

SLAIS News: Summer Conference Round-Up!

By Dan Slessor.

The Summer Conference Season

It seems that the iSchool@UBC has been all over BC the past few months. Here are just a few highlights from the May and June conference season:

May: Students in the Master of Arts in Children's Literature (MACL) program hosted "[I Will Be Myself: Identity in Children's Literature, Media and Culture](#)" (May 3). The one-day conference at UBC's Irving K. Barber Learning Centre showcased graduate student research surrounding identity in various elements of children's and young adult literature, media and culture. The day consisted of 45 presentations, and approximately 75 delegates attended from across Canada, the US, and as far away as Iran!

The iSchool was a fixture at this year's [Canadian Library Association Conference](#) in Victoria (May 28 – 31). iSchool faculty member Judith Saltman presented with student Rachel Balko and alumnus Justin Unrau on their book, *The Canada-IFLA Adventure: A Journey of Discovery*. The book was co-authored with three other grads who could not attend the session: Myron Groover, Jamie McArthy, and Dan Gillelan.

Adjunct faculty members Guy Robertson and Alyssa Green delivered presentations on "Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Planning for Libraries" and "Community Economic Development and the Role of the Library," respectively.

Three students presented papers and posters that were very well-received. MLIS student Anna Ferri presented "[Healthy Collaborations: Bringing Together Hospital Libraries and Public Libraries to Serve Children in Hospital Care](#)." MLIS student Matthew Murray presented a poster on zines entitled "[Whatcha Mean, What's a Zine? - Introducing Zines into Your Library Collection](#)." Recent MLIS grad Danielle Wing presented on the panel, "Student Views: Research from Canada's LIS Programs."

June: The [Special Libraries Conference](#) made a trip to Vancouver this year (June 8-10) and the iSchool was well-represented in the program and at the Trade Show. In addition to presentations from numerous alumni and community partners, Dr. Heather O'Brien presented as part of a panel on "[Engaging Users with Technology](#)," and Professor Judith Saltman spoke as part of the "[Children's Literature Panel](#)." PhD

candidate Jessica Bushey took part in the "[Speed Geek](#)" event.

At the recent [Association of Canadian Archivists \(ACA\) Conference](#) in Victoria (June 26 – 28), Dr. Luciana Duranti, Chair of the MAS program, was honoured as an "ACA Fellow." According to the ACA, this award is the highest recognition the association can bestow on its members. "Fellows are celebrated and acknowledged for their long-standing service to the Association and the Canadian archival community," as stated on the [ACA website](#).

In addition to innumerable alumni presenting at the conference, our students and recent grads were the talk of the town. Recent grad Alexandra Wieland took part in "[New Voices, New Ideas: The Student Session](#)," and spoke about "Exploring the Archival Bond in Personal Archives." Current student Valerie Leveille and recent grad Robert McLelland presented on "[Current Research into Government Transparency and Electronic Document Security](#)." Leveille also presented a poster entitled "[Access to Open Information: A Visual Analysis of FOI Requests at the Government of British Columbia](#)." PhD candidate Elizabeth Shaffer presented on "[Emerging Technologies: Opportunities and Challenges for Policymaking](#)."

Thanks to all of the delegates who dropped by the iSchool table at these conferences to say "hi," chat about the school, or praise our incredibly talented students, alumni and faculty! We are looking forward to the next one!

iSchool Faculty Updates

Congratulations to Dr. Luanne Freund and Dr. Victoria Lemieux on their recent promotions to the rank of Associate Professor!

A warm iSchool welcome to Dr. Jennifer Douglas, who has joined the school as a Lecturer working within the MAS program. An alumna of the school, Dr. Douglas will be teaching ARST 515: *Arrangement and Description of Archival Documents* and ARST 575K/LIBR 559H: *Personal Archives* this Fall.

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