

FOCUS

WINTER 2015

SCHOOL of INFORMATION STUDIES



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McGill

School of
Information Studies

FOCUS
MCGILL
**SCHOOL OF
INFORMATION
STUDIES**

WINTER 2015

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On the cover:
Student members of the 2014
SIS-EBSI Career Fair Organizing
Committee. Photo: Elysia Donald.

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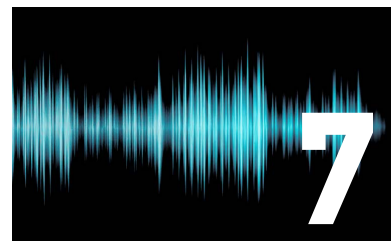
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DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



It is a renewed pleasure for me to write this message as I was reappointed as Director for the fourth time last June and this represents my tenth newsletter. While each year has seen many exciting developments, 2014 was punctuated with several important changes.

As planned, we introduced the new master's program, the Master of Information Studies (MIS), and a cohort of more than 70 students was enrolled in Fall 2014. New courses in the areas of human computer interaction, data mining, and information security are now available. The most important change for the School, however, was our administrative move to the Faculty of Arts as approved by the McGill University Senate last May. In this newsletter, we share more information about this move and potential partnerships in the Faculty of Arts. These positive developments suggest that the field of information studies is increasingly recognized as an important domain both from a scholarly and a curricular point of view. Furthermore, new programs in development at SIS will be advertised soon and may be of interest to our recent alumni.

Unfortunately, drastic budget cuts imposed by the provincial government have made the management of the School somewhat challenging. We now face ongoing budgetary constraints and strict rules for hiring support staff and instructors. Although these are not the first budget cuts to affect the School over the last century, they exacerbate our need for external donations and funding as provincial legislation continually aims to reduce funding in higher education.

Nevertheless, it is encouraging to see that our doctoral program is growing steadily. For two years in a row, we have attracted exceptionally large cohorts of doctoral students. Since the program was implemented in 2009, it has attracted more than 40 talented new students. I am also happy to report that the School continues to boast an exceptionally vibrant and engaged student community, with two new professional student chapters founded this year, adding to our already impressive number of associations, groups, and chapters.

I always enjoy reading news from you, our alumni, who share with us such interesting and inspiring updates about your careers and achievements. It is a great pleasure to hear from you and see how a sense of community can be now strongly maintained through social media. We are now active on a number of social networks including Facebook and LinkedIn. We invite you to join our online networks as another way to keep in touch with the School and with your fellow alumni.

On that note, I hope that your 2015 will be full of positive milestones in your life and that you will let us know about them here at SIS.

With very warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'France Bouthillier'.

France Bouthillier, Director



**FACULTY
OF ARTS:**
A SNAPSHOT

The Faculty of Arts is the largest faculty at McGill, with more than 6000 undergraduate and graduate students and over 280 professors. It comprises 18 departments, 5 institutes, numerous research groups such as Digital Humanities, and now 2 schools, the School of Information Studies and the School of Social Work. In addition, 18 interdisciplinary programs are offered by the Faculty.

>> We invite you to learn more about the Faculty of Arts at www.mcgill.ca/arts

SIS JOINS THE FACULTY OF ARTS

In May 2014, the School of Information Studies (SIS) joined the Faculty of Arts, ushering in a new chapter in the School's history.

Since its creation over a century ago, the School has fallen under various administrative umbrellas at McGill, including the Faculty of Arts and Science (1940-1965) and the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (1965-1996). When the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research was dismantled in 1996, the School joined the Faculty of Education.

The research landscape and the academic programs at SIS have changed tremendously in the last 18 years. The School has continuously integrated new options into its programs as new roles for librarians and information professionals have emerged with the transformation of libraries, the increasing use of information technologies, and the proliferation of digital information. SIS has also become a research-intensive academic unit that addresses information-related problems through diverse research traditions and methodologies. Information studies is increasingly multidisciplinary and shares many attributes, and methodologies with both the social sciences and the humanities.

Strongly supported by SIS faculty members and students, the move to the Faculty of Arts represents more than an administrative change. Our community recognized that SIS could both benefit from the move and contribute to the Faculty of Arts by developing partnerships with other Arts departments and institutes. The Faculty is a truly multifaceted environment where disciplines, institutes, and groups interact to offer promising areas for cross-pollination. The move should provide a new intellectual environment, and spark collaboration in research and academic initiatives that will benefit our faculty, students, and community.

Already, the School is involved in a proposal for a Master's in Digital Humanities in the Faculty of Arts, and is planning to develop a minor in information studies for Arts undergraduate students.

This affiliation is an exciting new chapter in the School's long history. We look forward to keep you up-to-date in future newsletters.

The School's administrative offices will remain in the historic mansion at 3661 Peel Street.

"I am very pleased to welcome the School of Information Studies, its faculty, and its students to the Faculty of Arts. The School adds to the Faculty's already impressive diversity of disciplines."

Dean of Arts, Professor
Christopher Manfredi

RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENT & CELEBRATING DONOR SUPPORT

“The fellowship has not only helped to alleviate some of my financial burden, but it has also allowed me to devote more time to this program instead of finding ways to pay for it. More importantly, it was the reassurance, and the support, that I needed to continue. Thank you for your support and your generosity.”

2014 SIS fellowship
awardee

Every year, the School awards scholarships and bursaries to deserving students. These awards are made possible by donors who provide invaluable ongoing support for the School’s activities.

In April 2014, the School’s 2013/14 scholarship recipients and award-establishing donors were honoured at a special Student Achievement and Donor Recognition event hosted by the Faculty of Education.

The School would like to take this opportunity to extend appreciation to all of our donors, including those who have established SIS awards and scholarships.

These awards attract, support, and recognize bright scholars who carry on the legacy of the School and make a difference to society and to the field of information studies.

>> More photos from the event can be found on our news site at <http://news.sis.mcgill.ca>

Interested in establishing or contributing to an award? Please contact the School’s Director, France Bouthillier. More information about how to support the School can be found on our website at www.mcgill.ca/sis/about/support

iSchools: Advancing the information field

In Fall 2014, SIS became a member of the “iSchools,” an international group of schools, colleges, and departments working together to advance the information field.

Created in 2005, the iSchools organization promotes the information field as an emerging academic discipline rooted in programs focused on information technology, library studies, informatics, and information science, among others, and advocates for interdisciplinary approaches to studying and addressing information problems and information technology issues.

Currently, the organization is composed of 59 members in the US, Canada, Europe, and Asia. While each individual iSchool has its own strengths and specializations, all schools define their research areas as related to three key foci: information, people, and technology.

The iSchools also host the annual iConference, where information researchers and practitioners from around the world meet with the common goal of making a difference through the study of these foci.

>> For more information about the iSchools, visit www.ischools.org.



2014 Student Achievement & Donor Recognition event. *Top (L-R):* Emily Mackle, Micha Owens (Dr. G. R. Lomer Scholarship), Amelie Roy (Janet Agnew Scholarship), Director France Bouthillier, Christa Baxter (Janet Agnew Scholarship), Rachel Di Cresce (Janet Agnew Scholarship), Natalie Colaiacovo, MLIS'14 (Janet Agnew Scholarship). *Bottom (L-R):* David Weigl (Vivi Martin Fellowship), Magdelin Diaz Geronimo (Dr. G. R. Lomer Scholarship), Guillermo Galdamez (H.W. Wilson Foundation Fellowship), Yinshan Gu (Margery Trenholme Fellowship). Photo: Nicolas Morin.

SIS SCHOLARSHIPS & PRIZES

Please join us in congratulating our recent School of Information Studies scholarship and prize recipients. These awards are made possible through the generosity of our alumni and friends. **This year, over \$54,000 was awarded to 19 students.**

SCHOLARSHIPS

Azelie de Lendrecie
Clark Award, Jean
Brown Scholarship
Elissa Sperling

Barbara Graw Smythe
Award
Amelie Coutu

Bernard Anderson
Ower Award
Anna Landry

Centenary Prize, Janet
Agnew Scholarship
Caitlin Keenan

Dr. G. R. Lomer
Scholarship
**Jason Rovito,
Nina Maness,
Shannon Higgins**

Elizabeth G. Hall
Scholarship
Shannon Higgins

Ethelwyn M. Crossley
Scholarship
Meghan Goodchild

Margery Trenholme
Fellowship
Emily Maddocks

Margery Trenholme
Memorial Award
Amelie Roy

Miriam H. Tees
Scholarship
Penelope Bertrand

Patricia Keir Award
Madeline Paré

Vivi Martin Fellowship
**Ching Yi Lau,
Samantha Capps**

PRIZES 2013/14

Teresa Troide Prize for Excellence in Information
Studies, Albert Tabah Award
Highest standing in MLIS program
Ashley (King Na) Lim, MLIS'14

Margaret Downey Prize
Highest standing in MLIS I
Vanessa Girouard

Anne Galler Award
*Eastern Canada Chapter Special Libraries
Association Prize; highest standing in GLIS 638
Business Information*
Dahlal Mohr-Elzeki, MLIS'14

Virginia Murray Prize for Cataloguing
*Highest standing in GLIS 607 Organization of
Information*
Alexandra Obradovich, MLIS'14

Archival Studies Prize – in memory of Dorothy
Carruthers
*Highest standing in GLIS 645 Archival Principles &
Practices by an Archival Studies stream student*
Caitlin Aber

SIS Research Seminar Series:

Sharing research with the community

.....

With topics ranging from data privacy to the role of trust in knowledge sharing, the School hosted distinguished local and international speakers at our SIS Research Seminar Series.

The SIS Research Seminar Series features the latest research in the multidisciplinary field of information studies. The series is free and open to all. Check out our website and come to the next talk!

> The Experience Sampling Method & its Assets for Soundscape Research

Dr. Jochen Steffens, *Postdoctoral Researcher, Multimodal Interaction Laboratory, McGill School of Information Studies*

> Trust, Organizational Culture, & Knowledge Sharing

Dr. Max Evans, *Assistant Professor, McGill School of Information Studies*

> Evaluating Information Security Risks

Anton Stiglic, *Corporate Director of Information Security, Loto-Québec*

> Semantic Visualization in Data Mining

Dr. Hady Lauw, *Assistant Professor of Information Systems, Singapore Management University*

> Applying Data Mining to Real-Life Crime Investigation

Dr. Benjamin Fung, *Associate Professor, McGill School of Information Studies*

> Digital Devices in Archive Reading Rooms: Assessing Regulations in the TARO Archives

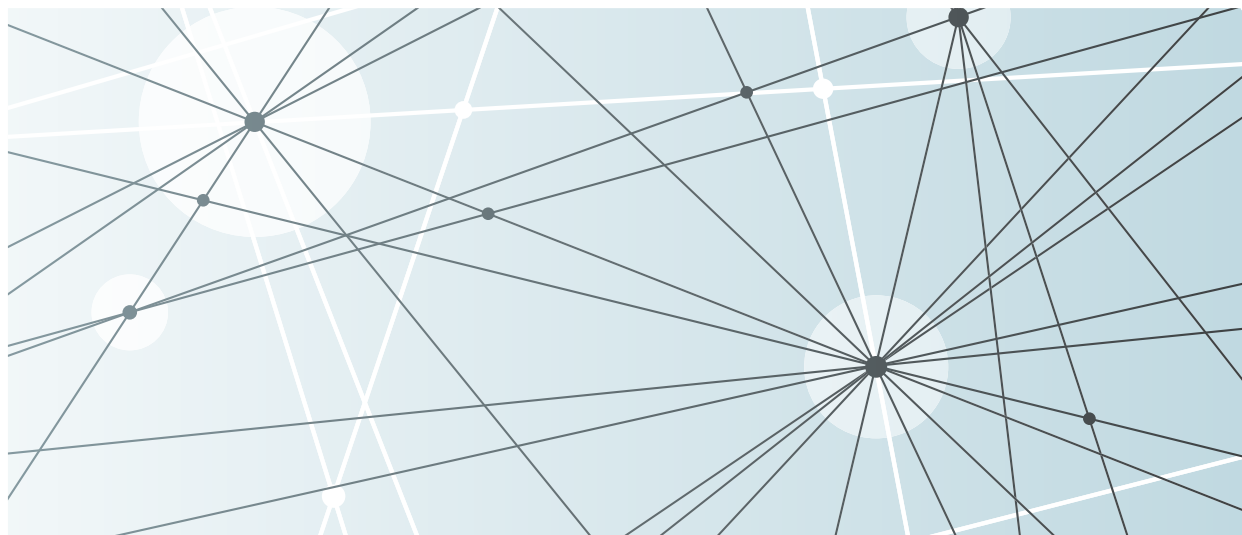
Dr. Unmil Karadkar, *Assistant Professor, School of Information, University of Texas at Austin*

> Computational Privacy: Two Fundamental Problems

Dr. Reza Shokri, *Postdoctoral Researcher, Institute of Information Security, Department of Computer Science, ETH Zurich*

> Big Data & Privacy

Dr. Noman Mohammed, *NSERC Postdoctoral Fellow, McGill School of Computer Science*



Faculty updates

Dr. France Bouthillier has been reappointed as the School's Director for another two-year term, ending in 2016.

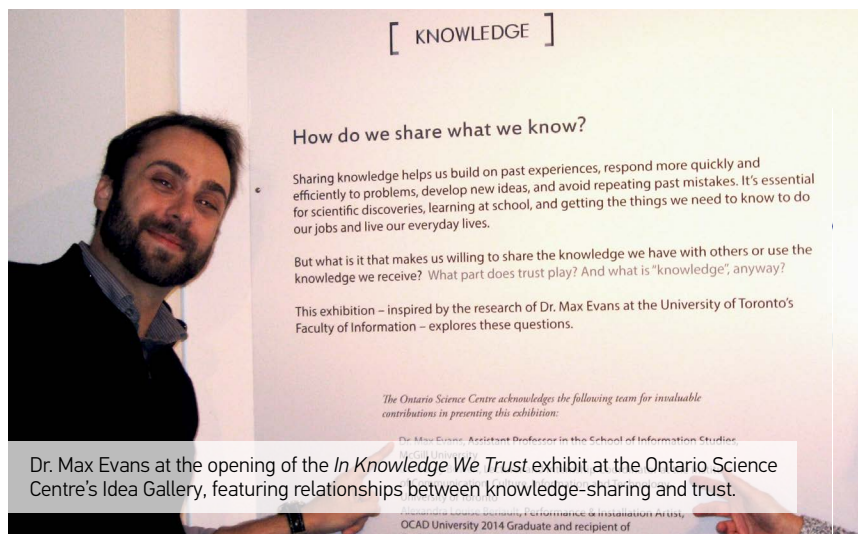
Dr. Elaine Ménard has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. Professor Ménard's teaching and research areas include organization of information, image indexing and retrieval, cross-language information retrieval, museology, and metadata schemas and standards.

Dr. Jamshid Beheshti has been elected to the ASIS&T (Association for Information Science and Technology) Board of Directors, and will be serving as a Director-at-Large from 2015-2017.

In addition, Dr. Beheshti recently co-edited *New Directions in Children's and Adolescents' Information Behavior Research* with Dr. Dania Bilal (2014. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group Publishing), which explores the current information behaviour of children and youth and the changes that have emerged over the last two decades.

Dr. Kimiz Dalkir authored *Intelligent Learner Modeling in Real-time* (2014. Saarbrücken, Germany: Lambert Academic Publishing) and co-authored the book *Utilizing Evidence-Based Lessons Learned for Enhanced Organizational Innovation and Change* (2014. Hershey, PA: IGI Global) with SIS PhD student **Irene Kitimbo**, Susan McIntyre, and Perry Paul.

The exhibit *In Knowledge We Trust*, inspired by the research of **Dr. Max Evans** (pictured below) ran at the Ontario Science Centre's Idea Gallery from October to December 2014. This family-friendly exhibit explored the concept of "knowledge," highlighted connections between knowledge sharing and inter-personal trust, and featured visual interpretations of what "knowledge" looks like to children and adults.



Dr. Catherine Guastavino has contributed to the first International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard on Soundscapes (ISO 12913-1. *Soundscapes: Definition and conceptual framework*), approved July 2014. She collaborates with many European researchers on the topic of soundscapes, and is part of a team which was recently awarded a European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) grant on the soundscape of European cities.

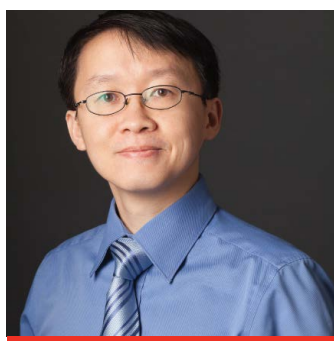
Professor Guastavino is also involved in the Global Sustainable Soundscapes Network (GSSN), a project that has been garnering significant attention from media in the US. As Co-Principal Investigator, Professor Guastavino's contribution focuses on sounds in the city, how they are perceived, how they contribute to a sense of place, and overall quality of life.

Read more about the Global Sustainable Soundscapes Network project at soundscapenetwork.org

NEW RESEARCH GRANTS

The School is pleased to announce the following new research grants and contracts awarded to SIS faculty members as Principal Investigators. This has been an exceptionally strong year for research, with individual and collaborative research grants representing more than \$1.7 M in new research funding.

> *Advancing cybersecurity and privacy-supporting health data mining*



Dr. Benjamin Fung (PI). *Assembly Code Data Mining*. 5-year Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) Research Contract. \$400,000.

Dr. Fung's project aims to develop new data mining techniques to analyze malicious software. The research results will help protect Canada's critical infrastructures in the cyber world.

(PI). *Privacy-Preserving Data Publishing for Health Data Mining*. 5-year Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Discovery Grant. \$150,000.

This project aims to develop a cloud-based, privacy-preserving health data sharing system to support health data mining for effective data and knowledge sharing without compromising patients' privacy.

> *Enhancing 3D audio for realistic virtual environments*



Dr. Catherine Guastavino (PI). *Spatialized and Interactive Artificial Binaural Reverberation*. 6-month Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Engage Grant in collaboration with industry partner Audiokinetic. \$56,250.

In virtual environments, high-quality interactive audio presentation of acoustics plays a significant role in the perception of virtual space. Dr. Guastavino's project will develop a next-generation algorithm that produces interactive, head-tracked reverberation for an acoustic approximation of virtualized listening environments to increase the sensation of users' immersion in 3D virtual environments.

> *Improving retrieval of unstructured web information*



Dr. Charles-Antoine Julien (PI). *Improving Retrieval of Unstructured Information using Existing Information Structures*. 5-year Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Discovery Grant. \$135,000.

Dr. Julien's project aims to improve the performance of information discovery tools used to meet digital information needs by developing novel online searching tools. These tools will alleviate vocabulary mismatch problems by using existing organized information collections (e.g., scientific, library, business, or personal information collections) integrated with web searching.

> *Positioning historical data as networked knowledge*



Dr. Eun Park (PI). *Linked Historical Collections as Networked Knowledge*. 2-year McGill Internal Social Sciences and Humanities (SSHRC) Development Grant. \$6,000.

Dr. Park's project's new approach will explicitly reconceptualize and restructure historical collections in a more dynamic, interactive and iterative manner to consider historical resources as networked knowledge. This research will benefit academic and non-academic communities across a variety of fields by increasing collaboration and dissemination in an open-access linked data web.



RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

The School's faculty members are engaged in the broad research area of human-information interaction (HII) with three core research areas: information and knowledge management, human-computer interaction, and information behaviour and services. We are pleased to announce the following recent research collaborations with colleagues at McGill, and partners at other Canadian and international institutions.

Information & knowledge management

Dr. Benjamin Fung (Co-I). Department of National Defense/ Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (2013-2016). DND/NSERC Research Partnership Project (DNDPJ), \$208,695. *Software Fingerprinting for Automated Malicious Code Analysis*. This research aims to develop data mining tools to support effective malware analysis with the goal of protecting Canada's critical infrastructures in the cyber world.

Dr. Benjamin Fung (Co-I) with Osmud Rahman (PI), Ryerson University. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Insight Development Grant (2014-2016), \$47,477. *Cross-national Consumer Research: Modelling Fashion Shoppers' Behaviour and Preferences*. This project aims to develop a research framework and methodology to investigate and understand the increasingly diverse needs of consumers in different cultures in order to provide recommendations and implications for fashion retailers.

Dr. Eun Park (Co-I), with Claudia Mitchell (Co-PI), McGill University, and others. SSHRC Partnership Grant (2014-2020), \$250,000. *Networks for Change and Well-being: Girl-led 'from the Ground Up' Policy-making*. This international, interdisciplinary project explores innovative approaches to disseminating information and communication in relation to forms of evidence and knowledge, and in so doing studies knowledge exchange between girls, institutions, community practitioners, and policy-makers.

Information behaviour & services

Dr. Charles-Antoine Julien (CO-PI), with Thierry Karsenti (PI), Université de Montréal, and 14 others. Fond Québécois de Recherche sur la Société et la Culture (FQRSC). Research Team Support (2014-2018), \$418,000. *Groupe de recherche interuniversitaire sur les impacts pédagogiques des technologies de l'information et de la communication en éducation (GRIIPTIC)*. This research aims to develop and study interactive educational tools in context.

>> To learn more about research at SIS, visit www.mcgill.ca/sis/research

Human-computer interaction

Dr. Catherine Guastavino (Co-I), with M. Wanderley (PI) and 40 others. FRQSC - Regroupement Stratégique (2014-2019). \$1,600,000. *Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Music Media and Technology*.

Dr. Catherine Guastavino (Co-I), with M. Wanderley (PI) and S. Ferguson. 2014 Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) – Leaders Opportunity Fund Award. \$915,395. *Digital Musical Instrument Performance Research and Rapid Prototyping Laboratory (PR2P)*.

Dr. Catherine Guastavino (Co-I), with J. Goldman (PI) and 3 others. 2013 SSHRC – Connection, \$37,161. *Colloque International : Analyser les processus de création musicale/ Tracking the Creative Process in Music*. This grant supported an international conference co-organized by Dr. Guastavino at CIRMMT and OICRM (Observatoire interdisciplinaire de création et de recherche en musique).

Dr. Karyn Moffatt (CO-PI), with Leah Findlater (CO-PI), University of Maryland, College Park. Google Faculty Research Award (2014-2015), \$683,000 USD. *Supporting Communication for Persons with Aphasia via Contextual Prompting on a Heads-Up Display*. This project will develop a new form of communication support tool using Google Glasses for unobtrusive vocabulary prompting to give support for users right where it is needed, providing critical support to assist individuals with aphasia to regain independence and quality of life.

PhD student awards & achievements

Robert Douglas Ferguson was awarded a prestigious Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship for research on personal information management to improve seniors' independence and quality of life.

Rhiannon Gainor, PhD'14, was awarded a 2014 Eugene Garfield Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for her thesis on competitive intelligence in an international competition. This marks the second time a PhD student from the School has won the award. Rhiannon is now the Director of Research and Analysis at e.Republic, a California-based media company.

Jesse David Dinneen, 2013-2014 Tomlinson Scholar (below), presented the talk, "Your personality, your computer, your files" at the Tomlinson Talks on April 22, 2014. Jesse also founded and leads a "Philosophy of Information" reading group at the School.

Irene Kitimbo co-authored *Utilizing Evidence-Based Lessons Learned for Enhanced Organizational Innovation and Change* (2014. Hershey, PA: IGI Global) with **Dr. Kimiz Dalkir**, Susan McIntyre, and Perry Paul.

Daniele Menezes Nascimento was awarded a fellowship from the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), a Foundation within the Ministry of Education in Brazil.

Afroza Sultana was selected as a Graphics, Animation and New Media Network of Centres of Excellence (GRAND NCE) Postgraduate Scholar. As a GRAND scholar, Afroza will receive a stipend of \$10,000 annually for three years to investigate the design of accessible touch-screen devices for older adults to support prolonged independent living.

Daniel Steele co-developed an academic tour (Balade Scientifique) of Montreal soundscapes with colleague Romain Dumoulin, hosted by the Coeur des Sciences at UQAM. The first stop on the tour was the School's Multimodal Interaction Lab—directed by **Dr. Catherine Guastavino**—for an introduction to sound perception before taking to Montreal's streets and green spaces. *Read an article about the tour from the November 13, 2014 issue of the Le Devoir newspaper at www.ledevoir.com/politique/montreal/423703/suivre-la-rumeur-de-la-ville*

David Weigl accepted a research associate position to investigate music information in a semantic web and linked data context at the Oxford e-Research Centre, University of Oxford. The e-Research Centre is composed of a prestigious team of over fifty multidisciplinary researchers devoted to leading digital research and driving innovation in technology.



Jesse David Dinneen, a 2013/14 McGill Tomlinson Scholar, presenting at the 2014 Tomlinson Talks. Photo: Owen Egan.

PhD PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

Students have been undertaking doctoral studies at SIS for more than 20 years. In 2009, a new formal **PhD program in Information Studies** program was implemented, and since then, more than 40 new students have been admitted to the program. Between 1996 and 2014, 36 students have successfully defended their doctoral theses at SIS.

>> See a list of PhD theses at www.mcgill.ca/sis/research/theses

The School's PhD students are involved in highly diverse research projects related to topics such as information behaviour, information retrieval, knowledge management, competitive intelligence, data mining, information and archival literacy, personal information management, and human-computer interaction, to name a few.

>> Learn more about research areas and current projects at www.mcgill.ca/sis/people/phd

PhD graduation



Rhiannon Gainor, PhD'14, (left) with supervisor Professor France Bouthillier. Thesis: *Measuring Competitive Intelligence Outcomes and Impact*.



Nouf Khashman, PhD'14, (right) with supervisor Professor Jamshid Beheshti. Thesis: *Investigating the application of Hofstede's Model of Cultural Dimensions to Arabic Web Interfaces*.



Natasha Zwarich, PhD'14. Supervisor Professor Eun Park. Thesis: *Policies and Practices for E-mail Management at the Canadian Government*.

8TH EBSI-SIS DOCTORAL SYMPOSIUM IN INFORMATION STUDIES

Open to Students and Professors of the EBSI or the SIS.



EBSI-SIS DOCTORAL SYMPOSIUM

The **8th EBSI-SIS Doctoral Symposium in Information Studies** was held this year on September 26, 2014 at the Université de Montréal. This annual event is co-organized by PhD students at the School of Information Studies and Université de Montréal's École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information (ÉBSI), and provides PhD and Master's students the opportunity to present research in a convivial bilingual setting. This year, presentations from SIS included **Daniela Olivera, MLIS'13** and MLIS student **Mihaela Iancu's** "Methodology for Benchmark Evaluations," and posters by MLIS students **Rachel Di Cresce** and **Desmond Wong**. The upcoming symposium will be held at SIS in 2015.

Master's student awards & achievements



Anastasia Prozorova, MLIS student, leader of the 2014 "Information and Chaos Theories" summer reading group through the Public Life of Arts & Ideas (IPLAI) in the Faculty of Arts.

Heather Empey, MLIS'14, co-curated an exhibit at the McGill Library with Sean Swanick, Islamic Studies Liaison Librarian, McGill University. *The Persianate Literary Heritage: Hidden Treasures from McGill's Collections* celebrates McGill University's rich collection of manuscripts, miniatures, and lithographs in Persian (Farsi), on display from August 1, 2014 to January 31, 2015.

Mark Mazumdar facilitated a session on the Panopto lecture capture tool at Concordia University's e.Scape conference on technology-integrated teaching.

Rebecca Nieto, a 2013-2015 Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Diversity Scholar, was awarded the Mosaic Scholarship from the Society of American Archivists (SAA).

Anastasia Prozorova (left), led the independent reading group, "Information and Chaos Theories," through the McGill Institute for the Public Life of Arts & Ideas (IPLAI) in the Faculty of Arts. Open to all McGill students, staff, and faculty, this summer seminar ran from May to August 2014, and provided the opportunity to discuss information and chaos theories with an interdisciplinary approach.

Allison Smith, MLIS'14, was awarded the 2014 l'Association des bibliothécaires du Québec - Quebec Library Association (ABQLA) Student Scholarship.

In addition to the achievements listed above, a high proportion of our master's students are involved in diverse leadership and community engagement activities, including involvement in the McGill Information Studies Student Association (MISSA), and many other professional chapters and groups at the School.

Read on for news about various successful student-run events and activities this past year, including the 2014 SIS Career Fair, a Special Library tour in Ottawa, the Association of Canadian Archivists McGill Student Chapter 7th Annual Winter Colloquium, the Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) McGill 1st Annual Student Chapter Symposium, final project open houses, and the 2014 Practicum showcase.

MASTER'S PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

Currently, 200 students are enrolled in the School's master's program, including the **Master of Information Studies (MIS)** degree, and the **Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS)** degree. As mentioned in the last issue of the School's newsletter, all new students entering the master's program are enrolled in the new Master of Information Studies program which was implemented this past Fall.

Our student population is very diverse, and come from many cultural and geographic backgrounds. One-third of our students are from outside of Canada, and another third come from Canadian provinces other than Quebec.

In 2013, 84 degrees were granted and in 2014, 85 students graduated from the master's program. See photos from our 2014 Convocation celebration later in this newsletter.



2014 CAREER FAIR

Established in 2003, the annual career fair is a student-run networking event for future graduates and potential employers to discuss employment opportunities.

The **2014 Career Fair**, held April 2, was jointly organized by the McGill Library & Information Studies Student Association (MLISSA) Career Fair Committee and students from l'Université de Montréal's École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information (EBSI).

Thanks to all who made this event a success, including the Career Fair Organizing Committee: **Katherine Brothers, MLIS'14; Dahlal Mohr-Elzeki, MLIS'14; Ada Chan, MLIS'14; Kelly McCormick, MLIS'14; Sabrina Gurniak, MLIS'14; Leann Ban; Magdelin Diaz; David Phung; Guillermo Galdamez Barrera; Simone Srinivasan** and EBSI students David Saint-Germain, Sophie Trollet-Martial, and Catherine Ann Vary; sponsors; employers; and the McGill Career Planning Service (CaPS).

>> For more information about the 2015 Career Fair and how to recruit SIS graduates visit, www.mcgill.ca/sis/careers/employers

Above (L-R): Sophie Trollet-Martial (EBSI); Leann Ban; Ada Chan, Magdelin Diaz, Katherine Brothers, Sabrina Gurniak, David Phung, Guillermo Galdamez Barrera, Dahlal Mohr-Elzeki, and Catherine Ann Vary (EBSI).



Christine Smith, MLIS'13 (left), representing Bishop's College School; **Celia Camboim, MLIS'14** (right).



Sean De Nora, MLIS'93, Grad Cert'14 (left), representing PricewaterhouseCoopers; Director **France Bouthillier** (right).

STUDENT EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

The **McGill Information Studies Student Association (MISSA)** reports that Fall 2014 has been a great semester, including a number of fun social events and activities. MISSA began the year with an orientation event for first year students, and also hosted a September picnic and end-of-semester holiday party. This past January, MISSA worked to support the Post-Graduate

Students' Society (PGSS) "Get out the Vote" campaign for the PGSS referendum. This spring, MISSA will be working to provide more events for SIS students.

In related news, MISSA has a new name! See the sidebar on the next page for more information.



Industry Canada Library tour. Photo: Robyn Biggar.



Supreme Court of Canada Library tour. Photo: Robyn Biggar.

OTTAWA SPECIAL LIBRARY TOUR

This past fall, **L'Association des Bibliothécaires du Québec/ Québec Library Association (ABQLA) McGill Student Chapter** raised funds and organized an Ottawa special library tour in partnership with the **Special Libraries Association (SLA) McGill Student Chapter**.

Held on November 3, 2014, the tour enabled fifteen students to have a first-hand look at the Supreme Court of Canada Library and Industry Canada Library in the nation's capital, providing students with valuable insight into how special libraries operate in a government setting.

Photo at top: **Andrea Nechita, Katelynn Siddall, Kate Rozon, Sarah Kuhn, Cassandra Ricafort, Christopher Marsh, Anne-Marie Smith, Tran Phan, and Min Hannaford.**

Canadian Library Association McGill Student Chapter PROFESSIONAL PARTNERING PROGRAM

This fall, the **Canadian Library Association (CLA) McGill Student Chapter** launched another successful year of the Professional Partnering Program (PPP). The PPP is a flexible mentoring program run in partnership with Montreal-area professionals that connects SIS students to information professionals with similar professional interests. This year's program successfully matched 33 students with 17 mentors, and additional students participated in a meet and greet event, which provided a fun, informal opportunity for SIS students to ask questions, make connections with professionals, and learn more about their careers.

>> For more information about how to get involved in the program, visit www.mcgill.ca/sis-students/cla/partnering

The **Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA) McGill Student Chapter** 7th Annual Colloquium was a great success. Read more about the colloquium on the following page. The Chapter will hold their 8th Annual Winter Colloquium at the School on February 27th, 2015. The event features professional guest speakers from the field of archives and records management who will discuss their work in the field and other archives-related topics. To fundraise for the event and make it a memorable experience for the SIS student body, the chapter held a successful Halloween-themed bake sale last October, featuring sugar cookies in shapes of black cats, moons, and pumpkins, as well as delicious samosas. *For more information about the Chapter's annual colloquiums, visit www.facebook.com/pages/McGill-ACA-Student-Chapter/136439983126916*

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The newly-founded **Canadian Association for Professional Academic Librarians (CAPAL) McGill Student Chapter** elected a group of dedicated executives and hosted the first set of events in fall 2014, including a Meet 'n' Greet to allow students the chance to meet and ask questions of McGill's academic librarians.

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The **Librarians Without Borders (LWB) McGill Student Chapter** began fundraising this fall with their annual "Library School Social." Fundraising is a crucial component of LWB activities, as funds are donated and used to purchase books throughout the year. LWB's main focus this year is a collaboration with the Native Friendship Centre in Montreal, where chapter members help with cataloguing, workshops, and collection development. This past October, the chapter participated in McGill's Community Engagement Day, and there was a phenomenal turnout of undergraduate students to help catalogue books in the Native Friendship Centre collection. The chapter is also in the process of developing a relationship with the Kativik School Board to develop an Inuit studies resource centre in Sainte Anne de Bellevue. In addition, the McGill chapter intends to become involved with a new LWB International initiative in Ghana in partnership with Libraries Across Africa (LAA).

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This May, **Canadian Library Association McGill Student Chapter (CLAMSC)** member and current CLAMSC President **Melissa Rivosecchi** attended the 2014 Canadian Library Association (CLA) conference in Victoria, BC as the "Student to the CLA" representative for McGill University. The 2014 *Students to CLA* program was jointly funded by the Canadian Library Association and Library and Archives Canada (LAC), with travel funds contributed by the School. As a student representative, Melissa had the opportunity to network with professionals, industry leaders, and other students from universities across Canada, and was also enlisted at the conference to help judge poster presentations. A *post-conference summary of one of the sessions written by Melissa for the CLA's Feliciter magazine Volume 60, Issue 4, pp. 45-46* is available at www.cla.ca/feliciter/2014/4/

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>> To learn more about associations, groups, and student chapters at SIS, visit the SIS Students website at www.mcgill.ca/sis-students

new student chapters

This year, two new student groups were established at SIS, adding to the School's already impressive roster of student groups and professional association chapters.

AMIA McGill Student Chapter

The **Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA)** is a non-profit professional association established to advance the field of moving image archiving by fostering cooperation among individuals and organizations concerned with the acquisition, description, preservation, exhibition, and use of moving image materials.

CAPAL McGill Student Chapter

The **Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians (CAPAL) McGill Student Chapter** is an advocacy group that brings together student members interested in the field of professional academic librarianship.

MLISSA>>MISSA

OUR STUDENT ASSOCIATION HAS A NEW NAME!

This past Spring, council members of the School's student association worked tirelessly to update the association's constitution. The student body also voted in a new name: the **McGill Library and Information Studies Student Association (MLISSA)** is now the **McGill Information Studies Student Association (MISSA)**.

MCGILL ACA WINTER COLLOQUIUM

The **Association of Canadian Archivists McGill Student Chapter** held their 7th Annual Winter Colloquium at the School on February 21, 2014. Guest lecturers included **Gordon Burr, MLIS'98**, McGill University; Patti Harper, Carleton University; Jeremy Heil, Queen's University; and **Rhiannon Herbert, MLIS'13**, McGill University. Student lecturers included **Carolyne Ménard, MLIS'14**: "Profession in the Postmodernist Era: Assumptions and Challenges;" **Linda Pasquale, MLIS'14**: "Evolution of Ethnic Archiving in North America;" **Naomi Endicott**: "Design and Theory of Crowdsourced Archival Processing and Description;" **Amber Parker**: "Documenting Home: The Homestead Records Series at the Saskatchewan Archives Board;" and **Samuel Sfirri**: "Audio Preservation: Sound Object Migration in the Archival Environment." The Chapter will hold the next Colloquium at the School on February 27, 2015.

MCGILL AMIA SYMPOSIUM

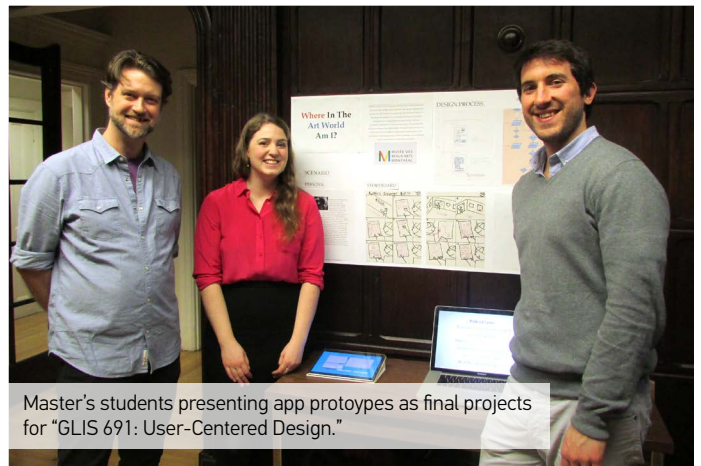
The **Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA) McGill Student Chapter Symposium** held on April 8, 2014, featured presentations and discussions on the latest issues affecting the field of moving image archiving. This half-day symposium, organized by **Justin McKinney, MLIS'14**, included presentations by David Stevenson, Conservator at Canadian Centre of Architecture and Phil Spurrell, Le CineClub Film Society. Presentations by MLIS students included **Tristan Dahn**: "Expanding Tomorrow's Remembrance of Yesterday: Toward Inclusiveness in U.S. Film Preservation;" **Brian Meagher**: "Personal Home Archiving of Audiovisual Materials;" **Justin McKinney, MLIS'14**: "Are Private Trackers the New Film Archive?" and **Samuel Sfirri**: "Preserving Videotape Content."

FINAL PROJECT OPEN HOUSES

MLIS students in Professor **Elaine Ménard's** Fall 2013 museology course exhibited final group projects at the 5th edition of the "Introduction to Museology" public mini-exhibition, spread over several floors in the SIS mansion.



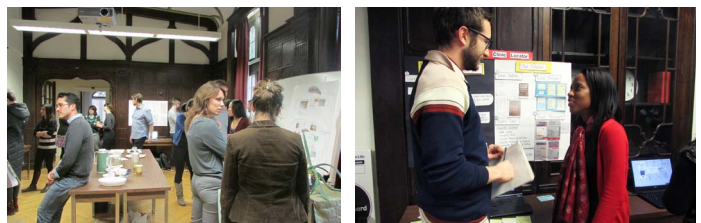
One of many fascinating exhibits in the "GLIS 639: Introduction to Museology" final exhibition. Photo: Nouf Khashman.



Master's students presenting app prototypes as final projects for "GLIS 691: User-Centered Design."

(L-R): **Ted Minett, Alison Moore, Mathieu Demers.**

This November, teams of MLIS students presented prototypes of innovative apps designed with a user-centered approach in a final project open house for Professor **Karyn Moffatt's** "User-Centered Design" course. See more photos from the event on our news blog at <http://news.sis.mcgill.ca>



Practicum showcase

The three-credit Practicum is an elective course in the master's program, which gives second-year students the opportunity to participate in supervised field practice to apply their theoretical knowledge base, and to learn and practice professional skills. A capstone project in the program is a visual presentation of Practicum projects to showcase student learning. The event is attended by Practicum site supervisors, faculty, and others with an interest in the program and the activities of the School.

A key factor in the success of the program is the ongoing participation of dedicated Practicum supervisors, many of whom are alumni of the School. The School extends thanks to supervisors for providing invaluable support to Practicum students in their development as information professionals.

>> Interested in learning more about becoming a Practicum supervisor or attending an upcoming showcase? Visit our website at www.mcgill.ca/sis for more information.



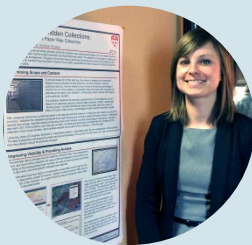
(L-R): **Natalie Colaiacovo, MLIS'14**; Claire Thibault (supervisor); **Andreea Ghimpu, MLIS'14**. Practicum site: Montreal Children's Hospital.



(L-R): **Sharon Rankin, MLIS'81** (supervisor); **Sharla Funk, MLIS'14**. Practicum site: St. Columbia House Library.

STUDENTS REFLECT ON PRACTICUM EXPERIENCES AT THE MCGILL LIBRARY

This summer, five Master's students who served their Winter 2015 Practicum placements with the McGill University Library were profiled in a series of interviews. These articles featured students discussing insights and skills they gained while working on diverse projects at the Library, including **Talia Olshefsky, MLIS'14**, who worked with the Library's extensive map collection to find new ways to discover content; **Ada Chan, MLIS'14**, who implemented usability tests and assessment tools for the McGill Library website; **Emily Kingsland, MLIS'14**, who looked at how the Library could promote services using social media; **Diana DiFrancesco, MLIS'14**, who worked with MyArts Research, an information literacy initiative for undergraduate students in the Faculty of Arts; and **Paul Grewal, MLIS'14**, who worked with "LibQUAL+" survey results to assess a single service point model. *Read the interviews on our news blog at <http://news.sis.mcgill.ca>*



Talia Olshefsky



Ada Chan



Emily Kingsland



Diana DiFrancesco



Paul Grewal

CONVOCATION 2014

On May 30, 2014, the SIS Convocation celebration was held at the School's home, the historic mansion on 3661 Peel Street. This year, 85 Master's students and 2 PhD students graduated from our programs.

We extend a warm congratulations to all of our 2014 graduates and to their families!



Natalie Colaiacovo, MLIS'14 (left)



Nadine Mulindahabi, MLIS'14 (left)



Xuan Zhou, MLIS'14 (centre)



Emma Carey, MLIS'14 (centre)



Nouf Khashman, PhD'14 (left)



Celia Camboim, MLIS



Ashley Lim, MLIS'14 (left) with Director France Bouthillier (right) receiving the Robert Tabah Award for highest standing in the MLIS program.



Caitlin Li, MLIS'14 (left) with Jenne Cunliffe, MLIS'14 (right)



Annika Robbins, MLIS'14 (right)



Director France Bouthillier (left) with Kathleen Cauley, MLIS'14 (right)



Allison Smith, MLIS'14 (centre-left)

MLIS'14 (centre)



Jessica Hébert MLIS'14 (right)

MCGILL HOMECOMING 2014

We were thrilled to reconnect with School alumni and former staff to celebrate McGill Homecoming at an alumni wine and cheese held at the School on October 17, 2014.

Save the date for McGill's 2015 Homecoming weekend, October 22-25, 2015!



Top (L-R): Marie-Eve Barrette, MLIS'12; Stephanie Mair, MLIS'12; Nathalie De Preux, MLIS'14. Anne Avery, former staff, GSLIS Library & Information Studies Library; Karla Kuklis, MLS'84.

Middle (L-R): Jean-Marc Tremblay, MLIS'08; Jennifer Garland, MLIS'07.

Bottom (L-R): Ciara O'Shea, MLIS'12; Tania Vesia, MLIS'12; Marie-Eve Barrette, MLIS'12; Bruno Therrien, MLIS'12; Loredana Caputo, MLIS'12; Laura Markiewicz, MLIS'12; Alex Amar, MLIS'12; Stephanie Mair, MLIS'12.

ALUMNI UPDATES

1960's

Fran Rose (formerly Frances E. Peters), **BLS'63**, wrote to the School with an overview of her career as a librarian. After obtaining her BLS at McGill, Fran began her career at the National Library of Canada in Ottawa, where she provided telephone reference services and was in charge of a collection of Canadian and provincial government publications. She fondly remembers watching the ribbon cut by then Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau at the opening of the Library's new building on Wellington Street in 1967. In 1973, Fran relocated to Victoria to become Government Publications Librarian at the McPherson Library, University of Victoria. She recounts that she was among the first in her office to have a computer, and may have been one of the first librarians in Canada to create web pages linking to important sources of government publications and information. Fran retired in 2001 to Pender Island, where she has had a number of positions, including Music Librarian for the local Choral Society.



Wendy Wayling, MLIS'94 (centre), receiving the 2013 TD Summer Reading Club Library Award.

1990's



Dr. Patrick Lo, MLIS'94, Associate Professor, Faculty of Library, Information & Media Science, University of Tsukuba, Japan.

Dr. Patrick Lo, MLIS'94, (pictured above) is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Library, Information & Media Science, University of Tsukuba, Japan. He recently published an interview entitled, "A Conversation with Matthew Naughtin, Music Librarian at the San Francisco Ballet" in *Music Reference Services Quarterly*, 17, pp. 142–168 (2014). He has also been invited to serve as the co-chair of "The Fifth Asian Conference on Literature and Librarianship 2015" in Osaka, Japan <http://iafor.org/iafor/conferences/librasia2015>

Elizabeth Wallace, MLIS'95, is the Collections Librarian for the Science and Technology Library and the Winspear Business Library at the University of Alberta. She also serves as the International Liaison to UAL's partner libraries in India and Nepal.

Pascal Calarco, MLIS'95, and **Mary Horman, MLIS'96**, now reside in Kitchener, ON with their two children, after living and working in the US for 17 years. Pascal is Associate University Librarian at the Research & Digital Discovery Services, University of Waterloo. Pascal serves as a CARL representative to the ARL/CARL/LIBER/COAR Joint Task Force on the Librarians' Competencies in Support of E-Research and Scholarly Communication, is a review member of the Center for Research Libraries' Certification Committee for Trusted Digital Repositories, and is a Fellow, 2013-2015 of the ARL Leadership Fellows Program. Mary and Pascal have been working on an online bookseller business. They would love to hear from their fellow alumni!

Syarwan Ahmad, MLIS'98, is a Senior Associate Professor at State Islamics University in Aceh, Indonesia. Dr. Ahmad attained his PhD in 2012 from the University of Malaya, Malaysia in 2012, majoring in Instructional Technology, with a thesis on Instructional Leadership. Although his primary teaching is in the field of education, he teaches a Library Material Course and Reference Material and Services at Faculty of Letters and Humanities, and is one of the main library consultants of the university.

Wendy Wayling, MLIS'94, received the 2014 Anne Galler Award for Outstanding Library Service from the ABQLA. The award recognizes an individual who has enriched librarianship in Quebec and made a lasting contribution to the profession. Wendy is a Children's Librarian at the Westmount Public Library.

This past May, Wendy (pictured at left) was also the recipient of the 2013 TD Summer Reading Club Library Awards first prize in the English category.

2000's

Peter Hepburn, MLIS'00, is now the Head Librarian at the College of the Canyons in Santa Clarita, and is living with his husband, Conrad Paulson, in Pasadena, California. Peter has been elected to the Executive Board of the American Library Association for a three-year term from 2014-2017.

Jerry Fielden, MLIS'02, (pictured below) and his wife, Shelle, play in the band *AraPacis*, which will soon release their fourth album including guests from Deep Purple and Camel. In 2010, Jerry wrote a book on the history of the 438 TAC HEL Squadron of the RCAF



Jerry Fielden, MLIS'02, receiving a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

"Le 438e Escadron tactique d'hélicoptères 1934-2009." Moreover, Jerry has worked as a reference librarian, a researcher, an archivist, a records analyst, and was a course lecturer for GLIS 633 in the summers of 2003 and 2005. He also created an archive fonds for the 438 TAC HEL Squadron housed at la Société historique du Marigot in Longueuil. Jerry was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012 for his book and for his volunteer work with the Royal Air Force Association of Canada.

Johanne Boucher, MLIS'03, (featured in our Winter 2010 SIS FOCUS newsletter) moved from her position in the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages to her new role as Manager, Integrated Information Systems at the Government of Canada's Privy Council Office in Ottawa this past June.

Hana Kim, MLIS'03, relocated to Vancouver with her husband this summer to begin her new role as Head of the Asian Library at the University of British Columbia.

Jacqueline Barlow, MLIS'08, is the Manager of the Learning Resource Centres (college libraries) at Bournemouth and Poole College, located across several campuses in Bournemouth and Poole, Dorset. She is responsible for a staff of librarians and paraprofessionals, and is also involved in strategic planning, community outreach, and liaisons with other departments. Jacqueline is a candidate with the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, the "gold standard" of LIS qualifications in the UK. She also created and intermittently updates the blog *That's Not Online!* (thatsnotonline.tumblr.com), a project that won her a full delegate pass to CILIP's Umbrella Conference in 2011.

Brandon Fitzgerald, MLIS'09, is a Project Manager at the Library of Congress Law Library. He was recently featured in an interview on the blog *In Custodia Legis: Law Librarians of Congress*. Read the interview at <http://blogs.loc.gov/law/2014/12/an-interview-with-brandon-fitzgerald>

Rosa Orlandini, MLIS'09, has been a GIS and Map Librarian at York University since 2011. Rosa is also the 2013-15 President of the Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives.

TENURED!

The School extends congratulations to a number of SIS graduates working as Librarians at McGill University Library who have recently received tenure, including: **Natalie Waters, MLIS'01**; **Robin Canuel, MLIS'02**; **Maryvon Côté, MLIS'03**; **Megan Chellew, MLIS'05**; **Eamon Duffy, MLIS'05**; **April Colosimo, MLIS'05**; **Amy Buckland, MLIS'08**; and **Cathy Martin, MLIS'08**.

2010's

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Michelle Atkin, MLIS'03, PhD'11, Adjunct Research Professor, Department of Law at Carleton University, published a revised version of her PhD dissertation as a book entitled *Balancing Liberty and Security: An Ethical Study of U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance: 2001–2009*. The work has recently received a favourable review by the *Security and Defense Studies Review*. Michelle encourages the School's PhD graduates to also consider adapting their theses into books. Read the review of Michelle's book at <http://chds.dodlive.mil/files/2014/08/SDSR16-final.pdf>

Nick Richbell, MLIS'11, is the Head of Special Collections and Archives at the University of Waterloo as of February 2015.

Marta Mazur Rusak, MLIS'13, is a Legal Document Manager at the Central Bank of Ireland.

David Tkach, MLIS'13, is a Special Project Officer in the Moshe Safdie Archive at McGill's Rare Books and Special Collections. He continues to teach several sections of the Information Literacy Lab component of "SEL 149" at Concordia University. In the past year, David also published two peer-reviewed articles, one on the philosophy of technology in relation to books and libraries, and the other on zine collection in academic libraries, co-authored with Dr. Carolyn Hank.

Caitlin Bailey, MLIS'14, is working as a full-time curator with the Canadian Centre for the Great War, situated in Montreal. In December 2014, she presented at the University of Oxford's Faculty of English *Literature and Material Culture Seminar Series* in England.

Matthew Bouchard, MLIS'14, is the Executive Director at the Yellow Door, a youth-directed non-profit in Montreal. In his work, he applies Knowledge Management concepts of efficiency of communication, information flows, leadership skills, and web site design and management.

Matthew notes that his networking activities while at the School continue to pay professional dividends. He encourages current students to get involved with student associations, ask about jobs, network with peers, and professors, "and watch what happens!"

Rhiannon Gainor, PhD'14, has recently become the Director of Research and Analysis at e.Republic, a California-based media company.

Karine Maurais, MLIS'14, was hired after graduation as a Librarian at the National Collection of the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BANQ).

Nathalie de Preux, MLIS'14, is a Knowledge Management Advisor for the Engineering and Product Development Center at Bombardier Aerospace. Nathalie began working in the KM team during her second year at SIS, after being granted an internship from the McGill Institute for Aerospace

Engineering (MIAE) for research in Maturity Models for Communities of Practice and KM impact measurement. She obtained a permanent position in June 2014 and is responsible for the support of eight Communities of Practice and the communication strategy of the KM team.

Maria Ressina, MLIS'14, is the Serials Librarian at the Jewish Public Library. She is also involved with reference and circulation, and is in charge of collections development for the Russian collection.

Evelina Stulgaityte, MLIS'14, (pictured below) is an Assistant Archivist for the Tarlton Law Library at the University of Texas School of Law in Austin.

>> **Have news?** Submit your news with a handy online form on our alumni page at www.mcgill.ca/sis/alumni or contact the School directly.



Evelina Stulgaityte, MLIS'14, in her new role as Assistant Archivist for the Tarlton Law Library at the University of Texas School of Law in Austin.

The School honours the following alumni who have recently passed away, and extends sincere sympathies to family and friends.

Mary Patricia O'Neill, BLS'48, MLS'69, passed away on October 5, 2014 in Halifax, at age 95. Trish (or "Pat" to many), received her early education at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, graduating in 1937, after which she earned a BA at Dalhousie in 1940 and a BLS and MLS at McGill. She then went on to work in the library at the Chronicle Herald, the bookmobile in Pictou County, and libraries in Moose Jaw, Toronto, and St. John. Her last position was in the Parks Canada library in Halifax. *Source: Chronicle Herald, Oct. 9, 2014.*

Evelyn Long "Lynn" Fay, BLS'40, passed away in Santa Barbara, California, on December 6, 2013. After receiving her BLS, Evelyn was a librarian at the McGill Medical Library and the Osler Library. After serving as a school librarian in Galion, Ohio, she subsequently became the Medical Director of the David L. Reeves Medical Library at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, where she assisted many authors in research for their medical books and articles. *Source: Santa Barbara News-Press Online, Dec. 27, 2013.*

Janet (Dixon) Elder, BLS'47, passed away on July 8, 2014, in Montreal at the age of 88. After obtaining her BLS, Janet enrolled at Concordia at the age of 50 and obtained a Masters in Psychology in 1981. She then built a private counselling practice while supervising and training aspiring psychology students at Montreal's Argyle Institute. *Source: Gazette, July 12, 2014.*

Donald Redmond, BLS'47, passed away on October 22, 2014 in Kingston, Ontario, at the age of 92. He earned degrees from Mount Allison University, McGill University, and the University of Illinois, and began a career in technical librarianship that included positions in Nova Scotia, Ceylon (Sri Lanka), Turkey, and Kansas before he came to Queen's. At Queen's, Donald served as Chief Librarian from 1966 to 1977. *Source: Kingston Whig-Standard, Nov. 1, 2014.*

Janet Brown, BLS'49, passed away on November 30, 2013 in Johnson City, New York, at 93 years old. After obtaining her BLS, she moved on to the newly founded Harpur College, part of the fledgling State University of New York system. At the time of her retirement she had long held the position of Chief of Acquisitions at SUNY Binghamton. *Source: Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin, Dec. 4, 2013.*

Margaret (Dimmock) Watson, BLS'53, passed away in Ottawa on March 10, 2014 in her 87th year. Margaret was an accomplished musician and served as a professional librarian in federal libraries for 30 years. *Source: Ottawa Citizen, Mar. 13, 2014.*

Anne (Shaw) Hudson, BLS'62, passed away August 17, 2013, in Victoria, BC. After earning a BLS at McGill, Anne joined the Bank of Canada, after which she moved to Victoria, BC. *Source: Queen's Alumni Review, 2014, 1.*

Maurice Alarie, MLS'69, passed away on September 1, 2014, at the age of 86. Maurice earned his MLS at McGill before pursuing further studies at Columbia University (NY) in the Literature of Medicine, Science, and Engineering. Maurice retired from the University of Ottawa in 1986 after serving 28 years as the Director of the Vanier Library, Science, Medicine and Engineering Department. *Source: Ottawa Citizen, Sept. 3, 2014.*

Daniel Frank Phelan, MLS'74, passed away on November 5, 2014, in Kingston, Ontario. Daniel had a rewarding career as a professional librarian that took him to Montreal, Winnipeg, North Bay, and Toronto. He retired from Ryerson University in 2007 after 22 years, and moved to Kingston with his wife Laurie. *Source: Globe & Mail, Nov. 8, 2014.*

Susan "Sue" Patterson, MLS'74, passed away after a six year struggle with cancer on January 31, 2013 at the age of 65, in Edmonton. Susan worked as a librarian at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa, at Transportation Development Agency in Montreal, at University of Toronto, and at Woodbridge Farms Elementary School in Sherwood Park. *Source: Edmonton Journal, Feb. 4, 2014.*

Elizabeth Comper, MLS'79, passed away in Toronto on June 22, 2014. A former Director of both the Art Gallery of Ontario and the Royal Conservatory of Music, Elizabeth made many contributions to the community, such as founding various scholarships and programs. For her lifetime of social activism, volunteerism, philanthropy, and dedication to others, Elizabeth was awarded an honorary PhD from both Concordia University ('09) and the University of Haifa ('06), among many other awards. In 2011, she and her husband Tony were named to the Order of Canada, Canada's highest civilian honour. *Source: Toronto Star, June 25, 2014.*



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PROFESSOR VIVIAN S. SESSIONS, DIRECTOR, 1976-1981

Vivian Sessions, who served as the School's Director from 1976 to 1981, was in her 93rd year when she passed away in Los Gatos, California on January 13, 2013.

A long-time resident of New York City, Professor Sessions was educated at the University of Michigan, where she received her BA in 1945 and MA (History) in 1948. After serving as a Research Assistant at Cornell University's History of Science Department, she began working at the New York Public Library, after which she received her MS in Library Science in 1959 from Columbia University. City planning, information science, and information retrieval became the focus of her professional career after she became the Project Director for City University of New York's URBANDOC project – a computerized documentation and information retrieval system for literature in urban planning and renewal.

Vivian's teaching career began in 1969, when she became Director of CUNY's Center for the Advancement of Library and Information Science, which emphasized online searching and information science. Her publications concentrated on databases, including: *URBANDOC: a Bibliographic Information System 3v.* (1971) and *Directory of Data Bases in the Social and Behavioral Sciences* (1974).

Professor Sessions came to McGill's Graduate School of Library Science in 1976. She was the School's first Director from outside McGill, following the School's American Library Association 1975 reaccreditation and recommendations for change. The Dean of Graduate Studies, under whose jurisdiction the School operated, wanted the School to develop strength in the growing area of information science. After her arrival at McGill, Vivian founded an online retrieval laboratory and developed curriculum in English and French-language information systems. As the Director, Vivian forged new directions for teaching and research in the areas of data science, information retrieval, and information systems – areas which remain highly relevant to the School and the field today.

After her period as Director, Vivian returned to New York City where she served as the Head Librarian at the College of Staten Island. Colourful and energetic, Vivian Sessions left a lasting impression on all who knew her. Our sympathies are extended to her family and friends.

A special thank-you to Peter F. McNally, Professor and Director of the History of McGill Project.



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As Director, Vivian Sessions forged new directions for teaching and research in the areas of data science, information retrieval, and information systems – areas which remain highly relevant to the School and the field today.

WE VALUE YOUR SUPPORT

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Gifts from our alumni and friends provide valuable support for scholarships and student aid, equipment and infrastructure, and research projects and program development.

However you choose to support the School, and at whatever level, your generosity is both essential and truly appreciated. With your help we can continue to offer our students the support they need to make their own mark on history. Every gift counts!

**For information on how to support the School,
please visit our website at www.mcgill.ca/sis or contact**

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McGill

School of
Information Studies