



SOLIS—Student Organization of Library and Information Science

Valdosta State University

VSU MLIS student receives Charles E. Beard scholarship

Lori Lester receives the inaugural Charles E. Beard scholarship. The GLA Beard Scholarship, sponsored by the Georgia Library Association, is designed to provide financial assistance toward completing a Master's degree in library science for candidates who show strong leadership potential. Friends and members of GLA continue to generously donate to this scholarship fund. In recent years, the annual Scholarship Raffle at the COMO Conference also has supported funding for this scholarship. Lori says it is a great honor to receive the inaugural Beard scholarship. Charles was a great advocate for libraries, and for librarians.



After graduating from West Georgia College in 1994 with a dual BA in Sociology and Psychology, Ms. Lori Lester became the Government Documents Assistant at Ingram Library. She was hired by, and had the privilege of working with Charles Beard, the Director of University Libraries, for ten years. As a member of the Instructional Services Division, Ms. Lester works in Reference and holds the position of Government Documents Coordinator, where she has been promoted to the highest staff level of Library Associate II. For the past three years, she has taught library skills classes to undergraduates. She is actively involved in the field, presenting at professional workshops, serving on the GLA Executive Board as Vice Chair of the Interest Group Council, and chairing the Government Documents Interest Group. She also serves on committees in her library, and coordinated the first annual Ingram Library Open House.

Ms. Lester began the MLIS program at Valdosta State University in fall 2004. She recently participated in and won the first scavenger hunt sponsored by the library student organization, SOLIS. This activity was designed to educate library students about various resources and items pertinent to the program and librarianship. She plans to graduate in 2007 and seek employment in a Georgia academic or special library.

When Lori isn't studying or working, she loves riding roller coasters, zip lines, and sky coasters; and as typical as it sounds: reading. She especially enjoys spending time with her son Zach, watching movies, vacationing in remote areas, and playing with their favorite animals: Furbie the one-eyed-kitty, a stowaway kitten named Stash, and two dogs, Chess and Marley. Lori gets a kick out of watching Zach do karaoke. Zach says a biography of Lori wouldn't be complete without including her love for brownies.

Join GLA & ALA!

The Georgia Library Association and the American Library Association are offering MLIS students a discounted membership rate for both organizations. For a total of \$25, you can become a member of both the ALA and GLA. The membership form is available online at:

http://gla.georgialibraries.org/membership_Georgia%20Student%20Application.htm

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Congratulations to the following Spring 2006 MLIS graduates:

Shirley Ensley

Valerie Stroyls

Christy Taylor Iler

Vera Blair

Yvonne E. Pope

Polly Swilley

Chandra Jackson

For more information on SOLIS, please visit our website! You'll find past newsletters, a listing of officers, bylaws, information on MLIS alumni and more!

Visit:

<http://books.valdosta.edu>

[/mlis/solis/](http://books.valdosta.edu/mlis/solis/)





2006 Georgia COMO Convention



This year's COMO convention offers lots of opportunities for MLIS students. Scheduled events include tours of the National Bindery and the Digital Library of Georgia, as well as many informative conference sessions. Whatever your interest, there's a session for everyone! Choose sessions geared toward your area of interest; there are presentations focusing on aspects of public librarianship, school librarianship, and academic librarianship.

Don't forget to attend the Valdosta State University MLIS Student Alumni Gathering session at 7:30 a.m. on the 22nd for an opportunity to meet fellow MLIS classmates and alumni!

For more information on this year's convention, please visit <http://www.georgiacomo.org/>

Did you know?

- Whenever possible, SOLIS members contribute used textbooks for other students to use. Books are placed on a shelf in the MLIS office in Odum Library for students to pick up. Contact Leann Boyd at lsprinkl@valdosta.edu to check on availability of texts. This program functions on a first come, first server policy, so check early in the semester!
- SOLIS is currently selling donated books on Half.com to raise money for SOLIS activities. If you would like to donate additional books for the sale, please contact Leann Boyd at lsprinkl@valdosta.edu for more information. Check out items currently for sale by going to <http://shops.half.ebay.com/> and entering the words solis-vsua in the find seller box!
- You can play a bigger role in SOLIS! See the information below on how to become more involved as a SOLIS officer.

MLIS Student Survey



Are you an MLIS student who's been in the program more than a semester? If so, please take the time to voice your opinion on various aspects of the program including methods of course delivery, support services, and your overall experience! Visit this webpage to complete the survey: http://www.valdosta.edu/sra/surveys/MLIS_Survey.html

SOLIS Officer Elections

If you would like to play a bigger role in SOLIS, now is the time!

Please send nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer to Dr. Koehler at wkoehler@valdosta.edu.

Nominations will be accepted through the end of November. As soon as the nominations are concluded, the top nominees will be announced on the MLIS Blazenet page and voting will begin. Please be sure to visit the MLIS Blazenet page to vote!!

Current Acting Officers:

President—Leann Boyd Secretary—Angela Henderson

Vice President—Christy Cechman Treasurer—Christie Paulk

International Student Representative—Bernard Bulemu

Student News

Alumni Accomplishments

- **Chandra Jackson** - appointed Serials Librarian at University of Georgia immediately after graduation.
- **Colleen Knight** - promoted to Adult Services Coordinator for the Bartow County Public Library system.
- **Parker Owen** - appointed librarian at DeKalb Technical College.
- **Valerie Blanchard Stroyls** - published "History of Georgia Southwestern State University, Part VII, 1980-1999." In Check it out! *Newsletter of the James Earl Carter Library*, 6,6:1.

Current Student Accomplishments

- **Amy King** - hired as part-time children's librarian by the Hampton Public Library in Hampton, Virginia.
- **Kenneth McCullers** - promoted to Senior Library Specialist position at DeKalb County Public Library.

Please send any suggestions for items you would like to see included in subsequent newsletters to Leann Boyd (lsprinkl@valdosta.edu) or Angela Henderson (aselder@valdosta.edu).