I t’s thrilling to see transformation come to pass! The FIS Academic Plan has started to move from vision to reality.

As described on page 4, five tremendous faculty members join FIS this year: Stephen Hockema, Jens-Erik Mai, David Phillips, Siobhan Stevenson and Nadine Wathen. All are excellent scholars, highly committed, and wonderfully collegial. They will substantially increase the international visibility of the Faculty, and add immeasurably to FIS’ progressive energy. I am delighted to welcome them all, and hope you all have an early opportunity to meet them.

Welcome also to another new faculty member, Lynne Teather, who joins us as part of the transfer of the Museum Studies Program to FIS. This hugely important development has been under discussion for more than ten years (for details, see article on p. 5). It is especially significant because, in conjunction with the move, we were able to obtain funding to hire two new faculty members in this area (the top recommendation of numerous reviews of Museum Studies). So look forward to more new faculty announcements next year!

In May, I attended a Canada-United States Dialogue on Digital Heritage, which focused on educating the next generation of information professionals. Leader after leader of major cultural institutions in both countries voiced grave concern that, due to deep-seated institutional and personal inertia, we are entering the Digital Era without adequate preparation in virtually all areas of cultural stewardship. While extremely sobering, the conference nevertheless validated the directions in which FIS is moving. We have an amazing opportunity by combining libraries, archives, and museums under (literally) one roof.

In addition to these announcements, we’ve secured funding to develop our efforts in health informatics, in collaboration with the Department of Health, Policy, Management and Evaluation (HPME) in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. Two more faculty members will be hired in this area, shared by HPME and FIS. Nadine Wathen is already working with HPME and other University partners to expand our programs into the health sector (on which we haven’t been able to focus since the departure of Joanne Marshall in 1998). Three new courses on health information practices appear on our 2006-07 timetable. Every issue in information studies arises in the medical context, so it is terrific that we’re able to develop in this area — and that Nadine Wathen can help us lead the way.

Many more changes are ahead. This Fall we embark on a major curriculum review to explore how best to share foundations and yet appropriately differentiate our various programs. Big research plans are afoot, and we simply must do something about space (we are running out of room in the Bissell Building). We will also be submitting formal plans for student enrolment expansion. And we want to continue faculty searches in core areas.

For this and other news, keep an eye on our new website: it is definitely a work in progress, but is now based on a content-management system that allows us to keep you up to date on the latest developments.

Welcome to a new academic year!
FISAA President’s Message

It’s that time of year when we get into “back to school” mode – whether we’re taking classes or not! Your Alumni Association is the same. We have a new executive with fresh ideas and a commitment to keeping you up to speed on the exciting developments within our Faculty.

Your 2006/2007 executive includes: President: Karen Wierucki (MLS ’80); Past President: Kim Wachta (MIS ’04); Treasurer: Helen Katz (MLS ’75); Secretary: Cynthia Penman (MLS ’79); and the following Directors: Susan Gratsaris (MIS ’01), Bob Henderson (MLS ’75), Yasmin Khan (MIS ’02), Rafi Majeed (MIS ’03), Roula Panopoulos (MIS ’99), Wiebke Smythe (MLS ’97) and Alison Stirling (MIS ’06). This year’s student representative is Hyun-Duck Chung.

This past June was particularly busy, as FISAA hosted three events that many of you enjoyed. The first was our well-attended spring reunion on June 1, which was followed by our graduation reception for the Class of 2006 on June 12, at which we presented the FISAA Student Jubilee Award to Liana Giovando (MIS ’06). The final event was our first alumni reception in Ottawa, held in conjunction with the CLA conference. It’s amazing the stories you hear and the laughter that ensues when you bring alumni, great food and strong drink together!

I want to be the first to welcome Museum Studies alumni to the FIS community. We want to work closely with you to reflect your interests in our programming: imagine the opportunities with LAMs - libraries, archives and museums – and information systems and accessibility experts under one academic “roof.”

Over the next year we will continue to offer the initiatives you support, including the popular job shadowing program, alumni teas, special lectures, and events like the Alternative Careers Panel Discussion which attracted both alumni and students from the FIS community this past March.

Alumni are represented on FIS Council by Claire Lysnes and Rafi Majeed, and there may be times when they will ask for your valued opinions on issues like curriculum, recruitment and continuing education. Your ideas for new initiatives and events are always welcome. Please contact me anytime at alumni@fis.utoronto.ca.

I invite you to visit the FIS website for FISAA and FIS community updates: www.fis.utoronto.ca. You can also sign up to receive our monthly alumni e-newsletter by sending your e-mail address to: alumni@fis.utoronto.ca.

I look forward to connecting with many of you at upcoming FISAA events.

Karen Wierucki MLS ’80
FISAA President

Editor’s Message: Reflecting FIS

At the Stretch Project, a special exhibition held at FIS this past spring (see story on p. 6), I was particularly fascinated by one of the displays. The piece was a huge “quilt” created with interactive squares: on one were flowers you could actually smell, while another featured a three-dimensional image you could touch. The most startling square had an eye painted on it and as you looked closer, you could see a small camera lens imbedded in the pupil. As you backed away, you realized another square was in fact a small television screen showing the image of the viewer.

I was reminded of that quilt when the editorial board began planning this issue of INFORMED. Our greatest hope is that this publication mirrors the very essence of FIS: the people, the research, and the vision of the Faculty.

As you see from these pages, things have gotten even busier since the publication of our last issue in December 2005. FIS is particularly proud to announce the hiring of five new faculty members and the arrival of the Museum Studies Program. We hope you will take a moment to read the articles on these two important developments.

The editorial board is also delighted to have received an increased number of contributions to the Alumni Updates section of this issue. Over time we hope to have even more news to share; there is even talk of further developing the FIS website so alumni can submit updates online. Of course, we will keep you posted about such changes.

We invite all our readers to send their comments and suggestions.

If INFORMED is to be a true reflection of the Faculty of Information Studies’ community, we need your help!

Enjoy the issue and we wish you a wonderful autumn.

Editor Sara Figueiredo Franca
"sees" an image with her hand at the Stretch Exhibit.
APPOINTMENTS

Culminating a two-year search process, Dean Cantwell Smith announced the appointment of five new faculty members in May. < STEPHEN HOCKEMA completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Indiana University, where he obtained a joint PhD in Computer Science and Cognitive Science in 2004, and taught programming and computer science. He also holds a Bachelor’s of Science in Computer and Electrical Engineering and a Master’s of Science in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University, and previously held positions at Interactive Intelligence, Inc. and at Intel Corporation. JENS-ERIK MAI was Associate Professor at the Information School at University of Washington in Seattle, where he was also Co-Director of the Center for Human-Information Interaction. He teaches indexing, classification, design of controlled vocabularies, and theoretical foundations of information science. He holds a PhD in Library and Information Science from the University of Texas at Austin, and degrees from the Royal School of Library and Information Science in Denmark. < DAVID PHILLIPS was Associate Professor in the Department of Radio-Television-Film at the University of Texas at Austin. He holds a BFA from NYU and a Master’s of Software Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania, where he lectured in the Computer and Information Science Dept. His PhD is from the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, where he wrote on digital cash and consumer payment systems. < SIOBHAN STEVENSON, an Associate of UofT’s Trinity College, taught at FIS during 2005-06 on a term.

On the Job ...

Jens-Erik Mai, Associate Professor

The University of Washington in Seattle, where you last taught, is a pioneer of the “information” school (“i-school”) movement. What do you think is most important about this movement for FIS? The movement is about transforming information education. Its aim is to create broad-based, inclusive schools that present possibilities for specialization while giving students a wide-ranging, general education in information. i-schools are unique because faculty members have degrees from various fields of study and research, which facilitates inter- or multi-disciplinary approaches to the problems they study. FIS has long been a leader in the information world; the i-school movement provides a framework to take FIS to the next level.

What will you teach at FIS?
I will continue to teach in the areas of classification, indexing, and design of controlled vocabularies.

How has your role as Co-Director of the Center for Human-Information Interaction at University of Washington influenced your teaching?
The Center for Human-Information Interaction brings together research, people, and thinking from many disciplines to understand information problems. I enjoyed working with colleagues to explore complex information issues and problems from many perspectives. Those experiences informed my teaching by bringing a broader frame of reference to the classroom, while maintaining a focus on core knowledge organization issues and principles.

On a personal note...
You have lived in Denmark and the United States. What are you most looking forward to about residing in Canada?
Gaining an understanding and appreciation of Canadian values, lifestyle, and society. And to understand what it is with hockey and Canadians …

What leisure activities do you enjoy?
Exploring the city and the world with my son and wife... seeing new things and new places.

Information Rights Workshop and Public Forum Hosted at the Faculty

A public forum on Canadian Biometric ID Documents and the Information Rights and Organizational Accountabilities Workshop were held at FIS in June. Both events were co-sponsored by Professor Andrew Clement and FIS doctoral student Krista Boa and were supported by FIS through a grant from the Stepping Up Academic Initiatives Fund and by the SSHRC-funded Information Policy Research Program’s Digital Identity Construction project (www.fis.utoronto.ca/research/iiprp). Both were highly successful events.

The public forum on Canadian Biometric ID Documents (June 15) began with presentations by panel members, followed by a question and comment period. The panel consisted of experts from Treasury Board, the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, Privacy International, and the advanced card technology industry. The forum also included a live, interactive webcast and was well attended in person and online. To view an online archive of the forum, read FAQs and learn more about the issues, please consult the forum website at www.biometricIDforum.ca.

The Information Rights and Organizational Accountabilities Workshop (June 16-17) was a closed event that drew together researchers from five SSHRC-funded projects with leading civil society advocates working in the area of information rights, including privacy, access to information, copyright, and free/open source software. Some of the topics covered were smart borders, access to information and community networking, lawful access, digital rights management, and privacy activism. The main goal of the conference was to foster connections between participants, with a focus on developing strategies for ameliorating and encouraging public debate on issues of information rights.

Appointments continued on page 7

SEPTEMBER 2006
Museum Studies joins the FIS Family

Two years of study and consultation on the future of graduate programs at the University of Toronto have resulted in a landmark development at FIS: on June 29, the University’s Governing Council approved a motion to transfer the Museum Studies Program to the Faculty, effective July 1, 2006. The move provides an extraordinary opportunity for cooperative efforts on the future of libraries, archives and museums, and means that the Faculty is now home to two professional Master’s degree programs: a Master’s of Information Studies (MISst), and a Master’s of Museum Studies (MMst).

Discussions for the transfer of the program were originally proposed as a recommendation of the 2004-2005 Graduate Studies Review Committee and were based on the fact that the collective future of libraries, archives, and museums was identified as a key priority in the 2004–10 FIS Academic Plan.

In making the formal announcement, Dean Brian Cantwell Smith outlined the history and aims of the Museum Studies Program, noting that it was launched in 1969 to provide students with a strong theoretical background and professional understanding of museum origins, ideologies, changing philosophies and current practices. The curriculum explores the manner in which art and artifacts are acquired, stored and conserved, catalogued, documented, managed and exhibited. Museum communications, audiences and outreach, and the management of institutions and people are also explored. He noted that the Program also provides students with a comprehensive knowledge of the function of museums in their broader social and cultural context and a methodology for research.

In conjunction with the move, FIS received funding from the University’s Academic Initiative Fund (AIF) which will permit Museum Studies to expand its program and rationalize resources in innovative ways. These include implementing the first PhD program in anglophone Canada, and the integration of the program’s Resource Centre with the Inforum. For students, the move means increased interaction with faculty and fellow students in related studies, providing a unique opportunity for the exchange of ideas and the development of new alliances.

Museum Studies will continue to offer the awards supported by the Vivian and David Campbell Family Foundation Summer Training Fellowships and the Rebanks Family Fellowships which provide valuable training for students. The second-year project to curate an exhibition will remain a key component of the program. The 2006 exhibit, entitled “Collecting Curiosities: The World in One Room” was curated by students in collaboration with the University of Toronto Art Centre. The exhibition featured items garnered from a wide variety of public and private donors, and examined the origins of the artifacts and their influential role in establishing the foundations of today’s museums.

Professor Wendy Duff was appointed Interim Director of Museum Studies from 2004 to 2006 said the union would improve the Museum Program “in all possible ways,” ensuring that its graduates “will become the primary sources in Canada for museum/gallery professionals at all levels across the country.”

In welcoming the Program to FIS, Dean Cantwell Smith cited the Museum Program as one of the University’s great assets, noting that museology is “an ideal complement to the Faculty’s heritage strengths in libraries and archives,” and inviting each and every member of the FIS community to participate in this collaboration, as we forge an exciting future together.
From late May to June 17, the fifth floor of the FIS building was the site of a rich display of art and new media works. Among the featured pieces were ceramic vases in the shape of mystic characters, pencil-drawn self-portraits, a video projecting onto a large quilt, and black boxes accompanied by Braille labels and photographs. These works represented part of two larger projects involving the Adaptive Technology Resource Centre and the Museum Studies Program at the Faculty of Information Studies.

The “Stretch” and “CulturAll” projects received funding through the Canadian Culture Online Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage. Both projects involved secondary school students, teachers, First Nations artists, artists with disabilities, and researchers at York, Ryerson and U of T. The activities were designed to challenge and stretch conventions within the arts to encourage the inclusion of diverse communities, including people with disabilities.

In both real and virtual cultural environments, people with disabilities often face barriers that limit or prevent their participation. Obstacles can include a lack of captioned audio for people who are hard of hearing or deaf, the absence of described video for people who are blind or have low vision, and physical barriers in traditional exhibition spaces and in the user interface of virtual exhibits. The persistence of these barriers is testa-

Change is Afoot

FIS has been a hub of activity these past six months and FIS Student Council (FISSC) has been involved in all of the exciting changes including the hiring of new professors, the move of Museum Studies and the introduction of the new website. We have also experienced our own share of innovative changes. Here’s a brief glimpse of what we’ve been working on and what is yet to come.

One of FISSC’s major focuses has been our Web presence. Following the lead of FIS, FISSC has completely revamped its own website. Based on Tikiwiki software, the site will be accessible to students only, and will allow them to search courses, events, and to input their own comments. It’s an exciting change and one which has been the hard work of a few dedicated FISSCers since March.

Another FISSC project is Compass, the “must read” for all new students. Compass is a FISSC publication that contains the compiled results of student evaluations of FIS courses and instructors from the preceding year. While the 2004 edition is still useful, with all the changes in professors FISSC felt a revision was imperative. We hope to have the new version completed in the coming weeks.

New clubs are on the horizon, including a Children’s Librarian group and a FIS version of GLBTQ. We will continue many established groups and activities, including Peer Mentoring, Social Committee, Professional Development and much more.

Last, but not least, we wish to warmly welcome our compatriots-in-arms, the Museum Studies Program. We greatly look forward to working with them in creating programs which will appeal to all students!

As I said: lots going on, lots to look forward to and an exciting year ahead for all!

Keep it real, have fun, and read a book!

Annetta Dunn
FISSC President 2006-2007

STRETCH AND CULTURALL

A display in the Inforum’s foyer encouraged guests to visit the exhibit.
Rhonda McEwen

Why did you choose FIS?
The Dean of the U of T Law School recommended FIS when I was investigating PhD programs in Canada. I was looking for a faculty where I could explore the social aspects of communication technology. Finding an environment where this type of interdisciplinary research is supported can be challenging. FIS is one of the few faculties that encourages inquiry of this nature.

What are your undergraduate/previous degree(s)?
A BSc in Sociology and Management Studies, an MBA in Information Technology and an MSc in Telecommunications.

What are you studying at FIS?
My PhD research involves mobile/wireless communication technologies (e.g. mobile phones, RFID, RIM handhelds, WLANs, etc.) and the social issues arising from the growing pervasiveness of these technologies. There is a growing body of scholarly research in this area, but since it is developing so rapidly, there is a lot to investigate and analyze.

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 generally choose to view change in a positive way. The changes we are witnessing are in part due to fundamental transformations in the structure of information (e.g. digitization, miniaturization, proliferation, etc.) as well as changes in traditional informing processes that shape, and reciprocally, are shaped by society. The librarianship and information management fields must consider these transformations and adapt in a thoughtful way with them. I believe the resultant changes will enrich the academy and those associated with information studies. It is an exciting time for us.

As a student, how have you stayed involved at the Faculty?
I am an active member of the Doctoral Student Association, and along with my cohorts, I have been involved with the faculty search at FIS.

What FIS events do you look forward to over the next year?
I always enjoy the Dean’s Teas and the colloquium talks but I am especially looking forward to meeting the new faculty members.

What are you hoping to pursue when you graduate?
Rest… More seriously, after almost seven years of consulting I will pursue an academic career teaching, and conducting research in the social and cultural changes associated with information technologies.

Is there anything you would like to say to FIS alumni?
I would like to thank the alumni who continue to work with the faculty and students, for their interest and time. For current students the alumni serve as examples of what is attainable, and rejuvenate ideas by bringing perspectives from the “outside.” I encourage graduating FIS students to become active members of the alumni to continue the good work.

NAME: RHONDA MCEWEN
HOMETOWN: TACARIGUA, TRINIDAD (WEST INDIES)

< NADINE WATEN
held a post-doctoral fellowship in Women’s Health at McMaster University. She was Adjunct Professor at the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at the University of Western Ontario, where she obtained her PhD. She was Coordinator for the Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care, following earlier training in experimental psychology, with a Master’s from Western and a Bachelor’s from Dalhousie. She will lead FIS’s participation in our Alf-funded collaboration with the Department of Health, Policy, Management and Evaluation to establish a program in Health Information practices at UofT.
We join our colleagues in welcoming this exceptional group of academics to FIS.

Wendy Porch, Project Coordinator, ATRC

Three-dimensional, colourful works reflected the students’ creativity.
MARIANNE VESPRY (MLS ’58) co-authored a book with her daughter, M.A. Vespry. Titled Happy, Ever & After, Barristers & Solicitors: the Sleeping Beauty Caper, the whimsical book features Toby, the young member of a family of dragons who are also jurists. It will be published this year.

Although she has not worked in libraries for 20–odd years, PATRICIA BOW (MLS ’69) reports she has “never been away from books or words.” Since 1997 she has been a writer and communications officer at the University of Waterloo, and has published fantasy-mystery fiction for young people. Her book, The Bone Flute, was nominated for OLA’s 2006 Silver Birch Award, and her next work, The Ruby Kingdom, will be published by Dundurn Press in 2007. Patricia and her husband, ERIC (MLS ’69), have lived in Kitchener for 15 years. Eric is semi-retired and tutors library staff taking professional development courses. Colleagues may contact Patricia at: pabow@go.net

MARGUERITE E.M. EAMON (MLS ’75) has worked as a senior assistant librarian for some years in the London Borough of Harrow, England, and reports: “I was elected in 2003 as the Canadian Sister Provincial of the Order of the Sisters of the Church. In May I was re-elected for a further three-year term.”

ROBERT OLDHAM (MLS ’78), reference librarian at Hamilton Public Library, has published a new novel, New Britain KZ: Book Two of an Alternative History of World War Two. One reviewer stated: “This is an imaginative and exciting piece of ‘History as it Might Have Been’… how could Britain have been freed from the Axis powers? The question is worked out in convincing detail.” To order the book, contact r.oldham@sympatico.ca.

Formerly Children’s Coordinator for the Toronto Public Library, FRIEDA LING (MLS ’79) relocated to Arizona 10 years ago where she is Health Librarian and EqualAccess Coordinator for the Glendale Public Library. In 2005 she received both the Arizona State Library Association Outstanding Library Service Award and the New York Times Librarian Award—one of 27 librarians chosen from 1,200 nation-wide nominations. Her innovative health programming is featured on the Arizona Equal Access website and the “Libraries for the Future” brochure. Frieda plans a career change at the end of 2006, utilizing her degree in marriage and family counseling to pursue full-time work as a counselor. She will maintain her laurentian professorship by coordinating “Changing the Face of Medicine,” a traveling ALA exhibit honouring women doctors, in the Phoenix area in 2008.

KRISTINE CARLSEN WALL (MLS ’79) recently became a researcher/consultant in the Department of Advancement/Development/Communications and Alumni Affairs at the University of Lethbridge. She had previously worked in a variety of traditional library settings, including business, public and academic libraries, consulting, and teaching.

PAUL MCKENNA (MLS ’80) was recently appointed Manager, Corporate Planning, for the Toronto Police Service. Paul also serves as a member of the editorial committee of Canadian Public Administration, the journal of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada, for which he authored the forthcoming article, “Probing a problem in Canadian police leadership: the Kingston Police data collection project,” written in collaboration with William J. Closs.

ROBERT E. RENAUD (MLS ’80) has been promoted to Vice President, Library and Information Services, and CIO at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. He attended the Institute for Educational Management at the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University in July 2006, and will chair the 2007 EDUCAUSE Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference in Baltimore, Md.

SUSAN IBBETSON (MLS ’87) has taken early retirement from her position as Senior Manager, Bibliographic Services for Toronto Public Library. She is now teaching part-time at Seneca College in the Library & Information Technician Diploma Program. She teaches the course on Placement and Work Skills and is Placement Coordinator for the Faculty of Continuing Education.

ALISSON MAY (MLS ’87) worked briefly in legal publishing but returned to graduate school and completed a MA and PhD in history. Her first book, The Bar and the Old Bailey, 1750–1850, was published in 2003. She joined the history department at the University of Western Ontario as assistant professor in July 2005. Allyson would love to hear from former classmates and can be reached at amay@uwyo.ca.

SUSAN BARCLAY (MLS ’89) sends word that her first published short story, “A Ray for Mary Jo,” is included in the Highland Press anthology, No Law Against Love (2006). Net profits will be donated towards breast cancer research. The book can be ordered through local bookstores or from major online booksellers. Susan invites colleagues to view her website, www.susan-barclay.ca.

DELLA (CIPOLLONE) ANTONACCI (MLS ’93) recently accepted a new position as professor in the Library and Information Technology program at Seneca College.

BRIAN CAMERON (MLS ’95) has won the 2006 Johns Hopkins University Press Award for Best Article for a piece he wrote, titled “Trends in the Use of ISI Bibliometric Data: Uses, Abuses, and Implications” (portal: Libraries and the Academy, January 2005, Vol 5, Issue 1, pp. 105–125). The article analyzed the history of the development of impact factors, described the limitations in their use, and provided a critique of the usage of impact factors in academic settings.

STEPHANIE WALKER (MLS ’95) has accepted the position of Associate Librarian for Information Services at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, effective Sept. 1, 2006.

ALEX FAYLE (MIST ’96) is fulfilling a lifelong dream to move to the south of France to write. He will spend this winter completing a book on his current field of professional organizing and will also pursue creative writing as he becomes part of the slow-food (and life) movement, living in a small town in the Pyrenées.

After working in software development for IBM as an information architect and product planner for 8 years, DAN SCOTT (MIST ’98) was appointed Systems Librarian at Laurentian University in March 2006. A year earlier he celebrated his first co-author credits with the publication of Apache Derby: Off to the Races. On the home front, his wife Lynn gave birth to their first child, Amber Colleen Kabaroff-Scott, in May. Dan asserts that “Amber inherited most of Lynn’s good looks, but unfortunately has daddy’s frown.”

ROBIN LEIBOVITZ RAKOWSKY (MIST ’99) has been Teen Services Librarian at the Richmond Hill Public Library since 2005. Prior to joining RPL, Robin was an Internet content coordinator for Canadian Information Processing Society and a librarian for Absolute Location Support Services, both in Toronto. She and her husband Jeremy married in 1999 and now have “two beautiful children,” Ryan and Erika.

NINA (ZHOQI) JIN (MIST ’01) and her husband Richard Liu welcomed their first son, John Liu, into the world on Dec. 4, 2005. Nina has worked as a records management professional for Canadian Tire since graduation and will be on maternity leave until November. She sends greetings to her fellow classmates.

A specialist librarian in mediaeval manuscripts and early books, P.J. CAREFOOTE (MIST ’92) joined the staff of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at University of Toronto in 2002. In January 2005 he mounted an exhibition and published an accompanying catalogue entitled Nihil obstat: An Exhibition of Banned, Censored, & Challenged Books. He has also written on censorship for Volume III of a History of the Book in Canada/ Histoire du livre et de l’imprimé au Canada, to be published in 2007. He is head of the Fisher exhibitions committee and sits on several other committees at the University.

FARAH HASAN (MIST ’04) was appointed reference librarian at the Northeastern University School of Law in Boston in July of this year.

Upon graduation from FIS, MINDY (MYERS) THUNA (MIST ’05) became the AstraZeneca Science Liaison Librarian at the University of Toronto at Mississauga. In this position, she works with faculty, staff, and students (both undergraduate and graduate) to support their teaching, learning, research and outreach activities. Her responsibilities include reference, instructional programming, and collection development in the areas of biology, biotechnology, chemistry, physics, and astronomy.

STUART BAILEY (MIST ’06) is currently on contract with the Government of Ontario as an Information and Information Technology Policy Analyst in the Office of the Chief Information and Privacy Officer, Ministry of Government Services. His duties include the provision of analysis and advice on the provincial government’s Information Management initiative, an effort to establish common goals and priorities for managing government information. While not working as a librarian per se, he considers his MIST “an indicator of professional competence, something that is particularly important in this field and the associated field of Privacy.”

NANCY COLLINS (MIST ’06) recently started a one-year academic internship at the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

MIKE METH (MIST ’06) left Canada at the end of May to volunteer for the FIFA World Cup in Germany. He decided to stay in Europe following the conclusion of the games and to continue to travel for the summer months. He’ll return to Toronto in early September and will then ponder his next steps. You can catch up with Mike on his blog at http://digitalmeth.blogspot.com.
**FIS Spring Reunion 2006**

On Thursday, June 15, the Faculty welcomed back the honoured years (classes ending in '1 and '6) for the annual Spring Reunion reception. The event attracted over 60 alumni from a variety of years – some guests traveling from as far as B.C. and Maryland. Needless to say, an excellent time was had by all.

**Canadian Library Association FIS Reunion in Ottawa**

On Friday, June 16, the Faculty of Information Studies hosted its first “regional event” in Ottawa to coincide with the CLA 2006 Annual Conference.
Visiting Scholar Program Celebrates Professor Patricia Fleming

Over the past year, a group of colleagues at the Faculty of Information Studies formed a committee to create an appropriate tribute to retiring Professor Patricia Fleming (BLS '64, MLS '70). Throughout her long teaching career at FIS, and in her roles as founding Director of the Collaborative Program in Book History and Print Culture, and as Director of the History of the Book in Canada/ Histoire du livre et de l'imprimé (HBIC/HLIC) project, Professor Fleming has been a source of great pride for the Faculty. In keeping with her professional interests, the committee decided to honour her with the creation of an endowed visiting scholar program. The Patricia Fleming Visiting Fellowship in Bibliography and Book History, an endowed fund of $25,000, was established late this spring, thanks to the support of colleagues, friends, family and many former students, in Canada and abroad.

The Fleming Visiting Fellowship will exist in perpetuity to welcome scholars from around the world to the Faculty for a one-month period. The Fleming scholar will have access to the resources of the University of Toronto and will deliver a public lecture during the term of the fellowship. Every second year, the fellowship will be awarded to a scholar whose research focuses specifically on Canadiana.

Speaking on behalf of the committee, member Judy Donnelly (MLS '87) noted: "Professor Fleming set high standards for all of us, as students at FIS and as book historians, through her enthusiasm, impeccable teaching and her meticulous work as a bibliographer. She has brought Canadian book history to the international stage as the director of HBIC/HLIC, a complex national endeavour which has garnered praise in Canada and abroad. The fellowship is a most fitting tribute to Professor Fleming and honours her through its support of scholarship in book history and bibliography."

Doctoral Scholarship Honours the Memory of a FIS Legend

In April of this year, the Faculty of Information Studies was pleased to announce the establishment of the Ethel W. Auster Scholarship for Doctoral Research. The award was created in memory of Professor Ethel Auster, who passed away in 2005 and had made a tremendous impact on the Faculty during her time here. Working with the Auster family, the FIS community has raised $50,000 since last November. This enabled us to activate matching funds from the provincial Graduate Student Endowment Fund, creating an award that will generate approximately $6,000 annually to support PhD research at FIS. The award is a fitting tribute to a cause that was very close to Professor Auster’s heart.

Her son David and his wife Janis commented: "FIS was not a job, nor a career for Ethel; it was a family and way of life. Each student and colleague was someone she treasured. The scholarship that has been created in her honour is beyond moving, it is a way for her spirit and beliefs to continue on within the community that she cared so deeply about. It is our belief that Ethel would be pleased to be recognized in this way, just as she was pleased each time she helped a student. This tribute has touched our family deeply and has established a permanent bond between Ethel’s personal and professional families. We are grateful to have this unique opportunity to celebrate her memory."

The Faculty is honoured to establish this award, and was thrilled by the groundswell of support that allowed us to do so within just a few months.
The practicum is an opportunity for students to apply some of the theory learned in class to the actual workplace while working under the supervision of professionals.

Courses containing practical experience:

- Information Professional Practicum – 100 hours under the supervision of a qualified professional.
- Information Innovation Design Studio – Small teams of students tackle real-world problems in information practice and management.
- Management of Corporate and Other Special Information Centres; Health Sciences Information Resources; Archival Arrangement and Description; and other courses. Approximately 40 hours each.

If your organization could use an MIS student, we want to help you. Please email me at adriana.rossini@utoronto.ca with a few words about the project, duration, and the skills you are looking for, to get the process started. It’s that simple!

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