

LSA

Alumni Day Speaker Biographies

Haley Aaron was a professional student for 7 years, earning her bachelor's degree from Samford University in 2010, her master's degree in history from Georgia State University in 2012, and her MLIS from the University of Alabama in 2013. After completing her whirlwind tour of Southern colleges, Haley settled in Montgomery, where she works as the Manuscripts Archivist at the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Haley is primarily responsible for arranging, describing, and preserving private manuscript collections that tell the story of Alabama's people. In 10 short months, she has researched the lives of a fainting goat farmer, a World War I aviator, and countless other Alabamians. Her professional interests include addressing the privacy and confidentiality concerns she has encountered while processing the private papers of a 20th century attorney.

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Joanna Crump is the Content Curator for Compli (pronounced /com-PLLEE/), a software company that specializes in employee compliance training. In this position, she organizes and curates a library of digital assets and learning objects, creates original content, and networks with subject matter experts in the field of governance, risk and compliance to keep up on the latest legal regulations and requirements. Joanna finished her MLIS in 2013, but feels that it was really only the beginning of a lifetime of learning in library studies.

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Marylyn Wright Eubank received her B.A. (1991) and M.A.(1994) in Sociology from The University of Alabama at Birmingham and her MLIS (2012) from The University of Alabama. She worked as a human factors and information design consultant in Columbus, Ohio and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for 9 years before returning home to Alabama. In 2007, Marylyn became the first Information Technology Manager at the Emmet O'Neal Library in Mountain Brook, Alabama. Marylyn currently serves as the Membership Committee Chairperson of the Alabama Library Association. She is also a member of Beta Phi Mu, the International Library and Information Studies Honor Society and a Board Member for the Library School Association. Recently, Marylyn joined the University of Alabama's School of Library and Information Studies as an adjunct faculty member to teach Information Technology. In 2013, she received a grant from the Mountain Brook Library Foundation to open a digital Makerspace, the first of its kind in Alabama.

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Dr. P. Toby Graham was named University Librarian and Associate Provost at the University of Georgia earlier this year following a national search. He serves as chief executive officer for the UGA Libraries, which include four principal facilities: the Ilah Dunlap Little Memorial Library (main library), Science Library, Zell B. Miller Learning Center and Richard B. Russell Building Special Collections Libraries. The UGA Press and The Georgia Review literary journal report to the university librarian and are housed in the main library. Previously, Dr. Graham served in multiple roles at UGA, including Deputy University Librarian and director of the Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library. He came to UGA in 2003 to serve as director of the Digital Library of Georgia (the GALILEO network's digitization program). Prior to joining UGA, Dr. Graham was head of special collections at the McCain Library & Archives, University of Southern Mississippi, 1999-2003. The recipient of numerous awards and honors, Dr. Graham was given the Alabama Author Award for Non-Fiction by Alabama Library Association in 2004 for *A Right to Read: Segregation & Civil Rights in Alabama's Public Libraries, 1900-1965* (University of Alabama Press, 2002), based on his dissertation. He earned masters degrees in history and LIS and a Ph.D. in LIS from the University of Alabama. Active in national and state organizations, he currently chairs the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board (by gubernatorial appointment), on which he has served since 2006. He is married to SLIS alumna Suzanne Graham, and they have two children.

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Dilcy Windham Hilley had the good fortune to be born in Selma to her parents, Amasa Benjamin Windham and Kathryn Tucker Windham. She couldn't have chosen a better family. Dilcy attended Albert G. Parrish High School in Selma and is a graduate of the University of Montevallo. After wading her way through of number of thankless jobs, she finally found her calling in the travel industry. Dilcy is vice president of marketing and communications for the Greater Birmingham Convention and Visitors Bureau. She's not much of a joiner but does serve on the boards of several worthwhile organizations.

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Dr. Mark Nelson joined the University of Alabama in 1991, as a faculty member in the Communication Studies Department. He served as Associate Dean for the College of Communication & Information Sciences from 1996-2006. In September 2006, Dr. Nelson accepted the position of Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs. From July 2007 to October 2008, he served as Interim Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost. In October 2008, he became Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost and served in that position until July, 2014, when he accepted his current position as Dean of the College of Communication & Information Sciences. Dr. Nelson provides consulting services for numerous organizations and governmental agencies throughout the Southeast. His training repertoire includes such topics as Public Speaking, Listening, Interpersonal and Group Dynamics, Leadership Development and Team building. His research interests include leadership, interpersonal communication competence, communication education and diversity. He is the co-author of the book Applied Organizational Communication and has authored numerous papers for publication and presentation at national and regional conferences. Dr. Nelson has received several awards including The University of Alabama Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Award, The Knox Hagood Outstanding Faculty Member in Communication, The C&IS Board of Visitors Award for Teaching Excellence, The College of Continuing Studies Teaching Excellence Award, The John Blackburn Outstanding University Advisor Award, The Lambda Pi Eta National Advisor of the Year Award, and the Delta Sigma Rho-Tau Kappa Alpha Outstanding Alumnus Award. Most recently, in 2013, he received the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award in recognition of excellence of character and service to humanity.

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Robert Riter is an assistant professor in the School of Library and Information Studies at The University of Alabama. He teaches courses, and carries out research, in the area of archival studies. **Contact:** rriter@slis.ua.edu

Amanda Hope Shelburne is the Assistant Coordinator of Youth Services for the Amarillo Public Library system of Amarillo, Texas. Shelburne is a graduate of The University of Alabama (MLIS 2013) and The University of Southern Mississippi (BA 2010, Library and Information Science). She is a member of ALA, YALSA, TLA (Texas Library Association), the Amarillo Public Library Strategic Planning Committee, and the TLA-District 2 New Members Committee. Shelburne also serves as advisor to the Amarillo Public Library's Teen Advisory Group, Amarillo Anime Club, and is the event coordinator for AMA-Con (a comic and sci-fi convention – now in its 4th year). She's even taught many of her co-workers to "Roll Tide!" Her greatest thrill since becoming a librarian is discussing books over sushi with former Power Ranger/anime voice actor Johnny Yong Bosch! She is currently researching ways to integrate video gaming technology (Virtual Reality, Environmental Projection, etc.) into existing library services. **Contact:** amanda.hope.shelburne@gmail.com

Lance Simpson is the Teen Services and Digital Creativity Manager for Tuscaloosa Public Library. Currently, Lance's work focuses on the management of a YOUmedia Learning Lab site, where he works with the teens to develop 21st century learning skills in an informal, maker-focused environment. In addition to being a student of the Connected Learning movement, Lance's professional interests lie in accessibility in libraries, as well as in services to diverse populations. Outside of the library, Lance is an avid weather enthusiast, is learning to play the guitar, and spends time with his spouse (also a librarian) and his dog, Sprocket. **Contact:** lsimpson@crimson.ua.edu

Deborah Rankins Tunstall is the Assistant Director of Library Services at the Kathryn Tucker Windham Museum at Alabama Southern Community College and teaches basic writing and reading. She holds degrees in English and Library Media. She hosts a weekly talk show, The Rankins Files, on DIXIE 94.5 FM and publishes a local magazine, The Rankins Files. Some of her active organizations are as follows: Alabama Library Association, Alabama Two-year College Library Association/secretary, Leadership Clarke County/board of directors, Alabama Folklife Association/secretary, KTW Storytelling Club/founder, and Southwest Alabama Literacy Alliance/leadership team. **Contact:** drankins@ascc.edu

Megan Walters is currently the Business Development Librarian at Lowe's Home Improvement. The primary focus of her work at Lowe's has been around information organization, particularly for corporate research assets. Beyond organization, Megan has a special interest in accessibility studies, and has had formal opportunities to discuss the topic both in and outside of work. In her spare time, she connects with LIS'ers on Twitter and does secondary research on fun research questions!

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Rebekah (Bekah) Wood is the Director of the Oneonta Public Library in Oneonta, Alabama. She graduated from The University of Alabama (MLIS 2013) and Samford University (BA 2009, English, Film Studies). Since making the jump from a paraprofessional position at Samford University to Public Librarianship, Bekah has learned a lot about Grant Writing, Community Outreach, Manga, and Lego Club. She believes community involvement is key for any library. Bekah enjoys being an advisor to the local Community Theatre, taking classes at the Police Department, and creeping out teenagers while dressed as a zombie for Phobia, the recent Oneonta Haunted Attraction.

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Steve Zary has a background in biology, ecology, human performance, health and safety, and 12 years in medical libraries. Currently at an academic medical center, but hoping to get back into a broader practice of librarianship, including reference and instruction.

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