

2014

SLIS Update

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SLIS Update

By Elizabeth Haynes, Director

Welcome to this issue of *SLIS Connecting*. We are pleased to be able to continue publishing this newsletter to showcase our news and scholarly papers of interest.

It seems like this academic year is almost over – as I write this we are enjoying spring break with (more or less) warmer temperatures. Spring is lovely in South Mississippi and never more welcome than this year after what seems like months of cold weather and two and a half days lost to an ice storm in February.

Our faculty members have been busy and I'd like to highlight a few of their accomplishments.

- Dr. Catharine Bomhold has recently had two peer-reviewed articles accepted about her research on smart phone mobile applications in the university library environment as well as doing a presentation in Memphis.
- Dr. Stacy Creel received the Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award for the College of Education and Psychology.
- Dr. Creel, Dr. Brenton Stewart, and Dr. Teresa Welsh addressed a standing room only audience recently about integrating technology into teaching at the USM Educators Connect Conference.
- Dr. Griffis, our newest faculty member, was invited to help the Owens Sound, Ontario Carnegie Library celebrate their 100th anniversary by speaking at the celebration about the history of the library as a Carnegie Library.
- Dr. Creel, Dr. Griffis, Dr. Stewart, and Dr. Welsh all presented posters at the recent ALISE conference in Philadelphia.
- Dr. Xinyu (Cindy) Yu is teaching a course in Health Information this spring that was developed through support from a grant from the National Library of Medicine.
- See the publications section elsewhere in this issue for additional information about faculty publications.

After two years as a visiting instructor, Mr. Edmand Pace joined the faculty as an instructor in January,

2014. Mr. Pace works with undergraduate students with both teaching and advising.

The 2014 Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival was a huge success. Christopher Paul Curtis was our Medallion winner, and he was joined by other noted authors and illustrators in the line-up.

We're excited about a new graduate scholarship that was recently funded for five years. Unlike most of our other scholarships, this scholarship is open to any graduate student meeting the qualifications, regardless of place of residence. If you are an alum, employer, or friend of USM SLIS, then we encourage you to consider donating to this scholarship, which is administered through the USM foundation. Pledges can be paid out over five years on a monthly basis through bank draft or credit card charge. For example, a pledge of \$1000 costs only \$17 per month if paid out over five years. Please think about making this tax-deductible gift to the School. We'll be happy to send you a donation form or put you in touch with the USM Foundation.

Enjoy this issue of *SLIS Connecting*.



Dr. Elizabeth Haynes received her MLS and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. She has been a school library media specialist and district library administrator for the El Paso (Texas) Public Schools. For three years, Dr. Haynes was a library media specialist for the Texas Education Agency. She joined the faculty of the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg in 1998.