Greetings and Welcome to LISSA!

On behalf of the officers of LISSA, I would like to welcome you to the University of South Carolina’s School of Library and Information Science! As you plan for your upcoming academic career, we hope that you will pursue a membership with LISSA. LISSA is a professional organization consisting of your fellow graduate students, and is affiliated with the American Library Association.

As a student of SLIS, you are encouraged to join an actively participate in professional organizations. Starting with LISSA is a great way to become accustomed to this practice. Becoming a member of LISSA will afford you opportunities to effortlessly network with your fellow students and enable you to participate in all LISSA sponsored events. Through collaborative volunteer efforts, group meetings and weekly social activities, our members form strong friendships that blossom into valuable peer connections once they graduate.

You will have the opportunity to establish professional contacts and make an impact locally. LISSA maintains a strong working relationship with libraries and other professional associations. Our members have opportunities to volunteer both within their communities and at conferences. Members receive experience and exposure, both of which are invaluable for aspiring library professionals. LISSA officers have been hard at work to ensure that there will be numerous opportunities to volunteer, attend conferences and remain actively involved with the organization throughout the year.

Again, I would like to thank you for your interest in LISSA. If you have any additional questions, please e-mail us at slislissa@gmail.com. We look forward to meeting you soon!

With warmest regards,

-Taylor Atkinson
LISSA President
2014-2015
Interning at the Smithsonian

This summer, I was a curatorial intern at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. I worked on the exhibition team for American Enterprise, an upcoming permanent exhibition on business and innovation in American history. Interning at the Smithsonian was a wonderful experience. The staff treated me as a colleague and gave me substantial responsibilities. I conducted object research, wrote labels for online collections, and served as the primary museum contact for several object donors. It was also a great opportunity to meet people from all over the museum and learn about their work, including management, public affairs, and education.

Of course, there was no shortage of things to do outside of the office. I went to museums, libraries, and archives throughout the District, visiting about 30 institutions or sites. Many were popular destinations, such as the Library of Congress and National Archives. Other institutions were lesser-known, but no less fascinating. To give just two examples, I went on a tour at the Archives of American Art and spent a day researching in the Special Collections of the National Agricultural Library.

I even had a chance to glimpse the future of digital collections. The National Museum of Natural History is developing ways to digitize massive specimen collections in a matter of weeks or months. For a trial run, the museum digitized its bumblebee collection, over 45,000 specimens, in six weeks! At an open house, I saw the rapid capture team in action, and it was impressive. It's all part of a Smithsonian-wide digitization initiative to expand access to the national collections. Only a fraction of items can be on exhibit at a time, so this will be an unprecedented advance in information access. As an LIS student, I'm absolutely thrilled!

- Chris Fite
A Study Abroad Adventure in London

By Taylor Atkinson and Jessica Dai

For a month this summer, we had the great opportunity to study abroad in London, England. Through the University of Southern Mississippi's British Studies Program, twenty-four graduate LIS students from around the US and two USM professors visited about twenty British libraries, archives, and museums. We had the chance to participate in behind-the-scenes tours, see unique items and special collections, and speak to a variety of LIS professionals.

In particular, we want to highlight two of our favorite visits:

As a legal deposit library, the British Library automatically receives a copy of every published book in the UK and Ireland directly from the publisher. Since they have such a large and constant influx of books, the library has an underground depository, which is the largest subterranean facility in Europe, and an off-site storage building. The library uses an intricate retrieval system to deliver books for use only in the reading rooms, as the books cannot be taken out of the library and the stacks are closed.

In order to use the reading rooms, visitors must have a reader's card. To obtain a reader's card, one must have two proofs of identification and a list of books they require. Basically, the British Library wants to make sure that readers are using their books and not the space for studying and/or personal reasons because space is limited.

The British Library has many functions, but from our tour and research visits there, we quickly realized that the library is geared towards those with research needs.

Since one can only use their materials in the reading room for a limited amount of time – it is not a 24 hours, 7 days a week kind of library – it is not the best place for catching up on the newest issue of National Geographic or reading Tom Clancy's latest book. That being said, if they have something you need to reference or use for research, do not hesitate to get a reader's card. It is exciting using primary sources in their rare book reading room or actually getting to use a card catalog in their humanities reading room – two things that Jessica did during her visits there. If you are ever in the area, it is definitely worth a visit.

For our last official class visit, we toured the Royal Geographical Society (RGS). Founded in 1830, it is a highly specialized body that focuses on advancing the geographical sciences. Society is a membership organization, with over 15,000 members and Fellows in 100 countries.

“The library has an underground depository, which is the largest subterranean facility in Europe.”
One of our professors is a Fellow of the Society, and so we were able to have an in-depth tour of some of their collections in the Foyle Reading Room.

RGS's collections encompass nearly 2 million items, which include artifacts, books, maps, manuscripts, and personal effects from famous explorers whose expeditions were partially or fully funded by the Society. Eugene Rae, the Principal Librarian, created what he called a "Hot and Cold" exhibit, meaning it covered exploration from the deserts of Africa to the Arctic and Antarctica.

We were shown the sketches, compass, sextants, and hats of famous African explorers David Livingstone and Henry Stanley, items left behind from Captain Robert Scott's ill-fated final Antarctic expedition in 1912, and the boot and goggles from Mount Everest explorer George Mallory, who died on the mountain in 1924.

Although the Society is essentially a members-only organization, use of the collections and archives is encouraged, though researchers must undergo a registration process similar to the British Library's. In addition, the Society still issues travel grants for expeditions, fieldwork, student research, and teaching. Lastly, various exhibitions are opened to the public throughout the year at the Society's facilities, and we had the chance to see two: the Environmental Photographer of the Year, and the Travel Photographer of the Year. Both beautifully showcased breathtaking images and films from around the world.

In short, London is full of treasured cultural heritage institutions, and there is something to interest everybody. We had a fantastic time exploring some of these places with USM's British Studies Program, and hope we'll have a chance to return.
Summer Activities

I have spent the summer working as a cataloger at The University of South Carolina’s Moving Image Research Collections (MIRC), where I have been working predominantly with the Fox Movietone Collection. Yet, my conference attendance has been more geared towards working with the multitude of collections available at the film archive. This fusion of using archival footage at conferences began when I compiled a panel for USC’s 2014 Women’s and Gender Studies Conference regarding issues of gender and food. This approach led to me applying to present on issues of bilingual access and educational possibilities regarding the Chinese Film Collection which is also at MIRC. As such, I presented during the 2nd Annual US-China Children’s Literature Symposium, and discussed the conceptual possibilities of the role of a cataloguer as providing subtitles alongside more traditional metadata. It involved partial screenings of some of the Chinese animated films in the collection.

I also attended the Northeast Historic Film Summer Symposium in Bucksport, Maine, which was a wild and wonderful trip via Greyhound that took multiple days to complete in its entirety.

The theme for the symposium was “Visions of Home,” which initially made me consider using one of the many home movie collections we possessed at our institution, but upon reflection I decided to go out of the box and discuss some of the burglary prevention films MIRC has as part of their Spartanburg Police Film Collection, the collection I worked on when I first became a volunteer at MIRC nearly two years ago. It was met with adoration first for its being quite different in subject matter compared to the other presentations, which were no less fascinating I might add, but the real benefit of my presentation was that MIRC generously allowed me to take the films with me for the screening an added element of enjoyability as these non-theatrical films were likely never screened in a large theater setting previously. Needless to say, it has been a lively summer and one that has been deeply invested in expanding the film archive to exist outside of a film vault. I am hoping to do many more similar endeavors this academic year.

-Travis Wagner
Meet Your LISSA Officers

President—Taylor Atkinson

Taylor was born and raised in Columbia, South Carolina, and received her BA in Religious Studies from the University of South Carolina in May 2013. She began earning her MLIS in the fall of 2013, and expects to graduate in May 2015. Taylor is currently working as an intern at Thomas Cooper Library, and is the graduate assistant for the Programs and Partnerships department at the Main Branch of the Richland Library. She tweets at @taylorcatkinson, and enjoys reading, traveling, kayaking, and Netflix marathons.

Vice President—Chris Fite

Chris is a second year MLIS student focusing on Archives and Special Collections. He is also pursuing an M.A. in Public History. A native of North Alabama, Chris graduated from Samford University in 2011. Before coming to South Carolina, he spent two years working for a nonprofit organization in Alabama. Chris is currently a graduate assistant in South Carolina Political Collections and the Folklife Resource Center at the McKissick Museum. In his free time, he enjoys reading, listening to jazz music, and playing the occasional game of tennis.

Treasurer—Jessica Dai

Jessica is a second year MLIS student at the University of South Carolina. She started in the fall of 2013 and expects to graduate in the winter of 2014. She is currently an intern at Thomas Cooper Library and volunteers at the Cooper branch of Richland Library. Jessica graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a minor in art history. She hails from Honolulu, Hawaii by way of Albuquerque, New Mexico where she spent two semesters at the University of New Mexico on exchange. She enjoys reading, being a cat enthusiast, crafting, and cooking in her free time.
Social Chair - Rachel Walden

Rachel was born and raised in Columbia, South Carolina. She received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Lander University in Greenwood, South Carolina. She is a second year MLIS student at the University of South Carolina. She started in the fall of 2013 and expects to graduate in the winter of 2014. Her plans involve working in technical services in a public or special library after graduation. She currently works at the USC School of Medicine Library as a graduate assistant and at the USC School of Law in technical services. She tweets at @RachelSaltLife, and spends most of her free time trying out new recipes especially one for cakes and cupcakes.

Web Editor—Travis Wagner

Travis is a third year MLIS student at USC and is also pursuing a Graduate Certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies. He is currently an intern at the Moving Image Research Collection and has an undergraduate degree in History from Augusta State University in Augusta, GA. Travis has an unhealthy obsession with movies which has led him to writing and research on it in its various formats from film to VHS for which he has been published. He is also passionate about language and access in cultural institutions and has presented at conferences on both areas of interest. In his free time, Travis desperately tries to do everything he can to become a cyborg.
We will be selling water bottles in the next couple of weeks for $8.00

To subscribe to the LISSA list:

Send a mail message to listserv@listserv.sc.edu in the body of the message type:
subscribe LISSA yourfirstname yourlastname

The listserv software will send you 2 messages confirming your subscription.

It is very important to join the Listserv because we use it as our main point of contact between members.
We will be planning a weekly place to do Trivia and we will talk about that at the Post Orientation Social at Carolina Ale House Saturday Aug. 16th 5:30pm.

**Fall Semester Social Events**

Saturday Aug 16th 5:30 Dinner @ [Carolina Ale House](#) (Upstairs Room)
708 Lady Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Saturday Aug 23rd: 11am @ [River banks Zoo](#)
500 Wildlife Parkway
Columbia, SC 29210
just off I-126 at Greystone Blvd.

Tuesday September 9th: 7:30pm Dinner @ [The Kracken](#)
2910 Rosewood Dr Ste 1
Columbia, SC 29205

Tuesday September 16th: 8pm [Washed Out](#) in concert @ the [Music Farm](#)  
(the singer got his MLIS from USC)
1022 Senate St
Columbia, SC 29201

September 18 – 21: [Columbia’s Greek Festival](#)
1931 Sumter Street
Columbia SC 29201

Week of September 22-28th  Date &Time TBD  Rock Climbing Wall @ [Strom Gym](#)
1000 Blossom Street
Columbia, SC 29208

Wednesday October 8:  8 pm Dessert@ [Nonnahs](#)
923 Gervais St
Columbia, SC 29201

**SC State Fair** October 8-19th  [Free Admission](#) with college ID Thursday 9th

Thursday November 6:  7:30 pm Dinner @ [Hunter Gatherer](#)
900 Main St
Columbia, SC 29201

Friday Nov 21st: 7pm Laser Tag @ [Frankie’s Fun Park](#)  $7 a game
140 Parkridge Drive
Columbia, SC 29212

Friday Dec 5th: 7:30pm Dinner @ [Mellow Mushroom](#)
1009 Gervais St
Columbia, SC 29201

Monday Dec 15th: Graduation