



Sep-Oct 2017

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 8 Issue 3

Congratulations . . .

Jennifer Putnam

First place in the GLA-ALD Academic Research Paper competition!

Jessica Robertson

John Wallace

Merit Scholarship

Amanda Roper

C.S. Hubbard scholarship
Georgia Library Association

Heather Smith

Charles Beard Scholarship
Georgia Library Association

Megan Ashley Hoak

Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarship
Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC)

SOLIS Calls for News Items

Please share with us your news about a recently awarded scholarship, a conference presentation, or a paid internship opportunity, or other exciting news of your scholarly and professional achievements.

Please send your news items to solis@valdosta.edu as they happen. Thank you!

SOLIS Candidates

Our SOLIS leaders for the 2016-2017 academic year did a wonderful job! Appreciation goes out to our departing officers: Stacey Wright (President – she will remain on the Advisory Board), Kailyn Middleton (Vice President), and John Wallace (Communications Officer).

Jennifer Putnam (Secretary) has agreed to run for President and Jessica Perlove (former Advisory Board member) is on the ballot for Vice President. Rosanne Guy and Amanda Roper are running for Secretary and Communications Officer. We have seven MLIS students who have agreed to run for SOLIS advisory board. Biographies and personal statements for all candidates appear on pages 2-3 of this SOLIS issue.

Many thanks to the graduating Advisory Board members: Yolanda Bergstrom-Lynch (graduated in May 2017), and Meghan Crews.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS & ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

The SOLIS Election will be held September 26-October 5. Use the ballot located at this link to cast your vote! Please vote in the upcoming election. https://valdosta.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ai3igxKDsoXY9JX

Travel Fund and MLIS Merit Scholarship Available

- VSU FY18 Graduate Student Conference Travel Fund

These \$500 grants are available for GRADUATE students enrolled in degree-seeking programs and in good standing at Valdosta State University. Applications must be received at least three weeks before travel dates: <https://www.valdosta.edu/academics/graduate-school/student-resources.php>

- VSU MLIS Merit Scholarship (Deadline for Spring Semester: 12/01)

<http://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/master-of-library-and-information-science/student-resources/application-guidelines.php>

Meet the Nominees for SOLIS Officers, 2017-2018

President Nominee Jennifer Putnam



Reference assistant at the Reese Library, Augusta University. SOLIS secretary and treasurer last term.

Personal Statement: I hope that by being involved in SOLIS, I will be able to increase efforts in building a closer community of current students and alumni from around the country.

Vice President Nominee Jessica Perlove

I have worked at the main service desk at Woodruff Library on Emory's campus since 2006 .



Personal Statement: If elected as Vice President of SOLIS, I look forward to sharing my experience, learning from others, and building the collaborative expertise of our groups. Thank you for considering me for the position of Vice President.

Communications Officer Nominee Amanda Roper

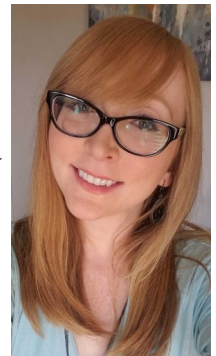


Resource Sharing and Library Communications Specialist at Brenau University. She is a member of GLA's Marketing and Branding committee and is vice-chair of the Paraprofessional Division.

Personal Statement: As communications officer of SOLIS, I would like to focus on extending the reach of Valdosta State University MLIS students to the professional library world. To do this, I would like to improve internal communications through digital communications, but also focus on connecting with state and national library organizations through social media and other digital communication channels.

Secretary Nominee

Rosanne Guy is in her seventh semester of VSU's MLIS program and currently works at Chattahoochee Technical College and Cobb County Public Library System in Cobb County, Georgia. She works as a reference assistant and a copy cataloger.



Personal Statement: If elected, I plan to assist in coordinating more meet-up opportunities for MLIS students residing in or near the Atlanta metro area. Ultimately, I support building more substantial relationships with students and alumni.

Candidates for the SOLIS Advisory Board, 2017-2018

Stacey Wright



Archives assistant in the Odum Library Archives, Valdosta State University. She will complete her final semester in the MLIS program this fall.

Personal Statement: Last year I served as President of SOLIS. The year before Vice President. I would love to remain involved in SOLIS as an Advisory Board Member during my last semester!

Mary "Rose" Garrett (former advisory board member)



Mary is a librarian at a K-8 school in Atlanta.

"Though currently a school librarian, I am interested in many facets of library science including archiving, cataloging, and academic librarianship." My motto is: "Read well, eat well, and travel often."

Personal Statement: I really enjoyed working with SOLIS this year. I would definitely be interested in serving in 2017-2018 as well.

Advisory Board Nominee Profiles (cont'd)

Elizabeth Steinhour

Liz is entering her second year in the MLIS program at VSU and has placed her focus on the technology track. In 2014, she completed her Bachelor's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Nebraska-Omaha. She lives in Lincoln, Nebraska and works as a reference specialist at the Southeast Community College library

Personal Statement: If elected to the SOLIS advisory board, I will commit to working towards open dialogue through various lines of communication amongst the MLIS students at VSU. I will strive to represent my fellow students with common sense, creative problem-solving and analytical aptitude.



Terri Hatfield



Terri Hatfield has been a student in the VSU MLIS program since Fall 2015. Currently she is the Program Coordinator for the Institute for Women's Studies at the University of Georgia.

Personal Statement: If elected to the SOLIS advisory board I pledge to represent the interests of all of our very busy students, while also trying to foster more connections between students.

Sarah Shelton Yawn



I grew up in a small town in Clinch County, GA and now live in Moultrie, Ga. Currently, I work at the Moultrie-Colquitt County Library System Main Library as a Circulation Clerk.

Personal Statement: As an Advisory Board member, I feel like I could help MLIS students by serving as their representative.

Former English instructor and current MLIS student, Patrice is in the second year of the program. She has B.A in English and is currently pursuing the Reference track.

Patrice Williams **Election Statement:** If elected to the SOLIS advisory board, I will help cultivate growth between current students and other professionals in the field. It is important that librarians network with each other, not just for the growth of the profession as a whole, but to change the vision and image people have of modern-day librarians. Conversation is key.



Adam Johnson



Adam Johnson is a second-year student who is interested in becoming a reference librarian in an academic library. He currently works as the Academic Success Center Director at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, Florida.

Election Statement: As a member of the advisory board, he promises to be a voice for all students' concerns.

We're on Facebook

Use our QR for quick access . . .



Anna Dunson's Field Report on Her Information Literacy Fellowship

With a fairly impromptu move to Kansas City encroaching last July to join my fella at his new but temporary duty station of Fort Leavenworth, the pressure to acquire employment in the area was mounting with a quickness, and my entire family was on the case. It was my father who first emailed me the announcement for an Information Literacy Fellowship with Miller Nichols Library at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. However, it was the language and the energy it expressed that won my attention. The typical drab duty description was instead a personality-centric call for those game for fast-paced but supported learning as members of an innovative and hyper-collaborative instructional team. After making it through to the interview, I was able to marry the collective voice of the job posting to its owners, Dani Wellemeyer and Jess Williams. Videoconferencing with this [creative pair](#) only further endeared me to the prospect of having found not only an ideal work environment but also my much longed for peer group, which had previously alluded me as the youngest as well as newest employee at my prior job.



(Information Literacy Librarians & Research Essentials Supervisors: Jess Williams and Dani Wellemeyer)

Spoiler alert! I was hired on, and my time here has far exceeded even the loftiest of my expectations! From our first day as Fellows, for which a department-wide lunch was held as welcome, I felt immersed as a true faculty/staff member. The summer weeks that followed only solidified this as we were thoughtfully introduced to all faces of the library via in-depth orientations with department heads and beyond as well as invited to attend and encouraged to lend our voices to forthcoming administrative meetings. Not even in my employment with six-person libraries have I been made to feel as intimately familiar with the working parts of an organization; and, as an academic library newbie, this has been invaluable to my learning experience.

Now, as for my involvement as a team member of the information literacy instructional program, Research Essentials, what isn't there to say? I in no way exaggerate when I say that in my decade of professional employment this has been the most worthwhile by far. Even in its challenges, the Fellowship has never failed to be broadening, empowering, and all-round inspiring (again, to the credit of its creators). The setup of Research Essentials is a bit unique, so I will defer to its program description at www.library.umkc.edu/reachessentials for the extended explanation. But, in short, Research Essentials is a library-led information literacy program that is integrated into the UMKC General Education program via [Discourse](#) (writing and speaking courses). Research Essentials provides optional, scaffolded weeklong instruction via a flipped classroom model, covering such topics as identifying source types; evaluating information needs; and finding, using, and integrating sources.

Since my start in July 2016, I have taught 44 classes in addition to maintaining reference duties, which include reference desk hours, chat references hours, and individual research coaching appointments. While my first semester of teaching was quite nerve-wracking, it was not from lack of training, observation, or confidence building provided beforehand by the team. And, after getting just one semester under my belt, I can honestly say that I joyfully anticipate face-to-face instruction sessions, finding them exhilarating and validating of the program's mission. Even as I reflect, I am misty-eyed over my impending departure, as this program not only succeeds in winning the buy-in of its participants but the utmost loyalty of those who have had the privilege of implementing it. So, I now find myself with the bittersweet task of recruiting my replacement, passing along the opportunity that has been so formative in revitalizing my identity as an up-and-coming librarian. Yet, I revel in the notion that my loss is your prospective gain! I cannot begin to impress upon you the value of this Fellowship, and I encourage anyone who is or will be in the area to check out the Information Literacy Fellowships webpage at www.library.umkc.edu/fellowships as well as pursue any vacancies as they open on the UMKC Libraries Job Opportunities webpage at www.library.umkc.edu/jobopenings.



Research Essentials Team 2016-2017: Anna Dunson, Dani Wellemeyer, Jess Williams, Addison Lucchi



Support the Student Organization of Library and Information Science (SOLIS) by ordering your own T-shirt with the VSU and MLIS insignias!

The 2016-2017 year marks the 15th anniversary of the MLIS program!

Proceeds of sales in years past have funded ALA conference registrations for several students, travel reimbursements for SOLIS officers representing SOLIS at GLA conferences, a reception for the travelling rare books exhibit on loan from the Remnant Trust, and a 15th anniversary celebration in downtown Valdosta.

Shirts are sold at \$10 each at events such as GA COMO conferences and New Student Orientations.

SOLIS T-Shirt Order Form

Yes, I want to support SOLIS! Please send me _____ (number) of shirts.

Please indicate the quantity for each size:

Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large _____ XX-Large _____

Order of one (1) shirt is \$20 (includes processing and shipping via USPS).

Order of 2 or more shirts is \$15 per shirt (processing and shipping included)

Total enclosed: _____

Check payment only.

Make check payable to MLIS Foundation . Allow two to four weeks to receive your t-shirt(s).

Your shipping address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Please mail this form with your check to :

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