

## WISE at ALA 2009

Thanks to all who attended a productive WISE meeting at ALA Chicago this July. The meeting featured guest Peter Burnett from INASP. Peter is looking for WISE schools to partner with to offer continuing education to LIS faculty and librarians in developing countries. For more information contact Katie Schisa at [kbschisa@syr.edu](mailto:kbschisa@syr.edu)

At Left: WISE Visiting Coordinator of Instructional Design Anne McKinney presents her work, *WISE Pedagogy On Demand: Free training for online LIS instructors*, at the 2009 American Library Association Poster Session in Chicago, IL. For more information on the faculty development resources offered by WISE visit

[www.wisepedagogy.org](http://www.wisepedagogy.org)



## New WISE Associate Membership Level for International Schools

At the Spring 2009 Meeting, WISE committed to increasing our international presence. As a result, WISE have introduced a more inclusive associate membership option for new international WISE members. Associate membership provides an opportunity for schools with developing online programs to explore the benefits of online LIS education with the guidance of an experienced organization and the support of highly regarded online LIS programs from around the world.

Associate members choose courses from a select list of online electives available to the consortium. The school approves the WISE courses that complement the home curriculum, and students are accommodated on a space-available basis. Unlike full members, associate schools do not host students through WISE. We envision that the associate membership will provide an introduction to the consortium, and that many associate members will become full members as their institution's online program develops. Interested programs should contact Katie Schisa at [support@wiseeducation.org](mailto:support@wiseeducation.org) for more information.



## WISE Excellence in Online Teaching Award - Call for Nominations

All students who enrolled in a course through the Web-based Information Science Education Consortium (WISE) in the 2009 calendar year are invited to submit nominations for the 2009 WISE Excellence in Online Teaching Award. The award highlights outstanding WISE instructors, and criteria include:

- Instructor taught one or more WISE course during 2009, to include spring 2009, summer 2009, and fall 2009
- Instructor has demonstrated dedication to best practices in online education
- Instructor teaches at a school other than the nominator's school of matriculation (i.e.: a student from Syracuse University may not nominate a faculty member from Syracuse University)

To nominate an instructor, please e-mail [support@wiseeducation.org](mailto:support@wiseeducation.org) with a brief statement on the best aspects of the instructor's teaching style, and what you enjoyed most about the course and your interactions with the instructor.

Nominations will be accepted through December 15, 2009. Recipients will be announced in January 2010 and will be featured on the [WISE Pedagogy website](http://www.wisepedagogy.org). Visit the site to view best practices from the 2007 and 2008 recipients.

## WISE COURSES IN MUSIC LIBRARIANSHIP

By John Wagstaff (Head of Music & Performing Arts Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

It is well known that part of WISE's mission is to offer diversity of education opportunities in Library and Information Science. What might be less well known is that no fewer than *three* WISE schools - Simmons College, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee - offer high-quality, semester-long courses in music librarianship. Each course is taught by an experienced music library practitioner and educator - Michael Rogan at Simmons College, Rebecca Littman at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and John Wagstaff at the University of Illinois. Only the Illinois course is currently available as an online course through WISE, but it is possible that the other two courses may soon be available online too.

Content covered in the three courses have some elements in common. Music librarianship is known for presenting particular challenges in many areas, not least in acquisitions, conservation, and cataloging, so each of the three courses offers training in these aspects, along with others such as music reference work, and user education. "Live" issues in music librarianship at the moment include the demise of the CD; adapting to RDA [Resource Description and Access] as a new cataloging standard; and, of course, the inevitable question of copyright.

Music librarianship courses are not just for music specialists! Music is an important part of many academic and public libraries, and even if you do not intend to make your career in music library work, it is very possible that at some point in your career you may end up working with a collection that includes music, either in a "performing arts library" context or as a library manager. Managers need to know how to talk to library specialists of all sorts, so a knowledge of how music "works" is an important asset.

Are there still jobs available in music librarianship? Yes, certainly: the Music Library Association has a "job placement service" page on its website (see <http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/employmentanded/joblist/index.shtml>) This site provides an idea of what jobs are currently out there; which ones have recently been filled; and, by searching the "job archives" section of the page you can find out how patterns of music library employment have changed over time.

Music librarianship is a rewarding career that offers many opportunities. While the majority of music librarians work in public or academic libraries, they are also to be found opera and dance companies, orchestras, and in the media. So if you think that this might be a specialty for you, speak with your adviser today or contact support@wiseeducation.org to be put in touch with one of the instructors. All three courses are currently offered in spring semester only, and note that the Simmons and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee courses are currently available only in the face-to-face format for students enrolled directly at the host institution.

Related Online Resources:

Syllabus from Music Librarianship and Bibliography (typically available through WISE, spring semester), University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign course LIS530ALE (John Wagstaff):

[https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/wagstaff/www/Syllabus\\_2009.pdf](https://netfiles.uiuc.edu/wagstaff/www/Syllabus_2009.pdf)

The Music Library Association also has a useful online leaflet, "Music librarianship: is it for you?" that may be able to answer any other questions you may have concerning music librarianship as a career choice. It's available at:

<http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/employmentanded/musiclibrarianship.shtml>



## Student Connections

### WISE+ Student Receives Award from AALL, Offers Networking Advice

San Jose Student Marianne Sterna was recently named the recipient of the 2009 LexisNexis/John R. Johnson Memorial Scholarship awarded by the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) for her interest in the field of law librarianship. Sterna received the award at the 2009 AALL conference, held July 25-28 in Washington, D.C.

As part of her online program at WISE member school San Jose State University, Sterna has had the opportunity to take two WISE+ courses which she identified as extremely valuable experiences: Theological Librarianship offered by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with support from the American Theological Library Association (ATLA), and Legal Information: Resources and Services offered by Syracuse University with support from the American Association of Law Libraries. WISE recently caught up with Marianne to congratulate her on her award, and to learn more about her WISE+ experience.

**As of fall 2009, over 465 courses have been offered through WISE and over 725 students have enrolled through the consortium.**

## Student Connections (cont.)

WISE+ courses are developed by WISE schools collaborating with Library and Information Science (LIS) associations to provide online courses suitable for graduate credit and continuing education. Course topics reflect current issues in the associations' specialties, and many courses are taught by practicing librarians with robust subject expertise. The result is a dynamic classroom where LIS students and professionals network, share ideas, and promote the discussion of the future of the discipline.

One key concept Sterna took away from both subject-specific WISE+ courses is the value of a working knowledge of the core resources in one's area of expertise. By visiting law and theological libraries in her area to work on class assignments, Sterna began to develop a foundational awareness of the core resources for each field, including how and when to use them. Her WISE+ instructors challenged her to work hands-on with print and online resources, and to develop an understanding of how people in different fields carry out research and treat information in different ways. This knowledge will help Sterna to excel in her chosen specialty and to continue to demonstrate the value of information professionals with subject expertise as she has since starting at the San Diego Office of County Council in 2006. Within 15 months of joining the office, Sterna received a promotion to her current position as Legal Support Assistant II, and she now plays an active role in shaping the library by expanding service offerings and marketing efforts.

Another notable benefit of Sterna's WISE+ experience was the networking opportunity inherent to mixing graduate students and professionals seeking continuing education in the same course forum. In Theological Librarianship, Sterna found that the ATLA practitioners enrolled in the course "handled inexperience gently", and truly served both as resources and academic peers by contributing to course-wide discussions and one-on-one "side chats" without becoming an intimidating presence. Several guest lecturers were also invited to present during the course, providing a very enriching opportunity to make online connections with theological librarians from around the country.

WISE+ courses offer great networking opportunities, but LIS students can also benefit from other non-academic connections to the profession. Sterna offered the following advice for students wishing to connect with professionals in their interest areas: network in a meaningful way. Have your questions ready and let people know that you're trying to grow professionally. Tell your contacts what you're currently doing, what you're researching, and what you want to do, and most importantly try to let them know

how they can help you. Making these *meaningful* connections is so critical in today's hyper-connected information world where superficial communication can easily become the norm. If you have intent, purpose, and a plan, professionals in the LIS field will be right there for you.

Offline, LIS students who are physically separated from their academic peers and faculty advisors can often find willing support in their own geographic area. Sterna began by talking to librarians and starting to visit libraries near her home early in her education, forging useful professional connections while enriching her education by seeing first-hand many of the processes and service concepts discussed in her courses in action. To foster her interest in law librarianship, she also joined SANDALL the San Diego Chapter of the AALL (<http://www.aallnet.org/chapter/sandall/>). This a membership which has afforded valuable professional contacts and resources in addition to multiple conference travel grants (including one for the 2009 AALL conference at which she received her scholarship).

Sterna has not taken the education, advice, and resources available to her for granted; she continues to grow as an information professional and is already making a positive contribution to her field. Describing her first AALL conference experience, Sterna noted: "the first time [in New Orleans] it was a whirlwind...so new that everything seemed bigger than me. This year it was different; I saw people presenting and said, "I could do that!" As her experience, connections, and academic preparation continue to build and she transitions from working student to professional librarian, we are proud to highlight Marianne as a WISE student. We congratulate her on her scholarship and thank her for taking the time to reflect on her WISE+ experience!

Marianne Sterna resides near San Diego California with her husband, three teenage children, and 11 year old twins. She is a part-time student in the San Jose State University distance LIS program, and plans to graduate in 2012. Prior to her current position with the County Council, Sterna gained field experience as a temporary library technician in the San Diego County Public Library system.



Over 290 faculty members have participated in WISE pedagogical development opportunities.

## WISE at Sloan-C 2009!

**Attending Sloan-C? Check out this presentation by Sue Alman, Chris Tomer and Lorna Kearns, University of Pittsburgh!**

If We Build It, Will They Use It? Contextualizing Learning Objects to Promote Reusability

Thursday October 29. Session 3, Room: Curacao 6, 1:40p.m. - 2:15p.m.

Technology for creating and storing learning objects has out-paced the establishment of a coherent context for effective re-use of such objects. This session will describe the development of an instructional object and demonstrate the use of contextual features to enhance reusability.

## WISE+ Digital Repository

The WISEPlus Project has established a repository that is intended to provide a basis for sharing digital learning objects (in a wide variety of formats). The repository may be located via <http://wiseplus.net> or <http://bing.exp.sis.pitt.edu/>.

If you have materials that you would like to contribute under the Creative Commons Share-and-Share-Alike license, please contact Chris Tomer – [christomer@gmail.com](mailto:christomer@gmail.com) -- or Sue Alman – [sue.alman@gmail.com](mailto:sue.alman@gmail.com) -- at the University of Pittsburgh's School of Information Sciences for information about adding your materials to the WISEPlus Learning Object Repository.

## 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 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 Pedagogy Workshop at ALISE 2010



WISE Pedagogy will offer its annual pre-conference workshop at the January 2010 conference for the Association for Library & Information Science Education (ALISE) in Boston. This year's theme is *Keys to Successful Online Collaboration*.

This workshop will be open to all interested conference attendees, with a special invitation to doctoral students and new online instructors. All attendees will have an opportunity to learn more about the pedagogy of online collaboration in the context of library and information science education.

*Keys to Successful Online Collaboration* will be highly participatory and feature rotating stations of presentations and breakout discussion groups that address pedagogical issues in the use of collaborative learning activities in online courses:

- demonstration of specific collaborative technological tools (i.e., wikis, blogs, social media networks, synchronous communication software, file sharing tools, etc.)
- presentation of effective pedagogical practices for facilitating online collaborative activities
- breakout discussion on implementation of collaborative learning goals

### Call for Presenters:

Interested faculty are invited to lead discussions and present best practices for the topics listed above, particularly based on their experience with particular LIS courses and content areas.

To be considered, please submit a one-page proposal outlining your presentation to [amckinn@illinois.edu](mailto:amckinn@illinois.edu) by November 16, 2009. Additionally, if you plan to incorporate computer-based software into your presentation / demonstration, please be prepared to bring your own laptop or netbook. For more information, please contact Anne McKinney at [amckinn@illinois.edu](mailto:amckinn@illinois.edu).