
UCD

School of Information & Library Studies
(SILS)



August 2011 Newsletter

H.W. Wilson Foundation Academic Staff – Student Collaboration Research

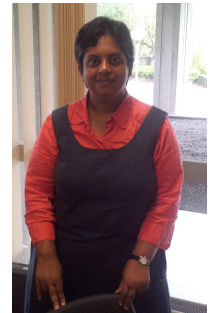


H.W. WILSON

SILS academic staff recently submitted research proposals for projects they wish to conduct with SILS students. All proposals were sent to three external reviewers at universities in the UK and US. The top two proposals were awarded funding.

Dr. Kalpana Shankar was awarded €6,000 to support her project on self-archiving and collaboration in Science 2.0. Increasingly digital

scientific instruments generate large scale data collections that present new challenges. Kalpana explains: “Contemporary science is being influenced by competing impulses that permeate the daily work practices of scientists and the institutions in which they work. One impulse is the need to share research results, data and tools to promote greater impact of research, leverage scarce resources, conduct longitudinal studies, apply new analytic tools to existing data sets, and to verify and refine the results of other researchers. However, competition for those same scarce resources often demands greater and greater protection for intellectual property. Thus, the practice of science often comes into conflict with its often expressed ideals of openness, shared data, intellectual rigor, and verifiability. What to share, what to archive, when to collaborate and under what circumstances are challenges in contemporary science.”



Kalpana and students will conduct a comparative study of two Science 2.0 portals, MyExperiment.org and OpenWetware.org, examining critical problems in science data management and archiving.



Dr. Crystal Fulton was awarded €3,000 to support her research on urban explorers and collaborative creation of information through integrated media. Crystal explains: “Urban exploration involves the exploration and photography of urban infrastructure often no longer used, including sewers, towers, factories, military instalments, etc., followed by sharing of observations and content created through social media. This multi-layered construction of content and information offers an important opportunity to understand not only how people generate information, but also how shared experiences

and content enable a collaborative iteration, which, in turn, supports a further unique creation of information. Findings will increase our understanding of how the public engages with the new participative Web for personal and civic purposes.” The results of Crystal’s research will help inform how collaborative and creative behaviours in digital environments enable new forms of knowledge creation.

The School of Information and Library Studies (SILS) is indebted to the H.W. Wilson Foundation, including Michael Heelan, Director Abstracting Services, HW Wilson Company, Dublin, for their support and to the anonymous reviewers.

Staff Activities & Accomplishments



Crystal Fulton was one of two academic staff nominated by UCD for a National Academy for Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (NAIRTL) National Award for Excellence in Teaching. Crystal has also been selected to be a co-chair of the 2012 American Society of Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) Conference to be held in Baltimore, MD, U.S. Other co-chairs include ShanJu Chang, National Taiwan University, and Julie Hersberger, University of North Carolina-Greensboro.

Andrea Johnson has had a paper accepted by the Journal of Information Science. The title of the paper is: A bibliometric study of video retrieval evaluation benchmarking (tReCVid): A methodological analysis. Co-authors include C. Thornley, S. McLoughlin and A. Smeaton.



Lee Komito is part of a team recently awarded funding from the EU. The project, “ICT to support everyday life integration of immigrants or ethnic minority (IEM) people,” includes researchers from Internet Interdisciplinary Institute - Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, (Barcelona, Spain), University of Wien (Austria), University of Warwick (UK), University of Washington (US), and L’APIS scarl, Italy. The project will gather and analyze for the first time statistically representative and cross-country comparable data on the digital inclusion of the main IEM groups (first and second generations) living in eight Member States (UK, Austria, Netherlands, Spain, Ireland, Italy, Latvia and Czech Republic) and its relation with IEM’s integration needs and outcomes in our society.

Claire McGuinness, an occasional lecturer, has published a professional textbook titled: [Becoming Confident Teachers: A Guide for Academic Librarians](#). The book is published by Chandos Publishing,



Kalpana Shankar co-authored a journal paper with Kay Connelly. The paper, “Ethics and pervasive technology: A collaborative approach,” appeared in *Teaching Ethics*, Vol.11, No. 1, pages 73-84. Kalpana will also represent SILS on the 2012 iConference programme committee.

Diane H. Sonnenwald gave the keynote at the 1st ASIS&T European Workshop held the beginning of June at University College Cork. The title of her talk was “Visioning Studies: Exploring the Potential of Future Technologies.” Diane was also recently appointed to the UCD University Committee for Academic Appointments, Tenure and Promotion (UCAATP). In July Diane attended the Microsoft Faculty Summit held at Microsoft’s headquarters in Redmond, WA, U.S. During the Summit Diane and Heads of Schools from other [iSchools](#) met with directors at Microsoft to discuss future collaborations.



Maria Souden recently attended two conferences in the UK; *Information: Interactions and Impact*, and *Evidence-Based Library and Information Practice 6*. Maria was awarded the [Library Information Research Group](#) Bursary Award for the latter conference.

Norman Su presented a paper at the British Computer Society Human Computer Interaction (HCI) Conference on 7 July. The paper, co-authored with Patrick C. Shih, is titled “Virtual Spectating: Hearing Beyond the Video Arcade”, has been published in the *Proceedings of the British Computer Society Conference on Human-Computer Interaction*, and can be found in the ACM Digital Library. Norman and his colleagues, Hiroko N. Wilensky and David F. Redmiles, have also published a paper, “Doing business with theory: Communities of practice in knowledge management”, in the journal, *Computer-Supported Cooperative Work*, DOI: [10.1007/s10606-011-9139-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10606-011-9139-x).



Judith Wusteman has co-authored a research paper with Ronan Hegarty. The paper is titled, “Evaluating EBSCO Host Mobile”, and it appears in *Library Hi Tech*, Vol. 29, NO. 2, pp. 321-334. The launch of Judith’s virtual research environment (VRE) tool, OJAX++, was recently announced in the [D-Lib Magazine](#). Information about OJAX++ is available at www.ucd.ie/ojax. Judith is also serving on the Irish Human Computer Interaction (iHCI 2011) Conference programme committee. The conference will be held 8-9 September at the Cork Institute of Technology.



Niall Watts, a SILS PhD Student, recently presented a one-hour webinar on ‘Models of Online Teaching’ to The Dublin Centre for Academic Development (DCAD).



Online Synchronous Distance Learning @ SILS



For the first time SILS will be offering a module completely online.

The module, *IS40030: Information Behaviour in the 21st Century*, is a graduate module focusing on how we identify, acquire, create, share and use information across different contexts. It explores theories of information behaviour, landmark studies and current information behaviour research,

and how this knowledge can be applied to create innovative information services in different environments. During the module students will have a hands-on opportunity to investigate information behaviour of a specific group, and explore how the information behaviour could be better facilitated through new information services.

A weekly seminar will take place online each Thursday, from 4:00pm-6:00pm. The seminar will be conducted using Internet-based audio and/or video conferencing. Each seminar will be recorded for subsequent viewing. The seminar will also be augmented by additional online eLearning tools, such as blogs.

Professionals may audit this module from any geographic location in Ireland and beyond for a one-time fee of €190. Access to the eLearning software and all module materials is included in the fee. The instructor for this module is Dr. Crystal Fulton, an award-winning teacher.

The module begins 15 September and ends 1 December, 2011. More information about auditing this module or taking it as an occasional student for university credit can be found on the [SILS web site](#).

SILS Alumni Association Launch

A SILS Alumni Association has been formed and the launch of the association was held 25 May at the National Library, Dublin.



Guest speakers at the launch included **Deidre Ellis-King**, a SILS alumni who held the post of Dublin City Librarian from 1985 to 2010. Deidre discussed shared memories and the important roles SILS alumni have played and continue play not only in Ireland but around the world.

Thomas A. Finholt, the external examiner for SILS and Associate Dean for Research and Innovation in the School of Information at the University of Michigan was also a guest speaker. Tom spoke about today's complex information landscape and the need to shepherd the digital generation.



Benefactor sponsors of the event included [DSS](#) and [OCLC](#), and Contributory Sponsors included [Interleaf Technology](#) and [ProQuest](#). Other sponsors who provided raffle prizes or services included [Spectrum Print Logistics](#), [International Education Services](#), the [Royal Dublin Society Library](#), and the [National Library of Ireland](#). Our thanks also to Nancy Ward who worked with us to organize the event and the association, and the current students who helped during the event.

Alumni dues are €20 per year. New graduates receive the first year of membership immediately following their graduation free of charge, and there's an unwaged membership fee of €10. To join the association, please go to the [SILS Alumni Association web page](#).

2 MINUTE MADNESS

The next alumni event will be a 2-minute madness event. This is an opportunity for SILS alumni to present a recent or ongoing project in 2 minutes using one slide. It's an opportunity to share ideas and find out what your peers are working on.

The event is scheduled for 28 September, 6:00-8:00 pm, in the Seminar Room at the National Library of Ireland, Kildare Street, Dublin.

If you are interested in presenting a slide please email sils.alumni@ucd.ie by 15 September. We ask that you send us your slide by 21 Sept. If you are not located in the Dublin area, you can still participate by providing a slide with a 2 minute narration. We plan on recording all presentations (with presenters' permission) and making the recording available to members. You must be a member of the SILS Alumni Association to participate in this event.

1st Year Undergraduate Teaching & Learning Innovation



For the first time this past spring students taking the module, IS10040: Information Society, were taught how to create a video essay. With the advent of high quality and relatively inexpensive digital video technology, video may well become the 'next text.' Increasingly organizations use video to effectively convey their messages to the general public as well as to specific groups.

With support from the UCD National Digital Learning Repository (NDLR) Learning Innovation programme, a series of four ePracticums were created to guide students through the process of creating video essays using mobile phone video cameras, small hand-held (FLIP) video cameras, and open source video editing and creation software.

Video essays created by the students focused on a variety of topics regarding how information technology, including social media, is used in politics. For example students conducted and recorded interviews with members of the Dáil (Ireland's national parliament) regarding how they use information technology and social media to reach voters; with members of the general public to learn how they accessed political information; and with UCD students running for office regarding how they were using information technology to reach fellow students.



When providing feedback on the module, students commented that the video essay assignment, ePracticums and interactive lectures were the aspects of the module that most helped their learning. A student explained: "I found the digital essay the most interesting assignment of the year. It was a completely new experience for me and actually fun."

The ePracticums are freely available to other schools, and a number of schools, including Business and Engineering, have expressed interest in using the ePracticums and teaching students how to create video essays in their modules this coming academic year. The SILS teams creating the ePracticums and video essay assignment included Andrea Johnson, Hannah Gleave and Lee Komito.

Capstone Project Presentations Reviewed by Professionals

For the first time MLIS students had the option of doing a small group Capstone Project instead of an individual master thesis. The Capstone Projects provided an opportunity for students to apply and practice their skills and knowledge while working on a significant real world project.

Projects included: Investigating the potential of public libraries to assist in mid- to large-scale emergencies; Designing & evaluating an information service using social media; Creating a transition year (or gap year) syllabus focusing on Ireland's struggle for independence during 1916; Investigating the evolution of boards.ie and implications for the future; Identifying best practices regarding organization's talk to Forums on boards.ie; and evaluating OJAX++, a interdisciplinary virtual research environment.

During 28-29 July nine professionals came to SILS to hear students' Capstone Project presentations and give students feedback on their projects. The professionals were: John Breslin (boards.ie & NUI Galway), David Regan (Accenture), Deidre Ellis-King (Dublin City Library, retired), Siobhan Fitzpatrick (Royal Irish Academy), Chris Riggs (Microsoft), Fionnuala Hanrahan (Wexford County Library), Norma McDermott (Library Council), Marjory Sliney (Fingal County Library), and Jared Carstensen (Deloitte & Touche). Our sincere thanks to these individuals and their organizations for sharing their expertise and time with our students.



Jared Carstensen, John Breslin, David Regan, Chris Riggs & Fionnuala Hanrahan take a short pause while providing written feedback for students.

Deidre Ellis-King, Marjory Sliney, Norma McDermott and Siobhan Fitzpatrick posed for a group picture at the end of the afternoon.



Opportunity to Audit Courses @ SILS

In 2011-2012 there will again be opportunities to audit courses (modules) at SILS. Auditing courses provides a unique opportunity to obtain new knowledge and skills without a large cost. Auditing can be ideal if you are:

- a professional who wishes to participate in continuing professional education, learning about current state-of-the-art and future developments in particular topic areas;
- an individual who is considering a career change and wants to explore a new subject; or
- a person who wishes to learn about social media, and how to find, create and/or share digital information effectively.

When auditing a course you have the opportunity to attend all course lectures and any labs and/or tutorials offered in conjunction with lectures. Typically each course meets for two hours per week, for 12 weeks. This coming autumn we are offering more master level courses late afternoons to help accommodate individuals who are working.

All master's and undergraduate courses offered by SILS can be audited. The cost is only €190 per course - less than €8 per hour of course lecture. Of course, you can still also take courses for university credit as an occasional student. Courses planned for the upcoming 2011 Autumn Semester include:

Master level courses:

- IS40030: Information Behaviour in the 21st Century, Thurs. 4:00-6:00 (will be offered 100% online; see above story)
- IS40370: Management for Information Professionals, Tues. 4:00-6:00
- IS40490: Theory in Action, Tues. 1:00-3:00
- IS40500: Systems Analysis & Design, Tues. 10:00-12:00
- IS40530: Information & Reference Services, Wed. 1:00-3:00pm

Undergraduate level courses

- IS10010: Introduction to Information and Social Computing, Tues. & Thurs. 9:00-10:00
- IS10020: Introduction to Information Skills & Strategies, Wed. 10:00-11:00 & Fri. 9:00-10:00
- IS20010: Advanced Information Skills for Problem-solving, Wed. 10:00-11:00 & Fri. 9:00-10:00
- IS20020: Organisation & Retrieval of Information, Mon. 11:00-12:00 & Wed. 12:00-1:00
- IS30020: Web Publishing, Mon. 9:00-10:00
- IS30070: Cybersociety? Technology, Culture, Communications, Tues. 4:00-5:00 & Thurs. 3:00-4:00

The autumn semester begins 12 September and ends 2 December. To audit a course please contact the SILS school administrator, Claire Nolan, at 01 716 7055 and Claire.nolan@ucd.ie.



Hope you can join us for a course this autumn!

Message from the Head of School: Thank you!



Dear All,

As we begin the new academic year I'd like to thank everyone for their continuing support of SILS. During the past two years I've asked staff, colleagues at UCD and beyond, alumni, students, and friends of the school for advice and assistance many times, and I have never been disappointed with the response. Everyone has been very generous, and I've benefitted from your advice and cooperation. Thanks again!

With best wishes, *Diane*

