

Chapter News

College of Information American Library Association Student Chapter
October 2008

ALA Student Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, October 14
4:30-5:30 p.m.

Visit us in person at the Goldstein,
or

View the webcast any time from
our **Blackboard** site. Have a
question or comment during the
meeting? Go to **Blackboard**,
click "Open Meeting Chat /
October 14 Meeting."

Please join us for our second
chapter meeting of the semester!
Casey McLaughlin, IT Coordinator
at the College of Information,
will be speaking with us about all
things Web 2.0 and what "non-
techie" librarians need to know.

Professor Ebe Randeree,
Association of IT Professionals
(AITP) Faculty Advisor,
will also be speaking with us
about gaming in the libraries.

Student Chapter Officers

President	Amelia Anderson ama07c@fsu.edu
Vice President	Leo Lo lsl07c@fsu.edu
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Events Coordinator	Alma Quinn adq07@fsu.edu
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Distance students participate in graduate assistantship program



Christle Chumney and Kathleen Shannon are both pleased at the opportunity to work with the Ringling from a distance.

This fall, graduate students Christle Chumney and Kathleen Shannon are both participating in an assistantship program working with digital collections for the Circus Museum and Archives at the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, FL. Specifically, Christle and Kathleen are working on enhancing optical character recognition (OCR) documents to enhance usability for visitors to the museum's website.

This assistantship program is unique in that it is not necessary to be on-site to participate. Christle, a St. Petersburg, Florida resident, and Kathleen, a Dallas, Georgia resident, both feel fortunate to be awarded an assistantship that they can participate in from a distance.

"Being a distance learning student has allowed me to pursue my MLIS without having to move to Tallahassee, but face-to-face interaction and experience opportunities are somewhat limited. The ability to gain this experience remotely is one of the reasons this assistantship is so wonderful. Additionally, I want to pursue digital collections in my career so having the ability to plan, design and implement a collection such as this one is truly a unique learning opportunity," Christle said.

Working together, Christle and Kathleen are researching an appropriate software application for presentation of the digitized heralds and accompanying OCR files. The majority of their time will be spent adding metadata in XML to the free text OCR documents, which were generated when the physical digitization was done by an outsource partner of the museum.

"I am particularly excited about this project because I'll get some real world experience in creating and cataloging digital collections. I've tailored my

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The Goldstein Library...

"It's Your Library!"

National Poetry Day is October 9

Join **Mary Jane Ryals**, Big Bend Poet Laureate and her poetry students as they do public poetry readings. The Goldstein Library will host two open sessions of poetry readings in celebration of National Poetry Day. The sessions will be at 9:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. in and around the library. Watch the Goldstein events board and **website** for more details.

October 10 : SLA Workshop

Florida and Caribbean Chapter of SLA workshop still has openings in the October 10th workshop, "1+1=More Than 3: Collaboration, Technology, and Futurism". Workshop details and links to registration can be found at: <http://sla.fc.cites.fsu.edu/index.cfm?fuseaction=calendar.view&callID=117>

Join J. Dale Prince and Andrew Sanderbeck for a day of fun and provoking thoughts. Student registrations are only \$20 and ALA/FLA/SLA members get member pricing. **Pre-registration closes October 3.**

Tech Careers Day October 10

Join the local student chapter of Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) in the Goldstein for a "Tech Careers Day" on October 10th from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (10-10 at 10...get it?) AITP members may visit at 10 a.m. ; general admittance begins at 10:30.

Represented companies include Brandt Info Services; City of Tallahassee; Diverse Computing; eLayaway LLC; ERS; HCA Health-care; Infinity Software; Mainline Information Systems; PriceWater-House Coopers; SAIC; Technology Services Group (TSG); and Zimmerman Agency. Check the Goldstein events board and **website** for more details.

Students get involved in Library Card Signup Month



Students in the ALA Student Chapter advertised Library Card Signup Month on Wednesday, September 24 in the Student Union on FSU campus. Pictured from left: Sara Duff, Amelia Anderson and Angeleen Neely help students fill out paperwork for a public library card. Even students who live in the dorms and are not Leon County residents can obtain a Leon County Public Library card.

Get the latest ALA Chapter information via Blackboard!

- Log in to **Blackboard**, Click the Organizations tab
- Search for ALA Student Chapter in the far left search box
- Click Enroll button

Congratulations! Now you have access to the ALA Student Chapter discussion boards, links, announcements, and more!

"Closing Books Shuts Out Ideas"

Celebrate Banned Books Week

October 1 • 12:15-1:15 p.m. • Steps of Strozier Library

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

The Friends of the Strozier Library, the ALA Student Chapter and other sponsors are holding a Banned Books Reading on the steps of the Strozier Library on FSU campus. Students and noted faculty and staff, including the College of Information's own Dean Larry Dennis and Goldstein Librarian Pamala Doffek, will read passages from books that have been challenged or banned.

Stop by if you can to show your support for the freedom to read!

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studies to emphasize the technical operations side of librarianship, and I am especially interested in digital collections," Kathleen said. "I think the definition of librarianship is changing -- at the very least, it's expanding to include a wider array of resources -- so the chance to gain some practical experience in this emerging field is immensely valuable," Kathleen added.

According to Jessie Christian, Tibbals Digital Collections manager, the assistants will select key search terms to include in the XML documents they create using a metadata schema they determine will fit the project. The museum hopes to assist researchers by adding unique metadata such as circus terminology, and including unique spelling variations.

"The OCR files we have for the herald collection are machine generated. With Christle and Kathleen working from a thesaurus on circus culture and adding access points unique to the archival materials they are working from, our digital records will become that much richer," Jessie explained. "We are excited to work with students of the College of Information. The students' technical knowledge and understanding of user-needs and services will result in

the public being able to access these valuable cultural resources."

The Tibbals Collection of historic circus materials includes posters (nearly 3000 images are available online), programs, photographs, route books, and other ephemera. The resources provided by Mr. Tibbals illuminate the importance of circus entertainment in the academic study of American culture.

The Florida State University/Ringling Center for the Cultural Arts brings together resources to create a comprehensive arts and cultural complex for the State of Florida. It includes the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Ca' d'Zan (the historic Ringling residence), the Ringling Museum of the American Circus, and the Florida State University Center for the Fine and Performing Arts, which includes

the historic Asolo Theater.

Christle and Kathleen both received tuition waivers for the fall semester, and are enrolled full time. In accordance with FSU credit requirements, they are expected to work 20 hours per week.



Examples of the Circus Heralds Christle and Kathleen are working with.

Two memberships are better than one

Don't forget, when you join the American Library Association, you can also join the Florida Library Association, the Georgia Library Association, and associations from 13 other states for a discounted rate.

Visit the Joint Membership Program of the ALA website at <http://staging.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/cro/chapters/jointmembership/jointmembership.cfm> for information on joint memberships.

Interested in working for a federal library?

Now you can join the Federal Libraries Group of the ALA for free! Visit <http://groups.google.com/group/careers-in-federal-libraries> and click the "Join This Group!" link, located on the right side of the page.

Also, mark your calendar for our meeting on Tuesday, November 18, at 4:30 p.m., when we'll be talking about tips and strategies for finding employment in a federal library.

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

