

SLAIS News: MACL Grad Wins GG Award

By Michelle Mallette.

SLAIS has been celebrating a major achievement by one of its alumni: Wendy Phillips has won the 2010 Governor-General's Literary Award for Children's Literature - Text for her young adult novel, *Fishtailing*, originally written as her creative writing thesis for the Master of Arts in Children's Literature at SLAIS. It is Wendy's first novel, and she provided a glimpse into the creative process at a colloquium on Wednesday January 12th. The presentation was followed by a reception in her honour at SLAIS.

It's not the first time a SLAIS graduate has won a Governor-General's Literary Award, Canada's highest literary honour. However, it's the first time it's been awarded for a work produced as a thesis, and the first one in the MACL program.

Fishtailing is a young adult novel in verse, published by Coteau Books. SLAIS Director Caroline Haythornthwaite congratulated Wendy, calling it "another great success for our Master of Arts in Children's Literature."

The announcement of the Governor-General's Literary Award winners is available at <http://www.canadacouncil.ca/prizes/ggla/2010/default.htm>.

More Awards for Current Students

SLAIS students have been making a name for themselves, winning a number of awards both locally, nationally and across North America. MLIS student Bailey Diers was selected from more than 50 applicants for the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) 2010-11 Internship Award. Jennifer Garrett (MLIS) and Kelly Lau (Dual MAS/MLIS) were among only 19 MLIS students from across North America to be selected for the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Career Enhancement Program. Also from ARL, a record four MLIS students were awarded prestigious scholarships from ARL's Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce. Mayu Ishida, Soyeong Jeon, Abraham de Jesus, and Qinqin Zhang were among only 15 students selected from across North America as the 2010-2012 ARL Diversity Scholars. Alex Garnett (MLIS) was selected as one of only eight winners of the 2010-2011 ASIS&T New Leaders Award, announced by the American Society for Information Science and Technology. Franklin Sayre (MLIS) received a student conference package to attend ACCOLEDS 2010, a workshop on data library services held in Regina in December. Also

in December, Meghan Radomske (MLIS) and Sarah Rathjen (MAS) were selected as the 2010 Co-op Students of the Year for their co-op work term placements. Qinqin Zhang (MLIS) received an honourable mention.



SLAIS and Barber Learning Centre in the snow.
Photo by Michelle Mallette.

SLAIS 50th celebrations moving forward

Plans are well underway for the 50th anniversary celebration, to be held April 29 and 30. Details on the events can be found at <http://www.slais.ubc.ca/about/SLAIS-50.htm>; the page includes photos of faculty, staff, alumni and space, and there is an impressive photo showing the demolition of the original SLAIS quarters in the north wing of the Main Library. Keep up with news of the event – along with weekly tweets of past gems uttered by SLAIS faculty – by following us on twitter (@slais50). Thanks to UBC Alumni Office, we'll be selling tickets to the anniversary event online, making sure everyone has a chance to join in the celebration. And don't miss out on the 50th Anniversary's Virtual Memory Wall – visit <http://slaismemorywall.wordpress.com/> for a trip down memory lane, and be sure to make your own contribution of a memory, a photo, or a shoutout to friends and classmates.

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