Hi, Everyone! I hope this finds each and every member of our SLIS “family” doing well and having a fabulous semester. Many of us have had the opportunity to meet and share our learning experiences, but for those of us who have not yet had such an opportunity, my name is Clayton A. Copeland, and I am currently a doctoral candidate and teaching fellow with our school. One of the privileges afforded me during my time with the School of Library and Information Science is working with the Linda Lucas Walling Collection, which was founded in honor of Dr. Linda Lucas Walling, an internationally recognized advocate and expert on issues related to library and information access for children who are differently-able. Both through her career (which spanned more than three decades and was devoted to improving library and educational accessibility for people with disabilities) and through her own lived experiences as someone who is differently-able, Dr. Linda Lucas Walling noted the importance of literacy and challenges with access to information for people with who are differently-able. Most notable among barriers to early literacy skill development and access to information for children who are differently-able have been financial limitations and educational or professional development opportunities for teachers, librarians, and parents.

The Linda Lucas Walling Collection was established in 2003 at the South Carolina Center for Children’s Books and Literacy, located at the South Carolina State Library, when Professor Walling retired from SLIS. The Collection addresses barriers to early literacy skill development and access to information for children with disabilities. It is intended for the use of anyone who has an interest in learning how to select and (Continued on page 3)
Dear SLISers,

Spring has come to the University of South Carolina! People are starting to emerge from their offices and dorms to enjoy the warm weather and sunshine. Campus is beginning to buzz with the activities and lectures that will take us up until graduation. Those students who are graduating in May are being sent emails about invitations, caps, and gowns. There is no slowing down for the campus nor is there any slowing down for LISSA!

Spring 2011 has already been full of activity from socials to colloquiums. Our January and February colloquiums focused on getting our students thinking about the library would once they leave the program. Todd Stephens, County Librarian for the Spartanburg County Library System, started our series with a lecture that filled in the gaps of some real life experience that the library has taught him along with projects that his library system is working on. This past month, students were able to sign up for a Resume Workshop that featured Jason Broughton from the State Library where they were given tips and hints on how to write a job winning resume. Students had the opportunity to send in their resumes before hand to get feedback on things that they could improve. This information was so useful and will help our students while looking for jobs along with composing their portfolios!

As for the rest of the semester there are some great things coming our way! The VA/WV cohort will be holding their own colloquium on March 26th in Waynesboro, VA. In April LISSA members will be putting on their Superhero outfits (thanks to the theme this year) and will be walking laps to raise money for Relay for Life. We have a wonderful team already set up and are looking for more to join us! If you are unable to make it I encourage you make a donation to our team and help this great cause. For more information you can go to [http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY11SA/team_id=862819&pg=team&fr_id=32772](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLFY11SA/team_id=862819&pg=team&fr_id=32772) or contact Virginia Blake.

Other things to look forward to are some other great colloquiums, our symposium that will not disappoint, and a few new traditions that we hope to establish in the School of Library and Information Science. I hope that you all will look into these events and check out our new improved website [http://students.libsci.sc.edu/lissa/](http://students.libsci.sc.edu/lissa/) (courtesy of Ms. Heather Gilbert) while you are at it!

Best wishes for a smooth sailing Spring semester!

BriAnne Baxley

baxleylissa@gmail.com

Thanks,

BriAnne Baxley

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**Free Job Interview Webinar at RCPL**

In today's uncertain job climate, interview skills are crucial. However, for many MLIS graduates, this may be one of the first professional interviews of their careers. Others may want to brush up on their skills in order to better compete. Either way, anyone would benefit from “Ace that Interview: Expert Advice from Public Librarians,” a free webinar offered at Richland County Public Library. Registration is free but required. Those interested should contact Georgia Coleman at gcoleman@myrcpl.com.

- **Date and Time:** March 22, 2011, 6:30-7:45 p.m.
- **Location:** Richland County Public Library, Main, 1431 Assembly St., Columbia SC
- **Sponsored by:** Public Library Section of the South Carolina Library Association and SLIS's Library and Information Science Student Association
The Linda Lucas Walling Collection for and about Children and Teens with Different Abilities
Contributed by Clayton Copeland

(Continued from Page 1)

evaluate materials for children with disabilities. Currently, the Collection is home to over 600 books and additional materials, including books and resources for and about children and teens who are differently-able and professional and reference collections for educators and families. Because Dr. Walling recognizes the financial limitations of today’s libraries, one of her primary goals with the Collection is to include materials one could find on any library shelf and then provide low-cost or no cost solutions for making the books accessible for all children, differently and typically-able, alike. In addition to these materials, however, the Collection also includes special format materials, including audio books, Twin Braille books, DVDs and movies about disability and people who are differently-able, and even items that are more recent additions to the technology scene, including Play-a-ways and adaptive toys. Because special emphasis on everyone’s abilities is critical, the Collection also includes winners of two recently established book awards, the Dolly Gray Award (affiliated with the Council on Exceptional Children) and the Schneider Family Award (affiliated with the American Library Association). Both awards were established in efforts to recognize and promote children’s books and young adult books that positively and accurately portray the challenges and the abilities of children who are differently-able.

While the Collection has had a primary focus on younger populations, during the past year and recent revitalization of the Collection, it has been expanded to include materials for adolescents and teens. Renewed focus has also been devoted to expanding the reach of the Collection throughout the state of South Carolina, as well as nationally and internationally. In particular, the web page offers criteria for evaluation and selection of materials, as well as articles and links to various resources, and enables people throughout the state, country, and internationally to benefit from the Collection. For me, a major highlight of the past semester was the Collection’s collaborative visit with Cocky’s Reading Express to the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind. There is no greater gift than seeing love for books on children’s faces. What a joy it is to work with a Collection whose mission revolves around making these books accessible for everyone to love.

To learn more about the Linda Lucas Walling Collection or to email Dr. Walling and volunteer to become involved with the Collection, please visit: http://www.libsci.sc.edu/fsd/walling/web/bestfolder.htm. We hope you’ll find the time to make your own memories with the Collection and the populations it supports. To make literacy and accessibility happen, we need everyone’s help. Please make the Linda Lucas Walling Collection and literacy development for ALL children a part of your SLIS experience!

Review of “The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit”
Contributed by Philip Burt

The memoir’s central character is the author’s father, Leon, whose white sharkskin suit is a symbol of his high stature in a Cairo characterized by its elegance. He was known as the Captain in his family and was given similar titles in various social circles as well. In Egypt, Leon was both a married devout Jew and a boulevardier, which added to his enigmatic aura.

The author, the youngest of four siblings in her family, powerfully describes how she came to develop her close relationship with her father. “I came at a time in his life when he was feeling discouraged, and the world seemed to have lost much of its promise and possibilities, so that he greeted my arrival in the way a patch of winter shrubbery embraces a small flower that manages to sprout in its midst.”

This 2008 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature winning book vividly describes one Jewish family’s exodus from Cairo, Egypt, to America with very little money and all the odds against them. A most moving part of this memoir is when the author draws a personal connection between the Passover observance of the Exodus from Egypt and her family’s modern day exodus from that place both she and her father, Leon, loved dearly.
Information science has uses in the library outside of technical services. This article is an introduction to the basics of information architecture and a set of ideas for how information architecture (or IA) can be adopted to help us better serve our patrons. Libraries with their multiple interfaces of information are a ripe environment for adaptations of the principles of IA.

Information architecture has developed rapidly over the last ten years. At its most basic, IA is a melding of the knowledge of information seeking behaviors and design principles. Its primary laboratory has been database and web design where professional designers and information managers have done much to enrich IA as a discipline. Librarians can take the work done by these professionals and translate it into our spaces.

The basics of IA are fairly simple. First think of the information behavior of your users (patrons in this case). Then come up with a classification scheme, in many cases, the library will already have such a scheme. Then use the scheme and what you know about your users and develop a system of accessing the information around that system. Try it out, collect data and feedback, and tweak your model. Repeat as needed. What is most exciting about IA is that there is a variety of ways in which it can be applied to the library, within our physical space and within our metaspace.

Within the physical area of the library IA principles can be used in several ways. The first is changing the way that we organize our physical information at a basic level. In the case of many libraries this has been the integration of browsing shelves. These are normally located at the front of libraries so that patrons are drawn to these selected books as soon as they come in. The King County Public Library System in Washington State has taken this a step further. Many of their libraries have a bookstore style table on which their browsing collection is displayed so that the patrons are encouraged to pick up the book, and can see the book’s cover directly. But we if we push this further and we can start to think about arranging our collections in entirely different manners, using systems of classification that haven’t been development.

Libraries could also do more to encourage browsing. Our collections are often times arranged within either the Library of Congress or Dewey decimal system. While this systematized our collections and makes it easier to find books, the untranslated nature of signage relating to this system makes browsing it intimidating and confusing for our patrons. There’s no reason why we can’t include some sort of subtitle or translation guides to these systems. If someone is interested in biology, a sign indicating that QH is biology would encourage them to browse that section.

Librarians should consider integrating IA into their continuing education and learning. Not only can this yield benefits in their real collections and spaces, but also enable them to stay abreast with developments in the field and work more efficiently with web designers and consultants. Having these relationships be strong can be an important catalyst to developing a good web presence to a great web presence. With web based services becoming an important part of the libraries as an institution, IA is an important technique that cannot be ignored.

Information Architecture is a way of thinking about information that involves exposing its beauty and attracting users. We can make our institutions better, information easier to access, and/or our presence more desirable by increasing the use of these principles in our institutions. Technology continues to change, and our ways of thinking and classifying data change with it. With the development of more complex webs of knowledge organizing them not just into systems of classification but designing those systems with a large variance of users in mind will help us use that information to better ourselves. IA matches our institutional roles perfectly.
A revitalized Archival Students Guild hopes to make lasting change for graduate students at USC
Contributed by Ashley Stevens

Steady membership has always been the Archival Student Guild’s biggest stumbling block.

For the first time in several years, there is a sizable archives student population. And, it looks like this is likely to increase in subsequent years. For this reason, now, more than ever, archives students need a student organization to serve as an outlet for professional development and social activity.

This is an exciting time for ASG. To date, the Archival Students Guild has hosted two well-attended guest speakers. In January, ASG hosted Dr. Christine de Catanzaro from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Her workshop entitled “Uncovering EAD: A basic introduction to EAD and Archivists’ Toolkit” offered a basic tutorial on these programs, specifically geared toward archives students with little to no experience with EAD or AT. This workshop was motivated, in part, by my personal desire to help archives students become more competitive in an increasingly tough job market. In the fall of 2010, Nicholas Meriwether of the Grateful Dead Archives spoke to a crowded room of graduate students and faculty members from the USC School of Library and Information Science. He spoke about the challenges he faces as an archivist for a world-renowned musical group.

Another event for the semester is a disaster preparedness workshop in late March led by Preservation officer Heather South at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

There are even more exciting opportunities in the horizon. At the moment, ASG is in the process of reorganizing its internal structure with the creation of committees. This restructuring serves dual purposes: first, it puts ASG on par with other professional organizations and second, it helps members to become more involved in ASG as well as invested in its long-term sustainability. The reorganization was the result of evaluation forms sent out to ASG members at the end of the fall semester to critique ASG’s strengths as well as weaknesses.

Additionally, ASG members can gain real-world experience through service projects. These service projects are arranged purely on a volunteer basis. Two ASG members, Kelly Riddle and Gabby Dudley, are currently involved in processing the Senate papers of the USC Student Government. More service projects are expected in the coming months. One of my goals as president is to be able to offer service projects as long as ASG members are committed to professional development.

Another byproduct of the evaluation is ASG’s first ever attempt to bring a social component to ASG members. In the past years, archives graduate students have “been afloat” with little opportunity to socialize. Unlike its sister organization, the Library and Information Science Student Association (LISSA), ASG seldom fostered a sense of community among archives students. At the behest of ASG members, bi-monthly social activities offer archives students a chance to meet and get to know one another.

For more information on upcoming ASG meetings, events, and other activities, please go to our website at http://sites.google.com/site/archivalstudentsguild, join our group page on Facebook, or email soarchiv@mailbox.sc.edu.
Experiences of a LIS Ph.D. Student  
Contributed by Patrick Roughen

Many MLIS students forget about the Ph.D. students, in spite of their committed involvement teaching classes and workshops and serving as teaching assistants. One student, Patrick Roughen, shares his experiences in the program.

I entered the SLIS Ph.D. program because I had wanted to become a teacher for a long time. Since I already had a law degree, and law librarians often teach, I originally planned on accomplishing this objective by obtaining the credentials necessary to work in a law library.

However, during the time that I studied for my MLIS degree from Valdosta State University, I began to think more seriously about broadening my knowledge, research skills, and potential teaching areas through advanced studies in Library and Information Science. This led me to apply to the Ph.D. program at U.S.C. The MLIS degree at Valdosta was more focused on the practical aspects of preparing students to work in libraries. And the Ph.D. program at USC is designed chiefly to develop academics

Frankly, it is not easy to get a Ph.D. in L.I.S. and I still have much to do and learn. Nevertheless, the members of the faculty are very supportive and helpful. Interacting with faculty-scholars has been my greatest joy and pleasure. One example is Dr. Bob Williams, Professor Emeritus, who embodies the best qualities of a scholar-researcher: academic integrity, profound intellectual curiosity, and a meticulous attention to research design and detail. And, of course, there is a strong sense of community and a genuine, heartfelt friendship between many of the SLIS Ph.D. students.

When I was lawyer, I worked as a patent attorney, as well as in the areas of real estate and litigation. However, I most enjoyed patent searching, which can be compared to treasure hunting. It is a neat combination of history and technology. In one day you might be looking at recent records of strange Japanese inventions, meeting with a patent examiner (who might be the world’s foremost authority on certain areas of potential, future innovation), and scouring newspapers from the 1920’s at the Library of Congress.

My present research is also focused to an extent on innovation. I am exploring the identity of public libraries, as particularly understood as brands, and how that identity is created and represents innovation. Innovation is of central importance to patent law but is also, in the context of brands, associated with trademarks.

I believe that the life of a scholar and teacher is worth living, but it is not a simple, unchallenged life. As Socrates said “the unexamined life is not worth living.” I hope to spend the rest of my life teaching others to help people learn how to solve their information needs. Imagine the difference in the human condition if all the knowledge in the world was immediately accessible to not only being understood but also to being used in meaningful ways. L.I.S., perhaps more than any other field, prepares its students, practitioners, teachers, and scholars, to be a part of the effort to reach that end.

Classmate’s School Media Presentation Available on YouTube

Konni Shier wrapped up a sizeable BI project earlier in 2010 and presented it at the Midlands Technical College Fall 2010 Faculty In-service. She wrote, directed and produced 10 lessons about academic integrity, with bibliographic instruction and lessons on writing with sources in MLA style. Konni used Camtasia and her employer’s professional, in-house video-production team to complete this project for Midlands Technical College. You can see the lessons online at http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=24C53EE9F1DB7007. Konni says please feel free to recommend the YouTube videos for your students or faculty who use MLA.

Building on a 742 school media collaboration project, Konni also made a presentation at the 2010 No-Frills Conference at Central Carolina Technical College in September. For 742, Konni produced a Google Earth Lit Trip, which combines web technology with images, video and text to create a multimedia presentation. You can see a portion of this project at Vimeo: http://www.vimeo.com/11310466. Over the summer, Konni taught her Midlands Technical College American Literature students how to find primary sources, secondary sources and media to produce their own Google Lit Trip, and this was the subject of her presentation. Konni has since added Historypin.com, an interactive map, timeline and digital archive, to her repertoire of technologies and will present on both of these in March at TYCA-SE, the Southeast division of the Two Year College English Association, a division of the National Council of Teachers of English. Konni has won the Nell Ann Pickett award for her conference proposal about the use of interactive mapping technology in composition and literature courses.

Konni and her classmate, Lisa Rammage, will also present at SCASL in March. Using their projects from SLIS742, Konni and Lisa will show school librarians three technologies to use in teacher-librarian collaborations: Glogster, Historypin.com and Google Earth.
Review of “The Hunger Games”
Contributed by Sharon Woody


The government annually requires each district to hold a lottery for two teens to participate in the “Hunger Games”, a game where the contestants hunt and kill each other. When Katniss’ younger sister’s name is called, Katniss trades places with her to represent district twelve. Katniss should have an advantage since she has experience with hunting animals. But the other representative from district twelve is Peeta, a boy who once saved her life. The government televises The Hunger Games like a TV reality show providing descriptive details of opponent’s actions. Throughout the games, the reader sees Katniss’ struggle with the idea of killing someone and saving herself. In this award winning book, Collins engages the reader as the Hunger Games’ rules change during the competition and Katniss must adapt to these changes. Because of the violence in the book, it is recommended for middle to high school readers. Highly Recommended

LISSA Spring Symposium 2011
April Fool's Day of Fun and Learning

Please join us on April 1st in Davis 112 for our April Fool's Day of Fun and Learning at the annual LISSA Spring Symposium 2011. We are pleased to announce that we will have a panel of five librarians from across our campus. Our panel will include:

- **Terrye Conroy**: Reference/Public Services Librarian at the Coleman Karesh Law Library
- **Ana Dubnjakovic**: Head of the Music Library at the University of South Carolina
- **Jane Olsgaard**: Coordinator of Processing Services at Thomas Cooper Library
- **Ruth Riley**: Director of USC’s School of Medicine Library
- **Elizabeth West**: University Archivist at the South Caroliniana Library

Our Guest will be discussing:

- Professional development history
- Clientele and collections
- A typical day in their library
- Favorite reference query

After the panel is over we invite you to join our panelists for lunch sponsored by LISSA. There you will have a chance to meet and ask questions to our panelists. This will be a great networking opportunity for students that you should not miss. Lunch will be provided.

Please RSVP by March 25th to Andrew Harris at harri446@email.sc.edu with the heading “LISSA Spring”
From the Cohorts

New England Cohort

On February 19, members of the New England cohort got together at the Auburn Maine T.G.I. Friday’s for a lunch meeting. Jayne Lello, Elizabeth Kane, Pamela Bobker and I talked about our classes and work and just enjoyed hanging out face to face with our cohort members. Everyone seemed to have a good time, despite the bad directions. (Oops) Looking forward to meeting your New England cohort members? Your next opportunity will be in March! I’m hoping to plan something for the weekend of March 12-13. Do you have any great ideas? Email me at cotesl@email.sc.edu and I’ll see if I can make it happen. See you soon!

Charleston Cohort

We a a good turn out at our meet and greet on February 18th. It was nice to see old faces and meet new ones. Tamara and I have been working on a trip to visit the MUSC library. We have scheduled a date and time, but we need people to RSVP if they are interested to make sure that there is some interest. The trip is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16th from 9:00-11:30 am. I know that this may not be the best time, but it is what we could work out. Please email me to let me know if you are interested and can attend at that time.
Lisa Ramage
ramagelisa@yahoo.com

West Virginia/Virginia Cohort

The West Virginia/Virginia Cohort is off and running for 2011! A handful of students met in late January near Richmond, Virginia to discuss upcoming Cohort events and possible service projects for the Spring semester.

Upcoming programming includes a trip to the Central Rappahannock Regional Library system for a talk and tour by our own Aileen Marshall. The group will meet Saturday, February 26th at 11am at the library. Please plan to join us for lunch and some social time at a local restaurant following the tour. As usual, all are welcome.

On Saturday April 2, there will be a Colloquium for the WVVA cohort at the Best Western in Waynesboro, VA from 10am – 5pm. Please RSVP as soon as possible for this great event that will include:

Student/Faculty question and answer sessions
Networking and social time
Student presentations
Information about the e-portfolio
Information about internships
Much more!

Notes from the Editors

One of the best parts of doing this newsletter is discovering the diversity within the program. The archivists among us are growing in numbers and influence, and their events, such as the upcoming disaster workshop, are applicable to anyone working to preserve physical materials. The panelists at the spring symposium also reflect this variety, from music librarians to processing and technical services. It’s refreshing to hear that librarianship is not limited to academic or public librarians.

Thanks again to all who submitted entries! We appreciate hearing from everyone.

Virginia Blake and Sara Herndon
Director’s Corner
By Samantha Hastings

Is it Spring?

I think it is, I think it is! My favorite Japanese Magnolias are blooming, Bradford Pears are blooming, Daffodils are out and the Dogwood buds are getting fat – I think it’s spring!

Your school is busting with great news and beautiful blossoms as well. The three top good news items are:

1. Our beautiful Davis College building will be getting an HVAC system starting this summer – by fall 2012 we will have central heating and air conditioning! Wow!

2. Dr. Michael Buckland is coming to give our Deans’ and Directors’ Lecture on April 7 and;

3. Arius3D has given us a 3D Image Scanner that will be installed at the McKissick Museum, 2nd floor. The USC Arius3D Imaging Centre will produce scientific quality, full color, three-dimensional models of museum and research collections. The McKissick Museum specializes in material culture, natural science, decorative and fine art. The resulting 3D image models will be used within the museum and university to enhance learning, creativity and research on a full range of topics. Arius3D and University of South Carolina’s School of Library and Information Science will serve the 3D models through a commercial Image Library. In addition to the School, the Center for Digital Humanities (CDH) at the university will serve as a research partner, offering CDH faculty fellows opportunities to participate in the project.

The Arius3D technology changes the way our cultural heritage objects can be documented and visualized. This collaboration marks a new adventure, bringing cultural heritage objects to people in digital formats, beyond the traditional walls of an exhibit. It is a true breakthrough technology, and we are very excited by the many potential applications in the library, museum and education fields.

The South Carolina partnership is the newest in a series of 3D Imaging Center distribution agreements signed by Arius3D to capitalize on its ability to capture scientific quality 3D color images to create inspiring, accessible and engaging 3D content for a variety of applications. Other 3D Image Center partners include the University of Tennessee (medical collections), University College London Petrie Museum (antiquities), Skulls Unlimited International (world’s largest mammal skull collection), University of Toronto (art, iconic collections), Canadian Museum of Natural History (fossils) and Laval University’s LAMIC (Laboratoire de muséologie et d’ingénierie de la culture) for mineral and cultural collections.

So join us in celebrating our good fortune and the wonderful opportunities coming your way. Let me know if there is anything we can do for you.

Yours,

Dr. Sam