2017

Student Associations: News and Events

USM School of Library and Information Science

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SLIS Student Groups Fall/Winter 2017-18

LIS Student Association (LISSA)

Charlotte Mona Roi, President
Rachel McMullen, Vice-President
Keisha Coulter, Secretary
Tammy White, Webmaster
Dr. Chris Cunningham, Graduate Faculty Advisor
Mrs. Jessica Whipple, Undergrad Faculty Advisor

LISSA is an official ALA student group and each year nominates a MLIS student for the ALA Student-to-Staff program, where students work at the ALA Annual Conference in return for lodging and conference registration. Rachel McMullen (above right) will be the SLIS Student-to-Staff representative at ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans, June 21-16.

LISSA/SMSA Joint Activities

LISSA partnered with SMSA in August to collect books for Hurricane Harvey disaster relief for the Dallas Public Library's mini-library at a shelter in the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center. SMSA and LISSA also collected textbooks for Bridge to Asia, an organization that sends educational materials to universities in China (<http://www.bridge.org/>).

Alex, Elaine, Charlotte, Rachel, Jonathan

In September, LISSA and SMSA set up a hospitality table in the lobby of Cook Library and offered research assistance, recruited new members, and promoted upcoming events. Over 100 students stopped by to chat with student volunteers.

LISSA broadcasts its meetings via Adobe Connect and meeting dates are announced via the SLIS listserv. You are invited to join our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/southernmissliissa

Southern Miss Student Archivists (SMSA)

Rachel McMullen, President
Elaine Walker, Vice-President
Jonathan Puckett, Secretary and Webmaster
Dr. Cindy Yu, Faculty Advisor

SMSA Officers Rachel, Jonathan, Elaine

SMSA has had a productive Fall semester. The Spring semester will bring more opportunities for SMSA members to engage with the archival community in a professional capacity. SMSA invites all USM students, alumni, faculty, and staff who have an interest in archives and special collections to become members.

This Fall, the Southern Miss Student Archivists (SMSA) welcomed new officers, including President Rachel McMullen and Vice-President Elaine Walker. Both Rachel and Elaine are Graduate Assistants. Last year's Vice-President, Jonathan Puckett, returns this year in the combined role of Secretary/Webmaster. Currently, Jonathan is a freelance researcher for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and an employee at McCain Library and Archives. To fulfill the organization's mission of promoting archival interests to provide opportunities for members to examine archival issues and engage in professional activities, SMSA has already participated in several events that focused on archives in the community.

For American Archives month in October, SMSA highlighted volunteer opportunities for students on campus and online via Facebook. On Saturday, October 14, SMSA helped the staff of the McCain Library and Archives greet former Dixie Darlings for an annual Homecoming exhibit.

South Mississippi Genealogical and Historical Society

South Mississippi Genealogical and Historical Society

On Tuesday, November 14, SMSA hosted a talk in the Cook Library Art Gallery with two collectors, Dr. Matthew Griffis and SMSA's own, Jonathan Puckett. The speakers discussed how their personal experiences with preservation led to self-discovery. Over 30 people attended the talk to learn about how historic preservation is a relevant issue.

McCain Library & Archives

The following Thursday, October 19, SMSA volunteered at the South Mississippi Genealogical and Historical Society in downtown Hattiesburg helping to reorganize their genealogy library.

Cook Library Art Gallery

Membership in SMSA is free and easy: simply fill out an online membership form
<https://goo.gl/forms/fRNRZhAoBKICXpk22>).

SMSA encourages prospective members to follow our Facebook page for updates on meetings and upcoming events.

(<https://www.facebook.com/Southern-Miss-Student-Archivists-SMSA-203760579638985/>)

**Council on Community Literacy and Reading (CCLR)
Dr. Catharine Bomhold, Director**

Read Across America Day is an annual nationwide event that celebrates Dr. Seuss's birthday and the joys of reading. On March 3, CCLR will present Read Across America Day at Chain Park in Hattiesburg for children ages 0-7 and families that will feature fun reading games and activities for everyone and each child will receive free books. We will also have a bouncy house, literacy information for parents of young children, and of course birthday cake! The event is free, open to the public, and advertised on Facebook, email blasts, and with posters and flyers.

CCLR seeks sponsors for the booths and volunteers to help with the event. Sponsorship levels are:

- Honor Book Level is \$150 and the sponsoring organization provides its own volunteers.
- Award Book Level is \$200 and the Council will arrange for volunteers to run the booth.

Sponsorship includes a booth with sponsor's name; supplies and instructions for the activities; up to 100 children's books given to participants; a tent, tables, chairs, and Read Across America Day decorations. The Council will plan and provide instructions for the reading activities.

Check donations should be made out to the USM School of Library and Information Science. Deadline for sponsorship is Feb. 1, 2018. If you would like to be a sponsor or volunteer, email alex.brower@usm.edu or c.bomhold@usm.edu with your name and phone number or call 601.266.4228.

All donations are welcome: \$20 will buy 10 books for a child. Please make checks out to USM School of Library and Information Science and mail to 118 College Drive Box #5146 Hattiesburg, MS 39406.

British Studies LIS Class

**British Studies Class of 2017
University of Westminster Marylebone Hall**

Twelve LIS graduate students, or post-graduates as they are known in the U.K., earned six credit hours of study-abroad credit in USM British Studies. The 2017 class was a diverse group of scholars from six universities: San Jose State University, Simmons College, University of Alabama, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, University of South Carolina, and The University of Southern Mississippi.

Students accompanied faculty to sites such as Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon, and Bletchley Park - and had time to explore sites of interest on their own. Students and faculty were headquartered at University of Westminster Marylebone Hall in the heart of London. In addition to participating in lectures and tours, students are required to submit book reviews, a reflective journal/blog, and a research paper on an approved topic. For more information, click on the British Studies link at www.usm.edu/slis.