

August 2017

## SLIS Director's Update

USM School of Library and Information Science

Follow this and additional works at: <https://aquila.usm.edu/slisconnecting>



Part of the [Archival Science Commons](#), [Collection Development and Management Commons](#), [Information Literacy Commons](#), [Scholarly Communication Commons](#), and the [Scholarly Publishing Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

USM School of Library and Information Science (2017) "SLIS Director's Update," *SLIS Connecting*: Vol. 6: Iss. 1, Article 1.

DOI: 10.18785/slis.0601.01

Available at: <https://aquila.usm.edu/slisconnecting/vol6/iss1/1>

This Column is brought to you for free and open access by The Aquila Digital Community. It has been accepted for inclusion in SLIS Connecting by an authorized editor of The Aquila Digital Community. For more information, please contact [aquilastaff@usm.edu](mailto:aquilastaff@usm.edu).

**SLIS Director's Report**  
**Teresa S. Welsh, Ph.D., Professor and Director**

Welcome to the spring/summer issue of *SLIS Connecting*. Southern Miss School of Library and Information Science is fortunate to attract a growing number of excellent undergraduate and graduate students. Read about some of their accomplishments in "From the GA's" column and see a list of SLIS students' scholarly publications at [ocean.otr.usm.edu/~w146169/mentorpubs.htm](http://ocean.otr.usm.edu/~w146169/mentorpubs.htm).

**Other News:**

- In January, SLIS welcomed a new faculty member, Instructor Jessica Whipple. This summer she taught a cross-listed course on information ethics and this fall is teaching undergrad courses on information literacy, reference, and cataloging.
- Dr. Matthew Griffis was awarded a major IMLS research grant for [The Roots of Community: Segregated Libraries as Spaces for Learning and Community-Making](#).
- Accelerated Master's Program for advanced undergrads was approved for fall 2017.
- British Studies LIS class of twelve graduate students from six universities, led by SLIS faculty Dr. Chris Cunningham, had a wonderful summer in the U.K. learning on-site about British libraries, archives, and special collections.
- 2017 USM Children's Book Festival was the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Festival and included:
  - new literacy event launched with an author talk by Kate Dicamillo to 500 Hattiesburg 4<sup>th</sup> graders on her book *The Tale of Despereaux* and with a giveaway of a book to each student
  - digitization of all 50 Children's Book Festival programs (1968-2017) now freely accessible online at [www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival/past-programs](http://www.usm.edu/childrens-book-festival/past-programs).

**Upcoming Events:**

- SLIS and Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival (CBF) were among the sponsors of the Mississippi Book Festival, August 19, Jackson. Karen Rowell presented the Librarian of Congress, Dr. Carla Hayden, a gift bag with signed first-edition children's books and British Studies booklets & ornaments from London. [msbookfestival.com](http://msbookfestival.com)

- SLIS faculty will be at the Mississippi Library Association Conference, Hattiesburg Lake Terrace Convention Center, October 17-20. SLIS alums, students, and supporters are encouraged to register for the SLIS Alumni Breakfast and to attend the focus group session and SLIS-sponsored health session.

**Support for SLIS:**

Thank you for your support of SLIS and for the Dr. Elizabeth Haynes LIS Endowed Scholarship (#2199) and Library Science Fund (#0134). For a donation in honor of or memory of someone, the Foundation will send the honoree or family a nice card and the donor a thank-you note. [www.usmfoundation.com/](http://www.usmfoundation.com/)

There is a great need for more LIS scholarships, particularly minority scholarships. If you know someone who would like to donate and name an endowed scholarship (\$25,000 or greater) to honor someone in perpetuity, contact [USM Foundation](#) at 601-266-5210.

Here's to a great, productive 2017-18 school year!



Dr. Teresa S. Welsh earned a MLIS and Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee. She joined the SLIS faculty in 2003, was promoted to Full Professor in 2014 and SLIS Director in 2015.

Cover photograph by Gerardo Santos.

Thank you SLIS Recruiters and Ambassadors!

ALA Midwinter  
Atlanta, January 20-24



Heather Moore, Karen Rowell

ALA Annual Conference  
Chicago, June 22-27



Lori Schexnayder, Sarah Mangrum, Karen Rowell

National Conference of African American Librarians  
Atlanta, August 9-13



Alex Brower, Lori Schexnayder, Karen Rowell, and Sarah Mangrum, building a Little Library



Adrienne Patterson

Art Libraries Society of North America  
New Orleans, February 5-9



Lori Schexnayder, Karen Rowell

