



## Summer Core Courses Change to 11-Weeks

Starting this summer – 2014 – core courses will run for 11 weeks. This is a change from the 7-week schedule. This decision was based upon the assessments now required in the core curriculum, and the time needed for students to do their best on all requirements.

How does this affect those of you considering summer classes? If you plan to take MLIS 7200, MLIS 7300, or MLIS 7800, those courses will begin Thursday, May 15, and end Thursday, July 31.

Other summer course options: You can still take a Maymester course, May 15-June 5.

There are a number of 7-week elective courses that begin June 11 and end July 31.

Summer courses are listed at: <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/it/applications-and-analytics/sis/course-lists/>

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## VSU's MLIS Program Earns Reaccreditation

*This article is reprinted from a press release authored by VSU MLIS Assistant Program Director, Dr. Linda Most.*

The ALA Committee on Accreditation granted continued accreditation status to the program at its Jan. 26 meeting. The next comprehensive review visit is scheduled for fall 2020.

The ALA first awarded accreditation to VSU's MLIS program in 2007.

“As the MLIS program enters its 13th year of operation,” shared Dr. Linda R. Most, associate professor and assistant director of the program, “we remain committed to offering a quality publicly supported online education for generalists and specialists in the library and information science fields. The program’s primary focus continues to be to educate librarians for academic, public, and special libraries in Georgia.

“The MLIS program faculty and leadership would like to thank the program’s students, stakeholders, and our professional colleagues across the university and in the wider LIS community for their support, advice, and encouragement through the reaccreditation process. We couldn’t have done it without you.”

The ALA has awarded accreditation to 63 master’s degree programs in library and information studies across the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico, to date. The process involves an external review panel of practitioners and academics verifying that each program, including VSU’s program, meets the standards for accreditation of master’s programs in library and information studies.

GetEducated, a consumer group dedicated to helping students compare and rate United States-based online colleges and universities, named VSU’s MLIS program a Best Buy in 2012. The program was found to offer a high quality education at a cost that ranks well below the national average.

## Scholarship Opportunities

### From the Georgia Library Association . . .

The Georgia Library Association awards two scholarships annually to students completing a master's degree in library science. Recipients of both awards must agree to work for at least one year in Georgia following graduation. Applicants need not be residents of Georgia to apply.

The Hubbard Scholarship, a \$3,000 award, is intended to recruit excellent candidates for librarianship in Georgia and defray some of the costs of their education.

The Beard Scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000, is targeted for applicants of excellence who show strong potential for leadership in the library profession.

The deadline to apply for the 2014 scholarships is May 21. See the Georgia Library Association website for details: <http://gla.georgialibraries.org/scholarship.htm>

Questions and application materials may be directed to:  
Linda M. Cooks  
GLA Scholarship Committee Vice-Chair  
P.O. Box 1529  
Pine Lake, GA 30072  
[glascholarships2014@gmail.com](mailto:glascholarships2014@gmail.com) (\*all lowercase letters\*)

### From the VSU MLIS Program . . .

The VSU MLIS Program has scholarship monies from the H. W. Wilson Foundation that funds the cost of tuition for one course for one to three students each year. Recipients may use the scholarship for fall or spring semester.

To be eligible, you must have completed at least 12 credits taken in the MLIS program at VSU by the end of this spring semester. You must have a GPA of 3.8 or higher

Submit a cover letter to Dr. Koehler by email ([wkoehler@valdosta.edu](mailto:wkoehler@valdosta.edu)) that includes a brief profile of your career goals and a list of courses you have completed or will have completed by the end of this current semester. Arrange for a letter of support from a VSU MLIS faculty member to be sent to Dr. Koehler.

## Students as Participants in Your MLIS Program

The ALA Committee on Accreditation granted our program full reaccreditation, but there was a strong recommendation from that committee concerning involving our students in governance of the program. First a few questions for you as our students:

Did you know that the President of SOLIS is a member of the MLIS Advisory Board?

Would you like to see the SOLIS Advisory Board members play more direct roles on faculty committees?

Committees on which students might serve include:

- ◆ Curriculum
- ◆ Scholarships and Awards
- ◆ Textbook Review
- ◆ Recruiting

Would you like to be considered to represent your student body?

This issue along with other business will be discussed at a SOLIS meeting on Wed., March 26, 7 pm. We meet using the Live Classroom link on the MLIS Village. If MLIS Village is not visible on your BlazeVIEW course menu, click on Search, find MLIS Village, click on it. It should then appear on your BlazeVIEW.

## SOLIS Financials

SOLIS has an account managed by the VSU Foundation, Inc. Our source of income is from T-shirt sales. In 2013, our opening balance was \$552.73. We earned \$460.00 in T-shirt sales. We spent \$226.78 to co-sponsor the SOLIS-MLIS Breakfast at GA COMO. Our current balance is \$785.95. Thanks, T-shirt wearers!

## ALA Conference Tips

The theme for this year's ALA Conference is "Transforming Our Libraries, Ourselves." The conference runs from June 26-July 1. And it's in Las Vegas! And it features its usual all-star cast of authors, illustrators, library celebrities, and motivational speakers. The website has lots of information (<http://ala14.ala.org/>).

If you are planning to go to ALA, here are some tips for doing it in the most affordable way. Early bird registration for members ended March 3rd. If you missed that, register before June 20th to get the \$135 student rate. You must be a member to get this rate.

Register online at <http://ala14.ala.org/rates>. While you are registering, select your hotel – there is a link to do so.

The hotel rooms with conference rates are going fast. The cheapest one is The Quad with rooms as low as \$39 per night. A number of VSU faculty are staying at the Riviera – also affordable.

Warning!! If you register and try to reserve a hotel room at conference rates later, you will have to go back to your [online confirmation](#) and click the link to hotels which is way at the bottom of your email confirmation.

## Summer-Fall Registration

### Early Registration

- ◆ Advising Week starts March 24th
- ◆ Early Registration opens March 31st
- ◆ Early Summer registration closes April 18th
- ◆ Early Fall registration closes April 25th

### Registration Re-opens

- ◆ Maymester: May 13–May 14
- ◆ Summer II: June 9-June 10
- ◆ Fall Registration: July 7- July 8
- ◆ Fall Registration: Aug. 14– Aug. 18

### Semester Dates

- ◆ Maymester: May 15 – June 5
- ◆ Core Course 11-Week Term: May 15-July 31
- ◆ Summer II: June 11– July 31
- ◆ Fall begins: Aug. 18

## Joint ALA/GLA Membership

Library school students are eligible to join both ALA and the Georgia Library Association at one low price of **\$35.00** a year. Join both state and national library associations and get connected to your future. Joint student members are full members of both associations, and receive all the benefits accorded to student members in each association. For ALA it includes: 6 issues of *American Libraries* magazine, weekly e-delivery by the AL Direct newsletter, bi-monthly Student Direct newsletter, discounts on ALA and Division conferences, 10% discounts on ALA Editions and Graphics; Access to ALA scholarships, grants and travel opportunities.

GLA members receive a subscription to the *Georgia Library Quarterly*, professional development opportunities, scholarships, awards and discounted registration for the GA CO-MOConference. Join through the ALA or GLA website.

## Textbooks for May-Summer 2014

The textbook list for Maymester and Summer courses is posted on the MLIS Village. You also received this list in the same VSU email that contained this copy of the newsletter.

## We're on Facebook



Use your QR for quick access...





## SOLIS T-Shirt Campaign!

Support the Student Organization of Library and Information Science (SOLIS) by ordering your own T-shirt with the VSU and MLIS insignias!

The 2013-2014 year marks the 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the MLIS program, and the T-shirt shows our founding date of 2001 as an open entry. Order a shirt now to celebrate our successful reaccreditation and to show your solidarity.

Shirts are sold at \$10 each at events such as GA COMO conferences and New Student Orientations.

### SOLIS T-Shirt Order Form

Yes, I want to support SOLIS! Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ (number) of shirts.

Please indicate the quantity for each size:

Small \_\_\_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Large \_\_\_\_\_ X-Large \_\_\_\_\_ XX-Large \_\_\_\_\_ **XXX-SOLD OUT**

Order of one (1) shirt is \$20 (includes processing and shipping via USPS)

Order of 2 or more shirts is \$15 per shirt (processing and shipping included)

Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Check payment only.

Make check payable to MLIS Foundation and write **Account Number 10248** on the memo line.

Allow two to four weeks to receive your t-shirt(s).

Your shipping address:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form with your check to :

Dr. Anita Ondrusek  
MLIS Program  
1500 N. Patterson St.  
Valdosta, GA 31698