Two CI students win ALA Spectrum scholarships

This summer, the American Library Association awarded scholarships to two graduate students in the College of Information for the 2008-2009 school year. Deidra Garcia and Letitia Bulic are both proud to be one of 69 students across the country to receive the ALA Spectrum Scholarship.

Deidra, a graduate of New York University with a bachelor’s degree in English Literature, won a scholarship for $5,000, to be divided between the fall and spring semesters. When asked why she believes she received the award, Deidra explained, “The ALA wants to encourage more minority students to enter the library profession, and I was able to convey my passion for becoming a librarian in an extremely multi-cultural area -- my current home, Miami, Florida.”

Deidra is interested in being a children's or young adult librarian. “Since I graduated from NYU, I have worked as an editorial assistant and copywriter for many different types of companies. Because I have had previous experience with children's publishing and writing, right now I’m really interested in children’s and young adult librarianship.”

Letitia received her undergraduate degree in general psychology from Guilford College in Greensboro, N.C. Letitia also received a $5,000 scholarship, as well as an additional $1,500 to fund a trip to the ALA Conference in 2009. “I think that they decided to give me this award because they appreciated what a hard journey I had to take in order to discover librarianship. As a child I grew up in foster care and during this time I met with a few people who helped me become what I am today,” said Letitia. “I decided in high school that the best way for me to love my life would be to provide some service to my community.”

Before beginning her graduate studies, Letitia worked a library assistant at Nova Southeastern University in Ormond Beach, FL. Currently she volunteers at the Daytona Beach Community College library. Letitia explained, “I want to get an idea of what types of duties are allotted to academic librarians in this setting. I think that I want to remain as flexible as possible so that I can adapt to the shifting environment that libraries have become in this new information age.”

Both Deidra and Letitia are excited to be part of the College of Information program at FSU.

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Get the latest ALA Chapter information via Blackboard!

- Log in to Blackboard.
- Click the Organizations tab.
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Congratulations! Now you have access to the ALA Student Chapter discussion boards, links, announcements, and more!

Orientation attendees enjoy ALA-sponsored potluck luncheon

On August 21, 2008, new students in the College of Information attended the new student orientation, organized by Susanne Houff. The student chapter of the ALA kicked off an annual potluck luncheon for orientation attendees. Thank you to Events Coordinator Alma Quinn and President Amelia Anderson for making our luncheon a success!

Clockwise from top: Susanne Houff (right) helps sign in attendees; students pile their plates during the orientation luncheon; Dr. Larry Denis, dean, addresses students; Geisele Towels from the Digital Library Center presents services available to students.

Bowl with ALA members at FSU Friday, Sept. 12

Come join us for cosmic bowling at Crenshaw Lanes in the FSU Student Union! We’ll buy the first couple of lanes, and you provide for your own shoes, beverages, etc. We’ll be there from 9 p.m. - 11 p.m. You can RSVP on our Facebook Group site.

Coffee and Tea on Fridays...

On campus or coming to town? Stop by the Goldstein Library ANY Friday (including between semesters!), from 9:30 a.m. until the pots run dry, for FREE coffee, tea or hot cocoa. Bring your own mug, or borrow (and clean) one of our assorted mugs.

Friday, September 26 - Birthday food goodies will be available with the coffee! See, be seen and shmooze with YOUR library staff and friends at the Goldstein.

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“Closing Books Shuts Out Ideas”
Banned Books Week
September 27- October 4

Banned Books Week 2008 is the 27th annual celebration of the freedom to read. This freedom, not only to choose what we read, but also to select from a full array of possibilities.

Banned Books Week 2008 will kick off in Chicago on Saturday, September 27.

In Tallahassee, The Friends of the Strozier Library and the Student Chapter will hold a cooperative banned books event. Check our website for the latest details, http://ala.ci.fsu.edu

Application process begins soon

The ALA Scholarship application process for the 2009-2010 school year begins October 1, 2008, and will close on March 1, 2009. Scholarships in many categories are available.

Letitia Bulic points out, “I have spoken with several people who also deserve to receive the honor of a scholarship, but do not apply because they think they are not good enough. If you never take a risk you may never see how valuable your personal goals, efforts, skills or experiences are.”

Visit the ALA Scholarship website and start your application process today. More scholarship opportunities are on our website at http://ala.ci.fsu.edu

Newsletter items and ideas are welcome! Please e-mail Alice Platt, ajp07g@fsu.edu.