

# SLAIS News: SLAIS Joins the iSchools

By Michelle Mallette.

In addition to celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary (see below), 2011 marks the start of a new professional association for SLAIS. The School has formally joined the iSchools, an international consortium of institutions with a common interest in the relationship between information, people and technology. Membership is by application, and this acceptance recognizes SLAIS's contribution to research and teaching, including substantial sponsored research, engagement with preparing future researchers, and commitment to the interests and progress of the information field. For more information, see <http://www.ischools.org/site/>.

## SLAIS Welcomes Newest Faculty Member

SLAIS is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Giovanni Michetti as an Assistant Professor, effective January 1, 2012. Dr. Michetti joins the SLAIS faculty from the University of Rome, where he is Assistant Professor of Archival Science at the Special School for Archivists and Librarians, now part of the Department of Documentation Science, Linguistics, Philology and Geography. He holds a Ph.D. in archival science from the University of Rome, where he has been a faculty member since 2004. As an archivist he developed the Italian version of the Encoded Archival Description (EAD) standard, worked with public institutions to address issues raised by changing documentary objects and process, and has conducted research on archival legislation. His research interests focus on digital preservation and records management, and his teaching areas range from markup languages in archival functions to cryptography and informatics. He is at SLAIS this summer teaching Advanced Arrangement & Description and returns to Rome for the fall, formally joining the faculty in January.

## Celebrating 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Style

Alumni, faculty and friends reminisced and reconnected as they gathered in Vancouver to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the School of Library, Archival & Information Studies. Events were held at The University of British Columbia campus and in downtown Vancouver, April 29-30. The weekend began at UBC with a reception, where UBC President Stephen Toope paid tribute to the School's accomplishments since 1961, reviving and renewing itself over 50 years as faculty and students have

explored issues surrounding literacy, information and records management, archives and technology, information design, children's literature and more. Alumni of the School also spoke, including UBC University Archivist Chris Hives, UBC University Librarian Ingrid Parent and Vancouver City Librarian Sandra Singh, as well as SLAIS Director Caroline Haythornthwaite, Irving K. Barber, and UBC Faculty of Arts Associate Dean of Students Janet Giltrow.

New students who will begin their studies in September joined current students, alumni and employers at an Open House on Saturday April 30, where they explored what SLAIS has to offer today, from research topics to co-op work opportunities. Nearly 100 attended this event held in the Irving K. Barber Centre, SLAIS' new home since February 2008.

That evening, 200 gathered at the Sutton Place Hotel to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in style, and to honour the achievements of the 10 recipients of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary SLAIS Alumni Service & Leadership Awards. One of the evening highlights was a tribute to Sam Rothstein, the first Director of what was then called the UBC School of Librarianship. Caroline Haythornthwaite, the current Director, presented Sam with a special medal honouring his status as the "founding father" of the School in 1961. She also announced a new scholarship in his name, for students who demonstrate innovation and foresight.

Former directors Sam Rothstein, Basil Stuart-Stubbs, Ken Haycock and Edie Rasmussen were all at the celebration, along with Peter Simmons and Terry Eastwood, faculty members who also served as interim directors over the School's history. Jeff Stokes, widow of director Roy Stokes, was also introduced.

Each of the 10 winners of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary SLAIS Alumni Leadership & Service Awards offered comments on how their lives changed as a result of their degree from SLAIS. The winners are:

- Ann Curry, Master of Library Science
- Elizabeth Denham, Master of Archival Studies
- Sarah Ellis, Master of Library Science
- Dean Giustini, Master of Library Science
- Cate McNeely, Master of Library Science
- Laura Millar, Master of Archival Studies
- Ingrid Parent, Bachelor of Library Science

- Judith Saltman, Bachelor of Library Science
- Shelley Sweeney, Master of Archival Studies and
- Peter Van Garderen, Master of Archival Studies

The final speakers were 1962 alumna Joss Halverson (BLS) and current student Leah Hopton (MLIS), who led toasts to the past and to the future. The SLAIS Alumni Association, led by MACL alumna Kathie Shoemaker, raised funds for the SLAIS Scholarship Fund with a silent auction. The evening culminated with music and dancing, courtesy of DJ and SLAIS MLIS alumnus Randy Gatley. (See photos next page.)

### Celebrating 50 Years of SLAIS in Style



SLAIS Director Caroline Haythornthwaite (back row, second from left) with Alumni Award winners (front row, l. to r.) Ingrid Parent, Ann Curry, Laura Millar, Shelley Sweeney (back row, l. to r.) Elizabeth Denham, Cate McNeely, Peter Van Garderen, Judith Saltman and Sarah Ellis



Emerita faculty Lynne Lighthall with reception guests



Alumni Corinne Durston and Chris Kevlahan; Greg Buss



Alumnae Marjory Jardine (left) with Patricia Cia



Directors past and present: (left to right, front row): Terry Eastwood (interim), Samuel Rothstein, Ken Haycock (back row) Caroline Haythornthwaite, Peter Simmons (interim), Basil Stuart-Stubbs, Edie Rasmussen



200 enjoy the Gala dinner at the Sutton Place Hotel



Founding director Sam Rothstein (left) with emeriti faculty Ronald Hagler (centre) and Derek Francis



Adjunct faculty member Shirley Giggey (left) with alumna Anastasia Leontieva at the UBC reception.



Alumni Teresa Hartman and Paul Whitney; Caitlin Webster



Guests enjoying speeches at the UBC reception



Alumnae Fern Teleglow (left) and Teresa Prior

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*Photos by Don Erhardt, © SLAIS. Don Erhardt is a Vancouver photographer whose specialty ranges from corporate to family celebrations. His website is [www.donerhardt.com](http://www.donerhardt.com)*