Dear all!

Hello and welcome again to the School of Information and Library Studies’ Newsletter! Time again to tell you of the many positive developments here in the School so far this new academic year.

**School Events**

**The Professor John Dean Award**

UCD’s School of Information and Library Studies was delighted to welcome in honor of UCD’s first Professor and Head of Library and Information Studies, Professor John Dean, we held a very special Inaugural Award reception on November 5th 2014 in UCD.

Professor John Dean served as Head of School from 1977 until 1989, during which time he made significant contributions to the school's development, curriculum and departmental activity as well as to the professional education for Irish librarians. He also held the posts of Acting Head of the Department of Computer Science, the International Office, Chair of the Computer Services Board and was responsible for obtaining a number of Jean Monnet professorships for UCD while working at the International Office. Remarkably he continued to lecture, teach and mentor students into his 80th year (2004).

An internationally acclaimed scholar and activist, John Dean’s work spanned the globe in Ghana, Sudan, Botswana, the United Kingdom, the United States, Nigeria, Australia, Papua New Guinea, and the Philippines to name a few. His legacy at UCD, and in SILS specifically, will continue through the rich foundations of the school as well as various scholarship funds, academic medals and now a new award, The John Dean Award.
The Professor John Dean Award

This is a very special award and will annually presented to a current Diploma or Masters student, who has successfully detailed how they would use the award to advance their career and promote and enhance the reputation and educational efforts of the school.

The 2014 recipient was Mr. Adrian Dunne
**Recent Events**

**Grants**

**Dr. Kalpana Shankar**
Received the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation ($182,000) for 2014-2017. Co-PI with Kristin Eschenfelder and Greg Downey (University of Wisconsin-Madison). Title: Social Science Data Archives: Business Models for Sustainability

**Dr. Amber Cushing**
Spatial Arts and Visualisation Seed Funding, €2,498

HW Wilson Foundation Research Grant, €3,500

Project title: The influence of PIM practices on data management and curation in citizen science projects

**Conferences/Talks by SILS Staff**

**Dr. Kalpana Shankar** attended the ACM GROUP 2014 Conference, November 9-12, 2014, Sanibel Island, Florida

**Dr. Kalpana Shankar** attended the first working meeting of the New Frontiers in Peer Review (PEERE) COST Action, October 14-15, Budapest, Hungary. Co-chair of the Working Group on Data Sharing.

**Dr. Claire McGuinness** gave an invited talk, “Hitting the moving target: The transformation of information literacy instruction for First Year students over a decade of change” at the ITT Information Literacy Seminar, “Demonstrating the Value of Information Literacy to Staff and Students” on June 11th.

**Crystal Fulton and Claire McGuinness** presented a joint paper, “Seeking the Perfect Blend: Creating Innovative Digital Learning Spaces with e-tutorials in 3 Information Literacy Modules” at the IFLA 2014 Satellite Meeting on Information Literacy, in Limerick on August 14th

**Benjamin Cowan** has been invited to the University of Münster Institute for Psychology in Germany to present his work on alignment in human-computer dialogue interactions as well as give a workshop on the use of R programming and LME analysis in analysing language data. The visit is taking place from the 25th to the 28th November 2014.

**Benjamin Cowan** has been invited to University College London’s Interaction Centre (UCLIC) to give a talk on his work on the impact of user perceptions on language behaviour in human-computer communication. The talk will take place on the 25th March 2015.

**SILS Welcomes new staff**

**Dr. Amber Cushing**
Digital Libraries, Digital Curation, Introduction to Information & Social Computing

**Dr. Benjamin Cowan**
UXD: user-centred design

And part-time staff:

**Dr. Claire McGuinness**
Digital Judgement: Truth, Lies & the Internet

**Mr. Niall Flaherty**
Information Design, Creating & Publishing Digital Media

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Publications/Research

Benjamin Cowan published a peer-reviewed work in progress paper with Dr Chris Bowers (University of Worcester, UK) and Gido Harkvoort (University of Birmingham, UK) at BCS HCI 2014 titled, “Challenges using stereoscopic displays in a touch interaction context”.

Benjamin Cowan has been elected as a Committee Member of the British Psychological Society’s Mathematical, Statistical and Computing Section.

Benjamin Cowan successfully gained funding from the H.W. Wilson Foundation for his project entitled “Perspective taking & human computer dialogue: The role of perceived distribution of linguistic knowledge on user judgement and behaviour”.

Claire McGuinness published a peer-reviewed joint paper with former MLIS student Maura Corcoran in Library Management, vol. 35(3), titled “Keeping ahead of the curve: Academic librarians and continuing professional development in Ireland”.

Crystal Fulton and Claire McGuinness presented a joint paper, “Seeking the Perfect Blend: Creating Innovative Digital Learning Spaces with e-tutorials in 3 Information Literacy Modules” at the IFLA 2014 Satellite Meeting on Information Literacy, in Limerick on August 14th.


Students Recent Events

A huge congratulations to our Postgraduate Class of 2013/14!
Graduation for the MLIS and MSc cohorts of 2013-14 took place in the O’Reilly Hall on the 1st of December, and the School extends its congratulations to all recent graduates!

NPD held an event in SILS for MLIS students, to meet recent Grads from a range of Information Sectors. It was a lovely evening with some great talks.

One of our recent grads Jenny (Harrow) O’Neill won CILIP Blog Challenge with her blog entry on digitisation http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip/blog/digitisation-answer-or-digital-preservation-question

Congratulations to Shona for winning one of the bursaries for the Academic and Special Libraries conference! http://www.aslibraries.com/#!asl2014-sponsored-bursary-/c23c7

Try our very own SILS Word Search! There are 26 words to find, answers are somewhere in the newsletter — GOOD LUCK!

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Alumni

The SILS Alumni Association strives to maintain connections between Alumni and SILS thereby providing a platform to encourage life-long mentoring, networking and continued professional development. SILS Alumni Committee, and its members are Claire Nolan and Lisa Gaffney of SILS, Betty Maguire, Rose-marie Gannon and Marie Cullen. It will be arranging events and seminars over the coming academic year so if you have any ideas for talks or possible venues please get in touch and let us know!

Alumni Fees waived

Are you alumni of SILS in UCD? There are no membership fees for joining. Email your details and your name will be added to our database as a member.

If you have any ideas for talks or possible venues please get in touch and let us know!

Email us: Claire.Nolan@ucd.ie, Lisa.a.Gaffney@ucd.ie, or SILS@ucd.ie

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year from all at The School of Information & Library Studies, UCD