INFORMED
No. 57, December 2005
Publications Mail
Registration No. 1780182
ISSN 1198-9874
Dean: Brian Cantwell Smith
Editorial Board: Sara Figueiredo, Judy Donnelly, Judy Dunn
Contributors: Krista Bao, John DeSantis, Judi McCallum, Brian Cantwell Smith, Mike Tissenbaum, Kimberly Wachta, Debbie Walker
Designer: Samantha Edwards
Cover photo: Anton Marcu
Photography

Letters, comments, and address updates should be sent to:
The Editor, INFORMED
The Faculty of Information Studies
University of Toronto
Claude T. Bissell Building
140 St. George Street
Toronto, ON M5S 3G6
Telephone: 416-978-3034
Fax: 416-978-5762
Email: alumni@fis.utoronto.ca
Website: www.fis.utoronto.ca

Faculty of Information Studies

KEEP IN TOUCH
The best part of a school newsletter is keeping up with news from old classmates. If you’ve got a new job, retired from the one old, written a book, won an award or done any number of other interesting things, we’d love to hear from you. Please be sure to include the following information when you contact us: name, graduation year, address, and, of course, your great news.

Stay up to date on faculty news and events by adding your name to the FIS Alumni e-mailing list!

INFORMED | dean’s message

Life as an Information School

In September 2005, FIS was invited to join a new consortium of information schools (“i-Schools”), the first Canadian Faculty to be so honoured. The i-Schools have banded together to build brand identity and foster collaboration. Their long-term goal is to have the word “i-school” fall as trippingly off the tongue as “law school” or “b-school.”

An inaugural conference for the i-Schools community was held Sept. 28-30, 2005, at Pennsylvania State University. The conference was intended as a celebration of the field and an opportunity to share best practices in research and education. After accepting the invitation to join the consortium, on behalf of the FIS community, I was pleased to represent UofT at this inaugural event, immediately followed by a productive day of meetings with the other i-Schools.1

What is significant about the i-school movement, I believe, is its reflection of the depth of change to social practices that digital information and communication technologies are making. As emphasized in our Academic Plan, FIS is not focused on technology per se. Rather, our aim is to “lift our sights” to conduct research, offer education, and participate in the definition of future information-intensive practices. This vision is shared by the other i-schools; the group recognizes that relationships among people, information, and technology permeate all of society. The group’s charter “takes it as given that expertise in all forms of information is required for progress in science, business, education, and culture.” Our challenge is to articulate this vision in a form that is concise and compelling.

There was considerable interest at the conference in our new Academic Plan. Three tenets received particular attention: (i) our commitment to maintain and strengthen our focus on libraries and archives, and to integrate those with an emphasis on museums, out of a recognition that the leadership and curation of information resources is fundamental to an educated society; (ii) our goal of establishing strong collaborative relationships with other academic units, out of a recognition that information expertise is a shared strength of university and society more generally; and (iii) our interest in playing a role as a “pilot project” for future information-intensive organizations. The phrase “information-intensive,” which we use in our plans, and the idea of a serving as a pilot project, were both themes that were picked up in several quarters.

But terminology is challenging. In part, I believe that retaining an explicit focus on libraries, archives and museums will help. Even if they are no longer mentioned in our name, these institutions remain a proud part of our tradition, and will be a vital part of our future. With respect to the practice of information professionals more widely, I cited an editorial in the Annals of Internal Medicine espousing the category of “informationist.” As I said to the group, the term “informationist” initially struck me as awkward. For a week after hearing it I felt ill, followed by several weeks of mild indigestion. But the term has merits: it is a single word, not weakened by “practitioner” or “professional,” and it lacks prior connotations. And the odd thing is that eventually my symptoms passed; I can now use it without batting an eyelash. Mull on it a bit; over time, like me, you may find that it goes down smoothly.

1 http://iconference.ist.psu.edu
Faculty of Information Studies Alumni Association (FISAA):
President’s Message

I’d like to welcome you all to the 2005-06 year at FISAA. We started the year off with a bang at the FIS Student Orientation welcome week Reception where I enjoyed speaking with many students and alumni.

FISAA has an exciting year planned. We are looking forward to enhancing alumni communications, as this new version of INFORMED demonstrates. Efforts are also being made to improve the alumni website, and to archive FISAA materials. Watch for the call to submit any FISAA documents or items you may have.

Also, please watch for announcements about events at the Faculty. These include special lectures, the Alumni Teas that take place each semester, and FIS Spring Reunion, which is tentatively booked for June. These gatherings provide the opportunity to stay informed about FIS and allow you to keep in touch with the Faculty and your fellow alumni. I also look forward to FIS Alumni reception at the OLA Super Conference on Feb. 3, 2006, at Joe Badali’s Restaurant in Toronto.

We encourage you to e-mail the alumni office and make sure you are on the Faculty e-mail list, so you hear about these events first! Contact us at: alumni@fis.utoronto.ca.

If anyone has any ideas for other FISAA projects or would like to become a member of the executive, please send me an email at kwachta@osler.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Have a great year and I’ll see you out and about at the exciting FISAA gatherings we have lined up!

Kim Wachta MISt ’97
President, FISAA

Editor’s Message

FIS: Out of the Classroom and In Living Colour

One afternoon in the FIS Inforum, as we waited for the INFORMED cover shoot to begin, I took a few minutes to talk to our “cover guy,” new student Mike Tissenbaum. As we exchanged pleasantries about his recently-sprained ankle, the weather and the crush of October schoolwork, we touched upon a couple of interesting experiences Mike has had thus far at the Faculty. One particularly intriguing story was his recent afternoon with Professor Dereck de Kerchove and his colleagues. Mike was invited to join a conversation at the McLuhan Coach House, where he sat, mesmerized by the passionate, intellectual discussion that was taking place. After he finished describing the encounter, Mike paused for a moment and then remarked, “I like FIS because of all the opportunities it provides outside of the actual course work.” I was really struck by his comment; to me it reflects what is special about the FIS community, not to mention this December issue of INFORMED.

While lectures, seminars and exams are vital parts of any graduate educational experience, Mike has discovered what many of us are already understand about the dynamic learning environment at FIS. We celebrate that spirit with a newly-designed INFORMED. In this issue, we have shared stories of library development in Markham, new faculty hires, and the latest student and alumni updates. FIS does not end at the doors of the classrooms at 140 St. George Street; rather, we are moving ahead, inspired by Dean Cantwell Smith’s vision of the Faculty and the ongoing enthusiasm of academic and administrative staff. Speakers’ series and Dean’s Teas generate new discussion and reflection at the Faculty, and alumni from all walks of life are returning to talk to students and share tips from their dynamic and diverse careers. This collaboration reflects the very spirit of the Faculty, and our professions.

INFORMED has traditionally been an alumni publication, though I like to think of it as relevant for the entire FIS community. The Editorial Board of this issue has made an effort to create a forum for students, faculty, staff and alumni to share their news and celebrate their achievements. It is my hope that, as time goes on, INFORMED will outgrow these twelve pages, and include stories, announcements and updates from all over the world. We encourage you, our readers, to send in your photographs and pitch story ideas to us. What would you like to hear about? FIS is a vital, growing Faculty at the University of Toronto, and, as Mike asserted, it provides a unique and rich opportunity for learning in the fields of library and information studies.

Sara Figueiredo
Editor
The New School Year is now in full swing. The Doctoral Students Association (DSA) began the year by hosting a potluck lunch to welcome new students. We are delighted to welcome eight new colleagues this year: Sambhavi Chandrashekar, Keren Dali, Max Evans, Melissa Fritz, Candice Magowan, Amy Marshall, Rhonda McEwan, and Scott McLaren. Following the lunch, we conducted our fall term DSA meeting and elected a new executive. Thanks go to our former executive members for all their work: Jean Dryden (president), Luanne Freund (vice-president), Herman van den Berg (treasurer), and Greta Golick (secretary).

I am pleased to announce this year’s executive: Krista Boa (president), Jennifer Trant (vice-president), Lisa Daulby (treasurer), and Melissa Fritz (secretary). I would also like to extend a big thank you all those who represent the DSA on the many internal committees at FIS. Finally, congratulations are in order for those colleagues who have successfully defended their dissertations and graduated in the last year:

- **Anabel Quan Haase** – Information Brokers and Technology Use: A Case Study of a High-Tech Company (November 2004)
- **Dana Senuse** – A Comparison of Manual Indexing and Automatic Indexing in the Humanities (November 2004)
- **Leslie McGrath** – Service to Children in the Toronto Public Library: A Case Study, 1912-1949 (Book History and Print Culture collaborative program, June 2005)
- **Asim Qayyum** – Analysing and Making Sense of the Markings Placed on Electronic Documents During Private and Shared Readings (November 2005)

We wish you all the best in your future endeavours!

FISSC Works to Improve the Student Experience

**FISSC Student Council (FISSC)** spent the end of the summer preparing for a successful Orientation Week. Faculty enrolment is growing, and we have ever larger and more diverse crowds. The student council made a huge effort to make their first week at FIS a positive one and to give new students the right start. I am proud to say that the task was accomplished with flying colours and we got great feedback from students.

The other important endeavour was to organize student council elections. All FISSC members promoted the Council and its values and encouraged potential candidates. As a result, our membership increased from eight to 22. I am proud to announce that we also have a much larger representation from the Archives and IS streams, compared to the last year. This allows FISSC to better understand the needs and concerns of these groups and we are doing our best to take care of them.

Finally, we spoke to many part-time students and realized that they are interested in being a part of the FIS community, but don’t see an opportunity to fit FISSC’s many programs into their busy schedules. We decided to study the problem and to devise new ways to facilitate contacts between members of this large (1/3 of the student body) group and to include them in our activities.

This year, FISSC is a vibrant, enthusiastic organization and we are going to co-operate with all stakeholders to make studying at FIS a great experience.

Recruiting at Home

On October 5 and 6, FIS hosted booths at the Graduate and Professional Schools Fairs at U of T Mississauga and St. George campuses. The fairs were excellent opportunities to raise the profile of the Faculty and attract the attention of the highest-caliber students.

FISSC Works to Improve the Student Experience

**Stanislav Orlov**
President, FISSC
Mike Tissenbaum

Why FIS?
I chose FIS because it was highly recommended by one of my professors during my undergrad at the University of Western Ontario, and because U of T, and especially FIS, is one of the most dynamic schools in terms of fostering interdisciplinary studies.

What was your undergraduate degree in?
Administrative and Commercial Studies, specializing in Finance.

What are you studying at FIS?
I’m in the Library and Information Studies program.

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 think as the world’s information becomes increasingly digitized, information management will become more and more crucial. We see companies spending more and more on acquiring, retaining and utilizing information capital, and this is making for some turbulent but exciting times in the field of information management. I feel that librarians and other information managers will play an increasingly vital role in this information age.

As a student, how have you stayed involved at the faculty?
As vice-president of the student council, I’m very closely involved with the student body and I get a chance to be more intimately connected with the Faculty itself. This position has allowed me to sit in on academic council meetings and to further understand both the internal and external forces that are shaping our Faculty. With new staff hirings on the horizon I feel it’s necessary to be closely involved as a responsible member of the program.

I’ve also tried to attend many events that FIS has hosted, including the Dean’s Teas and the McLuhan speaker series over the summer. These events not only bring the Faculty closer together, but also give me a chance to really see what’s going on in my field.

Is this your first time on a student council? What made you decide to run for office?
This is my first time on a student council, but I have held similar positions in the past. During my undergraduate degree I was part of the executive of UWO’s Shinerama fundraising team, where I worked very closely with both students and faculty to promote awareness and raise money for Cystic Fibrosis research. I also spent two years as on Western’s orientation team helping students get accustomed to first year life at university. Both of these positions were fun and rewarding experiences.

I decided that with all the changes taking place at FIS that it was important to get involved to ensure that the Faculty will be the best it can both for myself and other current students, but more importantly for future students in our program.

What FIS events are you looking forward to over the next year?
I’m looking forward to several speakers’ series that are coming up over the next few months, and to the new teacher hirings that are going to be taking place. And I always look forward to the Faculty nights at Bowers’ Pub, because it gives me a chance to see all my classmates away from the hectic world of books and bibliographies.

What are you hoping to pursue when you graduate?
I’m looking to pursue either my PhD to continue my studies in information in society, or to move on to a Law degree with a focus on freedom of information and information property rights.

As this is a newsletter that goes out to FIS alumni, is there anything you’d like to say to them?
Absolutely! I encourage all of you to continue to support the program by staying involved and active. The program is going through a lot of changes right now and we all have a responsibility to take ownership of that change...
On the Job ...

Judy Dunn, Assistant Dean, Academic and Program

You are the first person appointed to this new position at FIS. What are your responsibilities?
I oversee student services, which include recruitment, admissions, registration, financial aid, awards, and placements. I’m also responsible for continuing education, communications and public relations. An important aspect of the PR work is collaboration with the FIS Development Officer to promote alumni relations and produce this newsletter.

What do you see as the most challenging aspect of your job?
The bureaucracy at the University of Toronto is quite daunting. After 15 years as graduate coordinator at the School of Library and Information Studies at Dalhousie University, I knew how to bend the rules when necessary and who to contact to get things done. I’m still figuring that out at U of T.

How will this new position benefit FIS students and alumni?
Loyal, supportive alumni are created from satisfied students and I think it is important to provide a positive and personal experience from the time prospective students first contact the Faculty for information about our programs. Promoting communication between the professional community and the Faculty, actively involving the alumni and other professionals in recruitment, curriculum discussions and job placement should benefit our students and our programs.

On a personal note …
What was the biggest change you noticed when you moved back to Toronto?
It’s bigger, busier and taller. The Yorkville coffee houses of the late 60s have been replaced by chi-chi stores and multi-million dollar condos, and Rochdale, the former hippie haven, is a senior’s residence. However, it’s still the energetic, optimistic and exciting place that I remember.

What is the best thing about living here?
There are so many things, I don’t know where to start. Theatre, music, ballet, art galleries. Whole Foods. Not owning a car. Doing a job that is as fantastic as my last one.

What do you miss about Halifax?
My friends and my hairdresser!

APPOINTMENTS

The Faculty is fortunate to have had a number of new staff join us in recent months. As announced in the last issue of FIS Informed, Judy Dunn was appointed to the newly-created position of Assistant Dean, Academic and Program, in June of this year (profiled above). In the main office, Adriana Rossini (MLS ’90) joined FIS as In-Program Placement Officer and Registrar while Bisa Saleh was named Secretary to the Dean. We also welcome Sherri Vokey, who has taken on the responsibilities of Web Services Librarian at FIS.

We have also been pleased to hire two assistant professors, Siobhan Stevenson and Nadine Nathen. Nadine’s appointment begins next year but she is currently at FIS one day per week.

In addition to these new faces, several long-time FIS staff members have recently taken on new positions. Kathy Shyjak has been appointed Grants Officer and Conference Coordinator. Kathy’s office is now located on the 6th floor of the FIS building. At the front desk in the main office, students, staff and visitors are greeted by Jennifer Rennette, who is now Receptionist and Faculty Secretary. Joining her in the reception area is Alfredo Gonzalez, the Faculty’s new Operations Assistant.

History of the Book in Canada Project Thrives at FIS

Professor Patricia Fleming (BLS ’64, MLS ’70) is looking a bit more relaxed these days, not only in anticipation of her upcoming retirement in June, but also because as principal investigator and project director of a History of the Book in Canada/Histoire du livre et de l’imprimé au Canada (HBIC/HLIC), she and the editorial team recently delivered the English manuscript of the third and final volume of HBIC/HLIC to their publishers. Their five-year project was awarded 2.3 million dollars by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada in 2000. With its head office at FIS and sites in six other cities coast-to-coast, the team has produced a bilingual history of Canadian print culture, and has compiled five book history databases.

“FIS provided a generous welcome, offering administrative support, office space, and a splendid launch party in the Inforum for Volume 1,” says Prof. Fleming. “More than a dozen FIS students have joined the project as research assistants, and fifteen FIS alumni have written on topics as diverse as print for young readers, books in Native languages, Arctic shipboard printing, censorship, book illustration and design, libraries and librarianship, and bookselling in Newfoundland.” She adds: “HBIC/HLIC project manager, Judy Donnelly (MLS ’87), is also an author, as are current FIS doctoral students Andrea Rotundo (MIST ’99) and Greta Golick (MIST ’00), Leslie McGrath, who defended her PhD thesis at FIS this year, and three faculty members. And former dean Frances Halfpenny has provided both wise advice and a lively text on scholarly publishing.”

“It has been a challenging five years, but we’re delighted to see Canadian book history on the international map.”

DECEMBER 2005

6

informed | faculty & staff update
On Thursday, June 9, the FIS Alumni Association (FISAA) hosted a lovely evening by welcoming back honoured alumni with an open house at the Faculty. The event, which attracted nearly 100 alumni and friends, featured tours of the Inforum and the new Usability and Interaction Lab in Room 307. Jazz pianist James Reynolds provided live entertainment for the crowd.

In keeping with tradition, the alumni association was also proud to present the annual Alumni and Student Jubilee Awards at the Spring reunion. The Student Jubilee Award was given to 2005 graduate and Student Council past-president Edward White, who was recognized for his efforts on behalf of his fellow classmates. Among his many accomplishments, Edward lobbied the Faculty and Dean to add a practicum course to the curriculum, and worked tirelessly to maintain a dialogue between students and administration.

The Alumni Jubilee award honours career achievement and an extraordinary commitment to the field of information practice or librarianship. FISAA was thrilled to name Ken Setterington (MLS ’82) as this year’s Award winner. As Children and Youth Advocate at the Toronto Public Library, Ken has made an outstanding contribution to librarianship. In his role at TPL, he has created programs such as the popular TD Summer Reading Club, and has made a special effort to promote Canadian books and reading. Ken was also cited for his “mentoring spirit”: his colleagues have been guided and inspired by his passion for his field.

Both Ken and Edward graciously accepted their awards from FISAA past-president Roula Panopoulos (MISt ’99). The Faculty was privileged to present the Jubilee Awards to such deserving alumni. Spring Reunion was a rousing success, and we hope you will join us for Reunion 2006. We are tentatively looking at hosting an event in early June and invite you to watch for information on upcoming festivities at FIS.

Members of the FIS Community Enjoy a “Voyage” in Norway Last August

From August 14 to 18, library and information professionals gathered in Oslo, Norway for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)’s 71st Annual World Library and Information Congress, titled “Libraries – a Voyage of Discovery.” FIS alumnus John DeSantis (MLS ’91) shared some photographs of the Congress with INFORMED.
JOHN MISKA (BLS ‘62) was inducted in 2004 into the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest in recognition of his accomplishments as a scholar and bibliographer in the field of Hungarian studies in Canada. In addition to books of essays, stories and anthologies, John has published some 20 book-length bibliographies, including Canadian Studies on Hungarians 1886–1986, (Regina, 1987) and its 3 major supplements (Ottawa, 1992; Budapest, 1995; Toronto–Budapest, 1998), the latter available on the Internet via the National Library of Hungary website. John is also the author of Literature of Hungarian-Canadians, (Toronto, 1991), a collection of essays, an extensive bibliography, and biographies that introduce the work of more than 90 authors who have published books of poetry and fiction in Canada. He has also compiled Ethnic and Native Canadian Literature — A Bibliography (Toronto, 1990), with some 5,500 citations of primary and secondary material by 65 nationalities in 75 languages.

STEPHANIE WALKER (MLS ‘95), former director and treasurer with FISAA has left her position as University Librarian at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, to commence a new post as Manager, Collection Services, for Harvard Medical School’s Countway Library of Medicine in Boston. Friends and colleagues can contact her by email at stephanie_walker2@hms.harvard.edu.

JANICE (LEBLANC) HATT (MLS ‘76) retired in November 2004 after 28 years with the Government of Canada. Janice began her career as Assistant Librarian, Canadian Forces Staff College in Toronto in 1976, moved to Ottawa in 1980, and to Burlington in 2001. During that time she held a variety of positions, including Departmental Librarian and Records Manager, Department of National Defence; Senior Advisor in Information Management, Treasury Board Secretariat; Director, Information Management, Justice Canada; and Regional Director, Informatics, Fisheries and Oceans Canada. She is looking forward to travelling and spending more time with her grandchildren.

BERT RIGGS (MIST ‘92) was named head of the new Archives and Manuscripts division of the Queen Elizabeth II Library at Memorial University, St. John’s, Newfoundland, effective June 1, 2005.

ALEX FAYLE (MIST ‘96) has taken an alternate career route with his degree, starting a residential professional organizing business, FySale Solutions, in 2005. Alex is currently president of Professional Organizers in Canada, a national association that has grown from sixteen to over 400 members since 1999. Through his organizing business, Alex has appeared on CTV’s Canada AM, CITY TV’s Breakfast Television, and Global TV’s Moneywise. Alex is also pursuing a certificate in chronic disorganization from the National Study Group on Chronic Disorganization (www.nsgcd.org).

LARYSSA TYSON (MIST ‘00) is currently working at Haverdal College as Online Communications Manager in the Office of Advancement. She was married to Mark Lebar in June 2004.

MARY OLIVER (BLS ’70) retired in June 1999 after 24 years as a teacher–librarian in three of the former East York elementary schools. She and her husband purchased a five-acre rural property near Drilla, Ont., where they are busy with renovations. They spend winters in Gulfport, Fla., and Mary volunteers both in her township library and in Gulfport to help keep up to date in library news and advancements. She extends best wishes to her classmates of 1970.

LAURA SOTO-BARRA (MLS ‘91) has been appointed senior librarian at National Public Radio in Washington, DC. Laura has been head librarian at the Syracuse Post–Standard newspaper for the last five years, and moved to the U.S. in 1997 to work at The Florida Times-Union in Jacksonville. Prior to that she held positions at Micromedia and the Toronto Reference Library.

As a French professor at Scarborough Campus, PETER MOES (BLS ’54) went “out of the loop” and into retirement just before a knowledge of computers became unavoidable and mandatory. He reports: “Upon retirement, fearing that I was fast sinking in the backwaters of Ontario like a good dinosaur, I obtained (at great expense) a PC. … Perhaps, one day, I will know how to play a game of chess with His Lordship, but for now I am glad to send and receive e-mails at pierremoes@sympatico.ca.”

ILÔ-KATRYN MAIMETS (MIST ‘02) Librarian at York University’s Steacie Science and Engineering Library, was awarded the 2004 Academic Librarianship Award by the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations, in recognition of her role as a subject specialist in nursing and kinesiology.

A number of alumni and former faculty have contributed to a book on succession planning. The book, entitled Staff Planning in a Time of Demographic Change, was edited by alumni VICKI WHITMELL (MLS ’84). Alumni contributors include STEPHEN ABRAM (MLS ’80), DONNA CHAN (MIST ‘97, PhD ’02) and CINDY BEGGS (MLS ’91). Former faculty member Joanne Gard Marshall wrote a chapter, as did the late Prof. Ethel Auster. The book was published in the Spring by Scarecrow Press.
Planning for the Angus Glen Library was strongly influenced by the example of the successful “Library of the Future” concept, developed for the Richmond Public Library’s Ironwood branch by Richmond’s Deputy CEO, Cate McNeely, who worked as a planning consultant for Angus Glen. The fundamental principles of Angus Glen’s service models and design are:

- Start with the customer — ask what are the customer’s needs and expectations? Plan everything — from signage to opening hours — from the viewpoint of the customer.
- Use self-service concepts and technology to free staff from repetitive material-handling tasks so that they have time to provide proactive, personalized customer service.
- Learn from the success of the super-bookstores — use merchandising retail-type displays to market the collection to our customers and to provide retail-type comfort to encourage customers to stay, browse, learn and borrow.

Designed by the Toronto architectural firm Shore Tilbe Irwin & Partners, Angus Glen Library occupies 30,000 square feet on two floors around a central atrium. As library customers enter the branch they are greeted by staff, have the opportunity to browse new and highlighted materials in attractive display units, and are met by roving information staff as they move into the stacks. Comfortable seating areas, numerous study rooms, fireplaces on two levels, a glass-encased computer lab, wireless Internet access, a fibre-optic night sky in the Children’s area, self-check technology and a café are just a few of the features that entice users to view the library not only as a place to find information and materials, but also as a welcoming and comfortable destination.

Markham’s experience has demonstrated that the public library has retained its significant role in the landscape of public space.

Markham’s experience has demonstrated that the public library has retained its significant role in the landscape of public space.
FIS Says Good-bye to a Friend

Professor Ethel Weiss Auster, AB, MLS, Ed.D., Professor at the Faculty of Information Studies, passed away unexpectedly in her sleep on July 1, 2005. Born in Montreal on June 4, 1942, Prof. Auster graduated from Outremont High School in 1959, attended McGill University 1959 – 1960, and after two years in Cambridge, England, resumed her undergraduate education at Boston University. She obtained a Master’s degree at Simmons College, also in Boston, and was the librarian at Brookline High School for two years. After the birth of her son David she returned to Canada, settling in Toronto. She resumed work as research librarian at the Toronto Board of Education, then as librarian at OISE/University of Toronto.

It was at OISE that Prof. Auster began her studies for her doctoral degree. While completing her research and dissertation, she was appointed Assistant Professor of Library Science at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. A year and a half later she returned to Toronto to join the University of Toronto, in what was then called the Faculty of Library Science.

For 23 years Prof. Auster was an esteemed and well-loved Professor at what became the Faculty of Information Studies. She served as Chair of Doctoral Studies for 15 years, guiding scores of students through the program — providing insight, research direction, and practical advice that made her a legend across the country. A brave, forthright, and committed colleague, she was a mainstay of the Faculty through a number of major changes and developments. She was also a frequent speaker at a variety of North American conferences, including those of the Canadian Library Association and the American Society for Information Science and Technology.

Prof. Auster’s research dealt with libraries, management, and information use — covering such topics as the information-seeking behaviour of managers, the evaluation of online services, information dissemination, the retrenchment and downsizing of large academic libraries, and most recently the training and development needs of librarians.

The recipient of many awards, Prof. Auster was granted the Miles Blackwell Award for Outstanding Academic Librarian in June 2005 by the Canadian Association of College and University Libraries for her “outstanding national and international contribution to academic librarianship and library development.” As noted in the citation, she “demonstrated this achievement through her formidable research and publishing record, in which her projects support the investigation of issues relating to academic librarians and academic libraries.” The award also lauded her role as a spokesperson and leader who actively promoted academic libraries and librarianship in Canada, and the significant mentoring role she played in the careers of academic librarians.

During her career Prof. Auster published three books, co-authored two others, and wrote numerous scholarly articles. A reviewer praised her latest book, Downsizing in Academic Libraries, co-authored with Shauna Taylor (University of Toronto Press, 2004), as “ground-breaking” and “the most comprehensive survey of the impact of downsizing in Canada’s university libraries.” Another noted “the remarkable, even exemplary, clarity of thought behind the writing and structure.” In addition, noting a property that endeared her to generations of colleagues and students, the reviewer pointed out that “refreshingly, Auster and Taylor’s conclusion offers suggestions for improvement, reminding readers that ‘economic downturns are part of the normal business cycle,’ and concluding that the results from this study can help in getting it right the next time.”

In addition to her own research, Prof. Auster served her community in many capacities: she was twice elected to the Governing Council of the University of Toronto, and over the past two years spent countless hours reviewing doctoral student award applications for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. She had unfailing energy for doctoral students, many of whom were inspired by her forthright intellectual honesty, her unstinting regard for others, and her exacting scholarly standards. With many of them she formed lasting friendships.

Prof. Auster is survived by her son, David L. Auster, his wife Janis H. Auster, of New York City, and David’s father Henry Auster, of Toronto. Condolences to the family can be sent to dean@fis.utoronto.ca or by post to the Faculty. FIS is also proud to announce a doctoral student award in Prof. Auster’s name, and is currently accepting donations for this important project. Ethel Auster made a true impact at the Faculty, and she will be tremendously missed.

THE FACULTY REMEMBERS THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED ON RECENTLY

Barbara (Tabman) Beardsley (BLS ’62) – February 11, 2005
Primrose Bredl (BLS ’53)
Barbara Buchanan (BLS ’68) – August 31, 2002
Christine Mary Buchanan (MLS ’72) – July 3, 2005
Dorothy Chambers (MLS ’72) – December, 2004
Joan Clement (BLS ’70, MLS ’74) – January 23, 2005
Elspeth Croll (BLS ’42)
Sheila Ego (Dip. Lib. ’38) – May 22, 2005
Edith Firth (BLS ’49) – July 23, 2005
Maud Godfrey (BLS ’40)
Iris Jones (BLS ’61) – March 10, 2005
Ruth Kraulis (BLS ’51, MLS ’69) – May 11, 2005
Jean Lavender (BLS ’40) – February 23, 2005
Edith Lawford (Dip. Lib. ’35) – February 18, 2005
Kathryn Lippert (BLS ’48) – January 28, 2004
Elizabeth (Malcolm) MacRae (BLS ’38) – October 10, 2005
John Maitland Marshall (BLS ’52) - October 26, 2005
M. Sunshine McArthur (BLS ’37) – August 7, 2005
Frederick Howard McIntosh (BLS ’70) – June, 2005
Elizabeth Pearson (BLS ’51) – July 17, 2005
Susan Shea (MLS ’96) – March 20, 2005
Rita Shoniker (BLS ’46) – July 9, 2005
Evelyn (Churcber) Smith (Dip. Lib. ’55, BLS ’39, MLS ’70) – April 7, 2005
Hudson Standing (BLS ’57) - October 28, 2005
Lucy Weiner (BLS ’42)
Verniece Webber (BLS ’64) – October 9, 2005
Eleanor Whitlock (BLS ’44) – January 27, 2005
Show your school spirit in style!

The FIS Student Council’s Publicity Committee has an assortment of FIS merchandise for sale. Contact alumni@fis.utoronto.ca to order items or for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T-shirts</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mousepads</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweatshirts</td>
<td>$34.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee mugs</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pens</td>
<td>$1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lapel pins</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(please note, prices do not include shipping)

**Enter to Win** Send us your business card, and you will be entered into a raffle for free FIS merchandise! Your card can be sent to the FIS Alumni Office at 140 St. George Street. The winner will be selected on January 27.

---

**Visit plc.fis.utoronto.ca weekly for new courses!**

Creative Problem-Solving in Services
January 13 (New!)

Java: What You Need to Know
Begins January 7

Freedom of Information & Privacy
Begins January 16 (Web)

Internet Dev’t with Microsoft.Net
Begins January 9

Increasing Web Visibility
January 20-21

Taxonomies & Metadata
Begins January 26 (Ottawa)

Copyright Demystified
January 27

Influencing Decision-Making
March 2-3

Project Management for IM
April 27-28 (Ottawa)

PLC partners with the National Institute for Genealogical Studies to offer the most comprehensive web-based certificate programs in genealogical studies.

Check out the Librarianship Certificate at www.genealogicalstudies.com

---

**The road to success starts with a certificate from**

The Professional Learning Centre
Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto

- Certificate in Information Design
- Certificate in Web Development
- Certificate in Information Management

Visit [plc.fis.utoronto.ca](http://plc.fis.utoronto.ca) • 140 St. George St., Toronto, ON M5S 3G6 • 416-978-3035

---

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR and SAVE THE DATE**

**SPRING REUNION 2006, JUNE 1 – 4**

Join classmates, friends and colleagues at the U of T annual Spring Reunion weekend.

For updates, visit [www.springreunion.utoronto.ca](http://www.springreunion.utoronto.ca)

Honoured years: