

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY ARCHIVAL AND INFORMATION STUDIES



SLAIS ANNUAL
REPORT & NEWSLETTER

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More Choices, More Opportunities



The School of Library, Archival and Information Studies has enjoyed a remarkable few years.

MAS

The SLAIS Master of Archival Studies program received international recognition from the Society of American Archivists as an exemplary program making outstanding contributions to the

discipline and the profession. This was the first time the SAA Distinguished Service Award was given to an education program, and the first time the award was given outside the United States. The faculty has also led an international research team with funding from many different countries and agencies to examine the authenticity and reliability of electronic records.

MLIS

The SLAIS Master of Library and Information Studies program received from the American Library Association the full seven years of re-accreditation with many specific commendations. We continue to improve the program through more flexible curriculum delivery, including entry three times a year for both full- and part-time students and new contracts to deliver courses through distance education. Our First Nations concentration is bringing educators from outside the country to examine our program and curriculum and our Visiting Scholar for the coming year will be a professor specializing in this area. Funded research includes investigation of public library effectiveness, barriers to access to electronic information and Internet use. A new required course in collaborative research has resulted in student teams working with faculty on critical projects to advance the profession.



The new SLAIS sign in front of the Main Library with students from Professor Lynne Lighthall's 1999 class on Cataloguing of Special Materials (a.k.a. Cruel and Unusual Materials). From left, front row: Kathy Bossort, Katia Strieck, Christy MacKinnon, Shana Bystrom; back row: Toby Willis-Camp, May Chan, Caroline Hyslop, Lynne Lighthall, Mimi Doyle-Waters.

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Highlights of the Year at SLAIS

Dr. Richard Kopak Joins SLAIS



Dr. Richard Kopak

July 1, 2000, Dr. Richard Kopak joined SLAIS as an Assistant Professor, tenure-track. A recent Ph.D graduate of the University of Toronto, Faculty of Information Studies, his dissertation focused on developing a taxonomy for link types for use in hypertext, research in web browsing that is innovative and leading edge. In the 2000 - 2001 academic year,

Dr. Kopak will teach courses in database management and in system design.

Dr. Kopak was a teaching assistant at the University of Toronto and has been a presenter at many conferences and workshops. He is experienced in the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors as a consultant and a manager. He received his M.L.S degree from the University of Toronto in 1991 and his B.A. degree from the University of Alberta in 1978.

Both labs include a variety of application software, including Microsoft Office 2000, WWW browsers, image viewing and editing software, HTML editing software, etc. The IT labs have been supported by Alumni fundraising.



Dr. Susie Stephenson,
Coordinator of Information Technology

SLAIS IT Lab Expansion

IT Lab I

In the spring of 1999, the School was successful in obtaining a UBC Academic Equipment Grant. The \$35,700 grant was used to replace all the existing workstations in Information Technology Lab I, as well as upgrade the SLAIS LAN, the SLAIS WWW server and the Pentium II workstation in the Lab Office. IT Lab I houses twenty multimedia Pentium II PC workstations, six of which have ZIP drives, as well as printed documentation on many of the applications and remote systems. A high-resolution flatbed scanner with OCR and imaging software is now available in Lab I.

IT Lab II

IT Lab I is regularly booked by faculty and students for in-class lab sessions. IT Lab II was created during spring 2000 for student use. IT Lab II houses ten Pentium I PC workstations, two dot-matrix printers, and a copycard-equipped laser printer with print-queue management software. Lab II typically cannot be booked for classes and thus provides computer access for students when Lab I is being used for in-class lab sessions.

Jason R. Baron SLAIS Visiting Scholar 1999 - 2000

The SLAIS Visiting Scholar this year was Mr. Jason Baron, Trial Attorney with the Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch of the U.S. Department of Justice. January through April 2000, Mr. Baron taught ARST 593E Seminar: Issues in Cyberspace Law. He also worked with Dr. Duranti and the InterPARES project research team. Mr. Baron hosted a colloquium on White House E-Mail Litigation "The PROFS Decade: Success or Failure? Reflections on the Use of Litigation as a Means to Advance Public Policy, including Archival and Records Management Best Practices". Upon his return to Washington in May 2000, Mr. Baron assumed his new position as Director of Litigation for the National Archives and Records Administration, Office of General Counsel.