Dean Smith looks over some old photographs from the Faculty’s early days with Spring Reunion guest speaker Jane Cooney (BLS ’64, MLS ’74) and alumna Karin Kattai (BLS ’64).

FIS Alumni Spring Reunion

By Richard Bowring

In despite the stormy weather, an energetic group of alumni gathered at 89 Chestnut Street (student) Residence on June 1st to enjoy each other’s company, celebrate the achievements of their colleagues, and reminisce about the old Library School. Starting with a lively cocktail reception and balloon raffle, we enjoyed an exquisite grilled salmon dinner, and finished with an outstanding set of presentations.

Paula Clark and Rod Carter shared the Student Jubilee Award. Paula, a part-time MISt student, was chosen for her ability to galvanize the FIS Social Committee — “One merely has to look at the great experiences of our Hart House Farm weekend or the recent Coffee House to see how Paula has worked to create a collegial and energized spirit among all FISers!” said Brian MacMillan, past Student Council President. Rod, although unable to attend as he was at an archival conference, was chosen for the work he did in forming a student chapter of the Association of Canadian Archivists at FIS (something that was not even included in the association’s original constitution!). Please join us in congratulating them both for the outstanding contribution they have made to the life of the Faculty.

The Alumni Jubilee Award was presented to Wendy Newman (MLS ’85), our current “Librarian Continued on page 4”

“’The Year of the Walk’ – FIS’ New Academic Plan

Based on reports from 7 working groups, conversations with numerous alumni/alumnae, talks with regular and adjunct FIS faculty, discussions with students (in large groups, small groups, and individually), more than a dozen meetings with library and professional organizations, endless meetings about information practices at UofT, consultations with deans of other information schools, deliberations at Faculty Council, countless emails from individuals and groups, and a myriad of individual conversations, FIS has a new Academic Plan!

The Plan paints a picture of Information Studies broader than anything FIS can develop itself. This broadening of the canvas is essential to avoid becoming a “silo,” to garner collaboration from other divisions, and to do justice to the wildfire spread of information practice across society. Details (about budgets, organizational changes, hiring policies, student admissions targets, etc.) will be developed over the coming year, based on conversations with senior UofT administration, and with potential collaborators in other UofT divisions, other universities, libraries, and professional organizations.

The Plan is nevertheless sufficiently concrete to allow us to start making it a reality. Organizational changes are ongoing. A new curriculum will be developed in 2004-05, with an eye to implementation in fall 2006. Substantial fundraising will be initiated immediately. If 2003-04 was “the year of the talk,” 2004-05 will be “the year of the walk.”

Substantively, the Plan identifies four major academic foci:

1. Libraries, Archives, and Museums (LAM): a consolidation, refocusing, renewal, and expansion (in collaboration with Museum Studies) of FIS’ expertise in the collection, stewarding, curation, organization, presentation, management, preservation, and provision of (public) access to diverse information collections, resources, and cultural collections.

2. Culture, and Information Practice (CCIP): the sociological, historical, anthropological, cultural, political and policy dimension of socio-technical information practice.

Continued on page 8
PLC Director Karen Melville Retires

IN 1973, I was a newly minted librarian in my first job interview. “Um,” said the director, looking with clear disapproval at my resume, “it seems you move around a lot.” I tried to convince her that I wasn’t a flibbertygibbet but met with no success. Now that I’m retiring after 20 years at FIS, I feel she would nod with approval at my late-blooming stability.

When I was a student in library school, an instructor drew a distinction between people with 20 years’ experience and people with one year of experience repeated twenty times. Naturally, we were all determined to be in the first group. Luckily, twenty years at FIS made it inevitable. I have been thinking back on the changes during my time here and they are remarkable. We’ve changed our name, added, dropped, and changed degrees, and radically and constantly revised the curriculum. Does this mean FIS too is a flibbertygibbet?

I’d say, anything but. To stand still is to stagnate and I am very proud of how responsive the Faculty has been to the changes that have transformed our profession. It’s a soul-searching, earnest, talkative and, yes, nit-picking place but it’s also open-minded and daring. FIS has been a crucible for new ideas and the faculty hasn’t shirked from taking us in bold new directions. In my twenty years here, I feel I’ve been at the centre of the profession.

I began my career here as Placement Officer, but in 1995 I took over the reins of the flourishing continuing education program from the capable hands of Mavis Cariou. It was a critical period for, at about the same time, the University announced that it could no longer financially support continuing education programs. We were given a four-year window to become financially self-sufficient. In order to survive, we had to grow. And grow we did. The Professional Learning Centre is now the largest continuing education program for the information field in North America. We were lucky in that our period of growth coincided with the increasing demand by librarians and other information professionals for programs that offered more depth and technical detail than the short courses we previously offered. We responded by introducing comprehensive certificate programs. We created our first one, Internet Business and Technology in 1997. This year we have 13.

One of the innovations we are most proud of is the introduction of Internet distance-education courses. The PLC pioneered web courses at the University of Toronto and they now attract students from all over the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the people who have made the PLC a success. My predecessors in continuing education, Professors Larry Denis, John Wilkinson, and Mavis Cariou, created a solid foundation on which we could build. Deans Adele Fasick, Lynne Howarth, and now Brian Cantwell Smith, have been strong supporters of the PLC, urging us to innovate and supporting us to the hilt. The wonderful PLC instructors, too many to mention, are responsible for the PLC’s reputation for academic excellence and I thank them for the dedication and care they give to their teaching. Our educational partners, the National Institute for Genealogical Studies and ARMA, allowed us to spread beyond our traditional audience. The FIS administrative staff, particularly Susan Brown and Kathy Shyjak, have steered us safely through numerous financial shoals. Network administrator, Ab Gehani, resolved many a technical glitch.

Most of all I want to express my admiration for the PLC staff: our programmer, Jith Liyanage who created the PLC website and the wonderful administrative database that has made our lives so much simpler; registration clerk, Alfredo Gonzales, who picks up new procedures at the speed of light and is willing to tackle anything we throw at him; our technical support guru, Tony Lemmens, who is a paragon of caring and responsibility and a top-notch Internet technician; and finally, Marcia Chen. Marcia is our financial and administrative officer and it is impossible to imagine the PLC without her. Thank you, Marcia, for the immaculate care you take of our records, for the countless ideas that have streamlined our procedures, for your boundless energy, and for your take-charge sense of responsibility.

This is the PLC Dream Team and I believe I am widely envied for having colleagues like this to work with.

At the time of writing this, I don’t know who my successor will be, whoever you are, I hope you have as grand a time as I’ve had. Our tumultuous, ever-adapting profession shows no signs of slowing down so the potential new directions for the PLC are endless. You’ll find it’s a wonderful ride.

Staff Update

As the new Academic Plan for FIS takes shape we are happy to let you know about some changes in the Faculty’s leadership structure.

JOE COX (MLS ’84) has been appointed to the newly created position of Director of the Inforum. Dean Brian Cantwell Smith declared, “with the new Academic Plan, the Inforum will be playing a major role in the Faculty’s future, not just as a place that provides the highest level of professional service to the entire Faculty community, but also as a laboratory or “site” for innovative information practice. I look forward to the Inforum’s increasing its role as a place where we collectively prototype and pilot many of the progressive projects we (and our alliance partners) will be developing over the coming years.”

The Dean also announced the appointment of Associate Professor Wendy Duff to the new position of Director of Graduate Studies (DGS). FIS has renewed its commitment to improving the quality of all its graduate programs; among other things, this includes providing students with the best possible guidance, advice, and stewardship throughout their career at the Faculty. The position of DGS will combine the responsibilities of an Associate Dean and the Chair of the Doctoral Studies Committee, ensuring consistency and providing a single point of Faculty responsibility for the student dimension of our academic mission. Wendy brings her commitment and dedication to the position, and has already started working with the Faculty in this new role.

Since March of this year, Professor Joan Cherry has taken on the new position of Vice-Dean at FIS. In that role, Joan will help with the management and direction of FIS, especially as regards issues of organization, operation, and procedure. Joan brings with her not only a history with the Faculty, but also understanding of the School of Graduate Studies as she liaises between the Dean’s Office and different parts of the Faculty.

On a sad note we are sorry to see Karen Melville and Richard Bowring leaving the Faculty. Karen is retiring at the end of this year (see left), while Richard is moving on at the end of September. Both have been involved with the alumni and enjoyed the connections they have made. We wish them well in their new adventures.
FOCUS ON A STUDENT – EDWARD WHITE

Why FIS? Honestly? U of T has a good reputation; I didn't want to live in Vancouver again; the tuition was about a dollar cheaper than Western; I knew people in Toronto and I could live across the street from the university. Oh, and hopes of better dating prospects.

What was your undergraduate degree/background in? I studied sociology in my undergrad. I rather liked that it kept telling me that very little I believed about the world was true. Prior to university I worked in a number of professional kitchens.

What program are you studying at FIS? The oddly-titled Master of Information Studies, in the Library and Information Science stream.

What do you think of the changes in the field of librarianship/information management in the last few years? Where do you see this field going? I'm tremendously impressed with the vast scope of changes that librarianship has had to cope with in the past ten years, and I suspect that the pace of challenge is not going to slow down. I believe information management will become more diverse and interdisciplinary, but this does not eliminate the need, as some would say, for librarians; instead it requires that the profession adapt and overcome problems through experience, context, and collaboration. Librarians are no longer gatekeepers, but rather facilitators or nodes of access. The experience of the profession is key, because in analyzing many of the issues, such as seriality, or format integration, or the proliferation of information, the nature of the problems have not always changed, merely the scale and the impact. Our strength is in awareness and application of that insight.

As a student, how have you stayed involved at the faculty? Apart from wearing the mantle of FIS Student Council President, I do my best to actually speak to the staff and the adjuncts. Any organization functions by the effort of those that are usually unrecognized or without prestige. In FIS that’s the administrative staff, and the Inforum staff. So maintaining a good relationship with the people who actually run the place is paramount to understanding what goes on here. I also make a point of attending faculty & social functions (or cooking for them), and generally being available to students who have a grievance to express.

Is this your first time on a student council? What made you decide to run for office? Do you have a particular platform? This is my first time in student politics and student council. It’s a bit daunting and quite a responsibility. I ran for two reasons. The first is that any form of democracy requires choices and while the previous council’s V.P. was running, I didn’t know of anyone else challenging her. Second, although I have a good relationship with the new Dean, I can’t expect Brian to always keep our interests foremost. So I’m here to constantly remind him, and the faculty, that the school primarily exists to teach new generations of information professionals, not as a bastion of pure intellectual research where the future of students is incidental. My platform was based on the idea that I’m an outspoken and determined individual bent on getting accountability and transparency out of a Faculty that cannot decide between research and teaching. There are good and valuable aspects to the Faculty, but there are also chronic problems that need to be addressed.

Is there any particular event at FIS that you are looking forward to in the next year? Well, it’d either be the Faculty Council meetings, which might nicely devolve into a scrum; or a variety of the social and professional development events put on by student council. I enjoy listening to fellow students and their tangible concerns and interacting with them. I’m also very optimistic about the forthcoming changes initiated by the Dean, and hope that close collaboration with him and the Director of Graduate Studies, Prof. Duff, will address the concerns of many here at FIS.

What are you hoping to pursue when you graduate? At the moment I’m somewhat intent on becoming a competent cataloguer, though with another year to go, this might change. I’d like to work in academic or corporate libraries, and I’m still quite curious about law librarianship. There’s also the lure of future M.A.’s, though working would be a nice change after seven straight years of schooling.

As this is a newsletter that goes out to FIS alumni, is there anything you’d like to say to them? Yes. I’d like to ask if the Alumni would consider mentoring current FIS students, or coming to FIS and enlightening us with your accumulated wisdom. There’s a real need for tangible connections and continuity between the students and the professional community, which in my opinion is simply not met here. Mentors can provide that bridge between the theoretical context and the pragmatic necessities of the profession. They can guide students, provide a vision and
in Residence”. Wendy was the Chief Librarian of the Brantford Public Library and Co-Chair of the Joint ALA-CLA Conference in June 2003 (an event that was a grand success despite SARS concerns). Congratulations Wendy!

Our guest speaker, Jane Cooney (BLS ’64, MLS ’74), kept us entertained by enlisting the help of fellow alumni Clara Miller (BLS ’44, MLS ’71), Guylaine Petrin (MLS ’89), and Tracy Palmer (MIS ’99) who regaled us with stories of what the School/Faculty was like during their student years – there have been a lot of changes since we opened in 1928 as the Library School!

Thanks to all who contributed prizes for the balloon raffle and helped put the evening together. We look forward to seeing more of you at the next alumni event.

Alumni Jubilee Award-winner Wendy Newman (MLS ’85) says a few words.

FISAA President, Roula Panopoulos (MIST ’99), presents Paula Clark with a Student Jubilee Award.

A Special Note of Thanks to Ms. Florence Partridge

Ms. Partridge was an extraordinary force during her life, presiding over the Ontario Agricultural College’s (now the University of Guelph) Massey Library for nearly 50 years. Since 1964, Ms. Partridge oversaw the expansive growth of the library, serving as Associate and then Chief Librarian until her retirement. Her dedication to creating an enriched student learning environment initiated the University’s fine-art collection.

Never one to forget her alma mater, Ms. Partridge, bequeathed a significant portion of her estate to the Faculty of Information Studies in support of student learning and librarianship. Her tremendous generosity helped finalize the 75th Anniversary Ontario Graduate Scholarship, as well as establish the Florence Partridge OSOTF Scholarships. As someone who worked in libraries all her life Ms. Partridge understood the value of student learning, and has ensured that students at FIS will have the support they need to continue their education. Her special legacy, through this single largest personal donation received at the Faculty, will exist in perpetuity and provide deserving students the opportunity to have the best graduate education possible.

In Memory

The FIS community solemnly remembers those who have passed on recently.

Robin Adair (Dip. Lib ’43) - June 16th, 2004
E. Stanley Beacock (BLS’47, MLS ’69) – March 2nd, 2004
Sheila Burndorfer (BLS ’51)
A. Phyllis Craig (Dip. Lib.’33)
Charlotte Dill (BLS ’45)
Thelma Dowding (BLS ’43) – September 20th, 2003
Joan Fawcett (BLS ’66, MLS ’75) – May 11th, 2004
Paula Joyce Fleming (MLS ’95)
Mary L. Isaacs (BLS ’59) – February 9th, 2004
Sheila M. King (Dip. Lib ’36, BLS ’38) – January 22nd, 2004
Marion G. Main (BLS ’40) – May 22nd, 2004
Elizabeth McCallum (BLS ’49) – April 3rd, 2003
Marjorie McLeod (BLS ’56) – March 23rd, 2004
Phyllis Morgan (BLS’54) – June 4th, 2003
Florence Partridge (Dip. Lib ’32, MLS’39) – February 21st, 2004
Dorothy Shahoff (BLS ’68) – May 28th, 2004
Mary Price Stephens (BLS ’37) – March 26th, 2004
Mary Ruth Thompson (BLS ’53, MLS ’70) – May 28th, 2004 Retired for some years, Mary Ruth was formerly the Young Adults Librarian, and later head of the Wesdale Branch in the Hamilton library system.
Norman R. Todd (MLS ’78) – May 26th, 2004
Susan Waintman (MLS ’73) – February 6th, 2004
Susan’s life is celebrated in the student prize established in her memory by her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Baxter.
Jean E. White (BLS ’46) – May 19th, 2004
Albert Zanussi (BLS ’66) – March 3rd, 2004

FACULTY OF INFORMATION STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

INFORMED
No. 55, Fall 2004
Publications Mail
Registration No. 1780182

Dean: Brian Cantwell Smith
Contributors:
Richard Bowring, Joe Cox,
Sara Figueiredo, Karen Melville,
Clara Miller, Roula Panopoulos,
Brian Cantwell Smith,
Edward White.

Designer: Samantha Edwards
HOW DID I COME TO MAKE LIBRARY SCIENCE

My chosen career? It was not, as I have heard many a librarian say, a choice made early in life, having been influenced by pleasant memories of using a library and of knowing a librarian. No, I traveled a long and circuitous route before finding myself on the road to becoming a librarian.

When I was growing up in Newfoundland, there was no public library in St. John’s. Some bookstores catered to what was considered female reading tastes, with copies of current romance titles, available for borrowing at a daily charge. I did not get to read what my sister borrowed, probably because of the bookstore’s daily charge. Being younger, I was too slow with my reading. However, my sister made up for this by reading to me Andersen’s Fairy Tales, poems by Tennyson, Milton, and Longfellow, sonnets of Shakespeare, Mark Twain’s stories, and Scott and Dickens. My sister had a wide and varied taste in reading, and I benefited greatly from this.

Some of the city clubs in St. John’s had lending libraries for their members. These were mainly men’s clubs and their collections reflected male reading tastes. Courtesy of my older brother, and the clubs to which he belonged, I was early introduced to E. Phillips Oppenheim, Edgar Wallace, Sax Rohmer, Jeffrey Farnol, and even to Erich Remarque’s novel of World War I, “All Quiet on the Western Front.” Among school friends, too, we had a lending system in operation whereby we exchanged L.M. Montgomery’s books and other similar titles that would be considered more suited to a teenager’s reading tastes. So I was one of those people who grew up unaware of the richness that a public library offered.

After matriculating in 1930 from Bishop Spencer College in St. John’s, I had two years at Newfoundland’s Memorial University College. Memorial did not become a degree-granting university until 1949, when Newfoundland became Canada’s newest province. So in 1932, for any further education, it was necessary to go abroad. With a scholarship and financial help, I attended Acadia University, where, having majored in Organic Chemistry and minored in Mathematics, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1934. It was not the best of times in which to graduate in the midst of the Depression! Neither male nor female graduates were inundated with job offers in 1934.

However, during the winter of 1934-35, I was needed at home. I did fit in a course in typing and shorthand that I thought might be a future asset. It did provide a job, that had a salary, but it was not a job that would lead to a satisfying career. Among the avenues I explored, one was with a firm of chartered accountants. My minor in Mathematics though did not outweigh my being female when applying for a job. That particular firm, at that time, would not even consider having a female prospective chartered accountant on staff. But in spite of that, things did brighten up, and a glimmer of light did appear at the end of my job-hunting tunnel.

A public library had been opened in St. John’s in 1936. The private library of W. G. Gosling, a former mayor of St. John’s, had been left to the city, and this formed the basis for the library. I was engaged to fill an opening on staff that occurred in 1937, so there I was at the Gosling Memorial Library. What a difference that was from the incessant typing in the business office — invoice after invoice and such like. In the city of St. John’s, the public library was a very new feature and the users were very enthusiastic and welcomed the services provided.

At the G.M.L., I felt quite at home. We were a young staff, willing and ready to take on any job to make the library successful — getting to know the reading tastes of the library users and the reference section and its capabilities, and providing information and material needed by the library customers.

Then I was promoted and placed in charge of the children’s section. There I had many little helpers not only for shelving books, but also accompanying me home. We must have been a walking advertisement for the G.M.L., as I would walk, carrying books, with a trail of little ones, also carrying their books. Being in charge of the children’s division was a good experience for me. I was responsible for book selection and ordering, and preparing the books for library use. There was also the designing of displays for various seasons and events, story-telling on Saturday mornings and for radio programmes, visits from school classes, and so on. Never a dull moment.

It was from the experience I gained at the Gosling Memorial Library that the idea of a library career was formed. Although I enjoyed the work as the Librarian of the Children’s Department, it was the reference aspect of library work that really interested me. I was hooked on that and I set my goal on obtaining formal library training, so that I might find a position in a research library where I would use my undergraduate education along with the library training.

But having a goal in mind was one thing; the financing to reach that goal was now the problem. In those days
Edward White

Understanding where abstract education does not. I've an unofficial mentor in one of the librarians at FIS, and the relationship has been one of the most significant factors in my education. I've learned about library culture, the politics and the changes. There is no reason that any student wishing for this kind of benefit should not have the opportunity as well. There is a vast degree of knowledge we as students would love to have access to, and that's the Alumni. All of you were students at one point, and you all know the differences between the classroom and the job. So if you have the time or the inclination, retired or working, please share that knowledge and that experience by contacting either myself (white@fis.utoronto.ca) or Shelley Respondek, Student Council Chair of Professional Development (respondek@fis.utoronto.ca).

Clara Miller

There were just two universities in Canada offering Library Science Courses: McGill in Montreal, and the University of Toronto. Neither location was just next door to St. John's. I would need enough savings to cover travel, education, and living expenses until I had a job after graduation. Salaries were low and slow in growing, but I owe a great debt of gratitude to my parents, for they backed my decision completely.

Then in September 1939, World War II was declared. Almost immediately, St. John's, being the easternmost port of North America, was on a wartime basis.

I was offered employment with the Signals Division of the Royal Canadian Airforce at No. 1 Group Headquarters in St. John's. This was prior to any Women's Division of the RCAF. Eventually, when recruiting began for the Women's Division I did try to enlist, but I was not successful. As wartime activity increased, our workload also increased. The Women's Division was now in operation, and we were assigned General Duty W.D.'s to train in Codes and Cyphers. Later, a Signals Course was established in Galt, Ontario from which W.D.'s would come ready-trained.

As time went on, I could see that service personnel were now available to carry out the war work that I was doing. My savings had grown and the financing of a year in Toronto now seemed possible. So I applied to the University of Toronto Library School, and was accepted.

Toronto was a real shock to me. In St. John's, on that September 1939 weekend before war was declared, the superstructure of every ship in the harbour had been painted battleship gray. It was strange now to see the boats on Lake Ontario with their superstructures in light colours, and not that battleship gray that had become so familiar. Also in Toronto, there was no blackout enforced, and no automobiles with fenders painted white, and headlights shaded and painted so that only a small glimmer of light fell on the ground in front of the vehicle. Toronto in 1943 seemed a very peaceful, quiet, and slow city, compared to St. John's in wartime. As I had not hit the books since 1934, it was probably just as well. I had to settle down and get in the study groove again.

When graduation came in May 1944, there were no openings in the types of special library of interest to me. I did accept a position as librarian and reviser in cataloguing on the staff of the Imperial Oil Limited, an exciting opportunity I enjoyed through to my retirement years later. [Clara was also a visiting lecturer at the Faculty from 1951-1970.]

Library and Information Technology offers many avenues that career-seekers may travel to find their specific career goals. It took me a long time to find my chosen career, but when I found it, I was well pleased and content with the choice I had made.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday
Miss Judith St. John

MISS JUDITH ST. JOHN (Dip. Lib ’34) is pictured below, proudly wearing the 70th Anniversary University of Toronto Chancellor’s Medal, presented to her on August 4th in conjunction with her 90th birthday. Miss St. John, a children’s librarian at the Toronto Public Library (1934-52), and Head of their Osborne Collection (1952-79), also received congratulations from City Librarian JOSEPHINE BRYANT (BLS ’70, MLS ’74) and the Friends of the Osborne Collection. After receiving a Canada Council Grant in 1960 to study the history of children’s publishing, Miss St. John lectured on the topic at the Faculty of Library Science, U of T. Congratulations and Happy Birthday Miss St. John, you have reminded us of the history enjoyed by FIS, and the solid tradition upon which our Faculty was built!
CAROL FUCHS (MLS ‘72) was recently appointed Chief Systems Librarian at the Hebrew University. Her previous position at the University was Systems Librarian at the National Medical Library. One of her first projects will be to unite the multiple catalogues of the University libraries into one bibliographic file, in preparation for the move to Aleph 500. Carol has taught courses in Library Automation Systems for several years at the University’s School of Information Science, and recently edited the section on international MARC standards in various libraries in “International Librarianship: Cooperation and Collaboration” (Scarecrow Press, 2001). Carol lives in Jerusalem with her two daughters, and she can be reached at: carolf@savion.cc.huji.ac.il.

DEBORAH HENDERSON (MLS ’80), P.M.P (Project Management Professional), has been the Vice President of Data Management International (DAMAI) Education and Special Projects from 1999 to the present, and chairs the DAMAI Curriculum Committee to advance Data Management education in post-secondary institutions. The Mission of DAMAI is to “Inspire Data Management,” and DAMAI has approximately 50 chapters worldwide (www.DAMA.org). Deborah is also Vice President of the DAMA International Foundation, the Education and Research Affiliate of DAMA International. The Foundation was formally announced at the 2004 Annual Conference in Los Angeles and has the mission to “Promote a Professional Data Management Discipline.” Deborah is also Data Architect and Project Manager in Data Warehousing and Reporting for INERGI LP, Toronto, an affiliate of Capgemini. Deborah was FIS Alumni Association President (1994/95), President of the Toronto Chapter of CASLIS (1984/85), Student Jubilee Award Winner and President of the FIS Student Council (1980).

HARRIET M. (SONNE) DE TORRENS (MIS ’01) was appointed Head of the Fine Arts Department, Syracuse University Library, New York State, in March 2003. She also acts as the Co-director of Baptisteria Sacra Index see www.library.utoronto.ca/bsi. She received her doctorate from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark in August 2003. In 2004, Harriet was awarded the Leonard F. Boyle Dissertation Prize by the Canadian Society of Medievalists. She was invited to the CFHSS-FCSH, 2004 (The Learned) in Winnipeg to receive the prize. Harriet was also invited by the International Society for the Study of Pilgrimage Arts to present a paper at the Thirty-Ninth International Congress on Medieval Studies May 6-9, 2004. She has had numerous publications, including her most recent, “The Stadil Altar Frontal: A Johannine Interpretation of the Nativity of Christ,” a collection of essays on altar frontals to be edited by Dr. E. Thunø from the Danish Academy in Rome. This work is forthcoming by Museum Tusculanum Press, University of Copenhagen, ed. Dr. E. Thunø and Prof. S. Kaspersen.

This past April, DR. ANNE WOODSWORTH (BLS ’64, MLS ’69) joined the Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) as the Learning Systems Advisor. Dr. Woodsworth’s primary responsibility is to coordinate BPL’s Learning in Libraries project, a three-year initiative funded by The Wallace Foundation to support and expand core programs that help New York City’s libraries serve as learning places for youth during non-school hours (e.g. after-school and summer programming). She will also assist Human Resources to build BPL as a professional learning organization through staff training and development. Dr. Woodsworth began working on the Learning in Libraries project earlier this year as a consultant. Previously, Dr. Woodsworth was Provost at the Katharine Gibbs School on Long Island and Acting Provost at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. She also served as Dean of the School of Information and Library Science and Dean and Professor of the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at Long Island University. Before moving to New York in 1991, Dr. Woodsworth taught at the University of Pittsburgh and served as its Associate Provost and Director of Libraries. Other experience includes being director of a large research library in Canada and director of human resources at the Toronto Public Library. Dr. Woodsworth is a past president of the Association of Research Libraries, the Canadian Association of Research Libraries and the Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services. She has published six monographs and several dozen journal articles, and has been a contributing author to several books. She has served on numerous boards and councils. Her latest research efforts have concentrated on the changing nature of organizations and work in technologically driven organizations.
Dear Alumni and Friends:

I am honoured to have the opportunity to serve as President of the FIS Alumni Association for a second year and am very pleased to welcome both our “old” and new board members to another year of activities. With the academic year in full swing, the Alumni Association board has begun its second year of planning and implementing programs and services for alumni. I am very happy to tell you that last year the Board worked diligently to enhance communication between alumni members and the Faculty, to engage alumni, to become more involved, and to increase financial aid to students. While we have many accomplishments to be proud of there is a strong sense that many alumni still have little knowledge of and/or contact with the Alumni Association. Our goal this year is to continue to enhance our key areas of communication and outreach and to raise our profile so that all alumni can share with pride the accomplishments of their alma mater.

If you have visited the FIS website recently you will have noticed a number of changes. To help us stay in touch with you and to keep you informed about the wonderful things your alma mater is doing, FIS has launched a WebBoard. With this recently created message board, FIS family, faculty, staff, alumni and friends can stay better connected and share information. If you would like to sign up for the WebBoard, please go to http://www.fis.utoronto.ca:8080/~FISAA. Additionally, we have been circulating a monthly news message via e-mail to alumni who have provided us with their current e-mail addresses. This is the most timely source of FIS news, events, and hot topics, so if you are interested in being on the eNews distribution list please send us an e-mail at alumni@fis.utoronto.ca and we will add you to our growing list.

Other events and activities that we are arranging for this year include:

- Senior Alumni Teas (November)
- Revamping of the FIS Job Shadowing Program
- End-of-Term Tea (mid-December)
- FISAA Reception in conjunction with the OLA Super Conference (February 3rd, 2005)

So keep your calendars open and check the FIS website for dates of our upcoming activities. We look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at our events throughout the year!

Regards,

Roula Panopoulos (MIS'99)

---

**“The Year of the Walk” Continued from page 1**

3. Strategic Information Management and Systems (SIMS): the use and management of information processes and systems, as required by tomorrow’s Information Officers (CIOs), Knowledge Officers (CKOs), and other professionals charged with designing, deploying and managing information processes in diverse institutional environments.

4. Information and Media Design (IMD): The creative design aspects of information technologies, systems, and practices—an area critical to human-computer interaction (HCI) and to the design and use of new information media.

The areas interact: social sensibilities (CCIP) infect useful design (IMD); information management (SIMS) is critical to the training of librarians, archivists, and curators (LAM); etc. The aim of identifying the four areas is not to separate them, but to integrate them in synergistic ways, while providing each with sufficient energy and focus to allow it to achieve an overall level of excellence.

All four areas require collaboration. LAM will involve participation from Museum Studies; IMD focuses on primary areas of the Knowledge Media Design Institute (KMDI); CCIP is a focus of the Communication, Culture, and Information Technology (CCIT) Program at UofT Mississauga; SIMS is a concern of Management and numerous health faculty (e.g., in the Department of Health Policy, Management, and Evaluation; etc. Together with these and other partners, FIS will form an Information Alliance to tackle this full range of areas.

With the alliance, FIS will strive to establish a major new Institute to host this collaborative, interdisciplinary exploration of transformed information practices. The aim is to build a place where dynamic programs, collaborative faculty, distinguished visitors, multi-disciplinary and multi-divisional graduate students, intensive studios and laboratories, and affiliated programs can convene to explore the transformation of social practice catalyzed by developments in information technology. If successful, the Institute will prototype the future of the technologically-enabled organization.

As a small, single-departmental UofT Faculty, FIS faces major fiscal and structural challenges, especially in light of 2 important ongoing developments: the Rae Commission’s mandate to rethink the distribution of provincial funds to higher education, and a parallel UofT committee to rethink the internal distribution of UofT funds. While it is too early to predict the outcome of either panel, the only clear path to survival is to be focused, imaginative, dynamic, relevant, and of exceptional quality. With its new Academic Plan, FIS believes it is well prepared to meet these challenges, and that, with its alliance partners, it can forge a powerful and exciting future.


---

*The gift of learning. Make it your legacy.*

ask us how to make a planned gift to U of T
tel: 416-978-3846
e-mail: gift.plan@utoronto.ca
www.giving.utoronto.ca/plangiving