

2015

## SLIS Update

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**SLIS Update**  
**Elizabeth Haynes, Director**

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

Our faculty members continue to accomplish great things and I'd like to highlight a few of them.

- Dr. Catharine Bomhold was promoted to Associate Professor and is working toward establishing a community literacy council in collaboration with the Hattiesburg Public Schools.
- Dr. Stacy Creel has had a peer-reviewed article accepted on the effects of assigned reading on pleasure reading with young adults. She has also received the Carnegie-Whitney grant from ALA.
- Dr. Griffis has done several presentations and received the prestigious ALISE Research Grant, which he is using to study roving reference practices in libraries.
- Dr. Xinyu (Cindy) Yu gave a presentation to the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association. She also serves on the University IRB Committee.
- Dr. Matthew Griffis and Dr. Teresa Welsh are have another large British Studies class during July. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, Dr. Welsh assumed duties as the Director of SLIS.
- Dr. J. Norton and Dr. Cindy Yu participated in the spring semester as fellows in the Quality Enhancement Program here at Southern Miss.

Attendance for the 2015 Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival was up from last year and we had an outstanding line-up of speakers and break-out sessions. Next year's Festival promises to be just as good or better.

The College of Education and Psychology Awards ceremony was held this past spring. We were very pleased to honor Carlos Crockett with the Warren Tracy Award for Outstanding MLIS Graduate, Jordan Pettigrew with the Anna Roberts Award for the Outstanding BA Graduate, and Kelly Kitzman and LaQuana Burks with the H.W. Wilson Scholarship Award.

We continue to solicit donations for a new endowed graduate scholarship. 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.

June 30<sup>th</sup> was my last day as Director of SLIS. I am retiring after a 47-year career, 17 of which were spent at Southern Miss. Working at SLIS has been an incredible experience and I treasure every moment of it. I'm looking forward to living in Arizona but I will greatly miss the University of Southern Mississippi and SLIS faculty and students.

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 El Paso (Texas) Public Schools and 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.

\*If you would like to contribute to the Dr. Elizabeth Haynes Scholarship fund #2199, go to: <http://www.usmfoundation.com/>