

ADVISING BULLETIN

October 2007 No. 3

Special Issue: SCHOLARSHIPS

Awards and Scholarships, the MLIS Web page
Short-term Financial Assistance Grant
Beard Scholarship
Hubbard Scholarship
American Library Association Scholarships
Become a Librarian Page Scholarship Links
Medical Library Association Scholarship
Targeted Group Awards
Doctoral Fellowships

Awards and Scholarships, the MLIS Web Page
<http://www.valdosta.edu/mlis/scholarships.shtml>

Achieving accreditation from the American Library Association adds a number of scholarships for which you, as a VSU MLIS student, are now eligible. In addition, the Georgia Library Association and supporters of the VSU MLIS program finance a few other scholarships. In this Special Issue of the Advising Bulletin covering scholarships, we draw your attention to a number of these funding opportunities listed on the MLIS Awards and Scholarships page.

Short-term Financial Assistance Grant
<http://www.valdosta.edu/mlis/documents/Short-termFinancialAssistantGrant.pdf>

Through the generosity of one of our MLIS alumni, this grant was established in 2007 for the purpose of providing tuition assistance based on financial need to a current student. Eligibility standards, application guidelines, and selection criteria are explained in the document on the MLIS website. One award which equals the cost of one class is given each semester. A student may receive the award for one or two semesters, depending on need. The first grant was awarded in the Fall 2007 term. Recipients' names will remain confidential. Applications for Spring 2008 are now being accepted. Summer term is not included.

Beard Scholarship
<http://gla.georgialibraries.org/scholarship.htm>

This \$1000 scholarship is awarded each year to a student enrolled in a Master's degree program of library science. Reviewers look for candidates who show strong potential to inspire and motivate their peers in the profession and in professional associations. Since its inception in 2006, in honor of the late Charles Edward Beard, the scholarship has been awarded to two VSU MLIS students: Lori Lester (2006) and Miguel Vicente (2007).

Hubbard Scholarship
<http://gla.georgialibraries.org/scholarship.htm>

This \$3000 scholarship is awarded each year to a student enrolled in or accepted into a Master's degree program of library science. The recipient must commit to completing the degree in a three-year period and must agree to work for one year following graduation from library school in a library-related capacity in Georgia, or agree to pay back a prorated amount of the award plus interest.

American Library Association (ALA) Scholarships

ALA and its divisions sponsor a number of scholarships. See the list of available scholarships at: <http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=scholarships&template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=150371>

Three specialized ALA awards that might be of interest to those of you who qualify are:

- > The ALA Scholarship for Library Youth Services is a \$3000 award paid in two installments.

- > The Century Award is an annual \$2,500 scholarship that will fund services or accommodation for a library school student or students with disabilities admitted to an ALA-accredited library school.

- > The LITA/LSSI Minority Scholarship in Library and Information Technology is a \$2500 award bestowed annually to an MLIS student from a principal minority group (American Indian or Alaskan native, Asian or Pacific Islander, African-American, or Hispanic) who shows potential in and strong commitment to the use of automated systems in libraries.

Become a Librarian Page Scholarship Links

<http://www.becomealibrarian.org/scholarships.htm>

Scholarships are identified by sponsoring associations, library schools, and states. The page is compiled by the Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperative.

Medical Library Association (MLA) Scholarship

<http://www.mlanet.org/awards/grants/scholar.html>

Another competitive scholarship that provides \$5000 for a person interested in medical librarianship entering an MLIS program or who has yet to finish one-half of the program.

Scholarships for Students Entering a Master of Library and Information Science Program

Some scholarships such as the Special Libraries Association Scholarship and the Valdosta State University MLIS Scholarship are meant to assist students who are about to enter an MLIS program.

The Spectrum Scholarship is also one that is awarded to candidates before you start your Master's candidacy. It is administered through ALA and provides a one-year \$5,000 scholarship and over \$1,500 in professional development opportunities to American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students who are planning to attend an ALA-accredited graduate program in library and information studies or an ALA-recognized NCATE School Library Media program.

Contemplating a doctoral degree after graduation?

The Spectrum Doctoral Fellowship program has a small number of Fellowships, which provide full tuition support and annual stipends totaling \$20,000, available for full-time library and information science (LIS) doctoral students beginning in the fall of 2008.

The McKnight Doctoral Fellowships is available to African American and Hispanic graduate students. Up to 50 Fellowships (renewable for up to five years) are granted each year to students pursuing a doctoral degree at one of 9 participating institutions in the State of Florida. Each Fellowship consists of \$17,000 per year in tuition, fees, and stipend.

Spread the word!