



## About SOLIS

In 2001, the Valdosta State University began accepting students into its newly formed Master of Library and Information Science program. It was during those early days that a student group formed, calling itself SOLIS (Student Organization of Library and Information Science). Today, SOLIS is recognized by VSU as a student association and by the American Library Association as an official student chapter.

As an MLIS student, you are automatically a member of SOLIS—no dues or initiation rites. An election for new officers was held in September. Their profiles appear in this issue. Look for more newsletters in the months ahead and meet fellow students through SOLIS forums.

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## SOLIS By-laws Open Channels for Participatory Governance

The SOLIS By-laws were revised in summer 2014 by an ad hoc subcommittee of the SOLIS executive board. The impetus for the revision was to provide channels for SOLIS officers and Advisory Board members to participate in the governance of the Department of Library and Information Science. To this end, Article IV on governance was added to the By-laws. It states:

*“The SOLIS President serves ex officio on the DLIS Advisory Board. SOLIS presidential responsibilities include attendance (either in-person or virtually) at monthly DLIS faculty meetings, receipt of minutes of those meetings (excluding executive session items), and dissemination of those minutes to the SOLIS general membership.*

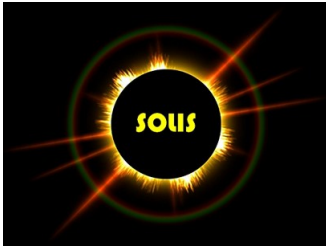
*The SOLIS Vice President or another appropriate designee from the SOLIS Executive Board represents SOLIS on the DLIS Curriculum Committee. Vice-Presidential responsibilities include attendance (either in-person or virtually) at monthly DLIS curriculum meetings, receipt of minutes of those meetings (excluding executive session items), and dissemination of those minutes to the SOLIS general membership.*

*The assignment of student representatives for other DLIS committees shall be selected from the ranks of other elected SOLIS leaders, including officers or advisory board members. Responsibilities of these additional representatives shall include those designated by the Head of the Department and dissemination of information related to those special assignments to the SOLIS general membership.”*

In compliance with the new by-laws, newly-elected SOLIS officers, President Katresa Gardner (your rep to the monthly faculty meetings by conference call) and VP Douglas Carlson (your rep to the monthly MLIS curriculum committee meetings), attended MLIS meetings in October. They received agendas and have access to minutes for those meetings. If you have any concerns you would like Katresa or Douglas to present to the faculty at these meetings, contact them in advance of the meeting date. Here is the meeting schedule for the remainder of the year:

Friday, Nov. 7: Curriculum Committee meeting  
 Wednesday, Nov. 12: Faculty meeting  
 Tuesday, Dec. 2: Curriculum Committee meeting  
 Wednesday, Dec. 10: Faculty meeting

A SOLIS business meeting is scheduled for Nov. 6 at 8 pm. We meet in the Live Classroom located in the MLIS Village.



## Meet Your 2014-2015 SOLIS Officers

### President

Katresa Gardner entered the MLIS program in the fall of 2013 and is currently in her second year. She is employed at Georgia Military College at the Valdosta Campus where she is the Electronic Librarian and Advisor of the Bulldog Newsletter Club since 2012.

She is a Valdosta State University alumna with a major in Technical Studies, a concentration in Computer Information Systems, and a minor in Business. She has a strong computer and technical background and has also taught computer courses as an adjunct instructor at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College.

In her future, Katresa would like to continue working as a librarian in an academic library and has a desire to acquire a media specialist certification.



Katresa Gardner

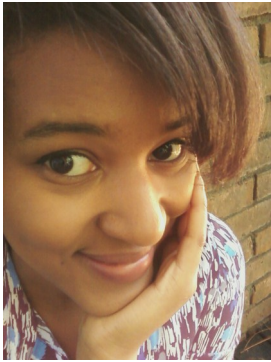


Douglas Carlson

### Vice President

Douglas Carlson graduated from VSU in May with a BA in History and currently resides in Valdosta. He is a graduate assistant in the Odum Library Archives and Special Collections and a volunteer at the Lowndes County Historical Society and Museum. He is on a cataloging track and will graduate in December 2015.

Douglas served as the SOLIS International Student Representative in 2013-2014—an office that was replaced by a Communication Officer under the revised SOLIS By-laws.

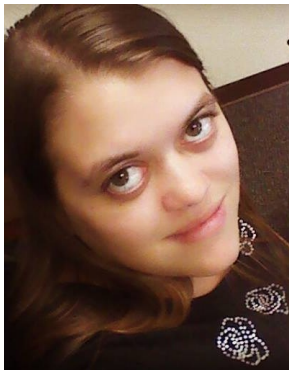
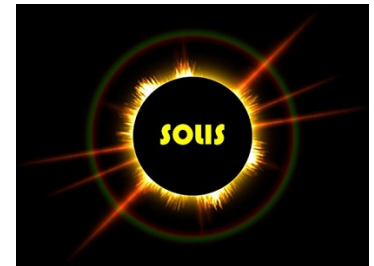


Amanda Davis

## Communications Officer

Amanda Davis is in her third year as an MLIS student on the technology track, and she will graduate in May 2015. She lives in Columbus, Georgia and works as a reference assistant in a large public library system. Her library interests include the digital divide, technology education, and, of course, serving on this wonderful committee.

## More on Your 2014-2015 SOLIS Officers



Tia Morris

## Secretary - Treasurer

Tia Morris is from Register, Georgia, and she currently lives in Swainsboro, GA. She has been working in the library system for 8 years, both public and academic libraries. She is the Library Assistant at East Georgia State College and the EGSC Staff Council Secretary.

She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Georgia Southern University in Fall 2012 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management and Economics and she hopes to graduate from the MLIS program at Valdosta State in Fall of 2015. One day she plans on becoming a manager or director of an academic library.

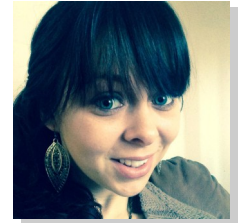
## Advisory Board Members



Ben Mullis

Ben is the immediate past president of SOLIS. He is focusing on academic libraries in his studies—currently doing fieldwork in the VSU Odum Library reference department. He plans to graduate Spring 2015.

Amy resides in the Milledgeville area. She currently works as the Cataloging and Serials Associate at Georgia College and State University. This is her fourth semester in the MLIS program and she is set to graduate in December 2015.



Amy Winfrey



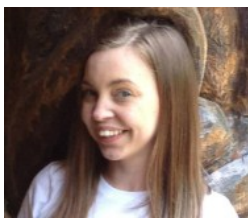
Patrick Spurlock

Patrick characterizes himself as a “musician/progressive/wannabe librarian.” He currently works for the James Pendergrast Memorial Library at Albany State University. He previously worked in community relations development for the South Georgia Regional Library.

Jeanna entered VSU’s MLIS program in spring 2014. For the past eight years she has worked in public libraries at South Georgia Regional Library system where she is currently Library Manager of the Johnston Lakes Library, a branch location in Lake Park.



Jeanna Allums



Haley Sheehy

Haley is a recent graduate of Georgia State University where she received her BA in Anthropology. She is currently employed as a Family Library Assistant at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, Scottish Rite, and is seeking her MLIS in order to fulfill her goal of becoming a medical librarian. In addition to library studies, she is interested in ethnoprimateology, classic literature, word games, and human development. She wants to be a librarian to learn more about people and their interests, and because she enjoys the challenge of finding answers to all sorts of questions.

Courtney works as a Visual Resources Curator at the University of Georgia. She is the Managing Editor of Hack Library School (<http://hacklibraryschool.com>), a blog for, by, and about library school students. She is an active member of the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA), including the southeast branch, and the Visual Resources Association (VRA), and represented the VSU MLIS program as an ALA Student-to-Staff scholar in 2014.



Courtney Baron