

# MMLIS NEWSLETTER

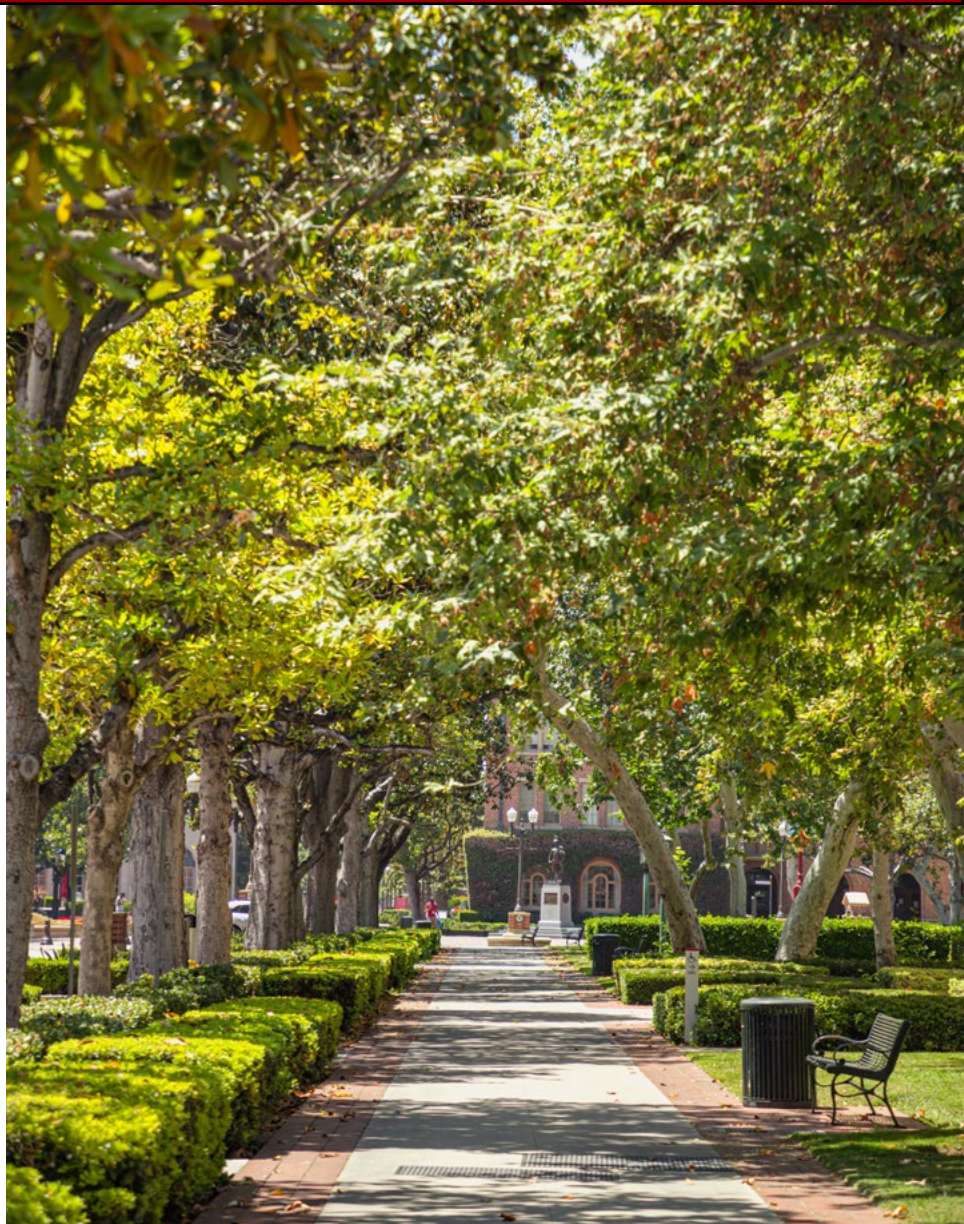
Master of Management in Library and Information Science

## SUMMER 2021

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**USC** Marshall  
School of Business  
*Master of Management in  
Library and Information Science*



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## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This spring, the MMLIS program welcomed our new student services coordinator, Ashley Temm. Ashley provides support for our students in a number of ways, including advising, wellness, community building, career readiness, and fostering alumni connection to the program.

Ashley brings a wealth of expertise and experience to this new position in our program. Most recently, she served as student services coordinator at Cambridge College Southern California. Her previous responsibilities include events and marketing director for HTN Education Foundation, marketing manager for Caldwell Banker, and events and marketing graduate assistant at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She is executive chapter advisor for Alpha Delpha Pi, Theta Omega chapter, events coordinator for the United Nations Women Los Angeles chapter, and a Board member of Teaching Self Sufficiency through Education. She holds a Master of Public Administration from UNLV and a BA in business administration from CSU San Bernardino. She can be contacted at [temm@usc.edu](mailto:temm@usc.edu).



The past eighteen months has reminded the human community of the crucial role information access plays in a troubled world. We are proud to be a part of your preparation for a profession that is evolving in myriad ways to expand information literacy, informational justice, and truth. To that end, in the coming semesters, we will be further engaging our student and alumni communities as we adjust to a world beyond – yet permanently altered by – the pandemic. We look forward to seeing you!

Warmly,  
Christopher Stewart

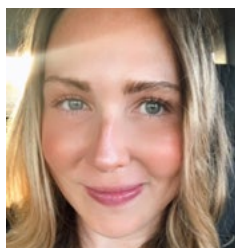




### ALUM SPOTLIGHT

#### LeAnne Arnold

Digital Librarian,  
Lightstorm Entertainment



#### ***What was your career path before and after completing the MMLIS program?***

I graduated with my Masters of Arts in English from Northwestern State University (NSU) and began teaching as an English Adjunct Instructor at NSU in Natchitoches, Louisiana. When I moved to Los Angeles, I was still teaching English but had transitioned to teaching entirely online. I missed the face-to-face interactions with students and peers and decided to pursue librarianship so that I could still be in an environment that promotes literacy education, critical thinking, and professional relationship-building. When I entered USC's MMLIS program, I intended to pursue academic librarianship. After learning about special libraries through the program and internships, I was intrigued by the many interesting career possibilities presented and I pivoted my focus to digital librarianship within the entertainment field. I graduated from the MMLIS program and began my Digital Librarian role at James Cameron's Lightstorm Entertainment where I ingest, organize, catalog, track, and distribute digital assets for the Avatar Franchise team. In this role, I interact with partners in the video game, publishing, marketing, and licensing sectors. I'm grateful that I get to work with a team that includes some of the most talented, creative, and forward-thinking professionals in the industry.

#### ***How has your work been influenced by the skills you learned in the program?***

Effective organizational and time-management skills were essential for my success during the MMLIS program. The ongoing necessity for producing quality work by an appointed deadline throughout the program (while working a full-time job and completing two internships) helped solidify successful time-management habits. These are skills that I continue to exercise in my daily work life. Additionally, the core librarianship concept of continuously striving to meet user needs is constantly at the forefront of my mind

when considering my daily workflow. For instance, when I apply metadata to our files, I have to consider everyone employed under the Avatar umbrella who may attempt to access each asset and apply searchable keywords so that they can easily retrieve the information.

#### ***What can you tell us about the work being done in outreach librarianship today and in the coming years?***

Digital asset management is still a fairly new field, and in a niche field such as digital asset management within an entertainment franchise - the field that I am in, it is more so in a developmental phase. Entertainment and production franchises possessed digital assets all along; however, they did not possess the specifically-suited organizational programs and man-power to keep the assets properly cataloged. As entertainment franchises develop their own organizational systems and leverage online platforms and social media for marketing studies, advertising, and general partnership communication surrounding brand expansions, more librarians will be needed to thoughtfully organize and track the resources in ways that best meet the company's needs while also devising long-term preservation plans.

### ALUM NEWS

**Denise Hernandez** is a recent alum from the MMLIS program. She just started a new position as the Assistant Librarian for The Archer School for Girls. We reached out to Denise and she stated, "I am super excited but also super grateful for the opportunities that the MMLIS program afforded me as well as all of the encouragement from the faculty and students." We are beyond thrilled to see our recent graduates move into their careers and succeed.

**Jane Lah, MMLIS'21**, was recently promoted to Information Services Librarian at the USC Science & Engineering Library.

**Trista Tabanico, MMLIS'20**, was recently promoted to Librarian II at Oceanside Public Library!

### FACULTY NEWS

**WIN SHIH**, director of integrated library systems, received a fellowship from the Innovation, Disruption, Enquiry, Access (IDEA) Institute on Artificial Intelligence. Shih was also awarded a research grant from the USC Libraries to explore AI-related technologies and applications. Shih accepted an invitation to serve on the American Library Association Committee on Accreditation, which responsible for the execution of ALA's accreditation program. He also participates in the International Librarians Networking Program, organized by the ALA International Relations Round Table, and serves as an ad-hoc reviewer of the Journal of Librarianship and Information Science, published by SAGE.

**MIRIAM BURGOS**, associate professor of clinical marketing, is now interim academic director for USC Marshall's Executive MBA (EMBA) program, effective July 1, 2021. With this appointment, she will report to the vice dean for graduate programs and help develop and manage the program's academic direction and overall strategy. Burgos will continue to serve as the academic director for the Online MBA (OMBA) program.

**RUTH WALLACH**, associate dean of social sciences and humanities, was invited by the American Institute of Architects, Los Angeles Chapter, to serve on a jury for the 2020 Residential Architecture Awards. She judged more than 120 projects submitted by LA-based architecture firms for single- and multi-family residences, transitional/temporary housing, added dwellings, and architectural restoration.

**DANIELLE MIHRAM** received a promotion to associate dean of STEM and health sciences for USC Libraries Leavey Library. She also received a USC Libraries research grant for her work with the manuscript fragment "Currus pharaonis et exercitum eius proiecit in mare Adiutor," for which she will be transcribing medieval music notation into modern notations.

**MELISSA MILLER, C. MUGLIA, CHRISTOPHER STEWART, RUTH WALLACH AND JADE WINN** received a USC Libraries research grant for "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, and Anti-Racism in Library and Information Science Education: Strengthening Foundational Principles."

**MELISSA MILLER, RUTH WALLACH, DANIELLE MIHRAM AND TYSON GASKILL** received a grant from the USC provost's arts and humanities initiative Visions and Voices. Their program, Stolen Recipes: Migrant Food Worlds of the Silk Roads, also includes Jay Rubenstein and 10 library faculty and staff, as well as campus-wide departmental faculty, and is scheduled for April 2022. Stolen Recipes traces the hidden cultural exchanges underlying the foods originating along the ancient Silk Roads and widely available to us in Los Angeles today. The initiative will host conversations, tastings and cooking demonstrations with prominent food experts.

**MELISSA MILLER**, head of USC Libraries Hoose Philosophy Library, was among the teams interviewed for episodes of the USC Architecture podcast Save As: NextGen Heritage Conservation. In episode 5, "Heritage and Homelessness," Miller and other graduate students discussed their research on housing the unhoused in Pasadena, CA. In episode 15, "These Walls CAN Talk: Heritage and Hope at the Mafundi Building in Watts," Miller and colleagues discussed their research on the Mafundi project in Watts, CA. Miller was elected as the incoming chair for the USC Libraries Research Committee through June 30, 2022. She was also awarded a grant by USC Libraries for research on illuminated medieval manuscript "Commentary upon Peter Lombard's Quatuor libri sententiarum," written by Petrus de Palude, Patriarch of Jerusalem in 1480, and once belonged to Federico da Montefeltro (1422-1482), Duke of Urbino.

**HARRIS SMITH**, adjunct professor of accounting, became a member of the board of trustees of Temple Isaiah in Los Angeles and will become the treasurer. He was also elected to the board of directors and as treasurer of the Pacific Palisades Historical Society. Harris received two certificates from Los Angeles County and city of Los Angeles for serving as president of JVS SoCal for five years.



## STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATES

We're proud to announce this year's student chapter officers. Although inactive for the 2019-2020 year, the Special Libraries Association Chapter (SLA-USC) was reinstated again for the 2020-2021 school year. We're excited to see what the two chapters will accomplish this year.

### Meet the ALA-SC New Officers!

- President: Josstin Gogue
- Vice President: Zhuoqun Langley
- Member Liasion: Douglas Villanueva
- New Media Liasion: Sandra Gonzalez
- Secretary: Shay McGroaty
- Treasurer: Elan Francis

Special thank you to the SLA-SC Officers who served this past year:

- President: Victoria Maglonzo
- Vice President: Jane Lah
- Secretary: Richard Hoang
- Treasurer: Spencer Gales

Interested in being an officer for SLA? Feel free to contact SLA Chapter Staff Advisor, Ashley Temm at [studentsupport.mmlis@marshall.usc.edu](mailto:studentsupport.mmlis@marshall.usc.edu)



## STUDENT AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We're delighted to share with you the awards and scholarships given this past spring 2021 and summer 2021 semesters. The Continuing Student Scholarships are based on previous semester's performance. The Career Development Award and Entry Scholarship are based on the personal statement and incoming grade point average revealed through the application process for the respective cohorts. Commencement awards are listed on page 8.

### Spring 2021 Award Recipients

#### USC MMLIS Entry Scholarship:

**Cassie Wenger (Cohort XXIV)**

#### USC MMLIS Career Development Award:

**Joseph Nguyen (Cohort XXIV)**

#### USC MMLIS Continuing Student Scholarships:

**Meg Drewno (Cohort XXIII)**

**Dieter Mackenbach (Cohort XXII)**

**Jewel Langley (Cohort XXI)**

**Meghan Doherty (Cohort XX)**

### Summer 2021 Award Recipients

#### USC MMLIS Entry Scholarship:

**Breanna Jones (Cohort XXV)**

#### USC MMLIS Career Development Award:

**Claudia Ortiz (Cohort XXV)**

#### USC MMLIS Continuing Student Scholarships:

**Paige Harris (Cohort XXIV)**

**Jane Kim (Cohort XXIII)**

**Dieter Mackenbach (Cohort XXII)**

**Monica Isaac-Garcia (Cohort XXI)**

We're also proud to announce that several of our students were awarded external awards.

**Richard Hoang** was awarded the 2021 Wert Award.

**Abigail Robinson** received the NCAAL conference sponsorship in the summer of 2021. She also started an internship with Disney this spring focusing on archiving Pixar movies.

**Oksana Moshhynska** received a sponsorship to attend the 11th National Conference of African American Librarians in July. Oksana also started an internship with the Berkeley Library, University of California, focusing on the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front and AIDS Epidemic in San Francisco oral history projects. May was a big month for Oksana! She was elected to the Board of Directors, Saskatchewan Library Association, Canada, and received the Maureen Woods Education Bursary from Saskatchewan Library Association, Canada. She has been such an inspiring student and we are excited to see what she pursues next.

**Cathrina Ortiz** was recently promoted to be the permanent Circulation Department Head at the East Las Vegas Branch. We know she is going to do amazing things in her role. Congratulations, Cathrina!



## PROGRAM UPDATE

### NEW COURSE - LIM 522

The MMLIS program is very pleased to announce the launch of a new elective, LIM 522, Metadata and Taxonomies, for the fall, 2021 semester. LIM 522 provides an overview of developing and assessing metadata for digital resources including the different types of metadata schema, data dictionaries, taxonomies and emerging metadata standards. This is a three-unit, letter graded course. The course will be taught by Jillian Wallis, PhD, who serves as the Research Data Administrator at the USC Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics. Dr. Wallis received her PhD in Information Studies from the UCLA Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, and her MLIS from UCLA in 2005.

### LIM 599 - NEW ELECTIVE

The LIM 599, Archives and Archival Management course, currently taught by Dr. Ben Alexander, will become a regular elective course in the MMLIS curriculum and be re-numbered accordingly.

### NEW LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Beginning in fall 2021, our MMLIS courses will move from the Moodle learning management system (LMS) to the Canvas LMS. Canvas will provide MMLIS students and faculty with robust, industry-leading LMS that is particularly well suited for online programs.

## MMLIS DEIA UPDATE

### *MMLIS Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility (DEIA) and Anti-Racism Faculty Working Group Summer 2021 Update*

**Caroline Muglia, Chair, [muglia@usc.edu](mailto:muglia@usc.edu)**

In July 2020, amidst the uprising precipitated by police violence and brutality against historically and newly marginalized communities throughout the United States, 5 members of the MMLIS teaching faculty initiated the MMLIS Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility and Anti-Racism Working Group (MMLIS DEIA + AR WG) with three goals: develop actionable recommendations to foster a more inclusive learning environment in the areas of curriculum, teaching pedagogy, and programming (with supporting documentation and resource list); adopt an inclusion statement for all teaching faculty (adopted at April 2021 faculty meeting); and develop ongoing terminology and working definitions that could be utilized in coursework to more deeply embed inclusivist as a program goal and learning outcome. With the help of our community (MMLIS teaching faculty, Student Advisory Committee, current MMLIS students, and alum), we developed these documents that will be implemented in our next phase of work.

This summer, the Working Group is finalizing an article in Reference Services Review and will be hiring an MMLIS internship-eligible research intern to perform a literature review and further research into several aspects of our work. The Working Group met with USC Libraries leadership team to keep them apprised of our developments, and will be meeting with Marshall's Management and Organization Department in Fall 2021 to continue conversations about implementation of our recommendations. Finally, the Working Group will be entering Phase II, which includes implementation more broadly. This phase will include additional Working Group members including MMLIS administration, and will be facilitated by a new Chair (to be decided).



## COMMENCEMENT

In May 2021, USC invited both the Class of 2020 and Class of 2021 to an on-site celebration. Although we missed seeing our graduates in-person, we were happy that some of our MMLIS graduates were able to attend.

Additionally, friends, family, and graduates joined us for a virtual commencement celebration honoring the Class of 2021, which included those who graduated in the fall 2020, and spring 2021 terms, and those who were graduating in the summer 2021 term. We were honored by an uplifting speech from DeEtta Jones.

Each year, on the recommendation of the faculty and students, the MMLIS program honors an outstanding student who has demonstrated high leadership potential with the Ken Haycock Award. This year, the winner of the Ken Haycock Award for Leadership was **Richard Hoang**.

The Dean's Award for Academic Achievement is awarded the individual with the highest grade point average throughout the MMLIS program. In the event of a tie, faculty vote on a winner. This year, the winner of the Dean's Award for Academic Achievement was **Meghan Doherty**.

**Congratulations Class of 2021!**





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### USC GRAD FAIR

Presented by the USC Career Center and the USC Dornsife Pre-Graduate School Advising Office, this virtual fair is your opportunity to invite friends and family from across the nation who may be interested in pursuing a graduate program. You will be able to speak with the MMLIS Student Support Team about the Master of Management in Library and Information Science degree and receive information on application procedures. This event is free to attend for all students and alumni!

Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Time: 10:00am - 2:00pm PT

Where: Virtual

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/3CMsi8R>

### FALL VIRTUAL INVOLVEMENT FAIR

Connect with student organization representatives at the Fall Involvement Fair!

Different organizations will be present for each day. The virtual Involvement Fair will be hosted on 6Connex.

Date: Monday, August 30 through September 2, 2021.

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm PT

Where: Virtual

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/3yM61tT>

