On behalf of the School of Information (SI), I am happy to have this opportunity to share with you some of the wonderful events, achievements, and updates from our school over the past year. SI faculty, students, and graduates continue to be highly productive and impactful members of USF and our surrounding communities, with timely information-intensive programs that have created leaders and well-prepared professionals across Florida and beyond.

We hope you enjoy “catching up” through this newsletter on all the ways that SI is evolving. We appreciate all the many people who have made SI what it is today, and we hope you will contact us with any feedback and news you may have. Look for more opportunities to connect with USF SI and our alumni in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Jim Andrews, Director

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This year, seven students from the School of Information attended the 46th Annual Library Day in Tallahassee, Florida, on Wednesday, March 17-18, 2015. Sponsored by the Florida Library Association, Library Day is a time when librarians remind lawmakers of the importance of libraries, during the budget making process. First on the agenda was the Advocate’s Reception, where the students had the opportunity to meet library professionals from across the state.

The following morning the students gathered to meet with specific library advocates, who then briefed them about library funding issues to be presented to legislators. Next they headed to the Capitol building to meet with legislators and deliver our important messages. Finally the students were given a tour of the State Library and Archives.

This trip was made possible with the help of TBLC’s Charlie Parker and the coordination of SI graduate Roxanna Palmer.

World IA Day

by Jenny Tolbert

The average information user today expects a highly efficient and attractive experience. As user anticipation rises with the volume of data, Information Architects are more in demand. On February 21, 2015, several students and faculty from USF participated in World Information Architecture Day (WIAD), held for the first time in downtown Tampa. Joined together with locations all over the world, participants collaborated and discussed how best to shape the future of Information Architecture. USF School of Information’s Dr. Heiko Haubitz joined other professionals to field questions about how Information Architects could create structures to promote a happier customer experience. Attendees also participated in workshops focused on solving real-world information architecture problems. Additionally, USF faculty Diane Austin and Donna D’Ambrosio had opportunity to publicize USF’s Bachelor of Science in Information Studies degree, and further discuss great opportunities for BSIS graduates.

Attending students offered their impressions of the event:

“World IA Day was directly linked to my major and to my interests... Being in an environment full of professionals that have the user as their main focus was very enriching and informative. I learned about usability testing, and of how the product has to fulfill the user needs and expectations. I also learned about the importance of observing how the user interacts with an application, product, and/or website, and how that interaction is potentially more revealing than a questionnaire. For professional development, I left the conference with a myriad of tools and resources concerning information architecture that were previously unbeknownst to me, and that I will apply in my work and studies.”

- Nanchy Velez, BS in Information Architecture

“I realized that information is truly a social endeavor. The design of your product has to spark an emotional connection with the user so that they can effectively do what they need to do. What I think is the best design option might not be the best for the user, which brings up the importance of usability testing. Career-wise, I learned if you’re in a team, you have to resolve disagreements effectively and quickly. Whether you’re a designer or engineer choices must be made objective-
USF SI @ ALA 2015

by Diane Austin

USF School of Information faculty, students, and alumni were present and active among the 22,000 attendees at the 2015 American Library Association Annual Conference and Exhibition held in San Francisco June 25th to 30th (see the Look Back at the conference at http://alaac15.ala.org/). The conference opened the day the U.S. Supreme Court ruling made same-sex marriage legal throughout the country, with “inclusiveness and diversity” emerging as a major conference theme for 2015 (as reported in American Libraries magazine (July 22, 2015). The American Library Association has been an advocate for LGBT diversity initiatives and active in supporting and participating in LGBT rights, historically. Being in the center of such a momentous decision and recognition of civil rights made the event even more extraordinary for those attending.

The Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) showcased a number of the library and information science programs at their shared booth in the exhibit hall and celebrated and brought together schools and their alumni at the ALISE Cooperative Alumni Reunion held on Sunday, June 2 at the Intercontinental Hotel. USF alumna Sam Hastings, Director and Professor at the University of South Carolina and 2015-2016 ALISE President graciously and motivationally addressed the schools and alumnus about the organization and the field.

Associate Director Diane Austin represented USF at both the joint booth and reunion, greeting and reconnecting with USF and other school’s alum and other conference attendees, sharing stories and what is happening in the SI programs. “It is a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with our alum. They are doing great things out in the field”. She also commented on the conference providing opportunities to see emerging trends and challenges and to have some fun while making impact. Austin especially enjoyed the opportunity to read an excerpt from one of the many banned books displayed in the ALA video booth (available online during Banned Books week in October) and to experience the trending technologies, innovators in the Maker Movement, and leaders in the graphic novels and gaming groups at the embedded GraphiCon 2015 mini-conference sponsored by ALA’s Graphic Novels and Comics in Libraries Member Initiative Group.

Other SI professors were busy with multiple committee assignments and event attendance. SI Professor Dr. Vicki Gregory participated on the Notable Books Council this year. She also attended Beta Phi Mu activities on behalf of SI and the Andrew Carnegie Medal awards ceremony. Dr. Kathleen de la Peña McCook served on the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction & Nonfiction committee this year.

In keeping with SI’s tradition of active student involvement at ALA conferences, graduate assistant James Scholz participated in the ALA Student to Staff volunteer and professional development activities at the conference. See James’ article about his experience in this newsletter.

Many more USF LIS alum and supporters were active and at large throughout the conference. See glimpses of them on the SI @ ALA showcase at http://si.usf.edu. Were you at the 2015 ALA Annual conference? Do you have stories or images to share? Send them to si@usf.edu. And hope to see you next year at ALA 2016 in Orlando!
The Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC) kicked off their first annual Library MakerFest on June 18th at the Arthur Boring Civic Center Strawberry Festival facility in Plant City. The event was a “day-long exhibit of all things maker” where library professionals and vendors got together to learn more about makerspaces and to see how they are becoming important programs and creative activity centers for learning and exploring in libraries.” Hands-on demonstrations and information sessions occurred at individual library and vendor booths. Librarians and staff from public and school libraries featured their makerspaces and activities from systems all over the state of Florida. Vendors and consultants showed off their “latest and greatest products” and services for makerspaces. In addition, libraries and vendors took turns showcasing their spaces and products on the main exhibit stage throughout the day.

A number of the booths and presenters represented Florida libraries and businesses employing USF library and information science alumni. SL alum from St. Pete College, Pasco Library System, Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Libraries, Broward Public Libraries, Miami-Dade Public Library System, Hillsborough County Schools, and others shared their ideas and exciting new endeavors.

Diana Rendina, USF alumna and School Media Specialist from Stewart Middle Magnet School, brought several projects and activities for visitors to try out, as well as photos and videos about the programs offered at her middle school library Makerspace.

Miami-Dade Public Library System librarians exhibited “digital media projects from the teens of YOUmedia Miami (with midi keyboards, a camera, and a projector); robotics with Lego Mindstorms EV3s, Snap Circuits, and Little Bits. The YOUmedia Miami is a “safe space that empowers youth to explore technology, make connections with their peers and to become more adept, creative and confident young adults. Made possible with a grant from the Knight Foundation, YOUmedia Miami builds upon the role libraries play as places of innovation and exploration and teaches teens to use technology to tell stories and engage with the world around them in powerful ways”.

Library colleagues from the Tampa-Hillsborough County Library system presented information about the activities and facilities at the HIVE, recently opened (November, 2014) 10,000 sq. ft. makerspace on the 3rd Floor of the John F. Germany library’s West Building. The HIVE offers new “classes, equipment, and learning opportunities for creators of all kinds and of all ages, piloting 3D printing and modeling classes, an audio/video recording studio, sewing programs, coding classes, meet-up space for tech groups and robotics teams, entrepreneurial support services and much more”. In addition, the HIVE at the South Shore Regional Library offers “expanded recording studio services” It is expected that the HIVE is “preparing to take flight at several other branch locations soon”!

With over 200 attendees for the first MakerFest, it is anticipated that the 2nd Annual MakerFest will be in the planning soon. Watch for more information from TBLC! Learn more about the 2015 Library MakerFest at http://librarymakerfest.org/. (Note: the examples above were retrieved directly from the http://librarymakerfest.org/site).
I’m not a Calvinist—I don’t believe in fate. However, I will have to say that I now believe in serendipity. Here’s why. In December of last year, I received an e-mail, informing me that the American Library Association (ALA) has a grant, called Student to Staff. Every year the ALA awards one student from every library school the opportunity to travel to their Annual Conference. They pay for the conference registration, and they also foot the bill for the hotel stay. All you have to do is write an essay explaining why librarianship is important to you, and how you would benefit from attending the conference. I applied. I won.

Fast forward about seven months. I’ve arrived in San Francisco, home to the ALA Annual Conference 2015. I’d never been to an ALA conference before nor had I been to the City by the Bay, so I was quite excited. A lot of us Student to Staff (S2S) folks had been communicating through Facebook in the months leading up to the conference, and we had decided to meet at a restaurant at Fisherman’s Wharf that first night. What a great way to get to know our fellow students! We actually ended up with our own dining room, complete with a view of Alcatraz Island. I think one of the most important aspects of being there, for us the next generation of librarians, was to get to connect with each other. Few things will bond people like a shared experience, working and having fun together in a new, exciting city. Now on to the work part!

We S2S-ers were assigned to different offices within ALA. Mine was in the Office of Information Technology Policy (OITP). Specifically, I worked for Director Alan Inouye, Deputy Director Larra Clark, and Associate Director Marijke Visser. My role for the conference was to assist Alan, Larra, and Marijke in setting up and documenting the panel discussions involving them. It was a great learning experience and they were all very kind and helpful.

I met so many interesting people, learned about so many great initiatives, that space will not permit me to recount them all. For that reason I will highlight what stood out the most for me. I mentioned above that I thought this trip had a touch of serendipity to it. I began to realize that on the first day of the conference, my second day in San Francisco. That was the day the Supreme Court established gay marriage as being legal in all 50 states. As luck would have it, the ALA had booked Roberta Kaplan, lawyer for the case that overturned the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). She opened the conference and recounted her personal struggles as a gay person. For instance, Kaplan told the audience that when she told her parents she was a lesbian; her mother literally beat her head against a wall. Around that time she confided her struggles with a woman named Thea Spyer, at Spyer’s apartment in New York City. Years later, now a lawyer, Kaplan was approached by Edie Windsor, who needed help in gaining access to insurance benefits left to her from her recently deceased girlfriend. That woman, it turns out, was Ms. Windsor. They met in that same apartment. The case, which she won, was her first victory against DOMA.

After my first day of work with OITP, listening to Roberta Kaplan, and after very little sleep, I collapsed into bed, back in my hotel room. That hotel, the St. Francis, was beautiful—and free! Thanks, ALA! Anyway, I had just got ready for sleep when I noticed a cacophony of sounds. That was when news had gotten out about the Supreme Court decision. I heard the sounds of celebration, even from my 16th floor room. That included a fireworks display lighting up the sky outside my window. My words really cannot do justice to the energy evident that night and that weekend.

That was also the weekend of the San Francisco’s Pride Parade. Over a million people crowded into a very compact city for the event!

The next morning, day two of the conference, one of the panel discussions I was assigned to work was titled “Hacking the Library Culture.” The subject was how libraries, in an age that is both digital and austere, can reinvent themselves and to stay relevant to patrons, all while reaching new audiences. Panel members Erica Compton, project coordinator for the Idaho Commission for Libraries, and Megan Egbert, youth services supervisor for the Meridian Li-
The Emergence of Makerspaces: 
An Interview with Megan Egbert & Erica Compton

We hear often these days about libraries needing to “pivot” in order to adjust to austere budgets and attract more patrons. One exciting way to do this is through the makerspace movement. And it does not have to cost much either. While I was at the 2015 ALA Annual Conference I had the pleasure of meeting Erica Compton, Project Coordinator at Idaho Commission for Libraries, and Megan Egbert, Youth Services Supervisor for the Meridian Library District in Idaho. They are helping to attract a new generation—teens and tweens—to libraries through the “maker” movement. They help to establish makerspaces and train staff to run them. Below is my interview with them.

What inspired you to be a part of this project? What is your role?

Megan Egbert: My inspiration for being part of this program was we had some really innovative staff who wanted to try some new types of programs, specifically for teens. We have a large teen attendance in our library, as we are directly across from a middle school, so on an average day we have between 60-150 teens hanging out in the library. Our initial project was targeted at making with teens, so it was a great fit for our library.

Erica Compton: So I am a project coordinator for the ICfL [Idaho Commission for Libraries] and part of my scope is to help develop projects targeting tweens and teens – to help libraries engage them in new ways. In 2012 I began co-developing the Make It at the Library project to address needs within the library community in Idaho. My background is in experiential learning and STEM and so this fit well with my passion and with my strengths. I continue to lead the project with my colleague Sue Walker. We are in the middle of year 3 of the project.

I remember hearing about outfitting old bookmobiles into mobile makerspaces. I find that very exciting! What is the status of that?

Megan Egbert: I had wanted to outfit our new vehicle (Sprinter) as a makerspace, and leave our bookmobile as it is. It didn’t work out that way, so instead we use the vehicles to transport maker materials to different sites. However, there is a library in our group that outfitted their bookmobile as a mobile makerspace.

Erica Compton: I truly believe that you do not have to start a “makerspace” at all. You have to begin implementing “making” activities and make changes to foster a maker mentality in your library. Focus on activities and projects that use recycled materials. Do take-apart activities and use what you scrounge to create something else. Upcycling is a great way to make and to stay within a very small or non-existent budget. A Google search on low or no cost projects will turn up plenty to get someone started.

Does this project have a special emphasis on underserved communities?

Megan Egbert: The initial focus of the project, as I mentioned, was teens. However, being that most of the sites are public libraries, we certainly have a focus on underserved populations. Our outreach department, who does a lot of making out in the community, builds
their schedule on reaching the underserved populations in our area which include refugees, Spanish speaking families, and those not in close proximity to a physical library building.

**Erica Compton:** That is a great question. Underserved are our biggest challenge! I absolutely believe that outreach in general is how we are going to reach this group. We have to get out of the library since they are not coming through the doors. Mobile makerspaces, making in the park, sharing making with community organizations etc…. all of these will help us reach a broader audience and introduce making to everyone!

I heard that what is most important when setting up makerspaces, is training the design cycle, rather than requesting things, such as 3-D printers. Can you elaborate?

**Megan Egbert:** I think the best part of this project is that it starts with staff training. What I see happen all too often at libraries is they might get excited about the maker movement, because one or two staff members are excited about it, but then there is no lasting effect if those people were to move on. ICFL did a great job of teaching select staff from each library about design thinking, and how to apply that to real life problems. What I was hoping to convey in my comments about staff training is that the goal of a library should not be to create a makerspace. It should be to create makers. And that really starts with staff. They have to fully understand the ideas first, so they can help guide the learning of others.

**Erica Compton:** Sure – I firmly believe that hands-on, comprehensive training is absolutely foundational. Laying groundwork on what making/maker movement is, making mindset and why it is important, and how design thinking fits into the equation is key. I think that the most important thing is to create an environment where innovation is embraced, where kids feel safe to experiment and to fail is far more important than the tools they are provided.

Have you noticed that kids are more open to the world of STEAM after engaging in these projects?

**Megan Egbert:** Yes, absolutely. Not only are they more engaged in STEAM, but I see it build confidence. We have a large population where I work, and they have really liked the Make It Take It kits that we supply. One home school kid told us there is NOTHING he can’t learn at the library, now that we have those. Making builds that confidence.

**Erica Compton:** We have not been able to collect good data on this, but anecdotally we have heard that they are far more willing to try new things regarding STEAM after participating in programs. If they are engaged in the learning activity then they seem to be open to trying more and different activities – ones that they might not have shown an interest in before.

Have you found that the students who come to the library as part of their science class become more interested in the library in general?

**Megan Egbert:** I think the best indicator of this is actually when we go to the schools. Our area doesn’t provide many field trips, so we go to them way more than they come to us. But it absolutely builds rapport with the library. We have some adorable letters from kids that they send us after we visit. They are amazed at the type of things we can offer. One of them jokes (because we have an Oculus Rift and several 3D Printers) “I never knew libraries could afford cool things.”

**Erica Compton:** I am not sure that I can speak to this one. We do have 2 school libraries piloting this year and we hope to be able to address this specifically after this year is completed.

I notice that you have surveys for teachers, to conduct to students. What have you learned from these?

**Erica Compton:** As I think I mentioned, this has been the hardest part and the least successful component of the program so far. We have very limited data collected using these surveys. This is due to several factors including limited staff time, the diversity of projects/tools/activities being done during any one program time. It would be better suited to use the survey tool on the website when you have a specific class say on Robotics happening rather than open making.

Is there anything you would like to add?

**Megan Egbert:** I would encourage you to check out [http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/make-it-library-where-idaho-makers-meet](http://libraries.idaho.gov/page/make-it-library-where-idaho-makers-meet) if you haven’t already to learn more about the project.
The Florida Library Association conference of 2015 was hosted from May 12th to the 15th in sunny Orlando, Florida. The hour-long drive from the USF to the event made for perfect driving conditions for faculty members, students, graduate assistants and alumni alike to attend the conference to network and attend the many lectures and events hosted by the FLA.

As two students attending a conference for the first time, Jenny Tolbert and I went into the conference bright eyed and bushy tailed, unsure of what to expect. The event kicked off with preconference meetings and an introduction lecture, followed by a poolside-networking event catered with drinks and warm weather. Left and right, familiar faces from the USF staff were seen mixed in with integral FLA members that included past and current presidents and board members. The outgoing president, Linda McCarthy, welcomed and spoke to us several times throughout the conference to check that our experience was a positive one.

The breakout sessions held throughout each conference day covered diverse subjects and specializations; each room was filled with librarians learning about new trends in their field and individuals simply interested in learning. Talks about geo-caching in libraries as a way to increase community involvement, the use of social media, to designing interactive spaces on a budget, and intuitive cataloging drew in crowds of attendees brimming with questions. Truly an interactive space, the Cyberzone allowed conference-goers to discover new gadgets available as learning tools for the libraries and maker spaces. Meanwhile, the performers showcase allowed children's librarians to show off their best in-character personas and techniques used for story time and other children's programs in their libraries.

As an evening event, USF held a reception welcoming back their alum. The room was decorated with the green and gold that welcomed staff, alum and students into familiar territory. Our distinguished speaker, Barbara Stites, evoked an aura of hope within the room as she spoke about her personal experiences as a woman in the library system, and how confidence and work ethic pay off through an impact in the community.

The FLA conference of 2015 offered an exceptional learning experience for all. Networking events and the conversations that transpired between the rows of breakout sessions caused many attendees to excitedly inquire about next year's conference before the 2015 event had closed. With final words by Linda McCarthy as her presidency came to a close, a “hello” speech from the new FLA President, Gene Coppola, and a riveting address by Barbara Stites, the FLA conference was a surely worthwhile professional event.
Dr. Cora P. Dunkley has retired after giving over forty years of service to the field of librarianship. She came to the School in 2002, teaching courses such as Storytelling, Materials for Children, Multicultural Materials for Children and Young Adults, Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults, and Books and Related Materials for Young Adults. Her favorite class, however, was Organization and Administration of the School Media Center. As Dr. Dunkley put it, “With twenty-four years of experience as a school librarian (media specialist), I am able to bring to this, and the other classes I teach, the knowledge from past experiences and the theoretical experiences and approaches of today. This combination leads to a firm foundation of professionalism for today’s school librarian.”

Cora earned her B.A. in English from Fort Valley State College in Georgia in 1968 and began teaching English at Lake City Junior High School, GA that same year. She continued teaching that subject until 1978, when she became a School Media Specialist. Meanwhile in 1973, she received her M.A. in Library Science from Atlanta University. She has given not only to the fields of School Media and English teaching, but has also been a School Librarian, Reference Librarian, and a Cataloger. In 1994, she obtained her Ph.D. in Library and Information Science from Florida State University. In 2002 she was hired by the USF School of Library and Information Science, as an Assistant Professor. In 2005, she became an Associate Professor.

Dr. Dunkley has been an active member of many professional organizations, including the American Association of School Librarians, Distinguished School Administrators Award Committee, Association for Library Service to Children, the Notable Children’s Videos Committee, and the Florida Library Association, where she was Chair of the Black Caucus Interest Group. She was also once president of the Florida Association for Media in Education (FAME.) During her time as president, her conference was called “The School Library: Portal to Imagination, Dreams, Diversity” and was held in Orlando in 2013. She also spoke at The 28th Annual Conference on Children’s Literature and 13th Annual Anthony Bryan Art Series where the theme was “Turning the Pages of Diversity.” Some of her publications include: “The Importance of Kinship as Perceived in Three Coretta Scott King Award Books: Protagonists Surviving the Loss of Family” in Journal of Youth Services in Libraries (Fall 2003); “Two Florida Librarians: Dr. Henrietta M. Smith and Samuel F. Morrison, Changemakers in the Profession” in Joint Conference of Librarians of Color 2006 Proceedings (2006) “The Religious Aspects in Virginia Hamilton’s The People Could Fly and Other Sources” in Adventures, Fantasy, and Dreams in Children’s Literature (2010); and “Critical Elements of School Library Media Programs: Present or Absent in Florida Charter School Applications” in Florida Media Quarterly (Spring 2011).

She has served Florida and Georgia communities, schools, and librarianship in many ways, but she confessed to being most proud of her work for a project, begun in 2003, known as the Education of Librarians to Serve the Underserved (ELSUN). According to Dr. Dunkley, “From ninety applicants, twenty-two students were fortunate to be selected for a program that led to a tuition free Master’s Degree in Library Science. The participants were required to sign a contract indicating their willingness to serve as a professional librarian for two years in a library setting rendering service to a primarily underserved population. ELSUN was funded through a $324,008 grant from the Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS).”

On behalf of everyone at the USF School of Information and all of your students, thank you, Dr. Cora P. Dunkley, for all you have done for us!
Maria Treadwell Retires After 22 Years at USF

by Alexandra Curran

Most people here at the USF School of Information know Maria Treadwell as the East Coast Program Coordinator. She has been an integral part of the program for the past 22 years.

Maria began her librarian career like most of us who enter the librarian profession, teaching. She received a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education at the University of Central Missouri. She never intended to become a teacher, but getting a degree in teaching was a necessary step to becoming a librarian. She wanted “to be doing something with people but not in a classroom setting.” While she was waiting to start her classes in Library Science Maria taught 6th grade during the winter semester. She started her studies for a Master of Science in Librarianship at Western Michigan University during the fall of 1968 and graduated at the end of the Spring Semester in 1970.

After graduation, Maria worked as a Children’s Librarian for a summer before moving to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, where she joined the Reference Department at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. In 1974 she was hired as the FAU Commercial Campus Branch Manager and Reference Librarian, and was then promoted to Broward Library Services Coordinator in 1990. Maria stayed at FAU until 2006.

In 1993, Professor and Director of the School Dr. Kathleen de la Peña McCook contacted Maria and asked if she “would like to work with USF part-time, [as] we would like to continue the program,” to coordinate their East Coast classes. At the time Dr. Henrietta Smith, who was the faculty member representing USF on the East Coast, had just retired. Then, classes were taught in person and Maria drove to different libraries and schools within the Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties to meet with the East Coast students and faculty and to deliver textbooks.

“I was ready for something new. I was ready to see another aspect of my profession,” Maria said. In 2006, the subsequent director Dr. Vicki Gregory, offered her a full time position. Feeling that she had done everything that she could do in her position with FAU as Broward Library Services Coordinator, Maria commented that the offer “came at a good time. It was a time for me to leave and give someone else the opportunity to come in for FAU and try and bring new things. And USF came in and gave me the opportunity to promote USF on a full time basis.”

The East Coast Program was created in 1978, when Sam Morrison, at that time Assistant Director of Broward County Public Libraries, “asked USF to come and offer classes to the library staff – they wanted to grow their own – and to give their community – Tri-County area residents – the opportunity to get their library graduate degree locally without having to travel to FSU in Tallahassee or to Tampa.” The changes to the program that came with Maria’s promotion in 1993 were fluid. USF continued to have a presence mostly by word-of-mouth. At the beginning of her term in 1993, Dr. de la Peña McCook and Maria talked about what changes they could make to benefit the program. They talked about increasing the number of classes and hiring new faculty. They began adding four new classes each semester and would meet weekly. The classes were taught in libraries throughout three counties: Dade, Broward and Palm Beach. At the beginning of each semester, Maria would travel to all three counties. “Sometimes we would have two classes in Dade so I would be traveling down to Dade twice a week, and then Broward then Palm Beach. We would rotate the classes so that no one county would feel like they weren’t getting their fair share, and with that I would also take the books. I made an arrangement with the FAU bookstore to sell the books and the bookstore manager would allow me to take the books to each class. And then whatever I sold I would give her [bookstore manager] the money the next day, and then pick up new books to go to the next class... So, [the East Coast Program] just progressed.”

Even though students had to travel to different libraries throughout the three counties, they got to see, experience, and network with people from different types of libraries (public, academic, school and some specialized). Since no public libraries are the same, the students learned about different services and management and to make observations about their surroundings. “By the time I finished the first week I was really tired, but it was fun. I enjoyed it a lot.”
Maria had no trouble meeting and recommending new adjunct faculty and staff, as she often traveled to promote USF at fairs, libraries, conferences and meetings. She had the opportunity to network with faculty and staff from the libraries and events where she went to promote USF. “We had a number of individuals from the practicing community who taught for us. And many of them were well known, not only locally but regionally and nationally. So the students got to see the practical side as well as the theoretical side,” Maria commented.

For East Coast student orientations, Maria would enlist her husband and son. She called them “Treadwell & Associates.” Her husband, an Advanced Placement teacher would talk about writing to the new students. And so he would do a writing workshop with them.” Her son, a USF MLIS alumnus, would introduce USF, the library, the databases, and the other aspects of student life. At times, representatives from USF Tampa (such as then Distance Learning Technology Specialist, Diane Austin) and the local library associations would attend to encourage students to get involved in the professional associations. Graduate MLIS students would also attend to demonstrate distance learning technologies and answer advising or other startup questions to support Maria and the East Coast new students.

When asked about her favorite thing about working with students in the program, “I like helping students understand what the profession is. I liked advising them and helping them find the right classes for their areas of interest. I like seeing them succeed and go on to further their careers and succeed. It has been enjoyable for me to work with them one-to-one.” As for the East Coast Program future, Maria believes that “libraries are still very vibrant in offered services…And reading is very important for your own growth, for your intellectual growth, for the opportunities of imagination.”

Maria is not sure if she is going to continue with another aspect of the library profession when she leaves. “I haven’t really been giving it a lot of thought at this point. I have forgone a lot of things at my house that now need to get done. For the moment I am going to give myself that time to get things back in order. And my son keeps saying ‘You got to get rid of stuff, Mom,’ so I am going to start getting rid of stuff.”

Dr. Alon Friedman
by Adane Edmund

Dr. Alon Friedman is an assistant professor at the University of South Florida with a very well traveled and exciting past. Dr. Friedman was born in 1966 in Freeport, a small town in northern Illinois. After less than 2 years, he moved to Tel Aviv. Once he graduated from high school, he spent three years in the Israeli Army. He moved back to the United States, to pursue his master’s degree at the University of Florida in 1990.

After acquiring his masters, he returned to Israel and created the first online newspaper in the country known as Haaretz.com, which is still running today (Haaretz.com). While in Israel, he also worked for 4 years in various different startups as a web programmer and head of development. In 2001 Dr. Friedman started his PhD in Knowledge Organization in Statistics and Visualization.

During his PhD studies, he became an adjunct in various universities in New York City, where he taught Statistics and Math. He also started his own company, Visual Alpha, and made visualizations for various clients using their data. In fall of 2013, he joined USF in the School of Information and began teaching Big data, Visualization, and Open Source R to both undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Friedman also co-teaches Introduction to Visual Communication that is now offered by the Colleges of the Arts and Zimmerman School of Advertising and Mass Communications at USF.

Over the past few years, he began working on his book while attending conferences and submitting to open source journals in the field of information science. Dr. Friedman will publish his book titled: Statistics for Library and Information Services, a A Primer for Using Open Source R Software for Accessibility and Visualization. The book is published by Rowman & Littlefield. The website for the book: http://www.statisticsforlis.org . He also presented his work on Lotka’s Law using open source R in different international conferences and journals specializing in open source R.

USF has already been approved and he wants to further to being Big Data, Visualization and analysis to the field of library and data science.
Dr. Kathleen de la Peña McCook
by James E. Scholz

Dr. Kathleen de la Peña McCook is one of the nation’s renowned professors in library science. According to a Library Quarterly study, McCook was among the top 20 American LIS researchers. Her academic specializations include human rights, social justice and librarianship, libraries building communities, poverty and library services, adult lifelong learning and literacy, theories of reading, libraries as cultural heritage institutions, public librarianship, and Wikipedia and librarianship.

Dr. McCook was the USF School of Information’s Director from 1993 until 2000. In 2002, she became a Distinguished University Professor. Among her many ways of serving the community, she is a member of the editorial board for the journal Progressive Librarian, and she serves on the Coordinating Committee of the Progressive Librarians Guild. McCook stated in an oral history from USF’s Digital Collections that as her legacy, she would like to “educate a group of students who are dedicated to preserving civil liberties and making it possible for the people in the community to have access to the information they need for their daily lives, their health, and their happiness.”

Dr. McCook also notes, “I am most proud of the work our School did on the East Coast of Florida to educate librarians. By engaging Mrs. Maria Treadwell and Professor Emerita, Dr. Henrietta M. Smith, we were able to provide a great education for Florida’s East Coast library community.”

Her latest publication is “Librarians as Wikipedians: From Library History to Librarianship and Human Rights” in Progressive Librarian 2014.

New Faculty Member:
Dr. Steven Walczak
by Alexandra Curran

One of SI’s new faculty members this year is Dr. Steven Walczak. He is joining the department to teach health information and security. He decided to join USF because “USF is the best university in the area.” Also, he and his wife both have family in the area and have always wanted to come back.

Dr. Walczak has a background and interest in healthcare. He was interested in medicine during his undergrad years but trained in engineering and systems. His first jobs were in the field of cybersecurity where he worked for the Department of Defense for 5 years and other government contractors. Also, Dr. Walczak volunteered as a CPR instructor for 15 years and also as an EMT, in ambulances, for 6 years.

Health informatics is an important area of study in today’s world because of the economy and the changing dynamics of healthcare in each state. Two most promising fields for getting jobs are in the healthcare informatics and security fields. If you combine those two you can take his course LIS 4930, Healthcare Information Security. “You cannot stop a determined hacker, but you can make it more difficult for them,” said Dr. Walczak, and “rules are always changing in cyber security.” The objective of the class is to teach students how to make breaking security more difficult for the hacker so that they have more time to lose their motivation for the hack. In the course, the student learns about terminology, how to start working in the field, security threats and the defense against them. The great thing about this course is the ongoing assignment throughout the semester. During the first week students have to find a security, hopefully healthcare cyber security, article and write a short abstract about it and submit it with a link. Their articles are open for the rest of the semester and the students post more articles about their subjects that add to the ongoing discussions.

Dr. Walczak is also teaching LIS 4930 Management of Health Information Systems which helps students understand current healthcare systems. This course familiarizes students with health information systems terminology and information resources and teaches them how to plan for healthcare information systems implementations.

Welcome Dr. Walczak!

New Program at SI
by Adane Edmund

USF recently introduced a Master of Science in Intelligence Studies (MSIS) program within the School of Information. This is an applied graduate degree program to train a “next generation” of information and intelligence professionals for the private and public sectors. It is a 36 credit-hour program that is designed to create industry-leading problem solvers. USF is one of

New Program Continued on page 17
The School of Information through the years has seen the graduation of over three thousand students from its Master’s program since its inception in 1974. Graduates have gone on to succeed in a wide variety of interesting positions in all parts of the United States and abroad. Below are just a few examples.

1. Jodi Geever-Ostrowsky (’14), reference librarian at Ouachita Parish Public Library in West Monroe, LA, won a scholarship from Suncoast Information Specialists to attend the 2014 FLA Annual Conference.

2. Alexandra Curran (’13) was selected to be a resident for the National Digital Stewardship Residency Program, run by Harvard University, for 2015-2016. She will be working with the MIT project.

3. Kimberly Nordon-Parks (’13) is Librarian I at Pasco County Library.

4. RoseMary Hedberg (’12) is a National Library of Medicine (NLM) Associate Fellow at Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University.

5. Vickie Toranzo (’12) is the South Florida Librarian (government documents) for Florida International University.

6. Gricel Dominguez (’11) is the User Engagement Librarian for the Hubert Library at Florida International University.

7. Alicia K. Long (’11) is an Adjunct Instructor at the University of South Florida, School of Information.

8. Heylicken (Hayley) Luisa Moreno (’11) is Resource Description Coordinator for University of Houston Libraries. She gave the presentation “Taking the First Step towards Change; A Workflow Analysis of the Cataloging Functions at the University of Houston Libraries” at ALA Midwinter 2015.

9. Sarah Dockray (’10) has become a tenure-track faculty librarian and manager at Valencia College campus library, Kissimmee, FL.

10. Angie Drobnic Holan (’10) is the chief editor for PolitiFact.com.

11. Zachary English (’10) is Collection Development Librarian at Florida Atlantic University.

12. Julius Fleschner (’10) is Director of Library and Information Services at Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, IA.

13. Michelle Joy (’10) is a librarian at Polk State College.

14. Kristina Knott (’10) is a Youth Services Librarian at Nova Southeastern University Libraries.

15. Stephen Grubb (’09) works as the E-services & Marketing Manager for Broward County Library, Ft. Lauderdale.

16. Joanne Parandjuk (’09) is Manager for the Digital Library at Florida Atlantic University.

17. Allen Dean Peterson (’09) is Library Services Administrator for the Florida Department of Corrections, overseeing 66 libraries all over the state.

18. John Russell (’09) is a children’s librarian at Bruton Memorial Library, Plant City, FL.

19. Andrew Beman-Cavallaro (’08) is now Associate Director of Libraries for Pasco-Hernando State College, Spring Hill Campus.

20. Iris Garcia (’08) is a Technical Services Librarian at St. Thomas University School of Law. Iris is the 2009 recipient of Educational and Marla Schwartz Grants.

21. Lauri Rebar (’08) is an Associate University Librarian for Florida Atlantic University.

22. Victoria Lynn Thur (’08) is a Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist at Florida Atlantic University.

23. Amanda Bezet (’07) is Librarian II at Northcentral University Library.

24. Leah Plocharczyk (’07) is Assistant Director at MacArthur Campus Library, Florida Atlantic University.

25. Alexandra Strudwick (’07) is Electronic Resources Librarian at Florida Atlantic University.

26. Courtney Crummett (’06) is a Biosciences Librarian at MIT Libraries.

27. Majid Anwar (’05) is a Liaison Librarian at Health Professions Divisions Library, Nova Southeastern University.

28. Andrew Huse (’05) is Assistant librarian for the Special Collections Department, USF Tampa Campus Library.

29. Tracey Reed (’05) is Branch Manager at Countryside Library, Clearwater, FL.
30. Marta Frydman ('04) is a Media Cataloger at Wolfson Campus Library, Miami Dade College.

31. Edenia Hernandez ('04) is Assistant Director at North Miami Beach Public Library, North Miami Beach, FL.

32. Rita Cauce ('03) has become Head of Resource Development & Cataloging at Hubert Library, Florida International University.

33. Roy Balleste ('02) is Law Library Director and Professor of Law at St. Thomas University School of Law. He is the author of Internet Governance: Origins, Current Issues, and Future Possibilities, 2015.

34. Rachael Neu ('02) is an Associate University Librarian at Florida Atlantic University.

35. Nancy Fredericks ('01) is Libraries Administrator for the Pasco County Library Cooperative.

36. Michelle Millet ('01) is Library Director at John Carroll University in University Heights, OH.

37. Mika Slaughter Nelson ('01) is Library Director for the City of St. Petersburg and a recipient of the Leadership St. Pete award, 2015.

38. Teresa Van Dyke ('01) is an Assistant Special Collections Librarian at Florida Atlantic University

39. Ethan J. Allen Jr. ('00) is Director at John D. MacArthur Campus Library, Florida Atlantic University.

40. Todd Chavez ('98) is the Interim Dean and Director of Academic Resources at USF Libraries

41. Ben Ostrowsky ('98) is working in the IT department at Ouachita Parish Public Library in West Monroe, LA.

42. Kristin Kroger ('97) is the Reference/Academic Support Services Librarian at the Health Professions Divisions Library, Nova Southeastern University

43. Andrew Breidenbaugh ('96) is Director of the Tampa-Hillsborough library system.

44. Buenaventura (Ben) Vasco ('95) is the Collection Development Liaison for University of Central Florida Libraries.

45. Ken Frankel ('94) is head of Reference and Instructional Services for Florida Atlantic University.

46. Anne Leon ('94) is Executive Director of Public Library Services at Alvin Sherman Library, Nova Southeastern University.

47. Todd Puccio ('94) is Director of Technical Services, Health Professions Divisions Library, Nova Southeastern University.

48. Lisa Broadhead Lilyquist ('93) is Director for the Lakeland Public Library.

49. James Paul ('93) is Assistant Regional Manager at Broward County Public Library System.

50. Gladys French Roberts ('92) is coordinator for the Polk County Library Cooperative.

51. Lucía Gonzalez ('91) is the Library Director at North Miami Public Library, North Miami, FL. She is also an author, storyteller, library advocate, and past president of REFORMA, 2010 – 2011.

52. Susan Dillinger ('81) was proclaimed by FLA as Florida Librarian of the Year, 2014. She is Director for the New Port Richey Public Library.

53. Lydia Acosta ('73) is Vice President for Information Services and a University Librarian at Nova Southeastern University Libraries.

Alumni Society Update
by Rebecca Durney

The LIS Alumni Society held elections in March, and has new officers to announce! They are as follows:

Kimberly Nordon-Parks: Chair
Rebecca Durney: Co-Chair
Bill Harris: Historian
Megan O’Brien: Communications
Roxanna Palmer: Treasurer
Jim Schnur: Secretary

We had our first meeting of the 2015-2016 year at the 2015 Florida Library Association Annual Conference. The alumni meeting was held in conjunction with the School of Information alumni reception. Speaker Barbara Sites spoke about leadership and told the inspiring story of her journey as a librarian. Bill and Rebecca were present to introduce the LIS Alumni Society and encourage people to join.

The alumni society would like to reach out to our members (or prospective members) for any ideas they have related to future meetings. If you have an idea, or have experienced a particularly interesting or successful alumni meeting before, let us know! Send us an e-mail or leave a comment on our Facebook. We want to make sure that the alumni society is meeting your needs!
Part of the LIS Alumni Society’s mission is to assist the School of Information with program development. Currently, alumni officers are partnering with the School of Information to develop an outreach survey for fellow alumni and their employers. We will keep you updated on the survey’s progress through Facebook (see contact information below) and hope that you will participate once the survey is finalized.

Are you interested in joining the LIS Alumni Society? E-mail your contact information to the address listed below and we’ll add you to the distro! It’s free to join and will provide you with plenty of networking opportunities as well as the chance to take on leadership positions. Follow us on Facebook to keep up with alumni updates, including upcoming meetings.

The alumni society is looking for committee members! If you’re interested in participating or leading a committee, join the alumni society and let us know what you’re willing to do. The committees are: spirit committee, partnerships/sponsorships committee, special events committee, and membership committee. Any sort of contribution is appreciated, even if you don’t want to join a committee, let us know what you want to do to help out!

Contact us!
usflisalumni@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/USFLISAlumniSociety

Allegra, District, Idaho, were on hand. They spoke of their efforts to create makerspace programs. These programs are established in school libraries, and instructors travel to serve underserved communities. After the discussion, I talked with Erica and Megan, and they agreed to have me interview them about makerspaces.

Another great highlight was meeting Incoming ALA President Julie Todaro after she spoke at a discussion titled “Policy Revolution: Dollars for Local Libraries.” Ms. Todaro, also the Dean at Austin Community College Libraries, has a passion for offering advice to new librarians and those seeking their first librarian job. She speaks to issues important new librarians in blog posts for HiringLibrarians.com and INALJ.com. She has also imparted her wisdom concerning mentorship in her new book “Mentoring A-Z.” At the discussion, part of the advice she offered was for us to pick a narrow focus when pitching to budget makers and policy creators when we seek library funding. When I spoke with her after the event, she confided in me that she will also pursue a narrow focus as ALA president. That focus will be on leadership and continuing education for library employees. She noted that due credit needs to be paid towards the hard work all library employees provide. She also said that she would love to see a forum where different types of librarians discuss “roles and responsibilities, competition, similarities, differences, economies of scale, etc.”

Last but not least, I had the opportunity to meet Brewster Kahle, founder and president of the Internet Archive. The Internet Archive (AI) is the world’s largest collection of archived webpages, as well as other forms of media such as movies, music, digitized books, and video games. Brewster’s vision is to create a modern version of the ancient Library of Alexandria, only this one is accessible to all, if you have an internet connection. Mr. Kahle invited me to visit to visit IA headquarters, which is located in San Francisco in a converted Christian Science church built in 1923. When I showed up, he gave me a tour of the premises, a Google-esque sort of place in that it is designed for employees to feel comfortable. They are hiring, by the way. If you are proficient in the programming language of Pearl, you just might be qualified for a job there. They are also planning to incorporate metadata into their website archives, so there is traditional library work to be had there in the future as well. And if you work there, Mr. Kahle is in the process of purchasing an apartment building for his employees. Residents will be able to live in San Francisco at below market rates, a necessity for the non-wealthy in America’s most expensive city.

Okay, I’m going to have to put an end to my storytelling here. I hope this inspires all of you to put your hat in the ring for next year’s ALA Student to Staff competition. Learn about it here: http://www.ala.org/groups/affiliates/chapters/student/resources/studenttostaffprogram
only a few universities in the nation which offer this program.

The core courses are supplemented by optional competencies in Strategic Intelligence and Cyber Intelligence. Dr. William Borum, Director of the MSIS program, and “Scuba” Steve Gary, Assistant Director of the MSIS program, are the two integral parts of the program’s success. Both individuals are seasoned in their areas of expertise and bring great value to the program. Dr. Borum directs the Strategic Intelligence track which is focused on the specific form of analysis which is required for the formulation of policy and plans at agency, corporate, national or international levels. Scuba directs the Cyber Intelligence track which is focused on the acquisition and analysis of information to identify, track, and predict cyber capabilities, intentions, and activities that offer courses of action to enhance decision making.

The demand for people in the field of Intelligence, especially Cyber Intelligence, is steadily growing. Estimates are that large amounts of well-paid jobs remain unfilled and that as technology continues to grow and the world gets more connected the demand will continue growing rapidly. There is also great concern that there are not enough people pursuing these degrees to meet the ever-increasing demand in the industry.

Cyber intelligence is now becoming a part of everyday life and has many uses. The FBI and law enforcement use it to track down criminals, and companies use it to protect themselves from being vulnerable to breaches and hackers and/or use it for a greater understanding of their competitors. As more people become aware of the demand of such a degree and seek to pursue a degree in Cyber Intelligence, the program within the School of Information can also grow to meet demand and become one of the leading programs in not only Florida but the United States as a whole.

**Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon**

by James E. Scholz

On May 1, Peter Cannon and James Scholz of Dr. Kathleen McCook’s Wikipedia Governance class, hosted the School of Information’s first Wikipedia Edit-a-thon. This event was for three of her classes—Wikipedia Governance, Library History, and Libraries and Human Rights—but everybody was welcome to participate. Good times and good food were had by all!

There were a few reasons for holding this event. First, being superheroes of knowledge, those in the library science field are well suited to add good quality content to the online encyclopedia. Second, although there are almost 5 million articles in Wikipedia English, there are many underrepresented topics therein, such as libraries and librarians. Third, most new editors are not editing by the one year mark. By holding this edit-a-thon, the organizers wanted to create a fun, comfortable, and supportive environment for newcomers.

The attendees made some great contributions, including new articles about Library Maker Space, the Sierra Vieja mountain range, Oldsmar Public Library, and PastPerfect Museum Software. They added information, sometimes whole sections to many other articles, added links, uploaded pictures, corrected grammar mistakes, and much more.