



ANNUAL REPORT

2000 July 01 –
2001 June 30

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY, ARCHIVAL AND INFORMATION STUDIES

The University
of British Columbia

A Year of Renewal and New Opportunities

The Director's Report for 2000-2001

Ph.D. Program Approved

Several years of concentrated planning toward strengthening the research orientation of the School have culminated in approval of a new Ph.D. program by the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the University Senate. The program awaits final approval by the Province.

Over the past eight years the faculty have worked to develop a research culture reflective of a graduate School in a major research institution. Changes have included weekly three hour classes rather than two one-and-a-half hour classes to provide greater blocks of research and writing time, determination of research and teaching faculty with differentiated teaching loads, required collaborative research projects, recognition and reward for national grant applications and annual peer review of performance. In each case University norms and standards were reviewed to ensure SLAIS consistency. Each research faculty member holds a research grants or contracts and works with students on research projects.



PHOTO BY ASA QUON

Archival Studies graduates on Convocation day, May 2001. From the left: Lisa Beitel, Erica Hernandez, Bob Edwards, Claire-Yasmina Veisseire, David Stange, Charles Enyondo, and Melissa Lowenberg.

The doctoral program will have two streams, one in Archival Studies and one in Library and Information Studies. While the quality of faculty, students and research productivity were recognized and applauded by the review groups, the School has nevertheless invited a Visiting Scholar, Dr. Adele Fasick, to work with us over four months through faculty seminars and discussion papers to ensure high standards, congruent approaches and consistent practices. We look forward to welcoming our first students in September, 2002.

New Faculty

Lotsee Patterson, professor of Library and Information Studies at the University of Oklahoma was Visiting Scholar at SLAIS for 2000-2001. Dr. Patterson worked with faculty, students and the community to enhance the School's unique First Nations Concentration in Library, Archival and Information Studies. Dr. Patterson is a leading scholar in Native American and First Nations' perspectives and needs in library and

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Entitled ***How Do You Know It's the Real Thing (II)? Preserving Authentic Electronic Records. Preliminary Research Findings***, the symposium featured speakers from Canada, the United States, Italy, and other European countries. The symposium was co-sponsored by the InterPARES Project and the Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Vancouver, supported by the UBC Institute for European Studies and the Italian Chamber of Commerce of B.C.

Ken Haycock Receives White Award

SLAIS Director Dr. Ken Haycock was the recipient of the prestigious Herbert and Virginia White Award for 2001 from the American Library Association. The award recognizes an individual who has "contributed significantly to the public recognition and appreciation of the professional of librarianship." Dr. Haycock was cited as a "true advocate for the profession" by his example of demonstrating what librarianship has to offer other community groups, and how professional librarians can work together to advance the educational, economic, social and cultural lives of their communities. The Award consists of \$1,000 and 24k gold-framed citation of achievement, and was presented at the ALA annual conference in San Francisco in June of this year.

Successful Student Conference

A highly successful conference for students in information studies was organized and hosted by SLAIS students in March of 2001. Entitled ***From Papyrus to Paperless: A Conference for Students in the Information Professions***, the conference was principally the project of two graduating MLIS students, Deborah Hutchison and Bronwen Sprout. During the conference students from SLAIS, and library and information studies

programs at the University of Alberta and the University of Washington presented papers on topics as diverse as international librarianship, information policy, intellectual freedom, and innovative services in public, academic and special libraries.

About 90 students attended the conference, along with some faculty members and practicing professionals. A total of 16 refereed papers were presented over the three-day conference, grouped under the general themes: "The Big Picture: Information Science, Information Technology and the World Beyond;" "Organizing Information, Managing Knowledge: Historical and Contemporary Approaches;" "Challenges and Opportunities in Public Libraries;" and "Breaking New Ground: Case Studies in Information Services." The proceedings, edited by the chief organizers, are available on the conference website at <http://www.slais.ubc.ca/news/slaisconference/proceedings.html>.

The goal of the conference was to provide a forum in which students could share experience, knowledge and opinions, and to encourage students to participate in the development of our professions. Social events included a wine and cheese reception and pub night.

About 20 SLAIS students took an active part in the organizing and running of the conference, as referees, panel moderators, and conference-day assistants. Financial assistance and gifts of facilities and equipment were made by the UBC Graduate Student Centre, the Walter H. Gage Memorial Fund, the Library and Archival Studies Student Association (LASSA) at SLAIS, the InterPARES project, and the Canadian Library Association.

Dr. Fasick Appointed Visiting Scholar

The Visiting Scholar to the School for the academic year 2001-2002 was appointed in the spring of 2001. She is Dr. Adele Fasick, Professor Emerita and Dean Emerita at the University of Toronto Faculty of Information Studies. Dr. Fasick will assist the School in the development of its doctoral program, and will offer seminars to the faculty focusing on the structure, processes, procedures and quality control factors necessary for an exceptional doctoral program. Dr. Fasick is a past president of the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE). In addition to the University of Toronto, she has taught at Rutgers University, the University of California, Berkeley, and is currently teaching a web-based course for San



Bronwen Sprout and Deborah Hutchison, MLIS students who created and convened the student conference "From Papyrus to Paperless."

Photo by Tom Richardson