

SOLIS Newsletter

Student Organization
of Library
& Information
Science



November-December 2023

Valdosta State University

Volume 14 Issue 4

Congratulations, Graduates!



SOLIS Website: <https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/education/master-of-library-and-information-science/solis/>

5th Annual SOLIS Virtual 5k

Scholarship Opportunities

Join the 5th annual SOLIS virtual 5k this winter and challenge yourself to get active while giving back! Run, walk, bike, or complete any activity that racks up a total of 3.1 miles by the end of the year and donate to a charity of your choice. Any charity, any amount! All participants will be entered into a drawing for a \$20 gift card and SOLIS T-shirt! Register by January 15th!

Share your progress by using the hashtag:
#VSUSOLIS5K23



Merryll Penson MLIS Scholarships

- **Application Guidelines**

Baker Family MLIS Scholarship

- \$1,000 awarded to MLIS students residing in certain counties in Georgia.
- **Application Guidelines**

MLIS Merit Scholarship

- Available to current MLIS students who show proven progress toward the MLIS degree.
- **Application Guidelines**

SOLIS Internship Reimbursement Award

- For students who have completed or are in the process of completing an unpaid internship.
- **Application Guidelines**

Deadline to apply is February 12th.

Other scholarships are available through the Dewar College of Education and Human Services and VSU. For more information, click [here](#).

Call for Updates

Please share with us your news about recently awarded scholarships, a conference presentation, a paid internship opportunity, or other exciting news of your scholarly and/or professional achievements.

Please send your news items to xren@valdosta.edu as they happen. Thank you!

Alumni Spotlight: Jurée Hall



Jurée Hall, a 2020 VSU MLIS alumna, serves as the Chief Librarian of Neighborhood Library Services (NLS) with the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland.

Ms. Hall joined the Pratt Library in August 2022 in the capacity of Deputy Chief for NLS. Prior to joining the Pratt team, she served eCampus Director and Administrative Coordinator for the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System (AFPLS), Atlanta, Georgia. In 2011, she launched and managed the library's first online learning platform serving the city of Atlanta and Fulton County. A seasoned government administrator and innovative library leader, she used the eCampus Project to implement digital-based library programs in the system's 34 branch locations, in Fulton County School, City of Atlanta Schools and in the community with hundreds of library partners.

Jurée's leadership in communities in Atlanta and Fulton County has been acknowledged through various awards including the Pinnacle Leadership Award, as a FOCUS Award Winner for Innovation in Fulton Government, and as a Finalist in 2017 Woman of the Year with the Women in Technology organization in the Non-Profit Category.

Ms. Hall earned a Bachelors of Science Degree in Sociology from Georgia State University, 1997 and an MLIS from VSU in 2020. Ms. Hall is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

1. What were your favorite classes while in the MLIS program?

I really enjoyed the Management of Libraries course and the Public Libraries course. I can't say enough about absorbing all the foundational knowledge in those two classes and all the others that has helped frame my experiences and concretely supported my goals after graduation.

2. What was your favorite course project while receiving your MLIS degree?

One project that I really enjoyed working on was the Community Scan and learning ways to get to know the community you are a serving. I've used techniques learned during that project over and over in guiding my teams in my current capacity.

3. How has what you learned while getting your MLIS degree directly affected or been applied to your work?

The fascinating aspect of libraries and information sciences is an understanding that every library system is different. My MLIS degree has given me foundational knowledge that can be used in any library to be professionally successful. The library setting, city or event culture may change but the foundational tenants are the same. VSU grounded me and has support my successful ascension as an administrator in library services.

4. Do you have any advice for upcoming graduates on how to navigate the job search and/or the field as a new graduate?

Advice I'd give to any graduate is use your time in graduate school to also think earnestly about what you like, what give you joy and what setting you want to be in. Although I was qualified to work in many different type libraries, I really liked the impact that libraries have on communities. I also have had a strong appreciation for programs in libraries. I sought a job in a system that prioritizes social impact programming in branches. Don't get frustrated with how long it may take to find your perfect job. It is worth the wait. Professional fulfillment is are worth the wait.

Support the Student Organization of Library and Information Science (SOLIS) by ordering your own T-shirt with the VSU and MLIS insignias! Proceeds of sales in years have funded ALA conference registrations for students, travel reimbursements for SOLIS officers representing SOLIS at GLA conferences, a reception for the travelling rare books exhibit on loan from the Remnant Trust, a 15th anniversary celebration in downtown Valdosta, and many SOLIS activities such as virtual 5k, and t-shirt design contest. The proceeds of sales will be the main funding source for a newly created SOLIS scholarship starting from Fall 2021. Shirts are sold at \$10 each at face-to-face events such as GLA conferences and previous New Student Orientations.

SOLIS T-Shirt Order Form

Yes, I want to support SOLIS! Please send me _____ (number) of shirts.

Please fill in the oval next to your preferred t-shirt **design**:



Please indicate the **quantity** for each size:

Small ___ Medium ___ Large ___ X-Large ___ 2X-Large* ___ 3X-Large* ___

**sizes not available for white t-shirt*

Order of one (1) shirt is \$20 (includes processing and shipping via USPS). Order of 2 or more shirts is \$15 per shirt (processing and shipping included).

Total enclosed: _____

Check payment only. Make check payable to **MLIS Foundation**. Allow two to four weeks to receive your t-shirt(s).

Your shipping address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Please mail this form with your check to:

Dr. Xiaoi Ren
Department of Library and Information Studies
Valdosta State University
1500 N. Patterson St.
Valdosta, GA 31698