

School of Library and Information Studies

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Special Topics Courses New in Spring 2017

LIS 5970

Consumer Health Information

Dr. Ellen Rubenstein

Topics include:

- Health Literacy
- Digital divide as it relates to health
- Health in Oklahoma

LIS 5970

Digital Curation

Dr. Nathan Gerth

Topics include:

- Born-digital collections
- Appraisal, processing, storage, and more

Director's Report

It is an exciting time to be in the field of Library and Information Studies and to be at the University of Oklahoma as both the LIS field and the University are changing and growing to meet challenges and embrace new opportunities. For example, OU is moving forward with solidifying its national reputation as a research campus, and the LIS faculty and students are contributing to that vision through external grant funding, cutting-edge research, and dissemination of research results through publications and conference presentations.

Within SLIS we are in the middle of a Strategic Planning process to create a vision and action plan for the next five years as we work to keep the SLIS focus current with the LIS field. We have brought our admissions process in line with national standards and are on target to having the largest entering Spring class in several years. New courses and new graduate certificates are also in the works to enhance students' choices and outcomes.

I am so pleased to get the opportunity to help guide SLIS as we move into the future. If you have thoughts you would like to contribute about future directions for the school feel free to share them with me: sburke@ou.edu

Exciting Changes in OU SLIS!

New Revised Admissions Requirements!

After a review of admissions requirements of all ALA Accredited LIS master's programs, OU SLIS has revised our requirements. The G.R.E. will no longer be required and the G.P.A. requirement is now 3.0. Please visit the SLIS website (slis.ou.edu) for more information and to apply!

Now Easier to Schedule Online Program!

In response to student needs for a more accessible online program, the OU SLIS master's core courses will now be available online each fall and spring term. Elective courses will continue to be offered in a mixture of online, on-campus, and hybrid formats.

New Interim Director

Dr. Susan K. Burke became the School's Interim Director in July 2016 when Dr. Cecelia Brown stepped down from the position to return to the faculty and to her research interests.

Updated Website

Check out the new site: slis.ou.edu



Faculty News

New Faculty

SLIS is pleased to welcome **Dr. Nathan Gerth** who joined the School as a part time renewable term faculty member to teach in the Archival Studies concentration. He is also Assistant Curator and Archivist at University of Oklahoma's Carl Albert Center. He holds a doctorate in history from the University of Notre Dame.



Awards and Honors

Dr. June Abbas received the **2016 Frederick G. Kilgour Award** for Research in Library and Information Technology. Sponsored by the Online Computer Library Center, Inc. (OCLC) and the Library & Information Technology Association (LITA), the award "is given for research relevant to the development of information technologies, especially work which shows promise of having a positive and substantive impact on any aspect(s) of the publication, storage, retrieval and dissemination of information, or the processes by which information and data is manipulated and managed."

Dr. Cecelia Brown and master's student **Robin Miller** submitted a successful proposal and the Oklahoma County Juvenile Justice Center Library received the **2016 Coretta Scott King Book Awards Donation Grant** which is intended "to help build collections and bring books into the lives of children in latchkey, preschool programs, faith-based reading projects, homeless shelters, charter schools and underfunded libraries."

Bachelor of Information Studies student **Rebekah Russell** was chosen to be a **McNair Scholar**. This is a federal program "by the U.S. Department of Education... designed to prepare undergraduate students for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities."



Grants and Publications



External Research Grant Successes

Norman Public Schools (Lead Institution) and SLIS Alumna **Kathryn Lewis** (Project Director, with **Dr. Shirley Simmons** and **Dr. Lee Nelson**), **Dr. Kyungwon Koh** of OU SLIS, and **Dr. Xun Ge** of OU Educational Psychology
"Guided Inquiry Making and Learning in School Libraries." \$540,388.
 Awarded 2016 by: IMLS, National Leadership Grant

Dr. Kun Lu, Co-PI with scholars in China
"Research on Intelligence Consulting Services based on the Semantic Analysis of Text and Web" \$606,000 in Chinese Currency.
 Awarded 2016 by: National Natural Science Foundation of China

Dr. Kelvin White, Co-PI with scholars at UCLA
"Archival Education and Research Initiative." \$163,050.
 Awarded 2016 by: IMLS, Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program



Recent Publications

Burke, Susan K. 2016. "Public Library Administration: Transparency on the Website." *The Library Quarterly* 35(3): 449-467.

Koh, Kyungwon and **June Abbas.** 2016. "Competencies needed to provide teen library services of the future: Survey of professionals in Learning Labs and Makerspaces." *Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults* 7(2). Available at <http://tinyurl.com/competencies16> (The winner of the 2016 YALSA Midwinter Paper Presentation!)

Malone, Tara and **Susan K. Burke.** 2016. "Academic Librarians' Knowledge of Bibliometrics and Altmetrics." *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice* 11(3): 34-49.

Mao, J., Kun Lu, G. Li, and M. Yi. 2016. "Profiling Users with Tag Networks in Diffusion-based Personalized Recommendation." *Journal of Information Science* 42(5): 711-722.

Rubenstein, Ellen L. 2016. "Health Information and Health Literacy: Public Library Practices, Challenges, and Opportunities." *Public Library Quarterly* 35 (1): 49-71.

Rubenstein, Ellen L. 2016. "Knowing How to Help: Providing Health Information in Public Libraries." *Journal of Consumer Health on the Internet* 20 (3): 114-129.



Alumni News

Shari Clifton, Associate Director; Professor, Department of Health Sciences Library and Information Systems, Graduate College; and Head of Reference and Instructional Services at the Robert M. Bird Library, received the **Michael E. DeBakey Library Services Outreach Award** for exemplary contributions to medical education and librarianship in her community. The award was given by the **Friends of the National Library of Medicine** (FNLN) at a dinner in Washington, DC on September 13th. Shari has been the principle investigator or project director on more than \$760,000 in outreach funds received from NLM in the past 20 years. Sheldon Kotzin, Board Member for FNLN remarked “I had the pleasure of chairing the DeBakey award committee and reading many fine applications; Ms. Clifton’s stood out this year among a fine field of nominees”. In her remarks Shari acknowledged that her success is due to the efforts of many at the Bird Library.



Shari Clifton was also recognized by the **Awards and Scholarships Committee of the South Central Region of the Medical Library Association** when they presented the **Librarian of the Year (LOY) Award** to her at the annual meeting in October. The LOY award recognizes a librarian for outstanding contributions in health sciences librarianship. Criteria used to determine the recipients of the award include, but are not limited to, leadership in the profession, scholarship/publications/research, teaching/training/mentoring, professional activities, service to the health profession, and development of special projects. Shari was recognized for her years of service to the profession in all of these areas, but most notably for outreach activities over an extended period of time. During the last few years Shari has been the inspiration for the development and execution of the Consumer Health Information Specialist certification program for Public Libraries in Oklahoma, a program that librarians from SCC and other regions would like to use as a model. Well-deserved, congratulations to Shari!



Tara Malone, assistant professor/reference & instructional services librarian at the OUHSC Robert M. Bird Library and 2015 SLIS alumna, has been selected as a **2017 Emerging Leader by the American Library Association** (ALA). The Emerging Leaders program is a leadership development program which enables newer library workers from across the country to participate in problem-solving work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity. Tara also had a research article published in September 2016, cited in the articles section of this newsletter.

Alumni News, Continued

The **2016 Outstanding Alumni Award by the OU SLIS Alumni Association** was given to both **Shari Clifton** of the OUHSC Robert M. Bird Library and **Dr. Buffy Edwards** recently retired after 29 years at Norman Public Schools. Both of these outstanding alumni regularly teach courses for OU SLIS and are very popular with the SLIS students for their outstanding teaching and for the valuable, professional knowledge and skills that they impart in their classes.



Donna McDonald, Director of the Arkansas River Valley Regional Library System, was recognized with the **Distinguished Service Award at the Arkansas Library Association's** Annual Conference held November 13-15, in Little Rock. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes distinguished service in librarianship through continuing service to the Arkansas Library Association, outstanding achievement in some area of librarianship, active participation in library affairs and notable professional writing and leadership. Pictured here is Donna with Leisha Callan.

Kimberly Johnson was selected to be new **CEO of Tulsa City-County Library** starting in 2017. She began working for TCCL in 1998 as the first coordinator of the library's African American Resource Center, and "is the first African American to become the library's top administrator." Read more here: <http://www.tulsalibrary.org/sites/default/files/blogfiles/jfanche/Tulsa%20World%20New%20CEO%202016.PDF>



Have Alumni news for the Spring 2017 issue?
Please send news items to sburke@ou.edu

Ways to Contribute

Join the OU SLIS Alumni Association

Membership dues are \$25 annually or \$10 for retirees and first-year graduates

Your dues help support:

OU Annual Conference Alumni Association Reunion

Dr. Frances Laverne Carroll Student Paper Award

Outstanding Alumni Award

Irma Rayne Tomberlin Scholarship

To join the OU SLIS Alumni Association, please follow this link:

<https://giving.oufoundation.org/OnlineGivingWeb/Giving/OnlineGiving/SLISAlumni>

If you prefer to mail your check and contact information to the SLIS office at 401 W. Brooks, Room 120, Norman, OK 73069-6023

Buy an OU SLIS Alumni TShirt

These great TShirts are only \$10. Contact Sarah Connelly in the SLIS office for more information sarahee@ou.edu



Contribute to the future of the profession by donating to one of the SLIS Scholarship Funds

Lotsee Patterson American Indian Scholarship

OU SLIS American Library Association Spectrum Scholarship Matching Award

Mary Angus Sherman Scholarship

Roberta Roads Allen Scholarship

Frances Laverne Carroll SLIS Career Scholarship

FLOY Elliott Cobb Scholarship

Jesse Lee Rader Scholarship

Clarice Marie Springer Hollingsworth Scholarship

Nannie B. Trammel Scholarship

Mildred Laughlin Scholarship

Irma Rayne Tomberlin Scholarship

SLIS 75th Anniversary Scholarship

OSLA Scholarship

or you can contribute to the OU SLIS General Fund

To donate, please follow this link:

<https://giving.oufoundation.org/OnlineGivingWeb/Giving/OnlineGiving/SLISAlumni>

If you prefer to donate by mail, please send your check, your contact information, and the name of the scholarship to the SLIS office @ 401 W. Brooks, Room 120, Norman, OK 73069-6023