



## Changes in Practice Reflected at SLAIS

BY CAROLINE HAYTHORNTHWAIT, DIRECTOR

**THIS YEAR MARKS** the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SLAIS—an occasion we had the joy of celebrating in April with a reception at UBC led off by University President Professor Toope, followed the day after with a Gala dinner and dance at the Sutton Hotel in Vancouver. At the Gala we honoured ten of our most successful SLAIS alumni, and shared this day with a near complete set of SLAIS Directors (*see Pages 2–3 in this newsletter, as well as [www.slais.ubc.ca/about/slais\\_50.htm](http://www.slais.ubc.ca/about/slais_50.htm)*).

In marking this occasion, we had the opportunity to reflect on the remarkable changes we have experienced over this time, and most notably in the last 10 to 15 years. Whether by accident or by design, we have landed in a field that is most affected by the radical changes in the speed and modes of knowledge production and dissemination—blogs and online news, electronic journals and e-books, digitization and ‘born digital’—as well as in the tools and infrastructures of our daily trade—laptops, mobiles, computer networks and wifi. We engage with transformations in who creates, controls and has ownership of information created and stored through these means, and with



transitions in institutional practices as demand for prime real estate and increased use of information technology lead university libraries to move books from traditional shelf access to remote and off-site storage. Hot topics in our new world include copyright, scholarly communication, cultural representation, digital collection and preservation, and design for human information interaction.

Quietly and consistently, response to changes in our information landscape are

incorporated in the education and practice of librarians, archivists, and information professionals. We see this in initiatives such as virtual reference desks, digital libraries, digitization projects, digital forensics, and in the astounding widening of research domains addressed by faculty at SLAIS and elsewhere in the library, archival and information field. At SLAIS, our research includes topics such as human-computer interaction, risk in records management, online learning, system requirements elicitation techniques, user engagement, digital libraries, international standards in archival preservation, and social and policy implications of technology. These we add to the foundations in library and archive information and institutional management, and the fundamentals of information organization and practice.

We are undoubtedly not done with change. It is and will be our constant. And our strength is in continuing to attend to the purpose of our field—the collection, preservation, access and dissemination of information—as we pass through many changes in method, medium and institutional practice. Here’s to the next 50 years! ■

## Inside

SLAIS 50th Anniversary.....	2–3
SLAIS Alumni Honoured.....	2–3, 6
Dinner Guests and Social Media.....	4–5
Spectrum Scholars.....	6
Reflections on SLAIS as an iSchool.....	7
Faculty News.....	7
Award Honours Founding Director.....	8



**SLAIS Marks 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ... pages 2–3**

## SLAIS Students Win Diversity Awards

**TWO CURRENT STUDENTS** and two incoming students have won major diversity awards from professional associations, marking a significant achievement for SLAIS. Current student **Kelly E. Lau** (Dual MAS/MLIS) was chosen for the 2011 Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award from the Society of American Archivists—the first time a SLAIS student has received this honour. And three students from SLAIS are among the American Library Association’s 2011 Spectrum Scholars: **Mayu Ishida**, current MLIS student, as well as incoming MLIS students **Judith Guzman-Montes** and **Ebony Magnus**. (*See article Page 6*) Only 55 Spectrum

awards are presented for all of North America, and this is the first time three SLAIS students have won in a single year. They will join current SLAIS Spectrum Scholars **Harrison W. Inefuku** (Dual MAS/MLIS, Spectrum 2008), **Victoria Chu** (MLIS, Spectrum 2009) and **Jennifer Garrett** (MLIS, Spectrum 2010).

Having four students from SLAIS (or who have chosen SLAIS) selected for these awards in a single year speaks to growing awareness of SLAIS and its programs among top graduate students, the School’s success in recruiting and attracting these scholars, and to the commitment to the value of diversity at both SLAIS and UBC. ■

## Celebrating 50 Years at UBC: SLAIS Keeps

**IN TODAY'S WORLD**, the work of connecting people, information and technology is critically important. Organizations, researchers, students and governments are collectively grappling with issues of digital and information literacy, information access, protection of privacy, sustainability, authenticity and reliability, metadata and design. These are the catchwords of the School of Library, Archival & Information Studies, the iSchool at The University of British Columbia, which celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at UBC in 2011.

In partnership with its active Alumni Association, SLAIS celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary April 29–30 with a series of events attracting nearly 400 alumni, community members, students and guests. The weekend culminated with a 50th Anniversary Gala Dinner & Dance in which 10 alumni were honoured for their achievements with Alumni Service & Leadership Awards (see feature below).

UBC's School of Librarianship opened its doors in 1961 to fewer than 30 students, offering Western Canada's only post-baccalaureate Bachelor of Library Science. In short order, however, the School welcomed 90 new students

every year, and grew steadily to become the School of Library, Archival & Information Studies. Today, with nearly 275 students, SLAIS is the largest graduate program within the Faculty of Arts, offering master's degrees in library and information studies, archival studies, and children's literature as well as a growing Ph.D. program. Its award-winning faculty (three Killam Teaching Prizes, a Jacob Biely Research Prize, and a Killam Research Award) set a high standard of teaching and research excellence.

And in addition to celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011, this year also marks another milestone—SLAIS has joined the iSchools, an international consortium of institutions with a common interest in the relationship between information, people and technology. Membership is by application, and this acceptance recognizes SLAIS's contribution to research and teaching, including substantial sponsored research, engagement with preparing future researchers, and commitment to the interests and progress of the information field. *(See more information on the iSchools, and its implications for SLAIS, Page 7).* ■



### Alumni Honoured at 50th Anniversary

**Ann Curry  
MLS 1980**

Renowned for her inspirational teaching, Ann's influence extends well beyond the classroom. She is a dedicated researcher whose work challenges and informs practice, bringing teaching, research, and professional service into a unified whole. Ann also works tirelessly with the British Columbia Library Association and the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association to defend and promote the principles of intellectual freedom in Canada.



**Elizabeth Denham  
MAS 1982**

A pioneer of the Archives Association of Alberta, Elizabeth was instrumental in the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada's 2010 investigation of Facebook, making the ruling which affected the social networking site's 350 million users. She has worked as an archivist and information officer in several organizations, culminating in her current position as Information and Privacy Commissioner of British Columbia.



**Sarah Ellis  
MLS 1975**

A passionate promoter of Canadian literature, authors, illustrators and publishers, Sarah has devoted her professional and creative writing life to promoting Canadian children's literature and publishing, literacy, and library services for youth, all while earning accolades and awards for her own writing across all genres. An inspired writer, speaker, and storyteller, Sarah is an indefatigable force representing Canada nationally and on the international stage.



# Pace in Shift to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Digital Skills



50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary photos by Don Erhardt, © SLAIS UBC

**(Facing page, top):** SLAIS Directors and Interim Directors past and present reunited at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner. From left (*front row*) Terry Eastwood, Samuel Rothstein, Ken Haycock; (*back row*) Caroline Haythornthwaite, Peter Simmons, Basil Stuart-Stubbs, Edie Rasmussen.

**(Facing page, bottom left):** Alumni Marjory Jardine (*left*) and Patricia Cia were among the 200 celebrants at the SLAIS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala.

**(Facing page, bottom right):** SLAIS faculty member Victoria Lemieux.

**(This page, left):** Samuel Rothstein (*left*), founding Director of the UBC School of Librarianship, welcomes emeritus faculty member Ronald Hagler (*centre*) and alumnus Derek Francis at the SLAIS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gala dinner.

**(This page, above):** UBC President Stephen Toope chats with SLAIS alumni at a reception honouring the School's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## Dean Giustini

*MLS 1989*

In the field of health librarianship, Dean's work is highly acclaimed and respected. An innovator, scholar and Library Journal Mover and Shaker, he is a persistent advocate of integrating social technology into the healthcare world, creating the online knowledge base (wiki), UBC HealthLib for Health Librarians. His groundbreaking articles in British Medical Journal have shaped how healthcare providers view the Internet, and the role health information professionals can provide in healthcare.



## Cate McNeely

*MLS 1980*

Well known within public library circles as an innovator and visionary, Cate's dedication to excellence in customer service resulted the 1998 opening of Richmond Public Library's Ironwood Branch—the 'Library of the Future' with an emphasis on technology, popular collections and multilingual resources. Through consultancy and workshops, she shares the philosophy and service techniques behind the branch's success around North America.



## Laura Millar

*MAS 1984*

Laura encourages the Canadian archival community and information professionals to strive for professional excellence and advancement of the field. Active in several professional associations and committees, her work has made a long-term contribution to the development of the profession and discipline of archives. While employed with the International Records Management Trust, she produced a series of educational modules for archivists in the developing world.



## Ingrid Parent

*BLS 1971*

Ingrid's distinguished career includes 30 years with Library and Archives Canada/National Library of Canada, working on various aspects of bibliographic services and acquisitions, more than 20 years of service at the National Library, and an impressive record of government and NGO board membership both in Canada and internationally, and in both English and French. Currently she is University Librarian at UBC, continuing her tradition of forward-thinking leadership.



*(continued on page 6)*

## On Dinner Guests and Social

### 9 Questions We Asked Our Featured SLAIS Alumni



**Fiorella Foscarini**  
PhD 2009

Assistant Professor since January 2010 with the Faculty of Information, University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada



**Janine Jevne**  
MLIS 2005

Library Director for the past five and a half years, Airdrie Public Library, Airdrie, Alberta Canada

- 1) Tell us about your current position.
- 2) Which four people (living or dead) would you invite for a dinner party?
- 3) Recent book you've read (ebook or paper)?
- 4) What social media tools/technology do you use (if any)?
- 5) What's the best decision you ever made?
- 6) Any advice you now wish you had given yourself at your SLAIS graduation?
- 7) What words do you live by?
- 8) How would you describe your career since your graduation from SLAIS?
- 9) What trends, issues or concerns do you foresee will affect your work in the future?

- 1) I work as an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto. I teach courses in the areas of records management (both basic and advanced), diplomatics, appraisal and selection. I love teaching. What I enjoy most is the relationship with the students, which is very important because it is framework where the 'knowledge transfer' happens. I also like the research component of my position.
- 2) Sir Hilary Jenkinson, Theodore Schellenberg, Giorgio Cencetti, and Sir Arthur Doughty
- 3) *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks
- 4) Facebook, LinkedIn (although I am a rather passive user of both)
- 5) To get a cat
- 6) To turn from time to time so that my family in Italy could identify me. I did not know that the web cam would be behind those sitting on stage
- 7) Perseverance and optimism
- 8) Unexpectedly accelerated. Until a few months before defending my PhD dissertation, I had no idea of the huge change in my life I would be facing a few months later. The change involved quitting my job as senior archivist for the European Central Bank in Frankfurt am Main (Germany)—a position I held for ten years—to embrace an academic career. It also involved moving to another country and being (temporarily—I hope!) separated from my husband—and cat!
- 9) I am concerned about the cuts in funding for culture that many governments are making. Canada does not seem to suffer too heavily from the severe economic downturns that affect most European countries, but for how long? On the other hand, I also think that there is a growing awareness that our digital memories, at the personal and organizational level, may be irremediably lost. Archivists and records managers could really be seen as crucial to the survival of our civilization, more than they have ever been seen in the past. It is therefore important to be able to demonstrate the relevance of our profession. Becoming good communicators is a skill that we should cultivate.

- 1) I am the Director of a public library in a rapidly growing city with a population in 2011 of 43,000. The opportunity to grow and develop a library which had a low profile in the community and was not well supported by Council has been very challenging and rewarding. With growing support from the municipal government and from the community, the Library was able to move from 7.6 FTE in 2006 to 20 FTE in 2011. Finding the 'right' people and being able to compensate them adequately, was again a great challenge, but laid the foundation for the success of the Library. Gate count, circulation, cardholders, program participants and website hits have increased anywhere from 150% to 300% in five years. The only constant is change and it is gratifying to work with colleagues who look for solutions and face change with enthusiasm and humour.
- 2) Peter Gzowski, Shelagh Rogers, my Mom, Rex Murphy
- 3) *Grizzly Manifesto* by Jeff Gailus
- 4) One blog: Strategic Planning Information available for staff comment. Twittered once. No time or desire to use facebook.
- 5) Marrying my husband.
- 6) Take an extra few months off before job hunting.
- 7) It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult undertaking which, more than anything else, will determine its outcome. (William James)
- 8) I have been with the same public library and in the same position since I left SLAIS.
- 9) Locating partners and funding for facility expansion will be the focus of the next few years. Finding creative ways to continue to offer good service within a crowded facility will be the biggest concern. Our facility is approximately one-third the size it needs to be according to standards. Both the public and staff are significantly affected by the lack of space.

# Media: SLAIS Alumni Speak



## Christoph Voss MAS/MLIS 2007

Currently project archivist  
with the Meridian  
Organization



## Audrey Pfitzenmaier MACL 2004

Vice-Principal since 2010,  
Delta School District,  
Delta, British Columbia  
Canada



## Sharon Alexander- Gooding MAS 1995

Campus Records Manager/  
Head Archivist for the past  
15 years with University of  
the West Indies in  
St Michael, Barbados

- 1) I am a project archivist involved with the restoration of a historic 19<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse, the archives of a major Bay Area country club, and the private papers belonging to one of the founding families of Austin, Texas.
- 2) Duke Ellington, Lucius Beebe, Captain James Cook, and Lola Montez
- 3) *Dancing in the Dark: A Cultural History of the Great Depression* by Morris Dickstein
- 4) Only against my will
- 5) Attending SLAIS, of course!
- 6) Actually, do save all those papers written while at SLAIS. They will be of great service when the dreaded "please submit a writing sample" appears.
- 7) Embrace serendipity
- 8) Completely unexpected (having worked for a major film producer, a small television production company, and now independently), yet challenging, rewarding, and ever-evolving.
- 9) I fear the mania, at least in the U.S., for cutting costs at all costs.

- 1) I have been vice-principal for the past year.
- 2) Jesus Christ, Leonardo Da Vinci (I have to find out more about the Code), Neil Young, and J.K. Rowling.
- 3) I just discovered, read and enjoyed the Steig Larson trilogy, *The Girl with...*
- 4) Teachers are warned to stay off of Facebook so I don't have an account. I believe in the saying "Twitter was made for twits." But, I've been known to chat with my kid (who criticize me for punctuating and capitalizing), Skype with friends and text on my smart phone.
- 5) No lie, getting my Master's in Children's Lit! It's given me so many opportunities—write a novel, get published, become an education administrator, follow research in the field of education. So much of who I am today is because I went back and got that degree.
- 6) Sign up for my doctorate right away.
- 7) Carpe Diem. Actually they are, "Get out of the hot tub" which means the same thing—see below.
- 8) Before I decided to get my degree, I remember sitting in the hot tub with friends and said, "I think I'm going to go back and get my master's." I still remember their incredulity and their response, "What would you want to go and do that for?" Gradually, I spoke to other people who encouraged me to pursue higher education and when I look back at my accomplishments, I realize that I now define myself since I "got out of the hot tub." I've published *Cheating Fate*, which also was my thesis. I became a teacher-librarian and believe that I have turned many children onto the joys of books and reading.
- 9) With two other colleagues, Karen Gadowsky and Michael Hicks, we have designed an innovative school model that more reflects the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> Century students and families. The EPIC Schools model (Educationally Progressive and Integrated Community, [epicschools.com](http://epicschools.com)) allows teachers to be mentored in 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching practices that improve student engagement while increasing the teacher's capacity to work in a mixed-ability classroom.

- 1) I'm responsible for the overall systematic management and preservation of the university's records in all formats, and also for the administration and preservation of the records of the dual repository—the W.I. Federal Archives Centre and Cave Hill Campus Archives.
- 2) Barack Obama, Eric Eustace Williams, Denzel Washington and J.J. Kevorkian
- 3) *Scandalous* by Tilly Bagshawe
- 4) Facebook, Linked-in, Skype and of course BB
- 5) Actually 2 great decisions—to move from government employment to university and to marry the man I did
- 6) Only archivists make sense (lol) but we still have to deal with the rest of the world
- 7) Live! Love! Laugh!
- 8) Quite extraordinary: I served as Manager, National Records Centre and Acting National Archivist from 1995 to 1996 with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. Then I accepted an appointment as Campus Records Manager at The UWI, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados in September 1996. I've accepted increasing duties over the last 15 years i.e. from management of active and semi-active records and their repositories to a dual archival repository of Campus and Regional archives and implemented an ERM system. I also volunteered in professional RIM associations such as ARMA International, on various Committees of ICA, Vice-President CARBICA and Honorary Advisor BARIM. I also occasionally work as a local, regional and international RIM Consultant, and have been appointed to the Barbados Government's Archives Statutory Board.
- 9) Trends & Issues in a nutshell:
  - *Economic Climate*—positioning of the university and archives in terms of resources
  - *Technological Changes*—convincing the powers that be to engage the technology whilst keeping a firm grasp on the integrity and authenticity of the records
  - *Legislative Changes*—the impact of continuing new statutes and regulations on archival and records management processes

## Spectrum Scholars Bring Diverse Experiences

### Judith Guzman-Montes, MLIS Program

**About Me:** My name is Judith Natali Guzman-Montes. I am a Mexican citizen but I hold permanent residence in the United States; Vancouver, Washington is my home. In 2008, I graduated from the University of Portland with a BA in English. After graduation, I volunteered for a year with AmeriCorps in an early childhood literacy program. For the last two years, I have been an elementary school paraeducator working with students who are English language learners.



**My Goal:** My goal is to become a children and youth librarian, possibly in a K–12 school. I chose UBC because of its stellar worldwide reputation as well as for the adventure of becoming an international student in beautiful Canada. My Spectrum award gives me the opportunity to connect with fellow scholars and librarians around the world. I feel as if I have already been inducted into the profession and will work hard to be worthy of this award.

**Interesting Fact:** I am a great puppeteer.

### Mayu Ishida, MLIS Program

**About Me:** I started the MLIS program at SLAIS in January 2011. I am originally from Japan and am now a Canadian permanent resident. I am committed to diversity and am honoured and grateful to be a recipient of the ALA Spectrum Scholarship. ALA's generous support not only enables me to pursue library studies but also gives me extra motivation to help diversify the library workforce.



**My Goal:** Having earned a BSc and an MSc in computer science, I am interested in digital initiatives at academic libraries, especially regarding the topic of research data curation. While contemplating a library and information career, I spoke to librarians and archivists for advice. Most of them I interviewed happened to be SLAIS graduates and recommended that I attend SLAIS! The school also offers experiential learning courses and opportunities in which I hope to enrol.

**Interesting Fact:** In my spare time, I volunteer for an immigrant support program called Immigrating Women in Science.

### Ebony Magnus, MLIS Program

**About Me:** I grew up in Penticton, British Columbia, where ours was one of the only Jamaican families in the community. After doing my BA in English at the University of Victoria, I decided to pursue an MA in English at Carleton University in Ottawa to explore in more depth the literature of the Caribbean diaspora. After completing my Master's, I moved back to Penticton and began work at a credit union as an Application Support Analyst—a position which quickly proved to act as an introduction into notions of information management and policy.



**My Goal:** While at SLAIS, I intend to focus my studies on academic librarianship with the hope of becoming a subject librarian in English Literature at a Canadian university. I am honoured to have been selected as a Spectrum scholar, and I am excited for the opportunity to better recognize ways to improve the access to information of diverse user groups.

**Interesting Fact:** I bake and decorate cakes and cupcakes.

## Alumni Honoured at 50th

(continued from page 3)

### Judith Saltman BLS 1970

Judith has contributed enormously to the field of children's literature, authoring two books considered seminal works. The founding chair of the Master of Arts in Children's Literature (MACL) at UBC, Judith is a recognized mentor for the degree, supporting more than 30 graduates as supervisor or on a thesis committee. An award-winning teacher, Judith's passion remains an enormous influence on students, writers and librarians.



### Shelley Sweeney MAS 1985

A dedicated promoter of archives, archival organizations and archival education, Shelley regularly leads classes, workshops and seminars across Canada. A mentor to young archivists, she has also served on thesis committees in several disciplines. A founding member of the Saskatchewan Council of Archives and the Saskatchewan Archivists Society, she has also raised the profile of the University of Manitoba as an important site for study.



### Peter Van Garderen MAS 1997

Peter is best known as founder of Artefactual Systems Inc., which developed ICA-AtOM—free and user-friendly open source archival software compliant with international archival standards. Peter's leadership and vision for digital preservation in Canada, commitment to empowering archival institutions and communities, and a tangible network of partners and development projects, has led to the emergence of Vancouver as a centre of archival systems leadership. ■



## Reflections on SLAIS as an iSchool

BY CAROLINE HAYTHORNTHWAITE, PROFESSOR & DIRECTOR, SLAIS

**THE ISCHOOLS ORGANIZATION** came together in 2005 as a response to the need for discussion and exploration of research and teaching that addressed the intersection of information, people and technology, and educational programs that adequately addressed the area. Neither computer science nor library science, yet driven by both, information science provides a way to address the rapid diffusion of information practices beyond the confines of institutions, and to bring individual, group and community considerations into the design and use of information systems. The iSchools organization provides a way for those involved in this effort to meet and exchange ideas, and to promote recognition and incorporation of this important area into the education and training of all who work with information.

To be sure, much of this kind of investigation and attention was already appearing in research and teaching in schools of library and information studies/science. Many false starts and tales of resistance and computer implementation failures had already led some to look at why systems that automated human processes often went so

wrong or had such unintended consequences. The most notable outcome of this research was the recognition of the way human contexts affect and are affected by such technological change. The area became known as social informatics, defined here by its major advocate, Rob Kling, in 1999:

“A serviceable working conception of ‘social informatics’ is that it identifies a body of research that examines the social aspects of computerization. A more formal definition is ‘the interdisciplinary study of the design, uses and consequences of information technologies that takes into account their interaction with institutional and cultural contexts.’” (<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/january99/kling/01kling.html>)

In 2011, SLAIS became a member of the iSchools organization. Some may be asking what this means for SLAIS. In brief, it means joining the organization that represents the “I” in our name, and becoming part of the conversation around research and education relating to people, information and technology. SLAIS already belongs to and works with the American Library Association,

and the Association of Canadian Archivists and the Society for American Archivists. Joining iSchools highlights our commitment to exploring, teaching and understanding the information substrate that underpins these fields. Yet, it is not all one-way. By joining the iSchools, we also bring principles and practices of library and archival studies to the information field.

Becoming an iSchool means recognition by our peers that SLAIS has achieved a significant standard in developing, educating and promoting the information field. The iSchools’ criteria for membership list “substantial sponsored research activity, engagement in the training of future researchers (usually through an active, research-oriented doctoral program), and a commitment to progress in the information field.” Our membership reinforces our place in this effort. iSchools membership also provides SLAIS with an organizational backing that supports our orientation to people and their technology, and our commitment to the importance of the human when considering information in all its contexts. ■

## Faculty News

### Giovanni Michetti Joins SLAIS

Dr. Giovanni Michetti will join SLAIS as an Assistant Professor, effective January 1, 2012. Giovanni holds a Ph.D. in archival science from the University of Rome, where he is Assistant Professor of Archival Science at the Special School for Archivists and Librarians. As an archivist Giovanni developed the Italian version of the standard Encoded Archival Description (EAD) standard, worked with public institutions to address issues raised by changing documentary objects and process, and has conducted research on archival legislation. His research interests focus on digital preservation and records management, and his teaching areas range from markup languages in archival functions to cryptography and informatics. SLAIS Alumni who attended the 2010 Meet the SLAIS Grads

event may recall Giovanni’s engaging keynote presentation in which he drew links and connections between archives, libraries and children’s literature.

### SLAIS Director Publishes New Book

SLAIS Director Dr. Caroline Haythornthwaite has published a new book, *E-Learning Theory & Practice*. Written with Richard Andrews from the University of London, the book examines the social implications of e-learning, how the Internet and participatory media are changing both teaching and learning, and where e-learning sits within existing learning theories, new literacies, social worlds and community. Published in April 2011 by Sage, the book is available at <http://www.sagepub.com/books/Book234414#tabview=title>.

### Eric Meyers Earns Ph.D.

SLAIS Assistant Professor Eric Meyers, a faculty member since 2009, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in May, earning his Ph.D. from the University of Washington’s Information School. Eric’s dissertation, titled “The Nature and Impact of Group Information Problem-Solving in the Middle School Classroom,” examines how young people make sense of complex information seeking and use scenarios, and the role that small groups play in helping or hindering student learning practices. His research explores the social facets of information use, including the role of interactive and immersive media in the lives of young people. At SLAIS, Eric teaches Instructional Role of the Information Professional, New Media for Children and Young Adults, and Services for Young Adults.

### Vicki Lemieux Wins Outstanding Paper Award

SLAIS faculty member Dr. Victoria Lemieux’ paper, “The Records-risk Nexus: Exploring the Relationship Between Records and Risk” has won an Outstanding Paper Award at the 2011 Literati Network Awards for Excellence, presented by Emerald. The paper was published in *Records Management Journal*, Vol. 20, no. 2. Every year journal editors nominate what they believe has been that title’s Outstanding Paper and up to three Highly Commended Papers from the previous 12 months. In being named Outstanding Paper, Dr. Lemieux’ article is considered the most impressive piece of work the team has seen throughout 2010. Further information regarding the Awards for Excellence visit [www.emeraldinsight.com/literati](http://www.emeraldinsight.com/literati).

# New Award Honours Founding Director's Innovation, Leadership

IN 1961, WAYNE Gretzky had yet to learn to walk, much less lace up skates and pick up a hockey stick. The young province of Newfoundland marked its 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a member of Canadian confederation. Canada had a population of 18 million, and there was only one Canadian television broadcaster, the CBC (CTV launched in October of 1961). It was also the year The University of British Columbia's School of Librarianship first opened its doors to welcome its first 30 students in the one-year, post-baccalaureate Bachelor of Library Science.

Getting to the point of welcoming that first class had been a difficult journey. UBC had first received a request for a "department for the training of librarians" in 1920, and fielded similar demands regularly in the following decades. But it was not until the mid-1950s, when UBC President Norman MacKenzie, University Librarian Neal Harlow and Assistant University Librarian Samuel Rothstein together made it a priority that the obstacles began to fall. Spurring them was a growing demand for professionally educated librarians in Western Canada—at one point, UBC could not fill five positions for librarians in cataloguing and reference. And Sam Rothstein was truly the driving force behind the opening of the School of Librarianship:

"Dr. Sam Rothstein ... had returned to us to become the necessary catalyst to turn plans into action. He was interested in library schools; his knowledge was extensive; his enthusiasm and vigour, boundless," recalled President MacKenzie in *Scrapbook for a Golden Anniversary: The University of British Columbia Library 1915–1965* (p. 60). When it came time to appoint the first Director, the search efforts were fruitless—none of the people suggested by Dr. Rothstein was interested in coming to Vancouver. And so Sam Rothstein, who was expecting the role of faculty member, was named Director. He then



Photo by Don Erhardt

## Founding Director Samuel "Sam" Rothstein accepts accolades at the SLAIS 50th Anniversary Gala.

went about building the faculty, and eventually, choosing the first class of students. Always he kept his vision at the forefront: a first-class faculty that and a top-notch class of students. In *Forty Years of Library Education: The School of Library, Archival & Information Studies, University of British Columbia 1961–2001*, Dr. Rothstein recalled his words to students: "I said that you should realize that while it's my job as a teacher to try to make it as interesting as I can, and I take that responsibility seriously, it's your job as a student to take an interest. You are not entitled to just sit back and say please me ... it's your responsibility as a student, as a person and secondly as an about to be member of the profession, to make the most of your studies and you experience and so on. But you have to take an interest as well as derive one."

At the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner on April 30, 2011, current SLAIS Director Dr. Caroline Haythornthwaite announced a new award in Dr. Samuel Rothstein's honour. The Sam Rothstein Award will honour the SLAIS student who best exemplifies Sam's spirit of innovation, leadership, and forward-thinking approach. His legacy is already impressive; SLAIS is proud to encourage new leaders to continue in his path. ■

## KEEPING IN TOUCH!

AT SLAIS, we want to stay in touch with our alumni, friends and past faculty, as well as the UBC Community and the information professions. *SLAIS Matters* is intended to keep you informed of our activities and research as we continue to prepare and educate professionals and researchers, contribute to the knowledge of our professions, and advocate for fairness and equity in the archival, library and information fields.

This newsletter will be issued twice a year. The summer edition will be published both in print and online. The winter edition will be online only. You'll be able to read it as an online PDF from our website, or subscribe to the e-version that is delivered to your inbox.

If you have news, events or activities you'd like promoted to SLAIS friends and alumni, email submissions to Michelle Mallette, the SLAIS student services coordinator, at [michelle.mallette@ubc.ca](mailto:michelle.mallette@ubc.ca).

If you'd like to receive this newsletter as an electronic PDF instead of the print issue, or if you'd like to be added to our mailing list for a print copy, please send an email indicating your preference to: [slaistk@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:slaistk@interchange.ubc.ca). ■

## SLAIS

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