2015

Student Associations and Upcoming Events

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Student Associations News

LIS Student Association (LISSA)
Officers for 2014-15
President – Elizabeth La Beaud
Vice President – Colleen Smith
Secretary – Emilie Aplin
Webmaster – J.J. Crawley
Newsletter editor – Candice Cloud
Faculty advisors – Dr. Cindy Yu, Dr. Matthew Griffis

LISSA Update
by Dr. Matthew Griffis, LISSA Faculty Co-Advisor

The LISSA executive committee has been very busy this year – in the spring 2015 term especially, LISSA has continued its commitment to service in the community and beyond.

In February, Dr. Catharine Bomhold approached LISSA and asked it to support the Southern Miss Krewe of Readers, an outreach initiative of the College of Education and Psychology Council on Community Literacy and Reading (CCLR). The project encourages children in the greater Hattiesburg community to read by building literary-themed parade floats that distribute books to children. If funded, the project, scheduled for fall 2015, will be considered a joint project between the Krewe of Readers and LISSA.

Several LISSA officers volunteered their time at this year’s Fay B. Kaigler Children’s Book selling LISSA t-shirts and collectibles at the LISSA table. This year’s collectibles were children’s lit-themed fridge magnets. Proceeds from sales help fund LISSA activities, most notably the ALA Student-to-Staff program and the McCain Library and Archives’ “Digi Day” workshops.

This June, LISSA will once again sponsor the McCain Library & Archives’ Digitization workshop, “Digi Day”. The workshop provides volunteer students hands-on training and experience in digitization practices and techniques. Another Digi Day workshop will be offered this summer; watch for announcements in lisnews listserv.

After receiving positive feedback from SLIS and broader LIS communities on the inaugural issue of our newsletter LISSA Links, a spring 2015 issue will be available in April and will feature some course elective highlights, info about British Studies 2015, and more.

LISSA broadcasts its meetings via Blackboard and meeting dates are announced via the SLIS listserv. You are invited to join our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/southernmisslissa.
Southern Miss Student Archivists (SMSA)

Officers for 2014-15
President: – Colleen Smith
Media/Public Relations Coordinator – Mary Dugan

Southern Miss Student Archivists News
By Dr. Teresa Welsh, SMSA Faculty Advisor

Congratulations to SMSA President Colleen Smith, who was named one of the top five student organization presidents at the USM Office of Student Activities Awards Day event, Apr. 28th.

SMSA students have been active this semester, volunteering and working in cooperation with LISSA at the Children’s Book Festival to staff adjoining tables with promotional materials as well as fundraising items. SMSA and LISSA co-sponsored afternoon coffee and cookie breaks on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons for conference participants.

As a fundraiser, SMSA sells book-related pins as well as canvas book bags ($15). Funds are used to promote archival education and funding to attend archival conferences and workshops.

Society of Mississippi Archivists Conference

The Southern Miss Student Archivists sponsored a panel session at the SMA Bi-Annual Conference at Long Beach USM Gulf Coast Library, April 17th.

The panel on Thursday, April 17th, led by SMSA President Colleen Smith, Practical Experience in Archival Education and Training included:

- Colleen Smith, “Analysis of Archival Programs and Practicums in U.S. ALA Accredited Programs”
- Emilie Aplin and Elizabeth La Beaud, “Digi Days”
- Stacie Watts, “Intertwining Practical Research, Public History, and Local Art: The ‘Cat Island by Kayak: A Retrospective’ Exhibit.”

University Libraries Edible Book Festival

University Libraries, LISSA, and the Southern Miss Food Research Group hosted the Edible Book Festival in the Cook Library Learning Commons Gallery Apr. 13

Since its inception in 1999, the International Edible Book Festival is held annually around April 1 - the birthday of Jean-Anthelme Brillat-Savarin (1755 - 1826) who is the French author of "Physiologie du goût." Dozens of libraries and cultural organizations around the world hold festivals to celebrate his work.

LISSA Edible Book entry
Curious George

SMSA Edible Book entry
Classic Children’s Books

Best in Show Edible Book
by LISSA & SMSA member J.J. Crawley
LIS British Studies

Dr. Griffis and Dr. Welsh are preparing for British Studies class of 2015. The class of 21 is composed of LIS grad students from across North America: Clarion University, Indiana University, San Jose State, University of Alberta, University of North Carolina Greensboro, University of Rhode Island, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee, University of Texas Austin, University of Toronto, University of Washington, Wayne State University, as well as six from the University of Southern Mississippi.

The British Studies Program is headquartered in King’s College Dorm, London, near Waterloo Station, a short walk from Westminster, Trafalgar Square, and the Theater District. A few days are spent in Edinburgh at a University of Edinburgh dorm, and students will have a mini-break to explore U.K. and collect information for their research paper.

Students earn 6 hours of graduate credit while learning from British librarians and archivists at sites such as the British Library, Oxford Bodleian Library, St. Paul’s Cathedral Library, and Edinburgh Central Library.

Each summer is a bit different and for the first time last summer we visited Stowe House School Library, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, and Westminster Abbey Library. For more information visit the British Studies link at: [http://www.usm.edu/slis](http://www.usm.edu/slis)

For examples of British Studies students’ research, see the historical research paper by Matthew Leavitt (British Studies 2011, MLIS 2012) in this issue and the research poster on the next page by Laura Kotti (British Studies 2014) presented at a Graduate Student Poster Session at the University of South Carolina.
“My Library Was Dukedom Large Enough”: Shakespeare and the Art of Research

Laura G. Kotti  
MLIS Candidate

Shakespeare’s Grammar School Skills:  
Reading, Writing, & Memorization in English & Latin

Aural Sources
- Poetry & literature from school  
- Bible
- Ballads/epics  
- Book of Common Prayer
- Church services  
- Ovid, Metamorphosis
- Plays (performing & attending)  
- Virgil, The Aeneid

Conclusion
Why Shakespeare’s Sources Matter

The premise for this research was the product of a visit to Stratford-upon-Avon, a quaint and beautiful town. Visiting Shakespeare’s birthplace also entailed a visit to the Stratford public library—a library so minuscule as to raise concern over the future of libraries in the UK. The fact that such a tiny library services patrons in Shakespeare’s hometown illustrates the importance of not only preserving libraries, but also the necessity of learning more about the role they played in the Bard’s life and writing. While this study does seek to answer questions about Shakespeare’s reading and research, it certainly does not have all of the answers. The limitations of the study’s scope correspond with the constraints of time, money, and space. The benefit, however, to having a few questions answered is that there is now a framework in which to conduct further research on this topic, which in turn leads to more opportunities.

From personal collection.

Methods
Research in the UK and US

To focus the study, the author chose to focus on Shakespeare’s history plays for two reasons:

1. The history plays would have required a higher degree of research than the comedies and dramas; therefore, these plays would prove a richer context in which to research Shakespeare’s sources.
2. History itself is malleable in the hands of Shakespeare and used just as much for political purposes as for artistic. Richard III being the most prominent example.

To research this topic, the author consulted a wide variety of sources in the United Kingdom and the United States. The sources were divided into two specific categories—Shakespeare’s life and Shakespeare’s career—as a means to explore both sides of Shakespeare’s persona and to produce a richer understanding of where he would have been introduced to and obtained his sources. These categories also aided in focusing the research.

Introduction
How Did Shakespeare Research History?

The general purpose of this study is to explore issues of print culture, access to information, and the art of research itself in Shakespeare’s day. Specifically, this study seeks to answer:

1. What were the sources of Shakespeare’s history plays?
2. What sources were available to Shakespeare?
3. How did Shakespeare obtain these sources?
4. What constituted a library or information center in Shakespeare’s day?

Overall, this study’s purpose is to explore the development of information technology within the Elizabethan era and to illuminate the similarities between Shakespeare’s time and our own.

Results
What were the sources of Shakespeare’s history plays?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources</th>
<th>Plays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edward Hall, The Union of the Two Noble and Illustre Families of Lancaster and York (1548)</td>
<td>Richard III, Henry VI, Parts 1, 2, and 3, Henry V, Henry VIII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petrucci, Lives of the Noble Greeks and Romans (Trans. Sir Thomas North, 1579)</td>
<td>Julius Caesar, Antony and Cleopatra, Coriolanus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Daniel, The Civil Wars between the two Houses of York and Lancaster (1595)</td>
<td>Henry IV, Parts 1 and 2, Richard II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How did Shakespeare Obtain Sources?

Literature read, memorized, and translated in grammar school

Skimming books in St. Paul’s yard

Borrowed or discounted books from Richard Field, Shakespeare’s printer friend

Book stipends from patrons: Earl of Southampton & Earl of Pembroke

Libraries, public and university

References