

ADEC National Award for Excellence in Distance Education



WISE has been selected as the recipient of the 2008 American Distance Education Consortium (ADEC) National Award for Excellence in Distance Education. The award, established in 2000, represents one of ADEC's most esteemed honors and helps fulfill the consortium's mission of increasing international awareness of the critical role of distance delivery in higher education.

ADEC is dedicated to "Creating and providing access to learner-centered distance education; anywhere, anytime, to virtually anyone who seeks it." The National Award for Excellence in Distance Education rewards dedication to

innovation, collaboration, and professional development, as well as demonstrated positive impact in the field of higher education. After a competitive multi-stage review process, the ADEC awards selection committee deemed WISE deserving of this prestigious honor.

On Tuesday, April 22, WISE Director Kathleen Schisa and WISE+ Coordinator of Instructional Design Anne McKinney joined former Associate Dean Ken Spelke (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Graduate School of Library and Information Science) at the 2008 All-ADEC Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, Minn., to accept the award and the accompanying \$5,000 cash prize.

Schisa and McKinney also presented an overview of WISE quality standards, the consortium's course sharing model, and the WISE+ pedagogical training initiative at the meeting. Audience members included the ADEC awards selection committee, ADEC Board of Directors, and representatives of the membership at large. The presentation also featured comments from WISE co-founders Bruce Kingma and Linda Smith. The ADEC award is the second national recognition WISE has received since fall 2006, when the consortium was recognized by the Sloan Consortium for effective practices in online education.

WISE+ Students present at SALALM LIII

Several students from the WISE+ sponsored course, *Librarianship for Latin American Studies, Iberian Studies, and Latina/o Studies*, participated in a roundtable discussion focused on the course at SALALM LIII, the fifty-third annual conference of the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials. The course was taught by Anne Barnhart, Librarian for Latin American & Iberian Studies, Spanish and Portuguese, Chicana/o Studies, and Religious Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, as a LEEP course at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

The roundtable discussion, "LEEPin' Latinamericanistas! Instructor-Student Reflections on the Online Latin Americanist Librarianship Course," featured reflections from students on aspects of the course. One student presented a tour of the course interface and various features of the Moodle courseware. Other students answered audience questions regarding the experience of taking the course online in a synchronous format. Another student spoke about her experiences in the course as someone who is hearing impaired.

Several participants remarked on the practical course exercises such as an indexing assignment, institutional profile, and reference consultation. Another student discussed the attitude of solidarity and collaboration fostered among the students and the potential for that to carry over into their professional lives.

The participants agreed that the course provided a holistic view of librarianship, and that the opportunity to learn from and engage with a variety of practitioners at different types of institutions was invaluable.



WISE MEMBER SCHOOLS

- Long Island University
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
- San José State University
- Simmons College
- Syracuse University
- University of British Columbia
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Maryland
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Western Ontario
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Victoria University of Wellington

Funding for WISE provided by the
Institute of Museum and Library
Services



WISE Featured on IMLS Website

In August 2008, the Institute of Museum and Library Services honored the Web-based Information Science Education Consortium by featuring a profile of the WISE project on the organization homepage. The article, which can be viewed at <http://imls.gov/profiles/Aug08.shtm>, provides a brief history of WISE and the WISE+ Initiative, as well as an overview of the project. WISE is grateful for this recognition, and for the generous funding and support provided by the IMLS over the past several years.

WISE at IFLA 2008

WISE hosted a productive dinner meeting at the 74th International Federation of Library Association and Institutions (IFLA) World Library and Information Congress: "Libraries without borders: Navigating towards global understanding," in Quebec City on August 13. Each year the IFLA conference is held in a different region of the world, drawing thousands of librarians and library science educators from all corners of the globe to an energetic forum where ideas are shared and international partnerships flourish. Representatives from Manchester Metropolitan University, Rutgers University, Syracuse University, the University of Maryland, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Victoria University of Wellington, the Medical Library Association, and the Association for Library and Information Science Education attended the WISE meeting. The evening's discussion, which centered on WISE's role in international online education, was greatly enriched by the global perspectives of the attendees.

Individuals from several WISE schools also presented recent research at IFLA 2008. Dan Dorner (Victoria University of Wellington) presented "Indigenous knowledge and the role of information literacy education" as part of the Regional Activities session, *Indigenous knowledge: language, culture and information technology*. Bob Glass (Manchester Metropolitan University) presented "Using web 2.0 technologies to develop a sense of community for emerging LIS professionals" as part of the Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning session, *Emerging technologies in libraries – continuing professional development and workplace learning implications and applications*. Bruce Kingma and Kathleen Schisa (Syracuse University) presented "The Economics of learner-centered online education" as part of the eLearning discussion group session, *Putting the learner into E-learning*.

WISE looks forward to continued participation with the IFLA eLearning SIG, and encourages those who are interested in the group to join the listserv at <http://infoserv.inist.fr/wwsympa.fcgi/info/elearn>. For additional information about the conference and to access the full papers from the presentations listed above, please visit <http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/Programme2008.htm>.

WISE Pedagogy Workshops

In the course of a year WISE has offered seven sections of its Introduction to Online Pedagogy workshop, with a total enrollment of 104 participants from WISE member schools and other LIS professionals from around the world. Since its inception in July 2007, interest and participation in this workshop has steadily increased and the format of the course has been expanded to a three-week workshop to allow participants more time to explore pedagogical principles and put them into practice in their own courses.

This workshop will be offered again during the Fall 2008 semester, September 22 – October 10. LIS doctoral students and instructors with little or no previous online teaching experience are especially encouraged to participate; please visit www.wisepedagogy.org for registration information.

Beginning in the Spring 2009, WISE will pilot a series of short, topical workshops for instructors who already have some prior experience teaching online and who would like to build upon their knowledge by learning more about effective practices and new technological innovations in online pedagogy. More information about these workshops will be available during the Fall 2008 semester.

Also slated for Spring 2009 is the WISE Pedagogy Workshop to be held at the 2009 ALISE conference in Denver, Colorado. WISE plans to follow the pattern of past successful pedagogy workshops held at ALISE by sponsoring a morning face-to-face workshop on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 that addresses issues related to fostering communities and effective communication in online learning.



WISE Pedagogy is still growing as a resource for LIS educators and students, and we hope to continue to offer a wider array of pedagogical outreach in the future. We are in the process of developing and adding to our website, www.wisepedagogy.org to make it a more useful resource for effective practices in online teaching. Another resource which will become available this fall will be a WISE Pedagogy blog, offering reviews on new technologies available to online instructors and weekly meditations on effective pedagogy.

WISE at ALA

On Friday June 27, 2008, the administrators of the WISE member schools hosted representatives from several of the WISE+ partner associations for a reception at the Catal Restaurant during the 2008 American Library Association Annual Conference in Anaheim, California.



Following the reception, the administrators met to recap the past year and to discuss the future of WISE. The participants enjoyed a successful planning session.



Website: www.wiseeducation.org
E-mail: support@wiseeducation.org

As of Fall 2008, 555 students will have participated in 333 WISE courses!