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## From the GAs: Congratulations, Publications, Presentations

USM School of Library and Information Science

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## From the GA's



Meet the newest SLIS GA, **Alex Brower** (pictured above), who started the MLIS program as a Graduate Assistant in January. Alex graduated as an Honors College Student in December with a LIS Bachelor of Science degree. Her honors thesis, "Gender Roles and Gender Stereotypes in Four Newbery Award-Winning Books," (mentored by Dr. Creel) won the undergraduate essay award for the CSRW Greene Paper competition and SLIS presented her with the Anna M. Roberts Award for Scholarship, Service, and Professionalism.

Alex is a College of Education and Psychology Scholar and was recently awarded an H.W. Wilson \$1,000 Scholarship and a Mississippi Library Association Peggy May Scholarship.

### Congratulations SLIS LIS Bachelor of Science Students



**Tara Sims Carron** has been accepted into the Johns Hopkins University Advanced Academic combined program, a Master of Arts in Museum Studies and Certificate in Digital Curation (pictured).

LIS major Alyssa Stuart, as part of LIS 489 capstone practicum, wrote a Summer Reading Program grant for practicum site McHenry Public Library, which was awarded \$1,000 from Wal-Mart in Wiggins, MS, in support of the Community Grant Program.



**LIS Student Alyssa Stuart, Branch Manager Rhonda Darby, and Asst. Branch Manager Heather Veil  
McHenry Public Library**

### Congratulations SLIS MLIS Students

Lindsay Bailey was awarded a Photo Archives Internship, Penobscot Marine Museum, Searsport, ME, as well as two scholarships: Maine Association of School Librarians \$500 Scholarship and H. Joyce Withee \$500 Library Science Scholarship through the Searsmont Library.

Lynn Cowles was awarded an American Library Association Spectrum Scholarship for 2017-18. Spectrum Scholars receive \$5,000 from ALA to combat the rising cost of graduate education as well as \$1,500 to attend the Spectrum Leadership Institute held during the ALA Annual Conference.

Callie Martin, dual MLIS/Instructional Technology major, was awarded Most Outstanding Instructional Technology Graduate Student at the College of Education & Psychology Awards Day, March 30, 2017.

Gary Pysznik is Reference Librarian, Springfield City Library, MA.

Lauren Simpson is a Library Technician, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY.

Ann Smith Rushing is Branch Manager, East Central Public Library, Hurley, MS.

Ryan Tickle is Library Technician, Tulane University A.B. Freeman School of Business, LA.

Congratulations to 2017 SLIS Scholarship winners:

- Mayfield Keyes Scholarships (\$1,854.50 each) – Lynn Cowles, Kelly Thompson
- \$500 SLIS Scholarship – Melinda Smith
- \$1,000 Wilson Foundation Scholarships – Alex Brower, Carrie Mastley



**Laura Savage and Valerie Bonner**

Congratulations to Laura Savage (MLIS, 2016) and Valerie Bonner (current MLIS student) for receiving the 2017 Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Innovators Grant to fund Peer-to-Peer Reading literacy project, which will assign students to read *Hunger Games* and *1984* to improve reading comprehension. The grant team selected the dystopian titles due to their recent popularity among YA readers. The award of \$1,740.90 will start in fall 2017. Ms. Bonner and Ms. Savage are full-time employees at Willis H. Lott Learning Resources Center at MGCCC Perkinston Campus. Additional grant team members include: Jamie Pittman, English Instructor; Michael McKinney, English Instructor/Learning Lab; and Shugana Williams (MLIS, 2003), Librarian.

## **Congratulations SLIS Alums**

Lexie Aldridge (MLIS, 2013) is Librarian, Muir S. Fairchild Research Information Center, USAF, Montgomery, AL.



**Jaelyn Lewis Anderson** (MLIS, 2013) is Head Librarian, Chattanooga Public Main Downtown Library, Chattanooga, TN (pictured).

Emilie Aplin (MLIS & Archival Certificate, 2016), USM Librarian, was presented the Warren Tracy Award for Professionalism, Scholarship, and Service at the College of Education & Psychology Awards Day, March 30, 2017.

Molly Brough Antoine (MLIS, 2014) is Director, Sam T. Wilson Public Library, Arlington, TN.

Colleen Beavers Baldwin (MLIS & Archival Certificate, 2012) is Special Collection Project Archivist, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI.

**Brian Barnes, J.D.** (MLIS, 2010), is Director, Loyola University of New Orleans Law Library, New Orleans, LA (pictured).



Lindsey Miller Beck (MLIS, 2013) is Coordinator, Lowndes County Imagination Library, Columbus, MS.

Germaine Butler (MLIS, 2013) is Reference and Genealogy Librarian, St. Tammany Parish Library, Covington, LA.

Christy Jones Calhoun (MLIS, 2008) is Archival Librarian, William Carey University, Hattiesburg, MS.



**Germaine Carey-Palmer** (MLIS, 2007), Reference and Information Literacy Librarian, Dillard University, New Orleans, earned a Ph.D. in Higher Education, Jackson State University, MS (pictured).

Melody Pittman Dale (MLIS, 2012) is Education Librarian, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS.

Angela Dixon (MLIS, 1988) is Assistant Director, Collections Management, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, NY.

Heather Dungey (MLIS, 2012) is Librarian, Edith B. Ford Memorial Library, Ovid, NY.

Woody Evans (MLIS, 2003) is Manager, Research and User Experience Manager, Texas Woman's University Library, Denton, TX.

Rita Fofah (MLIS, 2016) is Children's Area Supervisor, Tulsa City-County Library, Tulsa, OK.

Lydia Green (MLIS, 2017) is School Librarian, Oakmont Elementary School, Cottontown, TN.

Lindsey (Nikki) Haney (MLIS, 2010) is Law Librarian, Berwin Leighton Paisner LLP, London, U.K.

Delia Hare (MLIS & Youth Services Certificate, 2016), is Director, Northeast Regional Library System, Corinth, MS.

Beth Hindman (MLIS, 2010) is Branch Experience Manager, Red Bank Library, Evansville, IN.

Rebecca Houston (MLIS, 2017) is Senior Library Associate, Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS. In her previous position as Franklin Academy School Librarian, Columbus, MS, she was awarded a Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries Award of \$6,800 to purchase new books and a \$1,500 Natural Science Museum Field Trip Grant for students to visit the Natural Science Museum.

Lauren Ashley Howell (MLIS, 2017) is Metadata Specialist, George Mason University Libraries, Fairfax, VA.

Jennifer (Furner) Jensen (MLIS, 2008) is Academic Librarian, Everglades University, Boca Raton, FL.

Daphney Johnson (MLIS, 2016) is Customer Service Librarian, City of Memphis, TN.

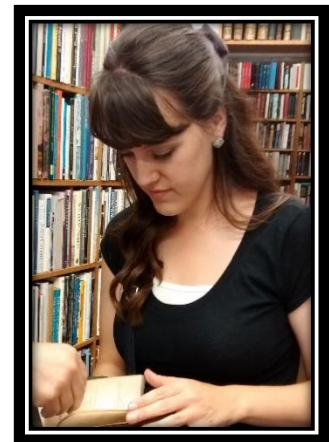
J.J. Johnson (MLIS, 2016) is Systems Librarian, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA.

Christine Keiper (MLIS, 2014) is Associate Director, The Library of Hattiesburg, Petal and Forrest County, Hattiesburg, MS.

David Ketchum (MLIS, 2008) is Head, Access Services, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, OR.

Huston Ladner (MLIS, 2010) is Instructor, University of Hawaii, Manoa, and in the Ph.D. program in American Studies.

**Briana Martin** (MLIS, 2017; British Studies, 2015) is Outreach Librarian, Evangel University, Springfield, MO.



Gabriel Morley, Ph.D. (MLIS, 2004), is Director, Atlanta-Fulton County Library System, Atlanta, GA.

Eden Nitcher (MLIS, 2014) is Teen STEAM Senior Librarian, West Florida Public Libraries, Pensacola, FL.

Michael Oden (MLIS, 2016) is Adult Services Librarian, South Cobb Regional Library, Mableton, GA.

Angela Doucet Rand (MLIS, 2006), Head of Access Services, USA Marx Library, AL, earned a Ph.D. in Instructional Design & Development from the University of South Alabama, Mobile, and was promoted to Senior Librarian.

Scott Reinke (MLIS, 2009) is Director of Preservation Programs, Preservation Technologies, L.P., Washington, D.C.

Hillary Hamblen Richardson (MLIS, 2013) is Coordinator for Undergraduate Research and Information Literacy, Mississippi University for Women Fant Memorial Library, Columbus, MS.

Jason Russell (MLIS, 2013) is Archivist/Technical Services Librarian, Tuzzy Consortium Library, Ilisagvik Tribal College, Auke Bay, AK.



**Karla Schmit** (MLIS, 2001), Head of Education and Behavioral Sciences Library, Penn State University, PA, named Director of the Pennsylvania Center for the Book (pictured).

Floyce Thomas (MLIS, 2016) is Serials Librarian, J.D. Boyd Library, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS.

Joanna Williams (MLIS, 2016) is Reference Librarian/Archivist, J.D. Boyd Library, Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS.

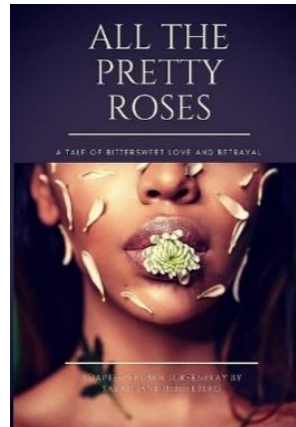
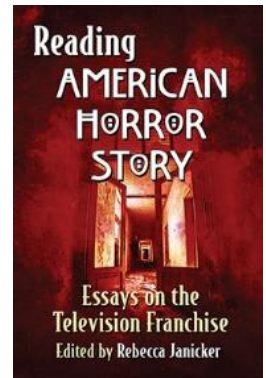
Breagh Wirth (MLIS, 2016) is Branch Manager, Westwego Public Library, Westwego, LA.

Melissa Wright, Ph.D. (MLIS, 2000), is Director of Learning Resources, Northwest Community College, Senatobia, MS.

Lauren Young (MLIS, 2003) is Instruction Coordinator/Reference and Research Services Librarian, Samford University, Birmingham, AL.

### Alum Publications

**Kyle Etheridge** (MLIS, 2016), English teacher, Holly Springs School District, MS, authored a chapter, “The Minotaur, the Shears, and the Melon Baller: Queerness and Self-Mortification in Coven” in *Reading American Horror Story: Essays on the Television Franchise*, 66-84.



**Sarah Heidelberg** (MLIS, 2010), ESL Teacher, Mason Elementary School, Laurel, MS, authored *All the Pretty Roses: A Tale of Bittersweet Love and Betrayal* (Ophelia Brown Publishing, 2017).

James Stephen Parks, J.D. (MLIS, 2013), State Law Librarian of Mississippi, editor, *Letters from the Library*, received 2017 Best Newsletter Award by the American Association of Law Librarians.

Sonja Sheffield (MLIS, 2016) master’s research project, “An Assessment of Frequently Challenged LGBTQ\* Books in Alabama Public Libraries” published in *The Southeastern Librarian* (Summer 2017).

### Faculty Publications – Presentations

Dr. Creel & Dr. Welsh, “Using Vodcasts, Screencasts, and Blogs to Achieve Interaction,” presentation, Creating Futures through Technology Conference, Biloxi, MS, March 1-3, 2017.

Dr. Bomhold, “Service Learning and Cultural Competence in Online Education,” Gulf South Summit 2017, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC, March 22-24.

Dr. Griffis, "Capturing Their Stories: Collecting Oral Histories from Users of Segregated Libraries in the South," Southern History of Education Society Annual Meeting, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, March 10-11.

Dr. Griffis, "Dispatches from the Past: A History of Postcard Manufacturing in New Orleans 1900 to 1915," presentation, Louisiana Historical Association Annual Meeting, Shreveport, LA, March 16-18.

Dr. Griffis, "History of the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival," keynote address, 50th Annual Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival, USM Hattiesburg, MS, April 6-9.

Dr. Welsh, "Strategies for Public Libraries' Success and Sustainability: A Content Analysis of LIS Literature," Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries: QQML 2017 International Conference, Limerick, Ireland, May 23, 2017.

Dr. Griffis, "Buildings and Books: Segregated Libraries as Places for Community-Making, Interaction, and Learning in the Age of Jim Crow," presentation, Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) Annual Conference, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, June 9-13.

### Faculty Awards – Honors

**Dr. Bomhold** was awarded the College of Education and Psychology Outstanding Faculty Service Award for 2016-17 by the Award Committee Chair, **Dr. Griffis** (pictured).



Dr. Stacy Creel served as Chair of the Mississippi National Library Week, April 9-15.

Dr. Griffis, was subject of a USM story on his IMLS funded research, "Professor's Research of Segregated Public Libraries in the South Available Online" (February 20, 2017), featured project archive at: <http://aquila.usm.edu/rocoverview/>.



Patrons at a segregated library, 1928, from Jackson Davis Collection of African American Educational Photographs, University of Virginia Special Collections

Dr. Griffis' research was also featured in an article in *The Meridian Star*, "Study Stirs Memories of Segregated Library in Meridian," March 4, 2017.

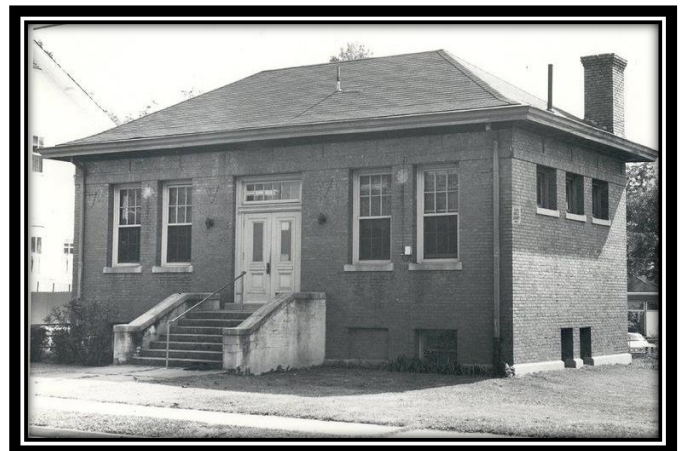


Photo courtesy of Meridian-Lauderdale County Public Library

Dr. Cunningham served as Co-Chair of Works in Progress Poster session, ALISE 2017 Conference, Atlanta, January 17-20, and was selected Co-Chair of ALISE Council of Deans, Directors, and Program Chairs.

Mr. Pace, Dr. Bomhold, Dr. Creel, Dr. Griffis, and Dr. Welsh for receiving letters of commendation from Dr. Bennett stating "several fall 2016 graduates identified you during their exit interviews as a key influence on their success while attending USM."