



ATLANTA UNIVERSITY Alumni Newsletter

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES



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Atlanta University/Atlanta, Georgia 30314

IN MEMORIAM JOSEPHINE F. THOMPSON 1911 - 1988



This issue of the Alumni Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Josephine F. Thompson in recognition of her commitment to high standards of library science training, her enduring support of the School of Library and Information Studies, and her contributions to the education and continuing development of more than 1500 librarians.

Mrs. Josephine F. Thompson, retired professor of the School of Library and Information Studies passed July 25, 1988 at Southwest Community Hospital in Atlanta. Graveside rites were held in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Prior to coming to Atlanta University, Mrs. Thompson worked as an elementary school teacher in Virginia, with the YWCA in Tennessee, and as a researcher for the Atlanta Urban League. Mrs. Thompson joined the faculty, which was then composed of three teachers (Mrs. Virginia Lacy Jones, Mrs. Hallie B. Brooks, and Mrs. Annette H. Phinazee), in 1947 as an Instructor, and retired in 1976 with the rank of Professor. During her 29 year tenure at the library school she taught Research Methods, Libraries and Librarianship, Literature of Science and Technology, Collection Development, Academic Librarianship, Literature of the Social Sciences and other courses offered in the curriculum. In 1971, Mrs. Thompson received the Atlanta University Trustees' Award of \$1,000.00 for "Excellence in Teaching."

She is survived by her husband, Robert Thompson, daughter and son-in-law, Attorney William G. and Sylvia Robinson, of Norfolk Virginia, sister, Mrs. Murrell K. Ware of Pasadena, California, and four grandchildren.

In her classes, Mrs. Thompson's legacy included the correction of papers with the infamous instruction, "Revise and Return." The repeated return of assignments prompted one class to donate her a stamp reading that phrase. In announcing the passing of Mrs. Thompson at the Beta Phi Mu sponsored Hallie B. Brooks Lecture Series on July 27, 1988, Casper L. Jordan noted that our beloved Mrs. Thompson was "Revised and Returned."

Mrs. Thompson's family has asked that friends, colleagues and alumni contribute to the Josephine F. Thompson Memorial Fund, which was established by the Thompson family at Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies.

DR. ELIZA GLEASON VISITS ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

Dr. Eliza Atkins Gleason, the first Dean of the Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies, visited the University campus on Wednesday, June 1, 1988. Dr. Gleason was accompanied by her husband, Dr. Maurice Gleason, a retired obstetrician and gynecologist in Chicago, Illinois and her niece, Dr. Anna H. Simpkins, a Professor of Clothing and Textiles at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The Gleasons were greeted at the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center by Dr. Charles W. Meredith, Chancellor and Dr. Prince E. Rivers, Provost of the Center; Dr. Guy C. Craft, Library Director; and Dr. Lorene B. Brown, Dean of the School of Library and Information Studies. During a tour of the University Library, Dr. Gleason met members of the library staff, including a number of Atlanta University SLIS alumni. Following lunch at Paschal's, hosted by Dean Brown, Dr. Gleason visited the Library School offices and classrooms in Trevor Arnett Hall for the first time since she resigned as Dean in 1946.

Dr. Gleason is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Fisk University, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the Library School of the University of Illinois and a Master of Arts in Library Science from the University of California at Berkeley. She holds a special place in the history of library science education, as the first Black person to receive the Doctorate in Library Science in the United States. When the School of Library Service was opened at Atlanta University in September, 1941, Dr. Gleason guided the design of the program and its mission. During the School's third year of operation, she directed the successful accreditation of the Library School by the American Library Association's Board of Education for Librarianship.

After leaving Atlanta University, Dr. Gleason continued her distinguished and varied career in Chicago, Illinois as both a practicing librarian at Wilson Jr. College, Chicago Teachers College and John Crerar Library; and as a library science educator at Illinois Teachers College and Illinois Institute of Technology. She has also continued to be active in professional associations and community activities, including serving as Executive Director of the Chicago Black United Fund and a member of the Chicago Public Library Board.



A WORD FROM THE DEAN

Atlanta University has been awarded a \$2.5 million grant from the Office of Education for the 1988-89 fiscal year. This award must be matched dollar-for-dollar from private funds. This award will directly benefit the University's budget to a total of \$5 million dollars.

The School of Library and Information Studies is budgeted for approximately \$200,000 of this grant for the 1988-89 academic year. We need to raise \$100,000 in order to spend our share of the award. Included in this budget are library resources; media software and hardware; computer hardware and software; renovations of the stack area (storage for the newly acquired collection from Emory and a cataloging laboratory), faculty development and student assistantships.

This award represents a challenge for all of us to assist the Library in implementing its objectives and maintaining its accreditation status. Your support of the Library School in one of its most critical periods in history will insure the continuation of a quality library school. Your contributions, however small, will assist us in this important activity. I do appreciate all of the support that you have given us in the past and for your future assistance.

The 1984 Alumni in Residence lecture, *With Twenty-Five Carefully Selected Students: An Informal Account of Black Library Education*, by the 1987 Alumni in Resident, Casper L. Jordan has been published. You may receive a copy of this pamphlet by sending \$3.00 to the School, c/o Mrs. Vivian Mills. Contributors to the Dean's Campaign will receive a free copy.

DAVIS, DIRECTOR OF CCLC PASSES

HILLIS D. DAVIS

1932 - 1988

Hillis D. Davis, Sr., Director of the Cooperative College Library Center in Atlanta, Georgia passed on Sunday, January 31, 1988. Mr. Davis was a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, and a 1961 alumnus of the School of Library and Information Studies. During his professional career, Mr. Davis contributed greatly to the development of library services at a number of the historically black colleges and universities. He served as reference librarian and head of cataloging at West Virginia State University and as Director of the Library at Hampton Institute.

Mr. Davis served as the first Director of the Cooperative College Library Center from 1969 to 1988. The Center was established with a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to the National Council of Churches and the United Board for College Development, to provide joint purchasing and technical processing of library materials. The initial membership in the Center included Miles, Talladega, and Tougaloo Colleges and Tuskegee Institute. Under the leadership of Hillis Davis, today membership in the Center has grown to number 31 colleges and universities across the Southeast.

His professional affiliations included the American Library Association and the South Eastern Library Association, which he served as President.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested that contributions be sent to the library school or the Diabetes Association of Atlanta, Inc.

STUDENT NEWS 1988

The Zeta Chapter of Beta Phi Mu International Library Honor Society sponsored the first Hallie B. Brooks Lecture on Wednesday, July 27, 1988 at the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library. The Chapter presented Ms. Ann Allen Schockley, Associate University Librarian and Archivist at Fisk University. Before the lecture, nine new members were inducted into Zeta Chapter for the 1987-88 academic year. The Inductees were: Brian S. Abrams, Carolyn M. Kelly, Valisa Rias, Chern Jenn Chewn Yen, C. Thomas Bird, Wen Yuan Chao, Langhorne Mallory, Theresa Z. Newport, and Janice Peters.

Susan M. Jarvis is the 1987-88 recipient of the Virginia Lacy Jones Scholarship. Ms. Jarvis is an alumna of the State University of New York at Plattsburgh.

Kathyanne Piselli's article, "Samira Azzam: Author's Works and Vision" was published in the *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*. Kathy is an undergraduate alumna of Georgetown University, and received both her master's and Ph.D. degrees in Near East Studies from the University of Michigan.

Capathia Campbell ('88), a Central Connecticut State University

graduate and Derrick Walcott ('88), a University of the Virgin Islands graduate, were chosen by their fellow classmates as the "Outstanding Male and Female Students" for the 1987-88 academic year. Congratulations!!!

Herman (Skip) Mason has published *Alpha in Atlanta, A Legacy Remembered*. This volume chronicles the history of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity in Atlanta. Herman is also a graduate student in the School of Arts and Science - Afro American Studies Department, and is a researcher in the Special Collections Department of the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library.

SLIS students and faculty attended the 1987 Georgia Library Association Conference in Columbus, Georgia in October.

FACULTY NEWS

Dean Lorene B. Brown spoke at the American Association of Law Libraries Annual Conference held in Atlanta in June. She appeared on a panel addressing the topic, "Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer/Minorities and Women are encouraged to Apply." The Dean also gave a presentation on "minority concerns" for the Junior Members Round Table meeting at the ALA Conference in New Orleans. She has been appointed to serve a four year term as a Presidential nominee to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries Visiting Committee and the Library Visiting Board of South Carolina State College. She is a member of the Advisory Board for the Office of Library Personnel Resources (OLPR) of ALA. Dean Brown also successfully wrote another grant for \$8,000 in fellowship funds from the Office of Education Title II-B program, and assisted in writing the Title III proposal that awarded \$5 million to the University. She also hosted the Association for College and Research Libraries and the Mellon Foundation, Conference on Historically Black College and University Libraries in October.

Yvonne Chandler Melvin ('79) is a new faculty addition as Assistant to the Dean for Special Projects. Ms. Chandler Melvin is studying toward the Ph.D. in Library Science at the University of Michigan. Her interests include special librarianship and law librarianship.

Both Dean Brown and Yvonne Chandler Melvin attended an ALA Pre-Conference "Each One, Reach One - Recruiting for the Profession" at the annual conference sponsored by OLPR. Dean Brown contributed an article "Recruiting Science Librarians" to the publication, *Librarians for the New Millennium*, which served as a source material for the conference.

Dr. A. Venable Lawson returns to the A.U. S.L.I.S. faculty as a Visiting Professor from Emory University where he served as Dean of the Division of Library and Information Management for 23 years. Dr. Lawson is also an alumnus of the Emory program. He received his Bachelor's degree in education from the University of Alabama and his Ph.D. from Columbia University. He formerly taught at the library schools at Florida State University and the University of Denver. Dr. Lawson's interests include archival management, and he is a member of the Board of Directors for Friends of the Library, USA and the Atlanta Fulton Public Library.

Dr. Patrice McDermott joins the SLIS faculty from the ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom, where she worked as the Assistant Director. She holds Bachelor's through the Doctoral Degree in political science from Florida State University, Brown University and the University of Arizona, respectively, and earned her MSLS at Emory University. Her interests include archival administration, and formerly she served as an archivist for the Carter Presidential Library in Atlanta.

Dr. Hemalata Iyer Attended two CAS workshops on CA File and Registry File for Dictionary Searching at Georgia Tech. and the Second Conference of the Applied National Language Processing Association for Computational Linguistics in Austin, Texas.

Dr. A. Fazle Kabir has written *Libraries in Bengal, 1700 - 1946*, which is being published by Mansell Publishers.

Mr. William Welburn ('78) gave a presentation on "Collection Development in the Academic Library" at the 1988 Conference of the 1890 Land-Grant and Tuskegee University Library Director's Association.

Ms. Almeta Woodson ('61) SLIS librarian served as the faculty adviser for the Student Chapter of ALA. With her direction, the students sold snacks and lunches in the SLIS student lounge to raise funds to attend the ALA annual conference. The students raised enough funds to pay for one student's expenses at ALA. "The Store" as it has become known, is now a fixture in the library school.

Ms. Priscilla L. Drach, Acting Director of Public Services for the Cuyahoga Public Library System, taught a two week seminar course during the Summer Session, "Children and Public Libraries: A Multicultural Experience."

SLIS OFFICE NUMBERS

We've got a new number at Atlanta University. In March, a new telephone system was installed throughout the University. The new telephone numbers for the SLIS Offices are:

Atlanta University	653-8400
SLIS Office	653-8695
SLIS Admission Coordinator	653-8694
Dean's Office	653-8697

SLIS TRIVIA

Who was the first Black person to receive the Ph.D. in librarianship?

COMMENCEMENT 1988

The 119th Commencement of Atlanta University was held on Monday, May 23, 1988 in the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel at Morehouse College. The Honorable Wyche Fowler, Jr., United States Senator, who was awarded an honorary degree, delivered the Commencement Address. Honorary degrees were also awarded to Willie L. Brown, Jr., Speaker of the Assembly of the Legislature of the State of California and Dorothy E. Brunson, a businesswoman in the radio and television industry.

The Summer Commencement was held Friday, July 29, 1988, in the King Chapel with the address being given by Mrs. Billye Aaron, Regional Vice President for the Southern Region of the United Negro College Fund. An honorary degree was awarded to Mrs. Legree S. Daniels, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the United States Department of Education. Mrs. Annie Ruth Hill was the recipient of the President's Alumni Achievement Award.

The School of Library and Information Studies proudly awarded MSLS degrees to 22 candidates in 1988: Brian S. Abrams, A.B., Georgia State University, 1977, M.A. 1985; Virgil Armstrong, B.S. Georgia State University, 1983; Charlene Ashwood, A.B., University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, 1979; Clarence T. Bird, A.B., University of South Florida, 1966; M.A. 1969; Florida State University, Ph.D., 1973; Capathia P. Campbell, B.S., Central Connecticut State University, 1986; Wen Yuan Chao, A.B., National Taiwan University, 1985; Deborah Ann Charles, B.S., Plymouth State College, 1980; Beverly L. Fulwood, B.S., South Carolina State College, 1980; Jauquina Y. Davis, A.B., University of Florida, 1979; Curlean M. Fernander, B.S., Florida State University, 1979; Robert L. Graham, A.B., Olivet College, 1960; Earline Grigsby, B.S. Alabama State University, 1955; Mary G. Harris, A.B., Alcorn State University, 1975; Colleen A. Heyward, A.B., Morris College, 1961; Carolyn M. Kelly, A.B. University of Alabama, 1966; Willie A. King, B.S., Fort Valley State

College, 1966; Sheron A. Long, B.S., North Carolina Central University, 1972; Langhorne C. Mallory, A.B., University of Tennessee, 1980; Theresa Z. Newport, A.B., Dillard University, 1984; Janice Peters, A.B., Coppin State College, 1971; Jack F. Purkey, B.S. Lincoln Memorial University, 1962; M.A., Union College, 1974; Valisa Rias, A.B., Carthage College, 1974; Lynne M. Simpson, A.B., Langston University, 1987; Brenda L. Williams, B.S. Vorhees College, 1980; Dorothy L. Williams, B.S., Morris Brown College, 1985.

WHEREABOUTS OF THE CLASS OF '87

Sandra L. Abad is a Media Specialist at Greene-Talifeiro High School □ Kaleema Abdurraman is a Branch Manager with the Pompano Beach City Library System □ Mildred E. Bailey is a Reference Librarian at Howard University Law School Library □ Barbara I. Johnson-Barton is Teacher-Librarian at Eight Mile Rock High School, Grand Bahama Island □ Mirza Navaid Baig is a Librarian with the New York Public Library System □ Bobby Gene Bean is a Reference Librarian at the Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library □ Petre V. Bridges is employed with the State of Georgia □ Kellye P. Carter-James is a Librarian with the Atlanta Public Library System □ Oliver James Collier is a Librarian at the University of Maryland - Eastern Shore □ Charlotte H. Davidson is a Librarian with the NSSFNS Educational Opportunity Center in Atlanta, Georgia □ Audrey Fields is a Librarian with the New York Public Library System □ Carolyn Fortson is a Cataloger Librarian at South Carolina State College □ Rose Morgan Frazier is a Librarian at Tuskegee University □ Priscilla H. Gayle is a Librarian at the Virginia State Library for the Visually & Physically Handicapped □ Anita H. Grant is Director of the Library at the Salvation Army School for Officer's Training at Atlanta Georgia □ Rebecca E. Howze is a Librarian at Georgia Southern College □ Charlotte S. Hurt is a Reference and Circulation Librarian at Life Chiropractic College in Atlanta, Georgia □ Bernita W. Ingle is an Information Specialist at the Nuclear Assurance Corporation in Norcross, Georgia □ Linda Johnson Jones is a Librarian with DeKalb County □ Jacqueline W. Jordan is a Media Specialist at the Stockbridge High School □ Melissa Kimmerly is doing the post graduate conservation program at Columbia University School of Library Service □ Teresa Lathrom is a Librarian with the Cobb County Public Library □ Lonnie L. Lee is a Librarian with the Atlanta Fulton Public Library System □ Joan A. R. Leonard is an Intern at the National Library of Medicine □ Dorothy Morris is a Media Specialist □ Nina L. Rickenbacker is a Media Specialist at Beach High School in Savannah, Georgia □ Carrie K. Thompson is a Cataloger Librarian at Paine College in Augusta, Georgia □ Bruce Williams is a Librarian at Grady Hospital □ James A. Yancey, Jr. is at the Carter Presidential Center Library in Atlanta, Georgia.



Sixty-eight alumni and friends of Atlanta University attended the Annual Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies Reunion Dinner at the ALA Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA. The Dinner was held at Dillard University and hosted by Tommy S. Holton ('76), Acting Director of the University Library. After a most delicious dinner, Dean Lorene B. Brown spoke to the Alumni about the impending merger of Clark College and Atlanta University.

ALUMNI NEWS

Rosaline Y. Odom ('80) accepted a position as Technical Information Specialist at the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Desretta McAllister-Harper ('71) Associate Professor of Library and Information Science at North Carolina Central University has been honored as one of eight Outstanding Teachers for 1988 at NCCU. She will receive a \$1,000 stipend as a recipient of this honor.

Richard Bradbury ('74) was awarded the Doctorate in Library Science by the University of Michigan School of Information and Library Studies in May, 1988.

Bernetta Robinson ('81) completed an internship at AT&T in Atlanta, Georgia.

Sheila Johnson ('78) has been promoted with the New York Public Library System.

A special welcome to Attorney Brenda Sue Cole, Class of 1967, wife of our new President, Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr.

Congratulations to Denyvetta Fields Davis, Class of 1974 and James F. Williams, Class of 1967 for being selected as two of five leaders to represent emerging leadership in ALA - President Margaret Chisholm's program, "Visionary Leaders of 2020: Developing Leadership in Human Resources for Library and Information Sources." Davis is head of the Ralph Ellison Branch, Metropolitan Library System in Oklahoma County and Williams is Director of Libraries at the University of Colorado/ Boulder.

Atlanta University Alumni Association, Atlanta Chapter sponsored a Symposium on Pay Equity as a part of the Spring Chapter meeting at the Maude M. Burrus Branch of the DeKalb County Public Library. Panel members included Millard J. Wallace ('82), Yvonne Chandler Melvin ('79), Audrey Tyler ('68), and Regina Cannon ('75). Janice W. Sikes ('75) served as the panel's moderator.

Pamela B. Craig ('83) is enrolled in the law school program at the University of Illinois.

ALUMNI DATES TO REMEMBER

1991 American Library Association Annual Conference to be held in Atlanta, Georgia. Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Library School.

1988 INTERNSHIPS

During the summer of 1988 SLIS offered one new internship and increased the number of students for an old internship.

Robert Graham ('88) is the first student to be selected to work at the Chrysler Corporation Law Library located in Southfield,

Michigan. This internship will be offered each semester to SLIS students.

Two students, Lynne P. Simpson ('88) and Patricia Hodge worked at Time, Inc. Reference Library in New York City. SLIS has sent students to Time since 1986, but prior to this year only one student had been selected for this intern experience each summer.

SLIS TRIVIA ANSWER

Eliza Atkins Gleason was awarded the Ph.D. in librarianship from the University of Chicago Graduate Library School in 1940. Her dissertation was entitled "*The Southern Negro and the Public Library: A Study of the Government and Administration of Public Library Service to Negroes in the South.*"

SLIS TO BEGIN JOURNAL OF BLACK LIBRARIANSHIP

Priscilla L. Drach, Acting Director of Public Services with the Cuyahoga County Public Library System in Cleveland, Ohio, has donated \$30,000 to Atlanta University in honor of her parents, Claire and Ruth Drach. This fund will be used to institute publication of a scholarly journal examining Black Librarianship. The Atlanta University School of Library and Information Studies is very proud to be the recipient of these funds. Publication of the Journal will begin in 1989.

SLIS SPEAKERS, 1988

Mr. Joseph D. Bono, a Loaned Executive to the University from IBM for the 1987-88 academic year, gave a two part colloquia presentation on job searching, interviewing, resume writing, and career development. Mr. Bono is a Senior Instructor for Service Education at IBM in Marietta, GA.

Dr. Hardy Franklin ('56) Director of the Washington, D.C. Public Library System gave a talk on the District of Columbia Public Library.

Ms. Frances Francis, Registrar for the Atlanta High Museum of Art, gave an interesting presentation before the SLIS Colloquia on the role of the Registrar in an art museum.

Mr. Benjamin Lightman, Director of Libraries for Time, Inc., spoke on the role that reference librarians play in the weekly production of *Time*, *People*, *Life*, and *Sports Illustrated* magazines.

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