

# Information Link

A Community Newsletter of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science

Volume 8, Issue 3

March, 2004

## News *Flash* from the Dean's Suite

### Reaccredited with Flying Colors!

The Committee on Accreditation (COA) of the American Library Association recently approved continued accreditation until 2010 for the Simmons GSLIS program leading to the degree of Master of Science. The decision was based on our program presentation, the External Review Panel report, and annual and special reports that we have submitted since our last accreditation.

The External Review Panel described GSLIS as a positive environment with an “energized faculty, staff, and students. New faculty, new and additional support staff, a new building, and new technology have enhanced this enthusiastic climate.”

ALA uses a continuous accreditation process, so we will continue to submit biennial reports to the COA. We look forward to continuing to work with all of our constituencies as we move ahead with new initiatives and with revising the curriculum.

Thanks to all of you who participated in the reaccreditation process. This is truly a shared success.

Michèle V. Cloonan  
Dean, GSLIS

### Gates Scholarships Go to Mount Holyoke Students

We are proud to announce that three of our students at the Mount Holyoke campus have been awarded the Bill and Melinda Gates Scholarship.

**Lisa Lindsay**, a full-time student from Florence, Massachusetts, received a scholarship that will fund approximately four courses. Lindsay volunteers at the Lilly Library in Florence and says, “This job has given me an opportunity to experience the needs that a public library meets in a smaller community.” She formerly worked at the Sugarhouse Boys & Girls Club, where she coordinated the after-school program for elementary-age children. Some of the activities—including visits to the community library and offering computer functions at the clubhouse—started her down the road toward what she envisions as “a wonderful life as a reference librarian at a large public library.”

**Eileen Chapman**, who was awarded a partial scholarship, is employed as an assistant children’s librarian in the West Springfield Public Library and also has worked at the Agawam Public Library. Chapman has worked in children services in public libraries for approximately 20 years. She believes her studies will help “polish my skills, improve my base of knowledge, and achieve my potential.”

**Virginia Reid-Pribula**, who was also awarded a partial scholarship, is committed to her town of Holyoke, Massachusetts, a historical community noted for its mill town history and immigrant population. Reid-Pribula has previous experience in public school libraries, where she worked to stress the importance of literacy and reading. She sees the library as the center for achieving these goals. She is committed to reaching out to youngsters to

encourage an appreciation of reading and learning for a better and stronger community.

Because the Bill and Melinda Gates scholarship also carries a mentoring component, Simmons will work with the three recipients to obtain professionals who will mentor them. It also is hoped that the recipients will eventually serve as mentors to future GSLIS students. The Gates scholarships program has given both GSLIS campuses a wonderful opportunity to train dedicated future librarians for employment in public libraries throughout Massachusetts.

### AskNow

The Simmons College Libraries provide reference services in person, by phone or e-mail, or through live, online chats with a librarian. For more information or to have a live chat, go to <http://www.simmons.edu/libraries/asknow>. The site lists the hours that reference services are available and the general library hours. A GSLIS librarian/assistant is available for live chats Sunday - Thursday from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### What's Inside...

Page 2	Snapshot of Adjunct Faculty Member Shelley Quezada
Page 3	March Events People on the Move
Page 4	Scholarships Message from the Academic Support Center Continuing Education

## Snapshot: Shelley Quezada

“I’m an extrovert and I love people.”

**Q** *What was a pivotal experience in your life, something that changed your life?*  
Living and working as a librarian at the mouth of the Amazon River in Brazil from 1971 to 1976. I really learned to rely on my own resourcefulness.

I worked in an English language institute and taught American literature to Brazilian students. And I raised two of my four children there, without benefit of many of the amenities Americans take for granted. I learned that with lots of children’s books (which I dragged down there with me), blank paper, crayons, blocks, and Fisher-Price toy figures, I was able to give my children a splendid childhood and the gift of being bilingual in Portuguese and English!

*How did you get interested in library and information science?*

I had the great fortune to be working at the UCLA Library as a student page. The library school had just been founded a few years before and was located in the same building as the library. It seemed like a natural progression to move up to the third floor. I’ve had an abiding love for children’s books ever since I was a child. As I got to be an adult, and I kept reading them, I knew I’d enjoy a career that brought children and books together.

*What is a passion of yours?*

I couldn’t live without music. Mostly classical, especially Prokofiev. My mother sang in the San Francisco Opera, and I have been a singer all my life.

Professionally, it’s the work I do at the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the federally funded projects for library services and technology (LST). These are wonderful projects that really have an impact on people’s lives. Like programs for helping libraries meet the needs of their underserved communities, library-based literacy programs, working with prisons, outreach to people who are not native speakers of English, and programs serving people with disabilities.

*How would you describe the connection between who you are as a person and your chosen career?*

I’m an extrovert and I love people. So it’s been easy for me to connect to what I enjoy: books and reading and a curiosity about many different things within the library field. I still work two nights a week on the reference desk of a college library. I enjoy helping students find information. I think the library field is one of continuous discovery!

*What accomplishment are you most proud of?*

In 1985 I began work with Ruth Nickse (Boston University) to explore ways to involve the library as a support for the emerging concept of family literacy. Since then, family literacy has been embraced by Barbara Bush and featured

in *Parade* magazine, but in the mid 1980s, our work was pioneering. We got federal funding to develop a model family literacy program—library based and involving collaboration between various state agencies. Starting with that, Ruth and I introduced family literacy in the larger Massachusetts community.

*What do you do for fun and relaxation?*

I love to garden. And swimming—I try to do 20 laps a day. I’m a book omnivore. Right now, I’m reading *The Alphabet Versus the Goddess: the Conflict between Word and Image* by Leonard Shlain. And I just finished *The Number One Ladies’ Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith.

*What Web site is a personal favorite?*

“Voice of the Shuttle” (<http://vos.ucsb.edu/>). It has so much information about the humanities, literature...all things wonderful and interesting. I could spend hours checking out the links.

*Who would you have been in a former life?*

Jane Austin. I love Bath, England.

*If you weren’t doing what you do now, what would you be doing?*

I’d be on the stage. I come from a show business family. Or I’d be a “serious” author. Wait a minute! Maybe there’s still time between five and six in the morning to start on that!

*What would you definitely NOT like to do?*

Law enforcement!

*What would you like to be doing in 10 years?*

Still working. I don’t plan to retire.

*If you could pick one object from your possessions that represents something very important to you, what would it be?*

I own an amazing black and white photograph of Sergei Rachmaninoff playing the piano. It was taken around 1919 when he came to San Francisco to give a concert. My mother was in the audience at the time. This portrait represents my love of music and my special appreciation of him and other Russian composers. For me, it also embodies my mother’s gift of music. She sang in the San Francisco Opera, had a successful career as an actress, raised five daughters, and went on to become an English professor who taught college until she was 92.

*When all is said and done, what would you like people to say about you?*

That she cared... that she made a difference.

*Shelley Quezada has taught children’s literature (“Literacy: The Issue and the Library’s Response”) at GSLIS since 1987. She works for the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and is a reference librarian (part time) at Middlesex Community College. She lives in Lexington with her husband and one cat.*



## March Events

- March 4 (Thursday) Roundtable Discussion: "Trends in Audio and Digital Preservation" in the Simmons College Library Browsing Room, 1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.
- March 6 (Saturday)–  
March 14 (Sunday) SPRING BREAK
- March 16 (Tuesday) LISSA Meeting in the Matarazzo Student Lounge, 12:30 p.m.–1:00 p.m.
- March 17 (Wednesday) LISSA Meeting in the Matarazzo Student Lounge, 5:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m.
- March 18 (Thursday) Coffee with Dean Cloonan in the Matarazzo Student Lounge, 5:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.. Please join Dean Cloonan for an informal coffee hour. Ask questions, share your thoughts about the program, or just stop by to say hello and enjoy the refreshments. Feel free to bring your dinner. Coffee and snacks will be provided.
- March 22 (Monday) ASIS&T Meeting in the Matarazzo Student Lounge, 5:15 p.m.–5:55 p.m.
- March 23 (Tuesday) Dr. Gerry Benoit presents on "Cross-Language Information Retrieval" from 1:00–2:00 p.m. in P207. This new GSLIS professor will speak about theoretical, philosophical, and technical challenges and advances in information retrieval across different languages.
- March 24 (Wednesday) Coffee with Dean Cloonan in the Matarazzo Student Lounge, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. (see March 18.)
- March 26 (Friday) Sites and Insights: GSLIS Alumni and Professional Development Day. Visit <http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/about/news/alumni.shtml> for more details.
- March 30 (Tuesday) LISSA Meeting in the Matarazzo Student Lounge, 12:30 p.m.–1:00 p.m.
- March 31 (Wednesday) LISSA Meeting in the Matarazzo Student Lounge, 5:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m.
- March 31 (Wednesday)–  
April 1 (Thursday) 20th Annual Silent Auction sponsored by Staff Council and Benefiting the LMA/Mission Hill and Fenway Food Project. Faculty/Staff Dining Room.

## People On the Move

**Clayton Cheever** was selected by the American Library Association/ Student Chapter as the 2004 ALA student staffer to attend the ALA annual conference in Orlando, FL, in June. The opportunity provides registration, housing, and a per diem for the duration of the conference. LISSA monies will cover transportation cost. Cheever will be able to work in a division, a round table, and another activity of his choice, as well as to network with students from other LIS programs and library professionals.

**Katherine Coolidge**, a current student in the GSLIS West program, has published an article in the Fall 2003 issue of *PLL Perspectives*, the quarterly of the private law libraries. The article is entitled "Eugenie Prime, Keynote Speaker at Plenary Session, Advises Law Librarians to Take Charge of Their Own Destiny." The article can be found online at <http://www.aallnet.org/sis/pllis/newslett/fallo3.html>.

**Jenni Matz**, a GSLIS student, has produced, edited, and directed a video documentary about influential book designer, bibliophile, and teacher Abe Lerner. Lerner got his start in book manufacturing at Simon & Schuster in 1928, and went on to work for World Publishing, Viking, MacMillan, and other firms until his death in 2002 at age 94. Matz's video comprises interviews with colleagues and friends of Lerner, including Martin Hutner (APHA), Ron Gordon (Oliphant Press), Jonathan Hill and Fred Schrieber (booksellers), Lili Wronker (calligrapher), and Joseph Solman (artist and founder of "The Ten," with Mark Rothko and William DeKooning in New York City in the early 1940s). We also hear from Lerner himself, telling how he got caught up in bibliomania and expressing his opinions of the book industry. Lerner was known for the enthusiasm he brought to the trade and his versatile accomplishments in book designs, among which are *Make Way for Ducklings*, *Andre and the Lion* (Viking Press),

*Vesalius* (World Publishing Company), *Joseph Solman* (De Capo Press), and the bulk of the *Typophile Chapbooks* from 1973 to 1996. This video was commissioned by the New York Typophiles as the first of their long series of video monographs.

**Jennifer Snider**, current Simmons GSLIS student, has been accepted into the Inform the World Library Skills Exchange Program of The World Library Partnership. This summer Snider will spend one month volunteering in South Africa, where she will provide information literacy training to local librarians. For more information or to help sponsor Snider with a tax-deductible donation, visit the Web site of The World Library Partnership at <http://www.worldlibraries.org/itw/>.

## Update on Summer Courses

Many thanks to the dozens of you who completed the Summer Course Selection Survey last month! Special thanks to LISSA for hosting the survey on LISSA WebCT for one week. The comments we received were particularly helpful—we appreciate the extra time taken to provide context to the survey choices.

Be assured we will take your input into consideration as we work on schedules in general, not merely for this summer. We will make every effort to continue this practice for future semesters, and we will include Mount Holyoke students. Many valid issues were raised, and we encourage you to continue to voice your concerns. This issue of *Information Link* went to press just as we were consolidating the survey results, so we will provide feedback to your comments in future issues of the newsletter as well as via [gslis\\_info@simmons.edu](mailto:gslis_info@simmons.edu). Meanwhile, we aim to have the final 2004 summer schedule in place by mid-March.

Stay tuned! And thanks again for your input!  
Denise Davis

## Scholarship Opportunities

The New England Library Association has announced its annual scholarships, with awards of \$2,000 for full-time students and \$1,000 for part-time students. Scholarships are open to New England residents attending an ALA-accredited library school or program in New England and New York. Students should be able to demonstrate need for financial assistance and should plan to continue their careers in New England. Two students (one part-time, one full-time) can be recommended from each library school. Students can obtain scholarship information from the NELA web site; from the Assistant Dean for Student Administrative Services, Em Claire Knowles, P-111; or by emailing [gsasst@simmons.edu](mailto:gsasst@simmons.edu). The deadline to submit applications to Assistant Dean Knowles is March 15, 2004.

We are proud that many past scholarship recipients have been Simmons students. In fact, Joshua Schneider is the recipient of the part-time student scholarship for 2004.

NETSL is looking for a couple of library students, to serve as one-day interns for our spring conference. We ask only that they attend one of the midday breakout sessions, and provide a short report for the NETSL Web site. In turn, they get free registration, including lunch, and publication credit. The conference is on Friday, April 30. The registration form and more information are available at <http://www.bowdoin.edu/~kfattig/netsl2004flyer.pdf>. I have one intern already, and only need two more (the "discussion group" session will be written up by the discussion group leaders).

## Continuing Education Time to Get Organized!

Pamela Kristan, author of *The Spirit of Getting Organized: 12 Skills to Find Meaning and Power in Your Stuff*, is offering a course on March 27 entitled "A Matter of Time: Time Management for Information Professionals." Here's what she says about the course:

"We make constant choices about how to use our time and energy, whether we know it or not. Learn how to make them consciously, confidently, and effectively. You will identify your time management strengths, as well as your challenges; come to terms with the consequences of your choices; and explore a wide range of tips, tools, and techniques. Topics include:

- managing multiple, complex projects
- creating reliable, tailored reminder systems
- setting up space that supports, rather than hinders
- communicating priorities to others
- cultivating the objectivity you need to make strategic choices

You'll leave with a solid foundation in time management principles, immediately useful techniques, and actual hands-on practice in managing time."

The course will be held on Saturday, March 27, from 1:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m. in Room P-208. Visit [http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/forms/CE\\_RegPages.pdf](http://www.simmons.edu/gslis/forms/CE_RegPages.pdf) and fill out a Continuing Education Registration Form to attend this

## From The Academic Support Center

### Tips for Students with Disabilities

We would like to offer some tips and techniques for those of you with disabilities, to ensure your academic and personal success at Simmons.

If you have a disability, it's important to introduce yourself to faculty and state your particular disability and what you need from the faculty. Studies indicate that students who advocate for themselves and use faculty as resources get good grades. The ideal is to share your information as soon as possible to give everyone sufficient time to put systems in place, if necessary.

Faculty have been encouraged to indicate on their syllabi, or to make an announcement in class, that if any of their students have a disability, they should meet with Learning Disabilities Specialist Margaret Suby to seek accommodations for the class. If you, a faculty member, or administrator have any questions regarding appropriateness, language, or the law, Margaret Suby will be happy to talk with you. Please drop by her office (P-304) on Tuesdays from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., call her at x2473, or e-mail her at [suby@simmons.edu](mailto:suby@simmons.edu).

### Writing Tutors

The Burns Writing and Peer Tutoring Center offers one-on-one writing tutoring to all Simmons students. Graduate and undergraduate peer tutors can address your writing concerns, whether you are a first-year student or are completing a graduate thesis. All tutors are trained to work with native as well as non-native speakers of English and offer support for the full writing process: reading, planning, drafting, revising, and self-editing. We offer tutoring almost 50 hours a week. Tutoring is available Monday–Thursday from 10:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m., Friday from 9:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m., and Sunday from 3:00–7:00 p.m. A tutor from GSLIS, Martha Penzer, currently has open hours for meetings. Call x2474 for an appointment, or stop by the Academic Support Center in P-304.

### Information Link

*Information Link* is the monthly newsletter of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College. Its purpose is to provide school- and career-related information and to foster community among the many diverse people who make up the school.

#### The Link Staff

Em Claire Knowles, Editor-in-Chief  
Victoria Thatcher, Editor  
Alisa M. Libby, Production Editor  
Elyse Pipitone, Proofreader

The *Link* welcomes your suggestions, comments, and especially your contributions. Please send comments and suggestions to [emclaire.knowles@simmons.edu](mailto:emclaire.knowles@simmons.edu). Send submissions to [alisa.libby@simmons.edu](mailto:alisa.libby@simmons.edu).

Note that views expressed by nonofficial contributors to the newsletter are not necessarily the views of the newsletter, GSLIS, or Simmons College. The editors reserve the right to edit any material submitted for publication.

Copy deadline for the April issue is Monday, March 15, 2004.