

# INFORM

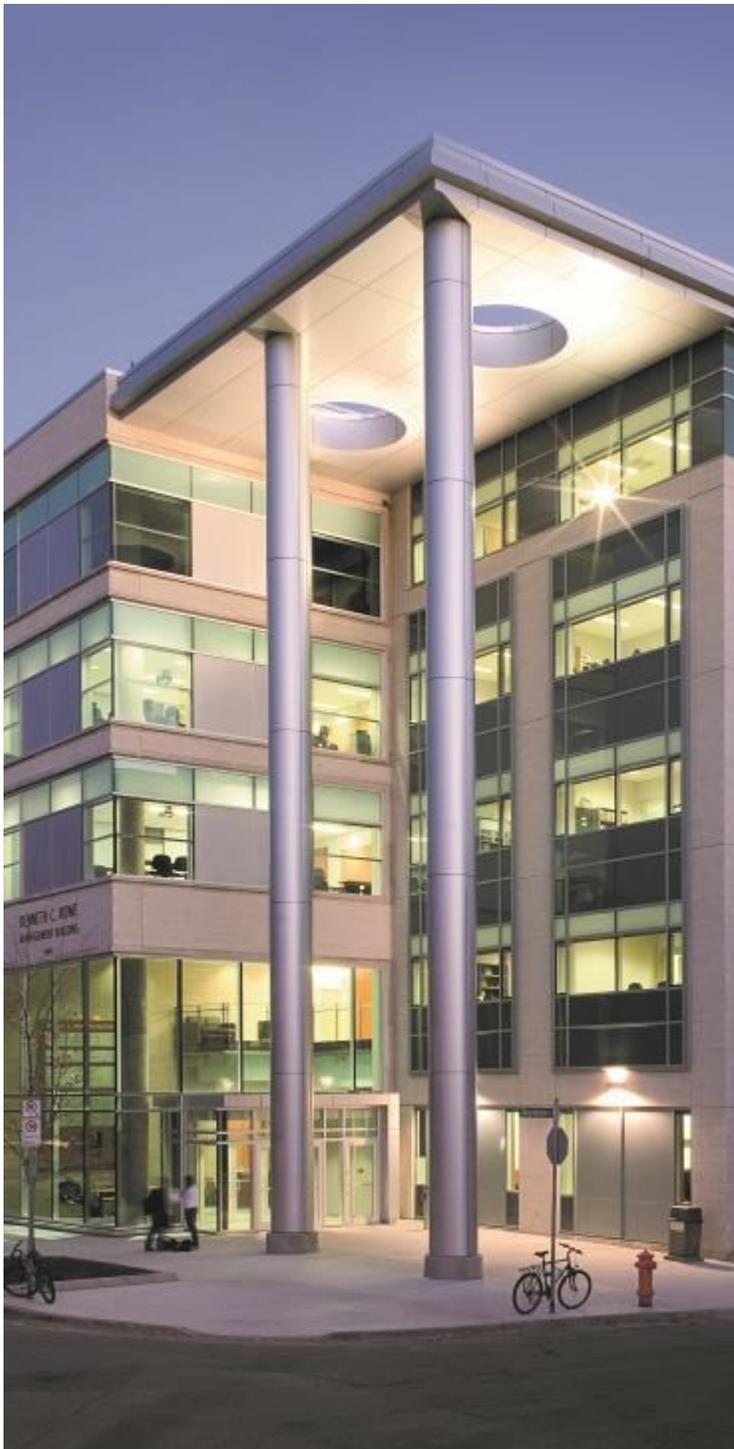
School of Information Management

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# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



It has been a busy and productive Fall term at the School of Information Management (SIM), with a number of milestones that I am happy to share with you.

We continue to work on the development of new information management competencies for the Master of Library & Information Studies (MLIS) program; a new set for the Master of Information Management program was approved by School Council last year and is being incorporated into all course syllabi. SIM has initiated the process of a Faculty of Graduate Studies review of the MLIS and MIM programs, which will take place in September 2015. These reviews will be conducted by internal and external panels, whose goal is to help us to evaluate the curricula and structure of the programs, and how to best continue to meet the needs of the information management profession.

Sandra Toze, who has been a full-time instructor at SIM for several years, and who is the marketing manager for the Master of Information Management program, successfully defended her interdisciplinary PhD at Dalhousie. Dr. Toze's dissertation is titled "*Examining Group Process Through an Information Behaviour Lens: How Student Groups Work with Information to Accomplish Tasks*". Details about the dissertation may be found [here](#). Together with a number of SIM colleagues, as well as members of Dr. Toze's family, I was fortunate to attend Dr. Toze's defence, which she passed, not surprisingly, with flying colours. Dr. Toze managed to complete her doctorate while balancing a full-time job and family commitments: We could not be prouder of her.

The SIM community was saddened by the death Dr. Louis G. Vagianos, the founder and Director of the School (1969-1970). During his career at Dalhousie University, Dr. Vagianos also held the senior positions of University Librarian and Vice-President (Administration). Dr. Vagianos was an inspirational instructor who advocated and encouraged "outside the box" thinking. As a consequence, graduates left Dalhousie to make a mark in the field of information management in Canada and around the globe. The Vagianos Medal, which was established in 1990 in his honour, and is awarded each year at convocation to "a graduating student who combines the capacity for blending originality with practical thinking and the courage to seek solutions to professional problems outside of the mainstream."

Valerie Collins, a returning MLIS student, is the recipient of the 2014 Stephanie Downs Memorial Award. Valerie Collins was raised in Alaska, and studied at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where she completed a double major in English and German. Valerie serves in a number

*Continued on page 3...*

Director's Message continued...

of capacities in the MLIS program. She is an executive member of both the Special Libraries Association (SLA) student chapter at Dalhousie and the School of Information Management Student Association (SIMSA). She also represents her peers as a member of the MLIS Curriculum Committee. Valerie will continue to deepen her understanding of academic libraries and some of the challenges they face in an increasingly digital environment by working as a reference intern at the Killam Library for the coming year. Valerie also looks forward to facilitating the international student experience in the School of Information Management (SIM) and in the Faculty of Management.

MLIS student Dominique Taylor is the 2014 recipient of the *Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Fund*. Dominique Taylor graduated from the University of Prince Edward Island with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and McMaster University with a Master of Arts in Philosophy. Dominique was awarded a Social Science and Humanities Research Council Canada Graduate Scholarship for his Master's research on metaphor and language use. Prior to entering the MLIS program, Dominique worked for nearly three years as an archivist at Library and Archives Canada. This experience made Dominique keenly aware of both the multivalent power of information as evidence and the notion that freely accessible information is a necessary public good in any democracy.

Please enjoy the rest of Inform and, as always, many thanks to all members of the SIM community for your continued support.

Wishing you all the very best for 2015.

**Dr. Louise Spiteri**

**Director**



**\*SAVE THE DATE\***

**2015 HORROCKS LECTURE**  
**Featuring Linda Cook, CEO of**  
**Edmonton Public Library**

**January 21st, 2015 at 4:30pm**  
**Paul O'Regan Hall, Halifax Central Library**  
**5440 Spring Garden Rd**

**The Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Fund**  
**& the SIM Outstanding Alumni Award**  
**will be presented at this event.**

**RSVP to [sim@dal.ca](mailto:sim@dal.ca) by January 16th.**

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# Student News



**Submitted by Co-Chairs, Andrea Kampen & Ben Worth.**

Despite the break of the summer months the SIMSA executives 2014/2015 were hard at work preparing for the coming year. The effort that went into planning ensured that **Orientation** went off without a hitch, with information sessions and social events to welcome incoming students and learn from them what they are interested in pursuing through the MLIS degree. The week ended with a Boat Cruise which was planned in collaboration with the other Faculty of Management Student Associations. By implementing a survey of student experience at orientation the 2015/2016 executive can further improve the orientation experience.

Our AGM welcomed three new members to the **SIMSA executive** Incoming Year Representative, Assistant Digital Publication Officer, Outgoing Year Representative. We would like to encourage you to check out the [SIMSA website](#) for a full list of the executive (along with all the other great stuff we're up to!). SIMSA also facilitated the nominations for SIM standing committees.

The First Ever **Associations Colloquium** brought together the chairs of all SIMSA's 7 student chapters to share their goals for the year and establish ways to collaborate with and support each other's events. The student chapters do an amazing job of providing opportunities to focus in on specific professional interests and share what has been learned with classmates through events such as database training (CAPAL and SLA), weekly trivia questions (ACA) and tasty treats (LWB).

SIMSA is also a proud supporter of the **Information Without Borders (IWB)** This year's event promises to be invigorating and challenging (details for the conference on the next page).

**Knowledge Transfer** is a major goal for SIMSA this year so thanks to the hard work of our Financial Officer and Vice Chair Academic we have drafted a new records management policy which will hold each executive accountable to transfer information.

Since the **Graduate Student Societies** space was rescinded SIMSA has led the charge and have successfully secured office space with the help of Dr. Howard. This is an exciting opportunity as it has brought together all the Faculty of Management student leaders with the common goal of getting office space. We are hoping that in the near future SIMSA will be able to hold office hours once a week.

Another collaboration that the Graduate Student Societies participated in was **November** where the SIMSA team raised money for prostate cancer and saw some burgeoning stashes on some of our students.

We've held three well attended **Brown Bag Lunches** so far, lead by our Vice Chair Academic which covered the topics of: conference attendance, RDA vs AACR2 and preparing for reading courses. Social events have included potlucks (I dare say it is now a tradition), a Ghost Tour, providing coffee for the SIM's coffee socials, hot chocolate for the tree trimming and planning the Holiday Party held at the University Club.

We'd like to thank all the speakers that have attended the Brown Bag lunches as well as support for various SIMSA activities!



# Student News *Continued...*



## INFORMATION WITHOUT BORDERS

### THE 2015 INFORMATION WITHOUT BORDERS (IWB) CONFERENCE Coming in February!

The Information Without Borders (IWB) committee has been hard at work since this summer to organize another high quality information management conference. The theme for the ninth annual IWB conference is *"Information Management for Climate Change Adaptation."* Speakers and attendees will explore together how data is used and managed in climate research, and how that data is then disseminated, controlled, and publicized. We will see how information management plays a significant role in perceptions and understandings of climate research both publicly and privately.

This year's conference will take place **February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015**, in the McInnes Room at the Student Union Building. We are happy to announce that registration has been open since December 1<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to register soon, as this year's conference theme is timely and interdisciplinary, attracting a crowd from various academic and professional backgrounds.

We have an excellent line up of thought provoking and engaging speakers addressing the interconnections between climate research and the field of information management.

This year's Opening Keynote address is titled *"Computing the Climate"* and will be given by **Steve Easterbrook**, a climate informatics specialists and professor at the University of Toronto.



Steve Easterbrook

We are also looking forward to excellent talks from local **MP Megan Leslie**, **Jason Hollett** (Director of Climate Change Nova Scotia), and **Tony Charles** (Director of SMU's School of the Environment, and a professor at Dalhousie's School of Resource and Environmental Studies).

Please visit our website [www.iwbconference.ca](http://www.iwbconference.ca) for more information.

# Student News *Continued...*

## A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY FOR HALIFAX



Submitted by Alieda Blandford.

Over the summer, several SIM students, as well as Halifax Public Libraries staff, Nova Scotia Community College students, neighbours, and community volunteers, came together as "FYI Halifax," an action-oriented group interested in issues related to information access and social change.

Thanks to Maggie Pearson, our first project idea was to build free "Little Libraries" for the city. Dominique Taylor, John Player, the Halifax Art Bikers, and the Halifax Tool Library provided the supplies needed to build and paint the libraries.

The first Little Library in Halifax was installed on Agricola Street during Open Street Sunday in September. It was painted by Paul Hammond, a commercial artist and a clerk at Halifax Public Libraries.

A second library was built and painted by community members at the Gottingen 250 Festival, thanks largely to the organizational support of Kate MacLennan from the Halifax Regional Municipality.

This project also could not have been completed without the help of SIM student volunteers, including Maria Bartlett, Tess Grynock, Zoe Dickinson, Carlisle Kent, and Kaitlin Ann.

Since its installation, the little library on Agricola street has seen consistent use from the community, and has even garnered media attention from The Coast and Halifax Magazine.

Check out FYI Halifax on [Facebook](#)

To learn more about Little Free Libraries visit [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org)



# Faculty News



## Fiona Black

I am excited by the opportunities for SIM students now that Dalhousie's gifted Registrar and former public librarian in Saskatchewan, Asa Kachan, has become CEO of Halifax Public Libraries. Asa and I chatted recently about the need for SIM to have access to paid internships in the public library system in Halifax (if not across Nova Scotia). She hopes to be able to champion that particular cause, in due course, which will be terrific.

While my office is no longer within the School, I feel very connected through a number of channels and am excited by the plans to review the MLIS and MIM programs to ensure their continuing fitness for purposes. As Associate Vice-President Academic my mandate includes quality control of academic units and programs and I look forward to the constructive results of these particular program reviews. I have a scholarly reason, too, for my interest—alumna Nicole Bloudoff and I are designing a section of the review's online survey of alumni as part of our project investigating professional education for digital curation roles in archives and special collections. Nicole completed an excellent independent study course with me and presented the results at Congress, to lovely audience acclaim, in the joint session of the new Canadian Association for Professional Academic Librarians and the Bibliographical Society of Canada.

Most of my working days involve really interesting debates and actions regarding Dalhousie's new strategic priorities, for several of which I am the team lead. In addition, I am very fortunate that my SSHRC-funded project in print culture history enables me to travel to Edinburgh on occasion for research. I am excited to be going for two weeks in early December, to work again in the manuscripts reading room.

More in my next update!

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## Jennifer Grek Martin

As a new faculty member to SIM, I was perfectly contented with my host of new courses to teach and the opportunity to meet the students, faculty, and staff of my new academic home. Alas! This scenario was not to be...

"Digital Earth" envisions the integration and display of information through a 3D geospatially referenced framework. The International Society for Digital Earth Symposium will come to Halifax (6-10 October 2015) and I continue to work with James Boxall (GISciences Centre) and with several academic, government, and private industry colleagues on various committees planning that conference.

I have been enlisted by Claudio Aporta (Marine Affairs Program) as a co-applicant on a SSHRC grant for the *Digital Atlas of Halifax* project. This project would involve the revitalization of archival cartographic materials and other data sets in a geospatial database and online interactive digital atlas. The atlas will initially focus on coastal development of the Halifax watershed and hopefully will expand to the wider Province.

I am thrilled to be part of the Canadian team of *The Hobbit Project*, a worldwide film audience survey of Peter Jackson's *Hobbit* trilogy. The project is headed by Martin Barker and Matt Hills (both of the University of Aberystwyth), and Ernest Mathijs (University of British Columbia). Finally, I am most grateful for the opportunity to work with Catherine (Tess) Grynock in updating and developing the online MIM course 5002 for the Winter term.

Thank all of you at SIM for a (busy and) rewarding first term!



# Faculty News *Continued*



## **Vivian Howard**

Early childhood researchers have clearly established the link between early exposure to reading and infant brain development as well as the link between play and learning.

Through their touchscreens, tablets facilitate interactive multimedia picture book apps, which combine text with images, animations, video, audio, and interactive games. A Nielsen survey revealed that iPads were the most desirable Christmas gift for children in 2011, and in January 2012, sales of interactive apps for children increased by 475%.

At the same time, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends NO screen time whatsoever for children under the age of two, and very limited screen time for children aged 3-5, noting “A child’s brain develops rapidly during these first years, and young children learn best by interacting with people, not screens.” Since interactive picture book apps are relatively new, parents have to make decisions about whether or not to give their preschool children access to this technology in the absence of clear information about the impact of this exposure on their children’s subsequent literacy development.

In the summer of 2014, MLIS student Maureen Wallace and I conducted an exploratory research study, surveying parents of preschool children about their perceptions of picturebook apps. Our findings revealed that parents are very uncertain and often quite conflicted about this technology. Over half the respondents provided their preschool children with access to apps and, while some parents praised the “gamification of reading,” others expressed anxiety and guilt about the loss of shared parent/child reading time. This exploratory study revealed that book apps are not perceived as a replacement for traditional reading of print books and, in some cases, they are perceived as an overt threat to this shared reading time. Parents still consider traditional reading of print picturebooks to be the preferred method for introducing young children to books and reading.

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## **Keith Lawson**

Museums and tourist bureaus are now making use of applications for mobile devices to connect visitors with museums or historical districts. A large and interesting body of research exists on the motivation and goals of tourists and, more recently, on their use of mobile devices, particularly inexpensive digital cameras. However, little work exists on tourists’ use of mobile applications to navigate scenes of cultural memory, and I have spent my available time this term looking into this.



I am writing a paper on how mobile apps guide users through scenes of cultural memory and how they try to deliver an authentic experience. I will discuss a number of apps, including the 9/11 Memorial Museum's Explore 9/11 app which takes a pilgrimage approach, leading users on a scripted path toward a goal of insight and community. But this approach raises questions about the experience it seeks to create, as Adam Gopnik notes in his review of the 9/11 museum for the *New Yorker*, the project embodies contradictions: “an insistence that we are here to remember and an ambition to let us tell you what to recall.”

The Museum of London's Streetmuseum app, by contrast, has no pre-defined path or goal, but engages the user in the sometimes frustrating challenge of locating graphic representations of historical sites geolocated around the city, and any feeling of authenticity must be created by the user him or herself through an interaction with the technology.

# Faculty News *Continued*



## **Bertrum MacDonald**

Two words characterize 2014: “exceptionally busy,” quickly followed by two more: “very rewarding!”. New students joined the Environmental Information: Use and Influence (EIUI) team in the spring. Recent graduates (Vanja Avdic, MREM, and Greg Hutton, MLIS) have also been finalizing papers and reports for publication. Three students (James Ross, MLIS student, and Sarah Chamberlain and Shelby McLean, Master of Marine Management) concluded their theses and reports during the Fall 2014 term.

The EIUI team has been particularly active in conferences. The team organized a special session on “Does Information Matter? A Critical Question for the Future of Coastal Zone Management” at the 2014 Coastal Zone Canada conference in Halifax in June. Presented papers will be revised for chapters in a monograph being edited by the EIUI team. This new book will be published by CRC Press (a division of Taylor & Francis) in late 2015.

In addition to speaking at the Coastal Zone Canada conference, I travelled to Antwerp, Belgium, in September, along with Lee Wilson (MLIS student), to present a paper at the conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing. The following month, I returned to Europe at the invitation of a research group at Wageningen University in the Netherlands to give a keynote address on “Probing the Science-Policy Interface: Insights and Challenges Arising from Studies of Marine Environmental Information”. I will continue to work with the Wageningen research group in preparing a special issue of *Current Opinions in Environmental Sustainability* to be published in 2015. In December, I travelled to Washington DC to present a paper (co-authored with James Ross, Suzuette Soomai, and Peter Wells) at the conference on Grey Literature, hosted this year by the Library of Congress. Further details about these and other conferences that EIUI team members attended recently can be found at [www.eiui.ca](http://www.eiui.ca).

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## **Jacqueline MacDonald**

Highlights for me in my full time role as a health services manager in 2014 include a new portfolio – Quality, Risk and Patient Safety – and a new position – Privacy Officer – for my health districts. I am also engaging in a new learning experience - the University of Alberta Information Access and Protection of Privacy program, completing the program’s information access and privacy law foundation course, and the privacy and health information course this term. A pared down Library Services department continues to report to me.



This is an opportunity to explore first-hand an intriguing theory that emerged from my PhD thesis research, the growing importance of structurally positioned gatekeepers to organizational decision making and problem solving. The importance of context cannot be over-stated. There is a growing number of these knowledge workers in positions related to major issues of concern who monitor new research information in their areas, search purposefully for research when colleagues ask them questions that they can’t immediately answer and filter information for value, relevance and credibility to meet each problem or decision situation's context, often sharing it orally.

I first encountered the concept of structurally positioned gatekeepers in a 2007 article by Yang Lu and see these “librarian subject specialist 3.0” roles as immensely appealing for MLIS graduates, already well equipped with the information management skills needed to fill them. I am looking forward to teaching the new INFO 6640 course in Expert Searching for Clients next term; a dry run in the form of a workshop on expert searching for The Partnership’s Education Institute earlier this year was well received.

# Faculty News *Continued*



## **Louise Spiteri**

I am continuing to work with my research partner, Jen Pecoskie, from the Library & Information Science Program at Wayne State University, on analysing user-generated metadata in public library catalogues. Jen and I, together with our wonderful MLIS research assistant, Anne Hvidsten, are doing content analysis of users' book reviews to create a taxomomy of moods, tones, and memories that readers associate with the books they read.

I am working with several colleagues from the Western University, the Université de Montréal, the University of Toronto, and North Carolina Central University on a joint publication that compiles a series of case studies we conducted to examine user-generated metadata relating to a central theme (James Bond) in public library catalogues, Last.fm, Goodreads, and WordPress.

In another study, I am comparing and evaluating the impact of using the book industry classification scheme, BISAC, on user access to materials in public libraries, Amazon, and Barnes & Noble. I am working also on a book proposal that examines the management of metadata in integrated discovery systems. I will be teaching the advanced cataloguing course in the Winter term, after a hiatus of two years, as well as my usual Records Management course. I look forward to delving again into the creation of metadata records for non-text materials, and to working with the Resource Description and Access (RDA) standard.

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## **Sandra Toze**

I defended my thesis *Examining Group Process through an Information Lens: How Student Groups Work with Information to Accomplish Tasks* and convocated in October, with The Right Honourable Paul Martin attending the ceremony. Hearing his inspiring speech made it a truly memorable day.

In addition to this milestone, it has been an eventful fall for teaching and research. Our Management Without Borders students have been working on interdisciplinary projects, and presented their work to their partner organizations in a conference in early December. It is great to see the impact of these projects. To reflect on the changes with information sources, retrieval and reference we ended INFO 5530 with a panel session of reference leaders, while in Knowledge Management (INFO 6400) Dwight Fisher (Dalhousie's CIO, and AVP Information Technology Services (ITS)) and SIM alumni Daniel Lee (Senior Manager, Knowledge Management Operations, PwC Canada) joined the class to help to provide their perspectives. It is wonderful to have leading professionals willing to participate in classes; my thanks to all.

I have also enjoyed working with MLIS student Gabrielle Brynes in her Reading Course *Dalhousie Libraries' LibGuides: A Faculty's Perspective*. Fellow MLIS student Mark McCumber has been completing his thesis proposal examining *Consumers' Use of Ingredient List Information on Food Labels During Point-Of-Purchase Decisions*.

Finally, as a lead in the SSHRC Digital Government Partnership I helped plan and participated in a successful *Systems Mapping & Futures Workshop* in Toronto on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for news from our forum - *Defining Westminster Democracy for the Digital Era* scheduled in Ottawa, January 28 -29<sup>th</sup>, 2015.



# Alumni News



**15secTech** is bite-sized technology and digital marketing tips, reviews, news, and interviews with hosts Amber Mac, Jeff MacArthur, and **Lara Killian (MLIS 2010)**, and the first hosted episodic tech series on Instagram video's unique and popular 15-second format. Each weekday a 15secTech segment goes live on Instagram **@15secTech**, and is pushed to Facebook, Twitter, and Google+ with a link to a detailed post at **15secTech.com**. Every weekend extended versions of these and additional segments are compiled into our weekly 15secTech YouTube roundup. We welcome your comments and feedback on any of our platforms.

## IM Project Added Patient Education Materials to Public Library Catalogue

Dave MacNeil (MLIS, 2009), Database and Metadata Manager at Halifax Public Libraries (HPL), and Lara Killian (MLIS, 2010), Librarian Educator at **Capital Health**, are leading a new effort to increase access in Nova Scotia to concise, plain-language health information for patients and families.

At Capital Health, Lara manages the production and maintenance of almost 1000 **patient education pamphlets**. The documents are aimed at patients and families, and written in simple language. Many pamphlets include local contact details and maps to ensure patients have the information they need to attend appointments and to understand their own care before, during, and after a procedure or diagnosis, or to manage a chronic condition. While the pamphlets are initially drafted by clinical staff, Lara and her team make edits to target a 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level, advise on copyright for images and content, and handle the graphic design and layout of the documents.

The project went live in mid-June 2014 after a year of discussion and planning. A user searching **HPL's catalogue** for health-related topics will now be presented with the option to limit their results solely to Capital Health Pamphlet records. Newly added subject, series and list headings within each of these records also provide multiple access points and within each pamphlet record, there is a direct link to the freely available PDF, that can be saved or printed. Users can search HPL's catalogue from anywhere at any given time, regardless of whether or not they have a library card; the hope is that making these pamphlets available to download via this platform will greatly increase access to these important resources.

Currently, there are approximately **400 pamphlets** available for downloading via HPL's catalogue. As time goes on, newly updated or created Capital Health pamphlets will be added to the set indexed at the public library on a regular basis. Monthly website download statistics are being recorded to gather data for future analysis on frequency of access of the pamphlets through HPL's online catalogue. Staff at both organizations are looking forward to maintaining and growing this collection, and feedback so far has been very positive.



# Alumni News *Continued...*

## ALUMNI WELCOME RECEPTION

This year's reception took place on October 8th. There were lovely refreshments and presentations, including a dynamic [video message](#) from SIMAA Chair, Jiselle Alleyne, all the way from sunny Trinidad & Tobago!

SIM would like to thank all alumni volunteers who helped make this event happen: Jiselle, Ann Barrett, Lou Duggan, Donna Bourne-Tyson, Kelli WooShue, Suzanne van den Hoogen, Tracey Jones-Grant, Michelle Paon, + current students Andrea Kampen, Ben Worth & Jenna Knorr.



## JOB NEWS

- ⇒ **Jennifer Svarckopf (Class of 1998)** accepted a one-year assignment as a/Manager, Governance in the Information Solutions Branch at Justice Canada.
- ⇒ **Rae-Lynne Aramburo (Class of 2002)** is now the Electronic Services Librarian at the Welland Public Library in Ontario.
- ⇒ **Errin Morrison (Class of 2003)** is working as a Program Manager for the Local Government Leadership Academy in Port Moody, BC. She is currently organizing a series of eight seminars around the province to train newly elected and returning elected officials in local governance.
- ⇒ **Melissa Arbesman (Class of 2004)** is now a Senior Account Manager at Signals Intelligence Group, a competitive intelligence company based in Israel ([www.signalsgroup.com](http://www.signalsgroup.com)).
- ⇒ **Kate Thompson (Class of 2005)** is now the Head of Public Services Development with the New Brunswick Public Library Service.
- ⇒ **Madeline Driscoll (Class of 2014)** obtained a position as a Senior Information Management Policy Analyst with the Government of Alberta.
- ⇒ **Mark Black (Class of 2014)** accepted permanent position as Youth Services Librarian at the Halifax North Memorial Library.

## RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Peter Webster (Class of 1986):** principal investigator for Saint Mary's University in the EDUCAUSE Studies of undergrad & faculty use of technology; Co-Chair of Standards & Interoperability Committee of Research Data Canada; Co-Chair of External Advisory Committee of the Data Liberation Initiative (DLI) partnership between Stats Canada & Canadian Universities; member of Content Strategy Committee (CSC) or Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN); travelled to China to work with Library staff at Beijing Normal University in Zhuhai (BNUZ).
- Dan Pittman (Class of 1992):** Records Management and Quality Control Coordinator for the Municipality of the District of Chester, announces that the Municipality's quality management system has been certified to ISO 9001:2008. Reaching certification was a two year project.
- Lou Duggan (Class of 2000):** joined the CLA eBook Task Force, established to investigate the eBook situation in Canada and recommendations on CLA's advocacy role.
- David Michels (Class of 2001):** successfully defended his doctoral dissertation on August 18, 2014 at Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS. His interdisciplinary research drew on Human Information Behaviour studies and the Sociology of Religion and New Media.
- Charles Bloom (MIM Class of 2011):** Working as an Information Management consultant in Ottawa, implemented the Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS) Directive on Recordkeeping (RK).

# Alumni News *Continued...*

In May, at the **Canadian Association of Law Libraries (CALL)** annual conference in Winnipeg, SIM (or SLS, or SLIS!) alumni gathered to wish the school a *Happy 35th Anniversary!* It was wonderful to gather with fellow alumni, who are now working all across Canada, to reminisce about our time at Dalhousie.



Front Row: Thérèse Lamie, Teresa Gleave, Margaret Murphy, Kate Greene Stanhope, Susan Jones, Donata Krakowski-White

Middle Row: Julie Lavigne, Jennifer Walker, Linda Keddy, Louise Hamel, Cyndi Murphy

Back Row: Veronika Kollbrand, Gail Hogan, Jean Weerasinghe, Mark Lewis

## **Heather Fookes (Class of 1998) Receives Prestigious Award from the Association of Executive Search Consultants (AESC)**



**Full announcement [here](#).** Heather, Director of Research at Davies Park Executive Search (Calgary) was awarded the **2014 AESC Award for Excellence and Professionalism in Research** for *“demonstrating the highest standards of research, and representing herself and the firm in an ethical manner at all times.”*

The award was presented to Heather at AESC’s Researchers & Associates Summit in New York City by Brian J. Glade, Managing Director, Global Strategy and the Americas and Allan Nelson, Partner at Davies Park Executive Search, who said:

**“Leveraging her education in library science, she is able to generate a viable list of candidates and sources in a short period of time.** Equally important to the Nominating Committee was the fact that Heather has devoted herself to ongoing professional learning and was the first to achieve AESC Researcher Certification in her firm. Subsequently, she persuaded the entire team to undertake the program.” Heather was chosen from among AESC’s 350 member companies’ pool of 16,000 researchers, consultants and associates. Congrats Heather!

# In Memoriam

## Dr. Louis G. Vagianos

In August, it was with sadness that the School of Information Management learned of the death of **Dr. Louis G. Vagianos**, the founder and Director of the School (1969-1970).

During his career at Dalhousie University, Dr. Vagianos also held the senior positions of University Librarian and Vice-President (Administration). He returned to a leadership role in the School in 1994-1995 when he served as Interim Director between the directorship of Dr. Mary Dykstra Lynch and Dr. Bertrum MacDonald. Louis Vagianos was instrumental in establishing the innovative vision of the Master of Library Service (now Master of Library and Information Studies), which emphasized systems thinking along with the broad relevance of professional information work across organizational types. Forty years on, his breadth of vision influenced the design of the mid-career Master of Information Management program as a complement to the MLIS. He was an inspirational instructor who advocated and encouraged “outside the box” thinking. As a consequence, graduates left Dalhousie to make a mark in the field of information management in Canada and around the globe.



The 2014 Vagianos Medal winner, MLIS graduate Madeline Driscoll, with SIM faculty member, Joyline Makani (photo credit: Nick Pearce)

Perhaps the terms of the **Vagianos Medal** – which was established in 1990 in his honour and which terms he helped to write – best sums up his creative outlook on life. The medal is awarded each year at convocation to “a graduating student who combines the capacity for blending originality with practical thinking and the courage to seek solutions to professional problems outside of the mainstream.”

Louis Vagianos emulated these characteristics in all his endeavours and the School of Information Management is indebted to his vision for the fields of information management and librarianship.

The original post and obituary can be found on the SIM blog [here](#). Alumni and friends of the School may wish to honour Dr. Vagianos by making a donation to the School’s **Memorial Fund** [here](#) (under “Read more about the SIM Memorial Fund”).

# KEEP US UP TO DATE!

Submit your news to [inform@dal.ca](mailto:inform@dal.ca)

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