School of Information Studies

2010-2011 Annual Report

www.sis.uottawa.ca

@UO_ESIS
Message from the Director

With my arrival at the School of Information Studies (ÉSIS) in July 2010, the School saw a change in leadership. On behalf of ÉSIS, I am delighted to present this first annual report corresponding to the 2010-2011 academic year.

As a vibrant young academic unit, ÉSIS has had a busy year building an identity and establishing a solid foundation for its Master of Information Studies program. As pre-candidates for accreditation by the American Library Association, we are working hard to demonstrate our compliance with the Standards for Accreditation of Master’s Programs in Library and Information Studies.

Our community is growing as we not only welcomed a greater number of students but also graduated our first cohort. The graduation ceremony was a wonderful event, which included the awarding of an Honourary Doctorate to Ingrid Parent, the President-Elect of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the first Canadian ever to hold that office.

For additional information on ÉSIS, including updates on our ongoing activities, please visit us online at:

www.sis.uottawa.ca

Lynne Bowker
Our team

During 2010-2011, the ÉSIS team was composed of:

- 4 regular, full-time professors
- 1 invited professor
- 9 cross-appointed professors (from the library, as well as the departments of business, communication, law and translation)
- 3 adjunct professors
- 1 part-time professors
- 1 support staff

L to R: Tony Horava (Associate University Librarian and Cross-appointed Professor), André Vellino (Invited Professor), Kenneth-Roy Bonin (Full Professor), Claire Dormann (Assistant Professor), Mary Cavanagh (Assistant Professor), Leslie Weir (University Librarian and Cross-appointed Professor) and Lynne Bowker (Director and Associate Professor)

ÉSIS has also continued to benefit from the guidance of an External Advisory Committee whose members include:

- Pam Bjornson, Director General, Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information, National Research Council (CISTI-NRC)
- Daniel Caron, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, Library and Archives Canada
- Barbara Clubb, CEO and City Librarian, Ottawa Public Library
- Hélène Larouche, Directrice du service de la bibliothèque, Université du Québec en Outaouais
- Margaret Haines, University Librarian, Carleton University
- Carole Lagüe, Chef de division, Bibliothèque municipale de Gatineau
- Leslie Weir, University Librarian, University of Ottawa
- Bill Young, Parliamentary Librarian, Library of Parliament
What we value

In 2010-2011, ÉSIS engaged in intensive strategic planning, in consultation with our community of library and information studies (LIS) professionals, and unveiled a vision and mission statement for our School.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our Vision</th>
<th>Our Mission</th>
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<tr>
<td>ÉSIS shall be the information studies school of choice for bilingual (English-French) individuals in the National Capital Region, in Canada and internationally, through excellence in research, teaching and community engagement.</td>
<td>ÉSIS is a centre of research and teaching excellence that offers a competitive professional education based on a comprehensive understanding of the theory and practice of the production, collection, organization, retrieval, transformation and management of data, information and knowledge. ÉSIS fosters a learning environment that prepares information professionals in the 21st century to assume leadership and research roles for the benefit of citizens in Canada’s bilingual and multi-cultural knowledge-based economy and information society.</td>
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Teaching and learning

As part of our second intake, ÉSIS saw a significant increase in the number of students enrolling for full-time study. As we added second-year courses to our roster, the total number of courses on offer increased by 50%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic year</th>
<th>2009-2010</th>
<th>2010-2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of new students admitted</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full time</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part time</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of different courses offered</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students registered (Sept. 1)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full time</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part time</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average number of courses completed per student per semester</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full time</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part time</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some of the electives taught for the first time during the 2010-2011 academic year included:

- Budgeting and Financial Management
- Metadonnées et taxonomies
- Organisational Ecology of Information Agencies
- Social Media and Games in an Information Context
Beyond the classroom

Students on the MIS program have different opportunities to combine their class-based learning with research-oriented investigations and hands-on professional experience.

Student research

A number of MIS students chose to explore areas of interest to them by taking a Directed Readings course, where they had the opportunity to work one-on-one with a researcher to explore a research topic in more depth. Subjects that were explored as part of a directed study in 2010-2011 included:

- Public libraries as public places: social, political and intellectual dimensions
- The Information Implications of 3-D Printing Technologies
- Preservation and conservation

A number of ÉSIS students have published or present the results of their research in 2010-2011:


Co-operative education

With regard to practical experience outside the classroom, six students were accepted into the competitive co-operative education option, which includes an 8-month full-time work placement in the field. Employers for the May-December 2010 co-op placements included:

- Bibliothèque de l’Université du Québec en Outaouais
- Courts Administration Service
- Industry Canada
- International Development Research Centre
- Library of Parliament (2 work placements)

At the end of their work placement, co-op students receive an overall rating from their employers. One of the six ÉSIS co-op students earned the highest overall rating of EXCEPTIONAL, while four earned the next-highest rating of EXCELLENT and one the rating of VERY GOOD.
**Experiential learning**

Nine students participated in an elective experiential learning course, which allowed them to earn credit towards one course while gaining valuable hand-on experience working with professionals at the following organizations:

- Bibliothèque de l’Hôpital Montfort
- Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information, National Research Council
- Canadian Association of Research Libraries
- Carleton University Archives
- Library of Parliament
- Media Smarts, Centre for Digital and Media Literacy
- University of Ottawa Brian Dickson Law Library
- University of Ottawa Library

**Volunteer work**

Various MIS students took the initiative to enrich their formal studies with volunteer work in the field. Some of ways in which our students demonstrably embraced the values of the profession include:

- Student volunteer facilitator at a “Freedom to Read Week” panel discussion hosted by the Library Association of the National Capital Region (February 2011)
- Student volunteers at the 2011 Ontario Library Association Super-conference (Toronto, February 2011) and the Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (Ottawa, June 2011)

While attending the OLA SuperConference, I participated as a student volunteer and assisted with registrations. The main attraction of the conference was the number of interesting presentations and discussion panels that I attended. The talks covered activities of all libraries (public, academic, school and special) and provided insights into the current and future trends in librarianship. It was exciting to hear about the ways in which libraries across the country are applying the concepts and practices that I have learned from my classes, such as consortial collaboration, outreach activities and the use of new technologies. [...] Attending the OLA SuperConference was a rewarding experience that I would recommend to fellow ÉSIS students.

*Melissa Cheung, 2nd-year MIS student*


*France Séguin (M.S.I., étudiante de 2e année)*
Graduates

In 2011, the first cohort completed the two-year MIS program and became our first 15 graduates. When responding to the first alumni survey, the vast majority reported back that they had found rewarding jobs in various sectors of the information professions, both within the National Capital Region and beyond.

Congratulations to our first cohort of MIS graduates, members of the class of 2011!

Organizations that hired members of the MIS graduating class of 2011 include:

- Bibliothèque de l’Université de Moncton
- Bibliothèque de l’Université d’Ottawa
- Bibliothèque de l’Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
- Bibliothèque de l’Université du Québec en Outaouais
- Bibliothèque de l’Université Saint-Paul
- Citizenship and Immigration Canada
- Industry Canada
- Justice Canada
- Library of Parliament
- Ottawa Public Library

The 2011 Spring Convocation for the Faculty of Arts was made extra special by the fact that an Honourary Doctorate was awarded to Ingrid Parent, University Librarian at the University of British Columbia and President-Elect of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

Following a citation by Leslie Weir, Chief Librarian of the University of Ottawa and cross-appointed professor at ÉSIS, Ms Parent gave an inspiring speech about the continuing importance of the LIS field in the 21st century. A reception in Ms Parent’s honour was held at the Morisset Library the evening before the award, and she had the opportunity to meet with our new graduates, professors and friends of ÉSIS.

Honorary Doctorate awarded to Ingrid Parent
Research

ÉSIS is a research-intensive environment. In addition to fostering the research projects of our own members, we encourage exchange and collaboration with other researchers. For instance, in January 2011, ÉSIS was delighted to host Dr. Iuliana Botezan, Professor and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Information Studies at the Universidad Complutense of Madrid. Dr. Botezan guest lectured in several classes and gave a bilingual public presentation on instructional information programs in Spain. In addition, 2010-2011 marked the launch of a new seminar series at ÉSIS entitled “Research Conversations”, with presentations by the following:

- Peter Bennison (A Hundred Answers Consulting): *Information Management Architecture and the Cloud: Costs and Benefits*
- Mary Cavanagh, Rebecca Ross and Patrick Labelle (University of Ottawa): *What tipping point on Open Access: scholars and librarians organize ideas*
- Margaret Kipp (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee): *Examining the Dynamic Relationship between Tags*
- Heather Moulaison (University of Ottawa): *Perspectives on geographic location: The Muslim West in two classification systems*
- André Vellino (University of Ottawa and CISTI): *Recommenders for Scholarly Research Articles: a Comparison of Usage-based and Citation-based Methods*
- Kara Warburton (City University of Hong Kong): *Extracting, evaluating, and preparing terminology for large translation jobs*

Funding

ÉSIS faculty members were successful in attracting research funding to support their research activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Researcher</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Project</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lynne Bowker</td>
<td>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada ($50,000) (co-investigator)</td>
<td>Txt4science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Cavanagh</td>
<td>Graphics, Animation, New Media (GRAND) Network Centres of Excellence ($10,000)</td>
<td>Online news sites and social interaction</td>
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Selected publications and presentations


**Dormann, C.** and Biddle, R. (2010). “Games for affective learning, making play support the affective domain,” in the *Proceedings of the International Conference on Kansei Engineering and Emotional Research* (Keer’2010), France.


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**Other notable news**

**Student awards**

- Susan Anderson Memorial Scholarship awarded by the May Court Club of Ottawa ($5000) (W. Robbins)
- Graduate Scholarship awarded by the University of Ottawa’s Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies ($4000) (W. Robbins)

**Student association**

ÉSIS students founded the Association des étudiants en sciences de l’information / Information Studies Student Association (AÉSISSA)