

## Service Statement

### Summary

- Service to the Institution (Florida State University)
  - One of three doctoral student representatives to school's Doctoral Program Team (DPT)
  - Participated in and facilitated three Research and Teaching Proseminar discussions and colloquia
  - One of four college representatives to FSU's Congress of Graduate Students (COGS)
  - Vice Chair of COGS Academics and Student Life Committee
- Service to the Community
  - Secretary of Beta Phi Mu, Gamma Chapter
- Service to the Profession and Field
  - Peer reviewer for the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (JASIST)*
  - Member of American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIST), Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE), and American Library Association (ALA)
  - Wish to become active in service to organizations, especially ASIST's Special Interest Group for Social Informatics (SIG-SI)

### Introduction

I strongly believe that, alongside research and teaching, professional service to one's institution, the local library and information science (LIS) community, and the LIS field is an important part of being a doctoral student and future faculty member in the field. Such service helps promote the development of the field and its research, teaching, and professional activities, and my involvement in it ensures that I am an active participant in this process. Such service can also help inform my research and teaching activities as I progress in my career. So far, the majority of my service has been to Florida State University (FSU) and to the local and regional LIS community associated with the university, but I also plan to become more active in service to the profession. This statement details my current and future service activities and goals.

### Service to the Institution

As a doctoral student at FSU, I have been active in service at multiple levels. On the departmental level, I have served since October 2010 as one of three doctoral student representatives to the Doctoral Program Team (DPT) of the School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS). In this role I have been able to express any concerns and opinions that my cohort of doctoral students have and provide valuable input on planned activities and changes to the doctoral program. In particular, my work with the DPT has included helping update the guidelines for the doctoral degree to accurately reflect current practices and providing advice and guidance to first-year doctoral students as they prepare for their first-year exam. I hope to continue this service and be able to contribute further to the DPT's business and activities.

I have also participated in presenting three sessions as part of SLIS's Research and Teaching Proseminar and colloquia series. For the first, in October 2009, I was one of two panelists who responded to a research presentation by Dr. Michelle Kazmer, also introducing the speaker and panelists and facilitating discussion and Q & A with the audience. The second, in September 2010, was a colloquium I co-presented with Dr. Gary Burnett and Dr. Michelle Kazmer on developing a doctoral-level qualitative research methods syllabus. Finally, in January 2011 I was part of a panel of three doctoral students who led and contributed equally to a discussion session on current and future research questions in LIS.

At the broader university level, since September 2009 I have been one of four representatives for CCI in FSU's Congress of Graduate Students (COGS). This body serves as student government for graduate students at FSU, discussing, debating, and voting on funding requests from student organizations, university policies, and other issues important to FSU graduate students. In addition, I have been a member of the COGS Academics and Student Life Committee since I joined COGS, and was recently elected as Vice Chair of this committee. In this role I have focused on issues relating to graduate student health insurance, housing, athletics, tuition, and electronic theses and dissertation (ETD) requirements. While I plan to resign as a COGS representative sometime during the summer—so I can focus on my academic program and other research, teaching, and service obligations—I feel my service and participation in COGS has usefully contributed towards both addressing the concerns of FSU graduate students—especially those in my department and college—and my own career progression as a doctoral student and future faculty member.

### **Service to the Community**

I have also been active in serving the local and regional LIS community, particularly through serving as Secretary of the Gamma Chapter of Beta Phi Mu, the local FSU-based chapter of the international LIS honors society, since January 2010. I have had primary responsibility for sending out invitations to new nominees to the society, handling incoming membership applications and other mailings, maintaining the chapter's membership database, and taking notes at officers' meetings. In conjunction with other chapter officers, I have also helped establish and maintain a Facebook presence for the chapter and plan and execute a successful annual meeting and evening of events in November 2010. Through our combined service activities, we have been able to renew the chapter's commitment to providing value to our members and recognize their efforts as they begin and continue their careers as LIS professionals, leaders in the field, and FSU alumni. I will remain Secretary of the chapter through 2011 and plan to remain active in the chapter even once I shift my service focus to other avenues.

### **Service to the Profession and Field**

In addition to the more localized service noted above, I have also provided service to the broader LIS field in the form of peer review. I took part in a SLIS seminar in Summer 2010 in critiquing and improving research, which provided substantial practical experience in this process and increased my competency in completing this valuable service activity. I then have applied this experience in peer reviewing an article for the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*. Both my initial review and comments on a revised

submission were well received and appreciated by both the journal editor and the article authors, and the article was greatly improved, in my view, as a result of the peer review process and my input into it. I intend to remain active in peer reviewing articles and papers submitted to this and other venues when asked to do so, as I feel peer review is a vital part of the LIS research field and an area where I can contribute, enhancing my potential success in a faculty career.

I am also a member of the American Library Association (ALA; since September 2008), the American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIST, since February 2010), and the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE; since December 2010). Along with maintaining these memberships, I have attended the ASIST conference (in 2010) and plan to continue doing so, as well as attending ALISE, the iSchools-organized iConference, and other conferences of value to my research, teaching, and service goals. Most critically as regards service, I also plan to become active in service with at least one of these professional organizations within the next year. Currently I feel ASIST will be my best fit, most likely serving a role in the Special Interest Group for Social Informatics (SIG-SI) that I am a member of.

### **Conclusion**

In sum, my current and future service activities are helping and will continue to support my career progress. As noted, I intend to continue my service in the SLIS Doctoral Program Team for the foreseeable future, while adjusting my focus from university-level activities—in FSU's Congress of Graduate Students and the Gamma Chapter of Beta Phi Mu—to becoming more visible in field-level professional organizations, such as ASIST. Continuing to be active in peer review will also help increase my visibility as I hopefully become a doctoral candidate. My service will thus support my continuation through the doctoral program and, in particular, my pursuit of a faculty career and tenure.