This newsletter contains a lot of news since we were unable to publish a 2011 newsletter due to the work disruption of McGill support staff in Fall 2011. Since our last newsletter in 2010, the School has welcomed two new faculty members, Charles-Antoine Julien and Karyn Moffatt, and we have celebrated the graduation of over 10 new PhDs in Information Studies and 150 new Master’s of Library and Information Studies, as you will see from these pages.

We’re continuing to highlight alumni profiles, and we will also be posting these on our website, separately from the newsletter. The career paths of our graduates, as you are very aware, are increasingly more diverse and ever changing. We invite you to let us know if you would like to be featured for a profile.

In line with the theme of diversity and change, we are very close to completing our curriculum review and making important changes to our MLIS program. The review is informed by the questions we have been asking ourselves and our alumni: in this changing world, what should information professionals know? What should they care about? and what is their distinctive contribution to the knowledge economy?

A recent survey reports that individuals held an average of 11 jobs from age 18 to age 44 (US Department of Labor, 2010), which is more than 5 times the number of job changes people went through in the previous century. Therefore, individuals must be well-prepared lifelong learners who can adapt to rapid environmental changes in both the workplace and the world.

If this is true for workers in general, it is absolutely critical for information professionals. We need to build the concept of change into our educational and research decisions, so that our graduates are positioned to both seize the opportunities that the future holds, and to make substantial contributions to that future.

I hope you will enjoy reading the newsletter and that you will continue to share with us your stories and news which give us the motivation to improve everything that we do.

Best wishes in 2013.

France Bouthillier, Director
In recognition of his contribution to a wide range of activities at McGill and elsewhere, Andy has received numerous forms of recognition.

Professor J. Andrew Large retired from the School of Information Studies, August 31, 2012. Since coming to McGill in 1989, Andy served as Director of the School until 1998, and Associate Dean, Faculty of Education from 2009-2012. Andy has played a central role over the past quarter-century in transforming the School’s teaching and research. During these years, the School accepted its first doctoral student in 1991, came under the jurisdiction of the Faculty of Education in 1994, established Canada’s first Chair in Information Studies in 1998—the CN-Pratt-Grinstad Chair, with Andy as its first incumbent—developed the Graduate Certificate program in 2001, the MLIS specialized streams in 2005, and the PhD in Information Studies in 2009. In terms of ALA accreditation of the MLIS program, Andy led the School to its successful 1996 re-accreditation, with what the Committee on Accreditation judged to be a model self-study report that other schools could use as an example. He also participated in the successful re-accreditations of 2003 and 2010.

As a researcher, Andy has enjoyed the most significant international reputation ever held by anyone on the School’s faculty. He has published 18 books, 28 book chapters, and over 60 refereed articles, in addition to other articles, digital works and software. He is editor and co-founder of the Education for Information Journal, co-editor of CD-ROM Information Products, and sits on the editorial boards of four other journals. He has received approximately $2M in research funding, largely in the areas of information-seeking behaviour and human-computer interaction, looking recently at information-seeking processes of elementary school students. Major funding has come from agencies such as SSHRC, Heritage Canada, the National Library of Canada, CIDA, IBM, and the European Space Agency. His best known project, developed with Prof. Jamshid Beheshti, is the children’s web portal, History Trek (www.historytrek.ca), providing access to more than 2,300 web pages, which has attracted over 800,000 hits since its debut in September 2007.

Born and raised in England, Andy received his BSc from the London School of Economics and PhD in History from the University of Glasgow before receiving his Graduate diploma in librarianship at the University of London. After a short career as a librarian, he became a library and information studies educator at the University of Wales (Aberystwyth), before coming to McGill. His well-deserved reputation as an excellent lecturer centres upon Master’s courses in areas like online searching, issues in information, introduction to information studies, and language and information. He also taught research design in information systems, in the School’s doctoral program. He has supervised four doctoral students to successful completion, with another three nearing completion, in addition to supervising many Master’s research projects.


Andy’s colleagues will miss his quiet, informed, and authoritative voice at meetings where he would regularly insert notes of reason and experience at critical moments of decision-making. We wish Andy and his wife, Val, a happy and fulfilling retirement. We also wish him much happy listening to fine jazz in Montreal and elsewhere.

Peter F. McNally
Professor

PROFESSOR PETER MCNALLY was awarded the 2011 Marie Tremaine Medal (and accompanying Watters-Morley Prize) of the Bibliographical Society of Canada at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in Fredericton in May 2011. The Marie Tremaine Medal is awarded for outstanding service to Canadian bibliography and for distinguished publication in either English or French in that field. The members of the award committee cited Professor McNally’s career as a librarian and historian, spanning nearly 40 years and devoted to the study of Canadian bibliography, particularly the study of Canadian libraries.

PROFESSOR KIMIZ DALKIR has been appointed Executive Director, Student Affairs, in the Faculty of Education. She will provide academic guidance and direction to the Office of Student Affairs (re policies, regulations, decisions), and an attentive ear to students experiencing academic difficulties, and respond to appeals (re status, standing, grades and readmission), while ensuring liaison with the offices of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning) and the Dean of Students.

PROFESSORS JAMSHID BEHESHTI and ANDREW LARGE have published a new text entitled The Information Behavior of a New Generation: Children and Teens in the 21st Century. The edited text looks at the current information behavior of children and youth and the changes that have emerged over the last two decades.
Dr. Karyn Moffatt joined the School of Information Studies as an assistant professor in September 2011. Dr. Moffatt obtained her BSc in Computer Engineering from the University of British Columbia in 2001. She then completed her Master of Science in Computer Science at UBC in 2004, and remained there to earn her PhD in Computer Science, completing her thesis, Addressing age-related pen-based target acquisition difficulties, in 2010. Funded by both NSERC and CIHR-SITHR Health Care, Technology and Place (HCiTP), Dr. Moffatt also completed post-doctoral work with Dr. Ronald Baecker at the University of Toronto Technologies for Aging Gracefully Lab, examining the design of technology to support social interaction, including technology to support intergenerational communication, to connect socially isolated individuals with their friends and family, and to help adults with aphasia and children with autism communicate more effectively. Dr. Moffatt focuses on an older population, a diverse demographic, allowing opportunities for understanding the ways human abilities and disabilities impact interactions with technology. She incorporates a variety of HCI methodologies, including user-centered and participatory approaches to design, and laboratory and field experiments for evaluation.

She describes her research as follows: "My research explores the ways in which technology can be designed to help older and/or disabled individuals overcome everyday challenges and obstacles. For example, one current project seeks to support intergenerational communication. Older adults tend to dislike the lightweight feel of social media technologies, but younger generations can find it difficult to engage in longer, more personal interactions over synchronous media such as the phone. To address this gap, I'm developing a system to support the co-construction of family storybooks as a shared online activity. Prototypically, I envision asymmetrical use, with the grandchild taking charge of constructing and organizing the digital book and the grandparent providing the stories and content. The grandchild scans and organizes a set of family photos, and while doing so, selects photos that are unfamiliar or representative of an interesting event and attaches an audio message such as 'Who's in this photo?' or 'Tell me more about this day.' This audio recording and photograph are then sent to the grandparent via a wireless picture frame. The grandparent 'writes back' using a wireless digital pen to transmit a handwritten story to the grandchild. Using handwritten stories not only reduces the technological demands on the grandparent, but also personalizes the digital keepsake. "Though it is clear that some older adults want low-tech interfaces like the one described above, many others want to adopt computer technology but find it challenging to perform basic tasks such as selecting an icon with ease. Recovering from computer errors can be a challenging and frustrating experience, but this is often lost in laboratory evaluations of computer interaction. I am currently initiating an investigation of how often errors occur in typical computer tasks and of how users recover from them. Answering these questions would illuminate the tradeoffs between speed and accuracy, and could inspire new interaction techniques. "In summary, the overarching goal of my work is to design new technologies that enable people to engage with information and each other. I focus on older adults because they represent a diverse demographic that enables me to explore the ways that human abilities and disabilities impact our interactions with technology."
NEW RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

Associate Professor Catherine Guastavino is a co-investigator with Prof. Bryan Pijanowski of Purdue University on a five year (2011-2016) National Science Foundation grant of $491,556 for a project entitled “CNH-RCN: A Global Sustainable Scales Network.” Dr. Guastavino has also been named a McGill University William Dawson Scholar. The William Dawson Scholar award recognizes a scholar developing into an outstanding and original researcher of world-class calibre who is poised to become a leader in his or her field and is held for five years (renewable).

Assistant Professor Karyn Moffatt joined the Graphics, Animation, and New Media Network of Centres of Excellence as a collaborating network investigator, receiving funding ($14,000) to support her work investigating the communication and information needs of families navigating hospice care. She has also been awarded a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada five-year Discovery Grant ($135,000), for the project “Socially-informed and New media network of Centres of excellence as a collaborating,” which will involve investigating the communication and information needs of families navigating hospice care.

Assistant Professor Carolyn Hank who started at the School in November 2010, has moved to the University of Tennessee College of Communication & Information as of January 2013. During her tenure at the School, Professor Hank was awarded the 2012 Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) Research Grant ($5,000) for the study, “Teaching in the Age of Facebook and other Social Media: LIS Faculty and Students ‘Friend’ and ‘Printing’ in the Social Sphere,” and is joined on this project by her co-principal investigators, Dr. Sugimoto of Indiana University Bloomington and Dr. J. Pomerantz of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A second project of Dr. Hank, “The Bibliobloggingphenomenon Of Communication And Preservation Perceptions And Practices between Blogging LIS Scholar-Practitioners and LIS Scholar-Researchers,” was awarded a 2012 OCLC/ALISE Library and Information Science Research Grant ($14,262), with Dr. Sugimoto as co-principal investigator.

Assistant Professor Élaine Menard was awarded a three year (2011-2014) Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) grant of $115,393 over three years for her project “Modeling of an Interface Dedicated to Digital Image Retrieval in a Bilingual Context”. The research project will develop an interface model for image retrieval in a bilingual (French and English) context, that is, when the query language differs from the indexing language. The overarching goal is to investigate the characteristics and functionalities necessary to support image retrieval in a bilingual context, and to integrate these characteristics and functionalities into a comprehensive yet flexible interface model. By taking into account the needs and expectations of real users, the main outcome of this research will be the establishment of a framework that will contribute to design efforts and help many groups of image searchers to browse and search for images, since an appropriately designed interface could be crucial to their success in finding the needed images.

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MLIS students continue to be active, both as members of student chapters of professional organizations, and as individuals presenting their research and studies at McGill and other conferences.

Amanda Oliver, MLIS’12, presented a poster, “All the World’s a Stage: The Representation of Performance in the Archive,” at the Canadian Association for Information Science/L’Association canadienne des sciences de l’information, conference in Waterloo, Ontario, May 31 - June 2, 2012, in addition to presenting “Performing-Arts Collections and Metadata Schemes” as part of the Performing Arts Panel at the Collaboration, Convergence, and Communities: School Student Conference, held at the School, University of Toronto, March 2-4, 2012. Also at the 2012 ICference, Emily Kozinski, MLIS’12, presented a poster, “Removing Records: Documenting Acts of Violence and Atrocities from the Archive,” and was among those who received the Best Poster Runners-Up mention. Peter Steiner and Halley Silversides, both MLIS students, offered a workshop at the ICference entitled “Hack Your Books: Conservation and Library Science in Hackerspace.”

Wayne Pender, MLIS’12, was awarded the Special Libraries Association (SLA) IT Division’s Jo Ann Clifton Student Award to deliver his paper “Metadata for Video: Too Much Content, Not Enough Information” at the July 2012 SLA conference in Chicago. This distinction included a travel and expenses scholarship and publication in the IT Division Bulletin. Wayne also received an ACA Foundation travel scholarship to present his paper “Moving Image Records: The Appraisal and Use of Television Newscasts for Archival Purposes” at the Association of Canadian Archivists National Conference in Whitehorse, YT, in June 2012.

Astrid de Salas Smith, MLIS’11, attended the American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) 2011, as she was awarded the ASIS&T Northeast Student Chapter travel award for her essay submission. Astrid received $1,000 to help defray the costs of attendance at the 2011 ASIS&T Annual Meeting on “Bringing the Gulf”, “Communication and Information in Society, Technology, and Work” in October in New Orleans. A record number of MLIS students presented at the 2012 annual Faculty of Education Graduate Students Society conference held in March. Among them were Jacob Stierling, Ian Robertson, Mark Stewart and Dana Tessier (MLIS’11), “Incidental information acquisition in the context of emergent awareness” (Paper), Corvetta Eileen Waflord (MLIS’11), “Access granted: The evolving role of archives and its implications for our society” (Paper), Jesse David Dinneen (MLIS’11), “Should LIS abandon the ‘definition of information’ problem?” (Paper), David Tkach (MLIS’11), “The situatedness of the seeker: Toward a Heideggerian model of information seeking” (Paper), Rebecca Burbank, Emily McHugh and Amanda Oliver, MLIS’12,” Service learning in action” (Paper), Sarah McWhirter and Tara O’Shea, MLIS’12,” The learning commons in your school library: Why you should create a user-centered learning space” (Poster).

Nina Thorlow, MLIS’12 (left), won an award for her poster presentation, “There are birds in the library: Examining adoption and use of Twitter by Canadian academic libraries.” Along with presentations at conferences, MLIS student groups continue to organize annual conferences which bring keynote speakers and give students the opportunity to present their research papers. Among these are the Association of Canadian Archivists Student Chapter, which hosted keynote speaker Jim Burant, Senior Archivist for Art and Photography of Library and Archives Canada in 2011, and in 2012, Catherine Hobbs, Literacy Archivist (English-language) of Library and Archives Canada.
CALL Conferences 2011 and 2012

This past May, recent graduate Katarina Daniels, MLS’12, returned from her second Canadian Association of Law Libraries (CALL) conference. Having been awarded one of four complimentary student registrations in 2011 for the conference in Calgary, she could not pass up the opportunity to go back again this year to meet even more legal information professionals from across the country, while learning about exciting developments and opportunities in the field of law information through various presentations, panels and plenary sessions. Topics of interest over the past two years have included project management, alternative dispute resolution, copyright issues, records and information management, professional growth, cataloguing and RDA, collection development, statistics, and legal research training.

Another wonderful opportunity that presented itself at the 2012 conference was the chance to visit three major law firm libraries in Toronto: Heenan Blakie, Fasken Martineau, and Goodmans. The librarians at each firm had had a role in designing their new library spaces – an incredible challenge! While all three libraries are located in the same building (and share wonderful views of downtown Toronto), they all look and feel very different, and run in their own unique ways. If your library is moving any time soon, the librarians at these libraries are an invaluable resource.

While the 2012 kicked off the start of CALL’s 50th anniversary, the big celebrations will come at the 2013 conference in Montreal, so be sure to become a CALL member to enjoy reduced rates for this wonderful conference! The theme has already been announced, and is something all law librarians can relate to – the multi-faceted career of a law librarian. Katarina looks forward to volunteering at the upcoming conference, and hopes to see many SiS students and graduates in attendance!
New Student Association: Adding to the student associations already active in the School and spearheaded by PhD students, SIG students have been granted a chapter of ASIS&T (American Society for Information Science and Technology). The mandate of the student chapter is to provide an organization through which student members of ASIS&T may share their special concerns, find academic support, participate in information science programs for students and other members of the community, build professional networks and make contributions to the profession. The group is active in the School, organizing workshops to support research activities for both Master’s and PhD students. Professor France Bouthillier is the Chapter’s advisor Nouf Khashman, MLIS’06, is the Chair for 2012-2013, with Jonathan Dorey, MLIS’10, as Chair-elect. Jonathan was given a New Leaders Award by ASIS&T, one of eight chosen in a national competition.

Nouf Khashman also received an Honorable Mention in the ALISE/Jean Tague Sullице Doctoral Student Research Poster Competition at the 2012 ALISE Conference in Dallas in January.

Amandine Pras, PhD’12, received the Student Paper Award at the 131st Convention of the Audio Engineering Society in New York City in October 2011 for her paper reporting on an experiment she conducted at New York University Steinhardt during a research residency in fall 2010.

Guillaume Boutard presented a paper at the 2012 Conference in Toronto in March 2012 on “Digital sound processing preservation: Impact on digital archives” (Guillaume Boutard, Catherine Guastavino and James M. Turner, Université de Montréal).

Rhiannon Gainor was awarded a Fonds de recherche Société et culture 2012 grant for her doctoral research developing metrics for competitive intelligence.

School of Information Studies doctoral students Jonathan Dorey, MLIS’10, and Isabelle Lamoureux, MLIS’05, presented the poster “Thinking outside the archival box: Information literacy to the rescue” at the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education’s 32nd Annual Conference held June 19-22, 2012, in Montreal. View the poster abstract at www.mcgill.ca/sfits/2012asaps/program/poster-sessions.

At the Canadian Association for Information Science/L’Association canadienne des sciences de l’information conference, in Waterloo, Ontario, May 31 - June 2, 2012, several PhD students made both poster and paper presentations, including Nouf Khashman, “The Facebook Revolution: An Analysis of Public Pages During the Arab Political Unrest” (Poster); Nasser Saleh and Professor Andrew Large, “Collaborative Information Behaviour of Engineering Students” (Paper). Nasser Saleh and Nouf Khashman, and Ahmad Kamal (University of Western Ontario) held a panel session on “From Cairo to Taksim Square: How Can Information Science Make Sense of Social Media and Protests?” and Isabelle Lamoureux participated in a research roundtable on “Resistance to Information Literacy: Towards a Model of Information Literacy for Undergraduate Students: An Exploratory Study.”

The Faculty of Education annually awards the Tim Casgrain Fellowship to an outstanding graduate student in the Faculty of Education whose area of study focuses on efforts to improve literacy in Canada, with a preference for new areas of literacy such as economic, financial, technological and cultural literacy. PhD students in the School were recipients of this fellowship in both 2011 (Robert Ferguson), and 2012 (Julie Mayrand).

In 2011 and 2012, a record number of PhD students graduated from the School.

TEN NEW doctors!

Lorie Kinda, BA’08, MLIS’02, PhD’12 (left) with supervisor Joan Bartlett: Clinical questions asked and pursued by rehabilitation therapists: an exploratory study of information needs.

Rafa Absar, MSc’06, PhD’12 (left), with supervisor Catherine Guastavino: Enhancing navigation using auditory feedback: A case study of hierarchical information visualization system.

Michelle Atkin, MLIS’09, PhD’11, with supervisor Andrew Large: Information ethics: An applied study of United States foreign intelligence surveillance under President George W. Bush.

David Tang, MLIS’10, PhD’12 (left) with co-supervisor Pierre Poyre: Towards optimal management of health information users’ feedback: The case of the Canadian Pharmacists Association (Co-supervisor France Bouthillier not shown.)

Amandine Pras, PhD’12 (left) with co-supervisor Pierre Poyre: Towards optimal management of health information users’ feedback: The case of the Canadian Pharmacists Association (Co-supervisor France Bouthillier not shown.)

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Yang Lin, MLIS’04, PhD’11 (left): Chinese business managers’ perceptions in KM-related decision making: Environmental, informational, individual, and decision-specific perspectives (Supervisor Kimit Dalkir not shown)

Evelyne Mondou, MLIS’05, PhD’11 (right): Analysis of the vocabulary used by a community of practice over time: A case study of scientific knowledge transfer (Supervisor Kimit Dalkir not shown.)

Francoise Xavier Paré, PhD’12 (not shown): Personal information management among office support staff in a university environment: An exploratory study (Supervisor Jammie Behrens)

Paul Tremblay
MLIS’97

I earned my MLIS in 1997 just before starting as a librarian for the Queens Borough Public Library system in Queens, New York City. My first branch was Jackson Heights, an extremely busy place where I performed my duties as reference librarian, inter-library loan librarian and “other duties as assigned,” which were many. Fortunately, Dr. McNally and Professor Graziano’s reference courses, still fresh in my mind, helped me navigate through the Dewey System as well as within the American culture. My future wife and I followed similar trails: we met in library school, graduated together, were hired by QBPL at the same time, moved to New York City three days after our wedding and started at the library on July 5 (although in different branches).

It was not long before Administration asked me to apply for an assistant branch library manager position, which I refused. I felt I was not ready and I liked my weekends! But after the third request I finally applied. I thought I just couldn’t say no any longer.

In 1999 I helped manage a branch in Ridgewood, Queens, and had to go through a few class notes from Dr. Bouthillier on how to assess, lead, etc! I still remember the two management classes I took with Dr. Bouthillier; I had thought that I wouldn’t need those skills. I stand corrected. About a year later I had my first branch in South Ozone Park, followed by Laurelton in 2001. When I decided to apply for a position at Long Island University (Brooklyn), I was not aware that one former McGill student was already working there. Andrea Stanskey, MLIS’99, was a Media Librarian, and after I was appointed Reference Librarian (Library Faculty), we discussed McGill Power – we and a number of émigrés from McGill all living in the tri-State area and working in public, special and academic libraries.

In 2004 I earned my second Master’s, an MA in Media Arts from LIU Brooklyn. My thesis was on propaganda and non-fiction. In 2007 I was appointed Head of Reference (overseeing reference and instruction).


I saw a position opening in a medical library, applied and was hired in March 2011. I am now Medical Librarian at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine. Based on the curriculum, I assist students and faculty with their research, perform inter-library loan requests (Docline) and help the library director manage serials. We have three or four contingents of podiatry students from Université du Québec à Trois Rivieres (the only chiropody/podiatry school in Canada) coming for a 15-week stay at NYCPM and it is my pleasure to welcome them and be of assistance when needed.

I have had the opportunity to serve in a number of positions throughout my librarian career but I learned that there is one constant, whatever the circumstances: you serve a population, and whether you call your patrons “taxpayers,” “students,” “faculty” or “physicians,” your work is guided by the needs of the community, the library, in short, of your constituency.

I manage askON, a nonprofit virtual reference service collaborative of college and public libraries across Ontario. Ontarians and students at Ontario colleges ask us questions or get research help about anything. My days are filled with working with my Steering Committee and various task forces to discuss and develop various service enhancements, scheduling librarians on the service, managing a group of 50 interns who also work on the service, optimizing access and traffic, developing our training program, keeping abreast of best practices in VR and info literacy, and helping our askON family leverage their opportunities and reach to the communities of Ontario.

In addition to reference services and info literacy, my interests lie in emerging technologies, digital services and online community management. I also run Toronto Roller Derby as VP and skate for two teams, captaining one of them (I discovered the sport in Montreal while I was doing my MLIS). I feel very happy to be where I am in my life right now and it is very much attributed to my time in Montreal at McGill’s School of Information Studies. My specialization in Librarianship taught me about the world of public and academic libraries, as well as what it takes to be an effective manager and leader in the library world. My extracurricular work with FOGS, the Multilingual Children’s Library, organizing the first Web2You workshop, and staffing a VR desk in Second Life opened up many opportunities for me.

I’m a proud alumna of McGill’s School of Information Studies!

Janis Dawson
MLIS’08

Queens Borough Public Library was not my first library job, but was my first position as a librarian. Right after graduating in 1999 I moved to New York City with two job offers from Brooklyn Public Library and Queens Borough Public Library (QBPL). My decision to work for QBPL was primarily based on the community and the fact that I found lodging in Queens, Rego Park to be precise. Looking back, the School provided interesting classes on public librarianship, these classes as well as the opportunity to work as an intern at the Fraser-Hickson Library in Montreal during my second year helped me obtain my first full-time job at Queens.

My first branch was Flushing, or rather the “swing space,” before moving into the state-of-the-art Library which exists today. The Flushing branch is truly a magnificent building and an excellent library in the sense of collection, service and location. I served under a veteran manager of the system and she put my management talents and skills to the test. At McGill I took mainly technical classes but I also benefited from Dr. Bouthillier’s management courses. I took it upon myself to manage volunteers and hourly rates. Soon I was promoted to Assistant Branch Library Manager in East Flushing and, after the birth of my daughter, I resumed my duties in other branches.

It was then that I decided to move to a much more challenging position. Given the vast number of immigrants in Queens (among whom I count myself), QBPL had to find a way to serve a very diverse population. The New Americans Program (NAP) is one of the most successful projects of its kind in the country. I applied and was hired for the position of Assistant Coordinator to NAP under the Library’s Programs and Services Department. The work was varied, never boring and always rewarding. I was awarded a “Library Luminary” award for meritorious performance for improving customer service for multilingual and multicultural populations in Queens. In 2006, I was invited to an Advanced Certificate Program in Public Library Administration offered by the Palmer School of Library and Information Science, where I updated and expanded my understanding of management principles and issues as well as improved my leadership skills. Once I completed the program, I was promoted to Community Library Manager in Glen Oaks.

Reminiscent of Flushing in a way, the City and QBPL are building another super-branch which will be ready next year and where I will be the manager. In the meantime I am currently managing the small transition branch across from the new building’s construction site. A manager’s day is never boring, especially under the current economic situation that requires more creativity with fewer resources. Classes at GSLIS prepared me to look out for opportunities and to overcome obstacles. Day after day, year after year, different skills are required to tackle different situations, but the most important thing is to constantly improve myself, building upon the solid education I earned at McGill.
Andrew Fenus, MLS’74, and his wife, Dr. Gail Beck, MLS’78, have made a long-term gift to the Diller Library of McGill that will support the Library’s exhibition program. Mr. Fenus had worked at the National Library of Canada during the summers and after graduation. He subsequently earned a Master of Public Administration at Queen’s University, and worked on a federal public service task force and in the House of Commons for a former Speaker of the House. Since 1988 he has acted as a federal and provincial quasi-judicial adjudicator and held an Order in Council appointment to the Ontario Rent Review Hearings Board (6 years), the Copyright Board of Canada (10 years), and currently the Assessment Review Board of Ontario (since 2007). Mr. Fenus says that “though I worked as a librarian for only a short period of my professional life, I can satisfactorily say that the MLS opened many opportunities for me. The MLS has indeed given me the capacity and solid ground to be a jack of all trades.”

Jean Charbonneau, MLS’89, has published his first novel Come un intrus (see www.les-matins-carnivores.com/livre-details). He is currently a branch manager with the Orange County Library System in Orlando, Florida.

Martin Poirier, MLS’98, received the 2011 Librarian of the Year award in February 2012 from the Corporation des bibliothécaires professionnels du Québec for the planning and management of the renovation project of the Bibliothèque Roger-Maltas de l’Université Sherbrooke. This library is the main library of the University, serving five faculties. Mr. Poirier has been the director of the Bibliothèque Roger-Maltas (Sciences humaines) and the Bibliothèque de musique of the University of Sherbrooke since 2006. He has a number of publications including a collection of poetry, Les malins carnivores, published in 2002, for which he was named a finalist in the Grand prix du livre de la ville de Sherbrooke (création littéraire) and the Prix Gaston-Gouin de l’Association des auteurs des Cantons de l’Est.

Elizabeth Wallace, MLS’95, is working as the Collections Librarian in the Science & Technology Library at the University of Alberta. She previously spent 14 years as a Science and Engineering Librarian at Syracuse University, New York.

Lois MacDonald, MLS’92, writes to report, “I am still working; this is not so much news except that when I graduated in 1992 I was already 52 years old. I have never had full-time employment but I work part-time at the University of Winnipeg, did many contracts in Winnipeg and have worked at the University of Manitoba on and off for the last eight years where I am right now.”

Paolo Melillo, MLS’94, is currently a branch manager with the Orange County Library System in Orlando, Florida.

Rafa Abras, MsC’06, PhD’12, has been hired as a lecturer at the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver.

Lise Achetezher, MLS’11, is a MediLibrarian at the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, Direction du traitement documentaire des collections patrimoniales.

Michelle Louise Atkin, MLS’03, PhD’11, published her first book in early 2012, Balancing Liberty and Security: An Ethical Study of U.S. Foreign Intelligence Surveillance (Scarecrow Press), which is based on her PhD dissertation. At the University of Alberta, she will conduct an Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) award for a conference paper “Examining the Limits of Free Expression through Canadian Case Law: Reflections on the Canadian Library Association’s Code of Ethics and its Supporting Statement on Intellectual Freedom,” at the annual ALISE conference in Dallas. Ms. Atkin is the professional association for library science education across North America. Dr. Atkin’s paper was one of three selected by a jury for publication in the annual “Best Conference Papers” issue of the Journal of Education for Library and Information Science. Dr. Atkin will receive a plaque at this year’s meeting in Seattle to mark her achievement.

Andrea Black, MLS’12, is a Research Specialist at the law firm Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP in Montreal.

Marie-Ève Barrette, MLS’12, is a Research Agent at the Centre hospitalier de l’Université de Montréal (CHUM) Foundation.

Sara Beaudy, MLS’10, is a librarian at the Library of Parliament in Ottawa where she provides substantive and timely research and information services to individual Senators and members of the House of Commons.

Aimée Belmore, MLS’12, is working as an information management officer in the Parliamentary Publications branch of the House of Commons in Ottawa.

Leanne Bowler, BA’80, MLS’82, MED’00, PhD’07, received the ALISE/Pratt-Severn Faculty Innovation Award at the 2012 ALISE Conference in Dallas in January 2012. Leanne is an assistant professor at the School of Information Sciences, University of Pittsburgh, where she is responsible for the specialization in children and youth. She teaches courses about new media literacy, technology for young people, children’s literature and media, and early literacy and language development.

Amy Buckland, MLS’08, was given the 2011 Librarian Excellence Award by McGill University Libraries. The annual award was created to officially honour the extraordinary service, important efforts and achievements of staff members. Each year, the McGill Library presents an award of $1,000 to a librarian whose work has had a positive impact on the Library and its users, recognizing a McGill librarian who has demonstrated excellence in academic librarianship and has shown efforts to improve library services through innovative practice, initiative and resourcefulness.

Pamela Carson, MLS’11, is currently Web Services Librarian at Concordia University in Montreal. She worked as a student librarian there during her studies where she coded the graphic interface of the library’s mobile web site.

Anne-Frédérique Champoux, MLS’11, is working at Université Laval as the arts and architecture liaison librarian and notes that she met her future supervisor at the School’s Career Fair.

Sanghun Cho, MLS’11, is currently working for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada as Knowledge Management Officer.

Leah Cohen, BA’83, MLS’01, is the Acquisitions Librarian – English Monographs, at the Legal Deposit Unit, and Jacob M. Lowy Collection Librarian at Library and Archives Canada.

Kate Cushon, MLS’10, is a Liaison Librarian at Business Administration, Economics, English, Public Policy, and Social Work at the Dr. John Archer Library of the University of Regina in Saskatchewan.

Marie-Chantal L’Ecuyer-Coelho, MLS’08, is the Bibliothecaire responsable du traitement des documents des collections de l’École des Bibliothèques et Archives nationales du Québec, Direction du traitement documentaire des collections patrimoniales.

Eric Erickson, MLS’09, is working at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as a knowledge management analyst on their KM pilot initiative. This is the development of a KM program with communities of practice, a key document system with underlying taxonomy, and an expertise locator system behind a common KM portal. The pilot is beginning with the VA HR community across the four VA agencies: Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration, National Cemeteries Administration and the VA Central Office. Eric is currently overseeing the development of the content management system and taxonomy with contractors. He is working at the VA Central Office in Washington, D.C. and started in January 2011 after spending 18 months as electronic services librarian at the Pentagon.

Josef Espinosa, MLS’11, is working as a communications administrator at the McGill Social Equity and Diversity Education Office.

Ahnwi Ferrari, MLS’08, is working as electronic services librarian at Saint Martin’s University, in Lacey, Washington.

Ping Fu, MLS’03, is Head of Library Technology Services/Systems and associate professor (tenure track) at the Central Washington University Library in Ellensburg, WA. Her responsibilities include managing library systems and overseeing the four departments: Systems, Cataloging, Serials/e-resources and Collection Development.

Sarah Gibbs, MLS’12, is an ERP Documentation Librarian at Suncor Energy Inc. in Calgary, Alberta.
The three-credit Practicum, an optional course in the Master’s program, gives stu-
dents the opportunity to participate in su-
pervised field practice, applying their theo-
retical knowledge and learning and practicing professional skills. The number of
students choosing this optional course has
been increasing, as have the variety and
number of practicum sites, and in Winter
2012, there were 35 students enrolled. A cap-
stone project in the practicum is a virtual pre-
sentation of the work the student has done;
this can be a poster or a virtual presentation,
practicum site supervisor, IST faculty and
other students attend the presentation.

Wayne Pender, MLIS’13, practicum at
World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) with
Lisa Coady, MLIS’12, practicum at Centre
for Oral History and Digital Storytelling,
Concordia University.

Katarina Danies, BA’09, MLIS’12, with her
Practicum Site Supervisor from the
Selwyn House Library, Lie Clemens, BA’06,
MA’06, MLIS’09, PD’09.

Practicum Poster Presentations, April 2012
Megan Gray, MLIS’13, with her poster
demonstrating her practicum experience at
the Match Information Research Centre.

Robyn Maler, MLIS’11, currently has two
positions, one as a consumer health librarian
and one as a medical librarian. In the realm of
consumer information, she is an intern at the
Centre de documentation for les personnes
atteintes de cancer at the Centre intégré
d’cancérologie de Laval. She is also a medical
librarian at the Hôpital Sainte-Justine.

Emily McKigh, MLIS’12, is working in the
Department of Mechanical Engineering at
McGill, as graduate admissions and fellowships
coordinator.

Sarah Macintyre, MLIS’12, has taken a
position of librarian at the Riverside School
Board on the South Shore.

Aude McDermott, BSc’04, MLIS’10, is
the library manager of the Axworthy and
Computer Centre in Montreal.

Alexis McKenzie, MLIS’12, is working at the
Engineering Library at the University of
Saskatchewan. It is a term position that ends in
May 2013.

Amber McNair, MLIS’11, is the Youth Services
Librarian at the Huntsville Public Library in
Huntsville, Ontario.

Melissa Morron, MLIS’02, received a com-
mand in the New York State Legislature:
J96-2011: Commanding Melissa Morron
upon the occasion of her being honored on
March 24, 2011, in conjunction with
Women’s History Month in the State of New
York. To read the full commendment, see
http://open.nysenate.gov/legislation/bill/
J96-2011.

Josée J. Nadeau, BA’10, MLIS’12, is
the School of Management librarians at Yale
University. She is working in the Social
Science Library and will be responsible for
consultation, outreach and collection development for the Yale SOM.

Marsha Taichman, MLIS’11, is the visual
resources and public services librarian in the
Fine Arts Library at Cornell University.

Daniela Zavala Mora, MLIS’12, is working
as academic librarian for the Faculty of Agriculture at Université Laval in
Quebec City.

Emett We: We apologize for an error in our 2010 newsletter. Melissa Morron has been
identified as Bernice Mora (Pasquinelli Ballan-
tyne), BA’87, MLIS’92.

Marika (Salamoo) Antipa, BA’89, MLIS’93,
died on October 27, 2012, in Montréal, Québec.

Vivian Cummins, BAV, MLIS’79, died April 11, 2012,
of complications from multiple myeloma at age 86.
She was known for her expertise in obtaining
educational resources centres, including the
guidance library at Concordia University, Montreal, a reference library for primary school principals at
the Teacher Resource Centre in 301, NGOs, and most recently the resource centre at the norman
patterson School of International Affairs of Car-
leton University in Ontario.

Catherine Rollier, BLISVA, MLIS’09, died
October 28, 2012, in Montreal. For many years she was a librar-
ian at McGill, where she was the Head of the
Government Documents Department.

Sherry Lynn Koshman, MLIS’89, died May 1, 2011.
After her MLIS, Dr. Koshman went on to complete
her PhD at the University of Pittsburgh. She
was nominated for a Governor General’s Award for
his volume of poems, High March Road. He taught
courses in bibliography, paleography (the study of ancient writing), Canadian poetry and the history
of books and libraries and worked at the Universi-
ty of Victoria, Cornell University, Dalhousie Uni-
versity, York University and the University of To-
ronto before becoming Director of Canadian
Studies at Mount Allison University in Sackville in 1975. Douglas subsequently became winter in resi-
dence at Mount Allison in 1987 and retired in 1990,
writing 16 more volumes of poetry before his death. He was the posthumous recipient of
Pat (Wicks) Letz, BLIS’79, died February 12, 2012, in
Halifax.

Janet Ann Hunt, BLIS’39, died March 12, 2012, in To-
ronto.

John MacKinnon, BLIS’74, died June 25, 2012, in Hali-
fax, NS. Following his degree in library science at
McGill, John worked as a university librarian, first at Queen’s University, then at Acadia. Having de-
cided to switch to university teaching, he complet-
ed a Master’s degree in French at Laval University and began his teaching career at Loyola College in
1969. In 1996 he joined the Department of Modern Languages at St. Mary’s University, where he spent the rest of his academic career.

Basílio Stuart-Stubbie, BLIS’54, died May 29, 2012, in
Vancouver. Originally from abuja, Nigeria and later
Vancouve where he earned an undergraduate de-
gree at UBC, Basílio worked at the McGill University Library following his BLIS. He returned to UBC and
worked in positions specializing in collections and
rar books. In 1946, at the age of 32, he was appoint-
ed University Librarian. His 17 years in that post
coincided with the computer revolution and the
rapid growth of the library staff and collections
depended upon many new branch libraries on the
expanding Point Grey campus in 1961, he moved to a faculty position when he was appointed pro-
essor and director of the School of Library, Archi-
vation and Information Studies, a position from which he held in in the 1960s. Basílio took particular interest in the production
and distribution of Canadian books, and was asso-
ciated with several initiatives beneficial to authors
and their readers, and Canadian publishing. He
chaired the UBC Publications Centre which creat-
ed UBC Press, collaborating with bill duthie and
Harold Maclean to establish Canadian Books in
Print, was first President of the Canadian Association of
Research Libraries, organized the first conference on
regional publishing in Western Canada which
led to the establishment of the Association of B.C.
Book Publishers. He was a founding member and
second President of the Canadian Institute for His-
torical Microproduction, a founding member of the
Agnos Society, a founding member of the
SFP Centre for Canadian Publishing, participat-
ing in the establishment of the scholarly journal
Canadian Literature, and advocated for the estab-
lishment of the Public Lending Right for Canadian authors. A particular highlight was a jour-
ney through Europe in the mid-1960s to acquire pre-
cious manuscripts and books, using funds from
the $3-million donation for UBC collections pro-
vided by industrialist H. R. Macmillan. Basílio
received many distinctions, including the Or-
der of Canada (1969), election to the Royal Society of Canada (1963), the Grey Campbell Distinguished
Service Award from the Association of Book Pub-
lishe of BC; the B.C. Make Bookwell Medal for
Outstanding Academic Librarian from the Canadi-
ian Library Association; the Helen Gordon-Steele
Award from the BC Library Association; Honorary
Life Memberships from the BC Library Association and
American Library Association, the Sackville Medal
in 1967, and the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee
Medal in 2012.
As we mentioned in the last newsletter (2010), and as you were informed by letter, we have moved to publishing the School’s newsletter online, on our website. You can find it under the Alumni tab at www.mcgill.ca/sis/alumni. This is in an effort to be environmentally friendly and to save on ever-increasing printing and mailing costs. At your request, however, we can offer you the option of receiving a mailed copy in a colour photocopy format. You can let us know your preference by emailing Susann Allnutt, Administrative Assistant at the School, at susann.allnutt@mcgill.ca or by sending us a note at 3661 Peel St., Montreal, QC, H3A 1X1.

We are always interested in learning about your career and other news, by either email or regular mail.

Do we have your current contact information?
(please complete and let us know whether these are your home or business coordinates)

Name
Year of Graduation
Address
Telephone
Fax
Email

Don’t be a stranger! Tell us about your life (career moves, publications, family)