

LIS Access Midwest Program- Funding Opportunities 2012/2013

Spring 2012



LIS Midwest Access Program
Dawn Wing and Mel Nicholas

The LAMP Project Assistants are here for you!

- * Mel Nicholas, available at mjnicholas@wisc.edu
- * Dawn Wing available at dwing@wisc.edu
- * Friend Madslisdiversity on Facebook for updates on scholarships, jobs and fellowships.

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Welcome Back

Welcome back to Spring 2012.

We wanted to take this opportunity to let you know what a great time we had getting to know you last semester. We hope that you will stay updated on scholarship and job opportunities by checking in regularly with our website, madslisdiversity.wordpress.com.

Whether you are entering SLIS next semester, finishing up your first year or planning on graduating SLIS this Spring, we hope you can come to us to discuss scholarships, project ideas, potential jobs or fellowships, or just to socialize.

Last semester we had a great time getting together for socials and career panels. Dawn and Mel also put a lot of time into their wordpress-madslisdiversity.wordpress.com. We hope you find events, scholarships, committees, intern-

ships and potential jobs at this site.

Dawn has been busy working with the Tribal Libraries and Museums student group, and is now a part of the class. She attended her first Culture Keepers Conference in the Fall, and looks forward to many more projects with TLAM.

Mel has been busy with Reforma, a student and national group that supports Spanish speakers in the library. Last semester Reforma participated in a number of events that supported the Go Big Read book Enrique's Journey. For information on these and other student groups contact us at any time.

We look forward to this Spring's events with enthusiasm. We are planning a monthly film series of documentaries and movies that are relevant to the work SLIS does with community outreach student groups. We are also having a

guest speaker visit in April to talk about diversity in libraries. We hope you'll join us at the end of the semester for another night of fun where we say goodbye to our graduating seniors.



When I got my library card, that's when my life began. ~Rita Mae Brown

Spotlight on librarian of color Martha P. Cotera

Martha P. Cotera was born in Chihuahua, Mexico and immigrated to El Paso, Texas when she was a child.

Cotera became known for her Chicana feminism in the 1960s, and wrote both *Diosa y Hembra* and *Chicana Femi-*

nism.

Cotera's involvement in the Chicana/o movement eventually led to her establishing numerous Latina/o organizations such as the Raza Unida Party, Mujeres Pro-Raza Unida Caucus and

the Texas Women's Political Caucus.

Cotera worked as a librarian at the University of Texas-Austin for over 30 years and created the Mexican American Library Program at UT-Austin.

How did you get your PA? Interviews with four SLIS project assistants

McCormick - International Harvester PA , 2 year assistantship awarded to incoming 1st year. Interview with Eric Willey

What do you do at this PA? Answering reference requests received by the Wisconsin Historical Society related to the McCormick - International Harvester Company Collection. I will attempt to locate documents in the collection which can answer patron reference questions, provide copies of those documents to the patrons, or suggest possible alternate sources of information when I cannot locate the information requested. While reference is the bulk of my work, as time allows I have also engaged in side projects such as

selecting, digitizing, and assigning metadata to photographs and creating EAD finding aids.

What experiences helped you get this PA? A commitment to archives with a background/knowledge in archives or history helps.

What advice would you give students applying? Be relaxed, be ready to discuss your experience and career goals, and have a couple of good questions about the position or collection. and talk about it.

downplay your experiences and accomplishments, if you did something you have every right to be proud of it .

General advice for the application process: if you don't get it keep an eye out for other assistantships. They crop up during the middle of the year and semester, and I have never seen one that I thought would be a bad experience. Probably more importantly, contribute to class, work hard on projects, work

hard at the job you do get, and opportunities will be very likely to present themselves. SLIS is a remarkably small world, and word about talented people get around pretty quickly.

For further questions about this PA, Eric is available at ewilley@wisc.edu.

Internet Scout Research Group Metadata Project Assistant, 9 month assistantship. Interview with Sarah Cummins

What do you do at this PA? Create metadata records for online educational resources. I used to work mostly with AMSER (amser.org) but now we're moving more towards ATE Central (<http://atecentral.net/>). I also do occasional software testing when we're releasing new versions of CWIS, Collection Workflow Integration System. This is the software that runs our database of metadata

records.

What experiences helped you get this PA? I majored in computer science as an undergraduate so that gave me the background necessary for the software testing. You just need to know the basics of metadata (Dublin Core, Library of Congress Classifications, etc.) and you're set.

What advice would you give to students interested in applying?

The project at the end of the Digital Libraries course is strongly related to what I do so I'd recommend taking that course if you can. Also, working with Omeka for the Digital Tools, Trends, and Debates class gave me some useful

background knowledge.

For further questions about this PA, Sarah is available at sjcummins@wisc.edu

Teaching Assistant for Instruction and Information Literacy, MERIT Library. 9 month PA. Interview with Maegan Heindal

What do you do at this PA? I have two information desk shifts weekly where I provide reference and technical support to the students of the School of Education. Outside of those shifts, I work with other librarians to plan and teach technology workshops to undergraduate education courses. I also work one-on-one with students, faculty, and staff who request instructional sessions. This semester we even went into the area

public schools to provide technology training to teachers.

What qualifications or experiences do you feel got you your assistantship?

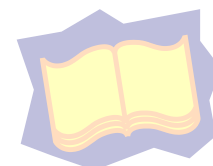
I believe my previous experience as an elementary teacher and with using technology (especially interactive whiteboards) in the classroom helped to set me apart as a candidate.

What advice would you give to students interested in applying?

Go for it, even if you don't have every qualification specified in the job description. I had no prior experience with many of the technologies I now teach, but I made the case in my cover letter and interview that I have previously demonstrated my ability to learn new technology quickly.

No experience is too small to use in an interview, make specific connections with your past experiences to indicate how they will help you succeed in the position.

Maegan is available at maegan.heindal@gmail.com



Caption describing picture or graphic.

P.A. Librarian, Journalism Reading Room. 1 year assistantship. Interview with Rebecca Karr.

What do you do at this PA?

I am responsible for a small collection of monographs, journals, and newspapers (about 5,000 volumes in all); I supervise a staff of 6 undergraduate students. Name a library task and likely, I do it. I am responsible for circulation (though the day-to-day staffing of the JRR is covered by the student staff - so I also control scheduling, training, etc), cataloging (serials and limited monographs), acquisitions (I have a small monograph budget that I use to increase our professional monograph

collection), reserves (electronic and print), outreach (social media, arranging workshops and events for our patrons), reference, and instruction (normally around 6 classes a semester, depending on use).

What experiences helped you get this PA?

I came into SLIS with supervisory experience and used my former position at the SLIS Laboratory Library to help fill in the more practical library gaps. This job is very independent - it exists in a strange hybrid place between the department and

the library system and, though I meet regularly with my mentor, regular operations are very much independent.

They wanted to hire someone who had extensive experience working independently and getting things done, being willing to work for special projects and improvements in the library on limited time and budget. I had demonstrable experience working independently and investing myself in previous positions, which I think helped me get the position.

What advice would you give to students interested in applying?

Proof read your cover letter. Learn a little about the library before interviewing. Take advantage of opportunities to discuss the position and the realities of the work prior to applying.

And just as a side note: as I will be graduating this spring, I will be starting the search for my replacement in March of this year. If you think that the JRR might be a good fit for you, don't hesitate to seek me out to ask questions. Though this position is incredibly demanding, it has been one of the most rewarding of my professional career and I would be happy to answer any questions about it. Rebecca.karr@gmail.com

Scholarship to look for... by Dawn Wing

Organization/ Website	Description	Deadline
American Library Association www.ala.org/scholarships	-Various general scholarships, scholarships for specializations and scholarships for underrepresented students (including students with disabilities). -Most scholarships require you completed 12 credits or less by June 2012	March 12, 2012
Association of Research Libraries www.arl.org/diversity/init/index.shtml	-Initiative to Recruit for a Diverse Workforce Program, offers a \$10,000 stipend, mentoring and leadership training over a 2-year period of library study to students of color.	June 1 (check again, not updated)
Library and Archive OUTReach http://polaris.gseis.ucla.edu/liboutreach/scholarships.html	-Lists various LGBTQ and students of color funding resources relating to library studies or other subject areas	Varies
LIS Access Midwest Program LAMP www.lisaccess.org (For other scholarships, go to Resources > Scholarships/Funding)	- 2012-13 stipend to be determined (Scholarship amount in 2010 = \$6,000) -Any underrepresented students (LGBT, students with disabilities, racial minorities, etc.) eligible to apply -Priority given to incoming first-year students, but second-year/part-time eligible to apply	March 1, 2012
Wisconsin Library Association http://www.wla.lib.wi.us/wlaf/scholarships/diversity.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Current or permanent Wisconsin resident ● Admitted to a master's degree program in library and information science or in library media at a Wisconsin school during the coming academic year beginning with the fall term as a part-time or full-time student. African-American, Latino/Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander or Native American/Alaskan Native descent. Scholarship Amount in 2010 - \$1,000	June 1



LIS Access Midwest Project

A Basic Guide to Finding and Applying for **LIS FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS** By Dawn Wing

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The Fellowship Pep Talk:

Winter break is coming up very soon
which will be quickly followed by many LIS fellowship deadlines!

Some fellowships may cover the full-tuition of one more years of graduate study, other organizations offer stipends to cover costs for books or for traveling to professional conferences.

Think about why you would apply for a LIS or graduate fellowship and how it would benefit you in your academic studies or professional development.

So, use your time off from school wisely:

1. Keep track of deadlines of desired fellowships on your calendar.
2. Start asking professors or library professionals to write your letters of recommendation.
3. **Nail that personal statement!**

*Have someone else read it over to offer feedback – such as an academic advisor, career counselor, LIS staff, a peer, or a LAMP Project Assistant (Dawn or Mel in Room 4110)!

**A tip about your personal statement from
Amani Ayad, LIS Access Midwest Program (LAMP) Coordinator:**

“Tell us why you are special. Why should you receive this scholarship?”

In other words, explain your unique characteristics, past/present experiences, visions and contributions you plan to make in librarianship.

Scholarship/Fellowship Search – Some Suggested Places to Look

-**Your Alma Mater.** Some undergraduate institutions offer alumni the opportunity to apply for graduate fellowships, no matter where the graduate institution is located. Check out your alma mater's career services or alumni website to see whether such funding exists.

-**Local City/State Library Associations** – Check library associations in your home state or state where you are studying. In some cases, you may be eligible to apply even as a temporary resident in the state where you are studying. Or, you are able to apply for funding in the state where you have permanent residency, but are attending an out-of-state institution.

UW Grants Information Collection - <http://grants.library.wisc.edu/>

-Search on databases, through UW sites, make appointment with grants librarian (Nikki Busch) or find appropriate grant workshops to learn how to find funding you're looking for. *****Upcoming Workshop*****

**“Grants for Your Education” - Thursday, February 16, 2012 10:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Room 231 Memorial Library**

UW Office of Fellowships and Funding Resources - <http://uwoffr.wordpress.com/fellowships/>

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.wordpress.com