public, SCCCBL promotes literacy through its community outreach; permanent collection of classic and award-winning books, professional and instructional materials, and foreign language and picture books; and its current collection of brand-new books, hot off the press from the national publishing houses. SCCCBL Director Ms. Ellen Shuler can always use help alphabetizing books on the shelves. Check the LISSA website for the next volunteering opportunity. For information on SCCCBL, click on http://www.libsci.sc.edu/ccbl/index.htm.

The Haiti Library Project is dear to LISSA’s heart. Organized in South Carolina by Ms. Drusilla Carter, Director of the Chesterfield County Library System, the project’s primary focus is cataloging books donated to a Catholic school for needy children in Haiti. Also, the school is in need of basic school supplies, as well as clothing such as children’s socks and underwear (new packages, please!) The donation box is located in the computer lab at Davis College. Work days are scheduled throughout the year for library school students to create catalog entries -- the old-fashioned way!

Another endeavor that LISSA supports is the Lubuto Library Project. Lubuto means knowledge, enlightenment and light in the African Bemba language, and this is exactly what the people behind Lubuto aim to provide for the many street children of central Africa. Lubuto offers a safe space for these children to gain crucial literacy and language skills, while improving their chances for successful participation in society. The founder of the project, Ms. Jane Kinney Meyers, is currently in Zambia for the opening of the first library building. Later in the semester, LISSA will have an opportunity to help by building a bibliography of books for the project, and by contacting publishers to solicit donations. The Lubuto Project has been a good way for long distance education students to participate without having to travel to Columbia. Information will be available on the SLIS listserv when the project gets underway for the fall. Go to the Lubuto website at http://www.lubuto.org/ for all of the project details.

This fall the Richland County Public Library (RCPL) has called for volunteer conversation partners to help with its “Let’s Speak English” program, held at seven library locations throughout Columbia, SC on a weekly basis. No prerequisite experience is necessary, and RCPL will orient volunteers. Check the RCPL website at http://www.richland.lib.sc.us/press_releases/release.cfm?release_id=605 for details.

For more detailed information on any of the above service possibilities and others, email Travis Ferrell at slis_lissa@yahoo.com, check the LISSA blog at http://students.libsci.sc.edu/lissa/blog.html, and look for the Weekly LISSA Update in your inbox on Fridays.

The Early Childhood Literacy Center, part of the South Carolina Center for Children’s Books and Literacy (SCCCBL), is located at 1530 Wheat Street, Second Floor, Room 223. It is open Monday-Wednesday from 10 a.m.-noon and Thursday from 9-11 a.m. SLIS students are welcome to stop in and see the resources that are available to encourage a lifelong love of reading in children at an early age.

SLIS students who are interested in working with beginning readers should consider contacting the center. The center is currently discussing with the Early Education department potential opportunities for SLIS students through the Carolina Students Association for the Education of Young Children.

For more information, send an email to scccblsatellitega@yahoo.com.
SLIS Students Gather to “Pimp” Their Bookcart
By Mary Anne Hamblen

A group of charitable, high-spirited, and determined SLISers met at Davis College recently with a serious mission. Their goal? To win first prize in Overdue Media LLC’s “Pimp My Bookcart” contest, based on the popular television series, Pimp My Ride.

Overdue Media LLC authors the Unshelved comic strip that features humor in a library setting. After last year’s Pimp My Bookcart contest word got around, and the response was enthusiastic. This year’s bookcart competition is sponsored by Highsmith, a library and school products company. The rules are simple: Any library, school, bookstore, business, or anyone with a bookcart that “needs a little something extra” is qualified to enter the contest. Materials used to embellish a cart can be store-bought, or whatever just happens to be lying around. Submissions are accepted via e-mail, requiring images of the front, back and sides of the finished product.

First prize is a high-end “book truck with dividers,” and a $250 gift certificate to the Unshelved Store. Second prize is a “double-sided book truck,” and a $50 gift certificate to the Unshelved Store; the runner-up prize is a $50 gift certificate and the complete five-volume set of Unshelved books, signed by authors Bill Barnes and Gene Ambaum.

In the event that the USC LISSA bookcart entry wins one of the prizes, it will be donated to a needy library in the Columbia area.

After several hours of creativity, camaraderie, and impressive resourcefulness, combined with lots of poster board, glue, duct tape, a wig and a large pair of high-heeled shoes, the LISSA Time Warp bookcart was unveiled behind Davis College. Onlookers soon gathered around, as shutters clicked and people exclaimed. Stay tuned for contest results later this fall!

Zack Moore has posted pictures of the bookcart’s evolution. Go to http://www.flickr.com/photos/gregorbug79/sets/72157602116268868/.

LISSA thanks Allison Read (aka Evil Conductor), Travis Ferrell (aka Damsel in Distress), and the rest of the creative folks who donated their time and energy toward making the Time Warp bookcart project possible.

Unshelved can be found at http://www.unshelved.com/, and the Pimp My Bookcart contest webpage address is http://www.unshelved.com/PimpMyBookcart/.
LISSA members continue to offer our best wishes to Dr. John Olsgaard in his ongoing recovery from illness.

I had occasion to think of past classes with Dr. Olsgaard again shortly after distributing the previous newsletter, when The State newspaper here in Columbia published a story headlined “USC library’s lure. Modernized facility attracts students.”

The article about the Thomas Cooper Library here on the USC campus was another “libraries aren’t dead yet/librarians aren’t obsolete” story, this one observing that TCL is “not your grandfather’s library” and it “is defying futurists’ predictions that computers and the Internet would make physical libraries obsolete.”

Tom McNally, interim dean of USC’s libraries, told The State that now “is truly the best time to be a librarian. In this information age, the role of the librarian is vastly more significant.”

The media seems to be catching on to what we already know - library and information science professionals will continue to have an integral role in the 21st century information age. Those roles are evolving, as the accompanying story from Dr. Tu attests, but LIS professionals remain essential.

Gene

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**SLIS Selected to Participate in Virtual Reference Services Program**

The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) has selected the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science (USC-SLIS) to support ASERL’s “Ask-A-Librarian” Online Chat Reference Service for the 2007-2008 year. The program provides more than 100 hours of online chat reference service per week to the students, faculty and staff at eight ASERL institutions, including College of William & Mary, Mississippi State University, University of Alabama, University of Central Florida, University of Memphis, University of Mississippi, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and Virginia Commonwealth University.

“It is a great opportunity for our students to gain experience with the provision of real-world virtual reference services (VRS),” said Dr. Feili Tu, USC-SLIS Assistant Professor and the Primary Investigator of the project. “In addition, research will be conducted to examine how effectively students provide VRS, as evidenced by application of knowledge and skills learned from the SLIS/USC curriculum.”

“In these days of emphasis on evidence-based learning, it is critical that we provide our students with hands-on learning opportunities,” said USC-SLIS Director Dr. Sam Hastings. “We are proud of our students’ abilities, and this project will demonstrate that our pride is quite justified.”

The project is offered as a paid internship program for Master’s level library and information science students, while recent graduates will provide virtual reference services for ASERL. Each semester, several student staff members will also be enrolled in the school’s *Internship in Library and Information Science* course, which gives students opportunities to demonstrate competencies acquired during their programs of study.

“This is a great match for ASERL,” said John Burger, Executive Director. “We've found that today's grad students are often more comfortable and conversant in using chat services, making them great ambassadors for ASERL in this effort.”

Founded in 1956, ASERL is the largest regional academic library cooperative in the country, with 37 research libraries across ten states. ASERL develops and delivers an array of cooperative programming needed by member libraries, and provides an active, creative forum for ongoing professional development. Among many accomplishments, ASERL founded the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) in 1973, and established SOLINET’s group licensing program.

For more information about ASERL’s ongoing programs, visit [www.aserl.org](http://www.aserl.org). For more information about USC-SLIS’ role in the project, contact Dr. Tu at feilitu@sc.edu.
Dr. Daniel Barron, who retired last year as the director of SLIS, was one of five people honored with a Literacy Leader Award by the University of South Carolina and the South Carolina library community. The inaugural ceremony for the annual awards took place on September 13 at the South Carolina State Library.

The awards were created as part of SLIS’ Children, Libraries and Literacy Initiative, an initiative that was spearheaded by Dr. Barron.

Dr. Daniel Barron, left, was one of five recipients of a Literacy Leader Award at a ceremony September 13 at the South Carolina State Library. Dean Charles Bierbauer of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies presented Dr. Barron with his award.

The Children, Libraries and Literacy Initiative is a multi-million dollar campaign begun in 2005 with the goal of eliminating illiteracy in South Carolina. It has a three-pronged approach to achieving this goal: research, resources and outreach.

Among the components of the Initiative are the Augusta Baker Chair in Childhood Literacy, the Center for Children’s Books and Literature, and outreach efforts through a statewide network of literacy groups.

Others honored during the evening were South Carolina State Representatives Gilda Cobb-Hunter and Lanny Littlejohn, USC alumnus and former Student Body President Tommy Preston, and former First Lady of South Carolina Rachel Hodges.