

# MMLIS NEWSLETTER

Master of Management in Library and Information Science

Fall 2022

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School of Business  
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Library and Information Science*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR



Welcome to Fall 2022 semester! I am excited to introduce myself- and reintroduce myself to those I have worked with in the program. My name is Caroline Muglia (she/her) and I am the Interim Director of the MMLIS program where I have taught as a faculty member since 2016. In this role, I will focus on student and faculty success through our committee and advisory board work, strategic planning efforts, and professional development opportunities including Conversations with Leaders (CWL) and alumni panels. I will also focus on preparing this position for a permanent Director, a role we will begin envisioning soon.

I teach two classes in the program: LIM 502, Collection Development and Management; and LIM 503, Information Description, Organization and Retrieval. Typically, students enroll in these classes in their second and third semesters of the program. If I haven't met you in class, I look forward to it! My teaching philosophy is rooted in inclusive pedagogy and practices. In my courses, this means that I focus course assignments and my syllabus towards meaningful, relevant, and accessible learning.

In my day job, I am the Associate Dean of Specialized Collections at USC Libraries where I have worked, in different roles, since 2015. As the Associate Dean, I focus on five branch libraries that have a common function of acquiring and stewarding special collections and rare materials. I have a range of experiences in different library environments including academic, government, and private libraries. Prior to librarianship, I was a political organizer and fundraiser. For all of you second (or third) career librarians, I see you!

I grew up in New Jersey and have lived throughout the country. These days, I live in New England with my spouse, adopted 4-year-old (I am a proud foster and adoptive parent), and 2 aging (and generally suspicious) cats that have not mastered Zoom etiquette. Before you ask, yes there are more cows than people in the state. And yes, the seasons are glorious and- on occasion- rugged.

I am thrilled to take on this leadership role in the MMLIS Program. My leadership style is participative leadership, which encourages listening to and engaging stakeholders in the decision-making process. This means I communicate with my fellow teaching faculty about ways to strengthen their contribution to the Program. It also means that I will be engaging with you, the students- current and alumni- about your insight into ways to critically examine what can be improved and enhance what's working well.

I appreciate learning alongside all of you and look forward to our continued discussion.

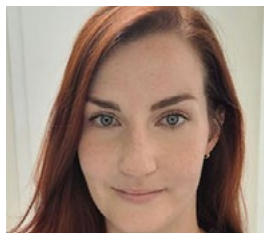
### **Caroline Muglia**

Interim Director, MMLIS Program

Associate Dean of Specialized Collections

## SUMMER LIGHTNING TALKS RECAP

While we took a break from enrollment in the summer, our Summer 2022 USC Libraries Faculty-Guided Lightning Talks were in full-swing. Lightning Talk student representatives this summer were:



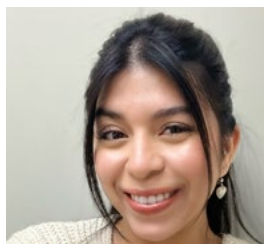
**Sarah Diffenderfer**

“Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Libraries”



**Kalyani Jog**

“Evolving Role of Libraries”



**Andrea Fajardo Osejo**

“Library Services for People with Disabilities”



**James Pugh**

“Public Libraries and Environmental Sustainability”

Special thanks to the faculty mentor, and host, Michaela Ullmann who is the Exile Studies Librarian and Instruction Coordinator at USC Libraries’ Special Collections. This is Michaela’s second time mentoring our students and we were so grateful to have her back!

## STUDENT ORGANIZATION UPDATES

It is with great excitement we share the newly elected leadership team for the **American Library Association (ALA) USC Student Chapter**. These students will serve for the remainder of their time in the program and act as liaisons between the American Library Association and the students in the program.

**American Library Association (ALA),  
USC Student Chapter**

**President: Kelsey Piccirillo**

**Vice President: Karen Tinajero Vazquez**

**Secretary: Andrea Fajardo Osejo**

**Treasurer: Joselyn Jimenez**

**Social Media Liaison: Kalyani Jog**

We are also thrilled to announce elected leadership team for the **Special Libraries Association (SLA) USC Student Chapter**. These students will serve for the remainder of their time in the program and act as liaisons between the Special Libraries Association and the students in the program.

**Special Libraries Association (SLA),  
USC Student Chapter**

**President: Robert Rosas**

**Vice President: Yesenia de Santos**

**Secretary: Joanna Coelho**

**Treasurer: Diana Santacruz**

**Social Media Liaison: Kalyani Jog**

## STUDENT NEWS & AWARDS

We are delighted to share with you the awards and scholarships given this past spring semester. The Continuing Student Scholarships are based on the spring 2022 semester's performance and we did not award the Career Development Award or Entry Scholarship as we did not enroll students this summer. Fall 2022 awards will be determined later this semester.

### Summer 2022 Award Recipients

#### USC MMLIS Continuing Student Scholarships:

- Karen Tinajero Vazquez (Cohort XXVII)
- Yinxia Ng (Cohort XXVI)
- Amanda Rodarte (Cohort XXV)
- Alejandro Turrey (Cohort XXIV)

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This summer, **Robert Rosas** completed an internship with the National Center for Data Services (NCDS) of the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM), where he explored working with real data in a health sciences context. Highlights of the internship included querying relational databases and becoming proficient in the SQL programming language. He was also tasked with formulating a research question that can be answered using data from the NNLM. He will be presenting his findings and experience with the internship at the next The Joint Council of Librarians of Color (JCLC) conference.

In September, **AnnElise Xiao** started a full-time position as Inter Library loan (ILL) supervisor at the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah.

This fall, **Joanna Coelho** accepted a digital asset management internship with USC Gould School of Law and a remote metadata internship with the Law Library of Congress in Washington, DC.

**Kalyani Jog** began working on the USC Libraries research grant internship, which is focused on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) interventions.

**Jessica Castelo** started an internship at the Library of Congress working with the Informal Learning Office and Visitor Engagement Office. She works on-site in D.C. running the Young Readers Center and Programs Lab (YRCPL) and offering support to the Visitor Engagement Office. She is also working on two research projects; one for the 125th anniversary for the Visitor Engagement Office (VEO) and a spooky themed one for the YRCPL.

**Diana Santacruz** was awarded the Francisco Garcia-Ayvens Scholarship from the OC Chapter of REFORMA. REFORMA's mission is to improve library and information services for Southern California's Latino and Spanish-speaking Communities. The association awards several scholarships per year to graduate library school students who are committed to working with Latino and Spanish-speaking communities.

On October 20, 2022, **James Pugh**, pictured far left, moderated a panel discussion titled "Leadership in Difficult Times: Directors Helping Directors" at the 2022 Michigan Library Association's Annual Conference.



Congratulations to our students on their accomplishments!

## FACULTY NEWS



In April 2022, **Renee Di Pilato** was recognized by the Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation with their inaugural Public Leadership Award. The honor was given for her work to celebrate Sarasota County's Centennial, leading a County-

wide effort to highlight the area's unique history, culture, and personalities that built Sarasota. The celebration culminated in 100 days, featuring 100 special events, lectures and workshops.



On September 15, **Ruth Wallach** presented on libraries as visual organizations at INFOcon 2022. INFOcon is an annual graduate school fair showcasing opportunities in the information professions in the USA and Canada. The conference is

organized by the Information Schools and Colleagues Collaborative Network, a consortium of schools and LIS programs across the nation.



ILS Director **Win Shih** and Hayward librarian **Lori Patel**, MMLIS 2021, moderated a panel discussion at the 2022 ALA Annual Conference on leadership lessons from librarians managing indigenous collections at four academic libraries in Canada,

New Zealand, Hawai'i, and California. They also presented a poster on collaborative models of digital libraries at the ALA Annual Conference. In October, they will present at the 2022 PRRLA (Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance) virtual meeting on decolonization practices within five indigenous collections. Win is also a visiting scholar at the Graduate Institute of Library and Information Science at National Chung Hsing University in Taiwan this fall. He teaches a six-week graduate course and also

collaborates with a faculty member on a technology project.

**Jade Winn** published a new review: "Srivastavan,



A., Winn, J., Seneses, IV.J. & Goldbach, J.T. (2022) Sexual Orientation and Change Among Adolescents and Young Adults: A Systematic Review. Archives of Sexual Behavior." (in print setting). Jade also became

Peer Reviewer for the Journal of

Librarianship & Information Science (SAGE) and was elected to USC Libraries APCAT 2022-2024. She also collaborated on a paper presentation, which can be searched for here: "Winn, J.G., Miller, M.L, Muglia, C., Stewart, C., & Wallach, R. (2022). Pedagogical practices for DEIA+AR: A programmatic case study. Twenty-second International Conference on Diversity in communities, Institutions & Nations. June 2-4, 2022. Paper Presentation, University of Willemstad, Curacao."

### **The MMLIS Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility + Anti-Racism (DEIA+AR) Working Group are recipients of the following grants:**

USC James H. Zumberge Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) in Research grant for a project titled Developing Core DEIA+AR Competencies in LIS Graduate Education: A Systematic Review. Grant participants: **Dr. Melissa Miller, Ashley Temm, Ruth Wallach, Dr. Jade Winn, with Jane Kim, MMLIS '22, and Robert Rosas, current MMLIS student.**

USC Libraries Research grant for a project titled Developing Mapping and Assessment Strategies of Pedagogical DEIA+AR Interventions within the LIS Curriculum. Grant participants: **Dr. Melissa Miller, Ruth Wallach, Dr. Jade Winn, with Kalyani Jog, current MMLIS student.**

## DEIA+AR COMMITTEE UPDATE

Submitted by Jade Winn, Chair



During the Summer of 2022 the DEIA+AR committee continued our work and made several significant advancements. As our new chair I am happy to provide updates on our activities and welcome anyone who would like to reach out to discuss our work or collaborate with us. Our Commitment

Statement (voted in by faculty in 2021) now appears prominently on our website and promotional materials. The DEIA+AR Recommendations for pedagogical, curricular, and programmatic actions was voted in unanimously by faculty (2022) and shared with faculty and administration so that everyone can begin to incorporate DEIA+AR in their work as appropriate.

The committee successfully applied for and received two grants. We received the Zumberge Grant to perform a systematic review on DEIA+AR Library and Information Science pedagogical interventions. This grant funds our resource employee (MMLIS alumni) Jane Kim and our student research assistant Robert Rosas to aid the systematic review research project. Additionally, it funded technology and software needed for the systematic review methodology.

We also received the USC Libraries Research Grant which is funding our research assistant Kalyani Jog, who is assisting with the development of assessment strategies for, and examples of, how to incorporate the recommendations. Specifically, the assessment strategies will ensure our work is regularly evaluated and revised as needed. We have developed a rough draft “expanded diversity calendar” to augment our program’s academic calendar to be more inclusive of holidays and important dates to assist our faculty in engaging students beyond the traditionally recognized

holiday calendar. While we hope that our faculty begin to incorporate applicable recommendations for their courses now, we will develop examples and assessment strategies that will assist faculty if needed. Also, so that we remain cognizant of the impact of our efforts and are able to adapt the recommendations as needed.

These will be presented at a future faculty meeting upon completion. Please remember, no one is expected to incorporate all the recommendations, we hope that faculty can just start with one or two that are relevant to their course and begin to move the needle so that we are a role model for other programs.

We continue to disseminate our research, current publications from the MMLIS DEIA+AR Committee are;

Winn, J.G., Miller, M.L., Muglia, C., Stewart, C., & Wallach, R. (2022). Pedagogical practices for DEIA+AR: A programmatic case study. Twenty-second International Conference on Diversity in Communities, Institutions & Nations. June 2-4, 2022. Paper Presentation, University of Willemstad, Curacao.

Winn, J.G., Miller, M., Muglia, C., Stewart, C. & Wallach, R. (2022) Situating LIS Pedagogy and Curriculum in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Anti-Racism: A Reflection on Process. Reference Services Review, Special Edition on Diversity. (50)1 RSR. 2022;50(1):148-160. doi:10.1108/RSR-07-2021-0040

**On behalf of the MMLIS DEIA+AR Committee**

**Melissa Miller**

**Caroline Muglia**

**Ashley Temm**

**Ruth Wallach**

**Jade Winn, Chair**

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Amanda Roberts (Summer '22)** accepted an academic librarian position at Hillsborough Community College.

**Ginger Antunez (Spring '19)** joined the Monrovia Public Library in May as the Youth Services Supervisor.

**Vanessa Villarreal (Spring '22)** won a travel award for the Joint Librarians of Color Conference (rescheduled to Feb. 2023 due to the recent hurricane in Florida).

**Lane DeLaPena (Summer '19)** received the Commander's Choice Award in April 2022 for her performance as Library Director.

**Alison Glynn (Fall '16)** relocated to North Carolina with her family and is excited to announce she started a new position as the Media Coordinator at Old Town Elementary! This is her first job as a school librarian, as she had previously been a public librarian. She is super excited to be running her own library in Winston-Salem and working with some great kids!

**Jane Kim (Spring '22)** started a job as a Librarian at the Burbank Public Library. She is also a post-graduate researcher for the USC James H. Zumberge D&I grant-funded project Developing Core DEIA+AR Competencies in LIS Graduate Education: A Systematic Review.

**Abigail Robinson (Summer '22)** started a new job with NBC Peacock as an Associate, Metadata QA specialist.

**Paige Harris (Summer '22)** accepted a position as Resource Worker at the ONE Archives at USC Libraries!

**Sarah Diffenderfer (Summer '22)** accepted a Librarian I position Palos Verdes Library District. She is also a part-time Librarian I at the Alhambra Civic Center Library.

## ALUMNI ALYSSA ADRANEDA CO-CURATES COLLECTION AT DOHENY LIBRARY

In celebration of Pilipino American History Month (PAHM) this October, USC Libraries opened an exhibition of the Filipino American Library Collection co-curated by Alyssa Adraneda, MMLIS '22.

She is a recent graduate and former intern at USC Libraries, currently working for the Advancement team at Marshall Business School. Alyssa co-curated this project with Vanessa Gomez Brake, Associate Dean, Office of Religious Life, and Melanee Vicedo, Associate Dean, Teaching, Learning and User Engagement and Associate University Librarian. Don't forget to stop by this exhibition located in the lower level of Doheny Library. [View the full video](#) here with Alyssa and the Preserving Filipino Los Angeles collection.



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### Abigail Robinson, MMLIS'22



Abigail is a recent summer 2022 MMLIS graduate. During her time in the online Master of Management in Library and Information Science program, she held an internship at NBC Peacock which has transitioned into a

full-time job upon graduation. Abigail's aspirations of working as a teen librarian changed during her time as a student. As she built her network as a student and studied different aspects of librarianship, she realized that she was interested in metadata and its use in the entertainment industry. Read more about Abigail's journey as a student and recent alum.

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

Before completing the MMLIS program, I aspired to become a teen librarian. I worked in the public library space for years and always enjoyed helping patrons discover a new book series or tv show and making information accessible. After learning about metadata during Caroline Muglia's Collection Development course, I began learning more about metadata and its use in the entertainment industry. Since completing the MMLIS program, my career path has transitioned from public librarianship to special libraries by working for the entertainment industry as a metadata specialist.

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

Because of the MMLIS program, I am a more assertive communicator. Working with cohorts in different time zones taught me the importance of frequent communication. I want my coworkers to be abreast of projects in progress, but I am aware that not receiving a response ASAP is not the end of the world. I have used leadership and organizational skills to create new workflows and organize content in a digital setting.

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

I'll work with metadata and content management for NBC Peacock in my new position. My job duties will include creating and editing episode descriptions, managing tag schemas, and mining and tagging Peacock's content for diversity. In the coming years, I hope to share my knowledge about librarianship in the entertainment industry with future MLIS graduates.

#### **What advice would you like to give our current students?**

My advice to current students is to start building their network now. If your career interest doesn't align with traditional librarianship (i.e., public or academic libraries), find a mentor that can help you learn more about the industry. Do not hesitate to reach out to people on LinkedIn or USC's alumni network. The faculty and staff of the MMLIS program are more than willing to help you form connections; they are your best resource. Lastly, know that the skills you will learn in the MMLIS program are highly marketable and versatile.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JCLC Conference

The [Joint Conference of Librarians of Color](#) would have hosted their fourth conference on October 5-9, but it was postponed due to Hurricane Ian. The conference has been rescheduled for Feb. 8-12! MMLIS will host a booth during that time.

### USC Graduate Fair

The MMLIS program hosted a booth at the USC Graduate Fair on Thursday, October 20. MMLIS admissions advisors; Student Services Coordinator, Ashley Temm; and current MMLIS students, Kelsey Piccirillo and Karen Tinajero Vasquez were on hand to answer questions about the program.

### USC Minority Serving Institutions Graduate Recruitment Fair

USC sponsored its 2nd Annual Recruitment Conference from October 21 -22 for prospective graduate students currently attending minority serving institutions. Participants attended various events showcasing USC resources and programs.

### ALISE 2022 Annual Conference

The MMLIS program was the plenary presentation sponsor for the [ALISE Annual Conference](#) that took place on October 24 - 26 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. MMLIS part-time faculty, Dr. Gary Shaffer, also hosted a panel: "Incorporating Marginalized LIS Educators into LIS Programs Through Remote Work Options".

### Conversations with Leaders (CWL)

#### Fall Line-up

**November 21:** Thom Barthelmess - Youth Services Manager, Whatcom County Library System

### American Library Association Mid-Winter Conference

The [ALA Mid-Winter conference, LibLearnX](#): The Library Learning Experience, takes place from January 27 - 30, 2023 in New Orleans, LA. Come network and learn more about the future of libraries and their communities. See more information here: <https://www.2023.alaliblearnx.org/>

## Follow MMLIS on Social Media!

