2018

Director's Report

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

Welcome, scholars, to a special issue of *SLIS Connecting* on British Studies! Read the report on British Libraries, Archives, and Special Collections class offered each summer in London and the selection of students' British Studies research papers in this issue.

This spring and summer have been eventful. The Kaigler 2018 Children's Book Festival, April 11-13, had a record year:

- About 1500 school children participated in a literacy event in Green Coliseum that featured USM Medallion winner Dave Pilkey. Each child received a *Dog Man* book, Captain Underpants red cape, and \$15 gift certificate to purchase another book.
- Record crowd of more than 550 teachers, librarians, students, and scholars attended the Book Festival
- Inaugural film for the new Joe Paul Theater was *Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie* (2017), introduced by Dr. Joe Paul and Dave Pilkey.

Dr. Creel, Dave Pilkey, and Me
Kaigler Children's Book Festival 2018

Upcoming Event:

SLIS faculty will be at the Mississippi Library Association Conference, MSU Riley Center, Meridian, October 16-19. SLIS alums, students, and supporters are encouraged to register for the **SLIS Alumni Breakfast** on Wednesday morning and to attend the focus group session on Thursday morning.

LIS Conferences

SLIS was well-represented at the 10th Annual Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries Conference (QQML), May 22-25, in Chania, Crete. Five SLIS students and alums joined me in presenting at this diverse international conference.

A Few QQML18 Conference Attendees

Me, Kathy Rosa, Director, ALA Office of Research & Evaluation, and MLIS student Elizabeth Halberstadt,
QQML International Conference 2018, Chania, Crete

Here's to a great, productive 2018-19 school year! See the next few pages for a gallery of highlights from the Children's Book Festival and ALA.

Note: Cover photo of the River Thames from the South Bank by Dr. Matthew Griffiths.

**Faye B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival
University of Southern Mississippi, April 11-13, 2018**

**Rowell, USM Medallion Recipient Dave Pilkey, Dawn Smith, and Sarah Mangrum
Kaigler Book Festival Literacy Event**

More Scenes from the 2018 Kaigler Children's Book Festival

American Library Association, New Orleans
June 19 – 26, 2018

Scenes at ALA Exhibit Hall

ALA ANNUAL
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

New Orleans
JUNE 21-26, 2018

SLIS Student & Alumni Reception, Sheraton Hotel
ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans, June 23, 2018

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