

Fall 2007

## Information Media News, Vol. 37, No. 1

St. Cloud State University

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# Data, Information, Knowledge, Wisdom

## information media news

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### Dean's Corner

The theme of our newsletter this semester is "Data, Information, Knowledge, and Wisdom." Those of us that spend our professional lives in the field of education would be delighted if there was a way to easily teach "wisdom." We can provide data and information to students and assist them in their acquisition of knowledge. But, facilitating the path to wisdom typically proves to be a more significant challenge.

A substantial difference between wisdom and the other three components of our theme is that wisdom implies some type of resulting action. Data and information exist whether we use them or not. We may have pages of tables and charts, but they are meaningless without interpretation. Knowledge can be acquired, but the concept does not imply that it is necessarily put to use. Wisdom, on the other hand, is something that is demonstrated, often through some type of decision. Indeed, one of the definitions of "wisdom" provided by The American Heritage Dictionary is "good judgment."

Wisdom also has a component of "relativeness" about it. The purchase of Alaska in 1868 by the United States government was known as "Seward's Folly" by many. This was named for William H. Seward, who was the person who advocated for the \$7.2 million expenditure. This purchase now appears to be a very wise investment!

Most of us don't pursue \$7 million land purchases on a regular basis, but we do make choices every day that have implications for ourselves and others. Perhaps like many of you, I worry about how my actions impact the environment, I try to balance my work and personal life, and look for ways to improve my community.

And, of course, I work with the CIM and LR&TS faculty and staff to provide excellent teaching and learning environments for our students. We do our very best to make wise decisions based on the data, information, and knowledge that we collectively acquire. We are greatly assisted in this by the advice and guidance of our alumni and business partners. Notably the CIM Advisory Board is scheduled to meet December 6. We appreciate our interaction with this group and the opportunity to learn from their wise counsel.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the wisdom of our students who have acquired this good judgment in class and through their life experiences. One of our CIM graduates, Alex Ames, has been selected to speak at the fall-term undergraduate commencement ceremony, where he will share his wisdom with those in attendance. Congratulations, Alex!



Dr. Kristi Tornquist, Dean

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## **CIM Coordinator's Message: Data, Information, Knowledge and Wisdom in Information Media by Jeanne Anderson**

The Data-Information-Knowledge-Wisdom hierarchy has been claimed by many fields: Information Science, Systems Analysis, Artificial Intelligence, Knowledge Management, and Design. But the earliest reference to such a hierarchy, curiously enough, seems to be the opening stanza of T. S. Eliot's 1934 choruses from the play "The Rock":

Where is the Life we have lost in living?  
Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge?  
Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?

Those of us in the information and education fields might well reflect with Eliot on the goals toward which we aspire and the means we use to work toward them. While we might be able to define data, information, and knowledge, the transformations of data into information and then to knowledge are not yet well defined in the literature. Further, some authors won't even attempt to address wisdom. And yet, according to Robert J. Sternberg, this is precisely what is needed in schools and businesses. He describes those who brought down Enron and WorldCom as examples of well-educated, smart people without wisdom.

So what is wisdom? Even dictionaries have many definitions, but many definitions use such phrases as "foreseeing consequences," and acting to benefit the short and long-term "common good." It is far easier to measure how successful we are at inculcating knowledge, and even critical thinking, than to determine if students, who will be our business and political leaders, will act rightly, thoughtfully and justly. If this outcome is something we value, we need to provide resources in our libraries and learning experiences in our schools and training centers that are aimed at this end.

### **References**

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## **Faculty/Staff News**



**Marcia and Mert Thompson**, assistant professor and professor of CIM, co-presented "The World of Webquests" at the fall Minnesota Educational Media Organization Conference in Brainerd, MN, October 3, 2007.

**Marcia Thompson**, assistant professor of CIM, co-presented with Teacher Development professor Ilene Rutten "The Predictable Book" at the Minnesota Reading Association Conference in Rochester, MN, November 2, 2007.

**Sandra Q. Williams**, Government Documents Coordinator, co-coordinator for the Children's Literature Workshop, and instructor for IM 624, presented "Kids and Government Websites: Together @ Your Library" at the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) conference in Reno, Nevada, on October 26, 2007. The theme of the 13th AASL conference was "The Future Begins @ Your Library" and represented the largest gathering of school library media specialists in the country.

*Words of Wisdom from a graduate: "And so the moment we persuade a child, any child, to cross that threshold into a library, we've changed their lives forever and for the better." ~Barack Obama as quoted by Kathryn Theisen, Track II*

## Graduate Profile

### *Laurie Conzemius, Track II*



**Laurie Conzemius** claims to have “literally traveled hundreds of miles to attend SCSU.” Sometimes she made the 4 hour round-trip trek from her home in Park Rapids, MN, to class and home again in one night. She often stayed in the dorms on weekends and in the summers. But the long hours in the car and the time away from her family didn’t discourage Laurie. SCSU was, after all, the closest

university that offered school library media licensure. But it wasn’t just convenience that kept her at SCSU: “I stayed [at SCSU] because the instructors were knowledgeable and because so many of my SCSU classmates were making the same transition from teacher to media specialist that I was,” Laurie explains. After earning her B.A. in elementary education and reading from Concordia College, Moorhead, Laurie taught grades K-4 in Park Rapids. She later became the elementary media specialist there and received her Master’s in Information Media in 1998 from SCSU.

Currently, Laurie is a media specialist at Pine Meadow Elementary School in Sartell, MN. Laurie is very active not only in her school but throughout the community. Her husband, Tom, is the activities director at Sauk Rapids-Rice High School. They have two children; their daughter Maria is a first grade teacher in Arizona, and Joel, their son, is a

10th grader at Sauk Rapids High School.

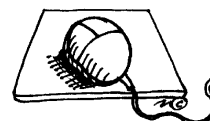
Laurie is also very active in MEMO, the Minnesota Educational Media Organization. “From my very first class at SCSU, Phyllis Lacroix emphasized being a part of MEMO. I have been very involved in MEMO ever since—from publishing our annual journal, *MN Media*, to assisting with fall and midwinter conferences to volunteering in various capacities to holding an office,” Laurie explains. “My membership in MEMO is very valuable to me. I see MEMO as the way to stay connected with the field and with other media and technology experts in Minnesota. It has provided me countless opportunities to learn new things and meet others. I believe it is every media specialist’s obligation, and good fortune, to be a MEMO member!”

Naturally, Laurie loves to read, and she loves sharing this passion with her students. “My students know that I introduce almost every author and every book with ‘Now this book/author is *really* my favorite!’ But, she also says that “more and more I find that I am interested in learning new technologies and in teaching ways to integrate those technologies with teachers.” Much of her recent research, in fact, has been on integrating technology into the classroom. “I’ve done sessions recently on using internet resources to support reading instruction, Web 2.0, and Second Life,” she says. Still, Laurie claims to be an “avid reader,” who also happens to spend “way too much time on the computer.” That is, perhaps, the very definition of a 21st century school media specialist.

## Technology Toolbox



Here are a few new tools you should be aware of as a CIM student.



**Adobe Connect**, formerly known as Macromedia Breeze, is a web conferencing software package that is currently being used in several CIM courses for students to connect with one another at a distance. This software has many convenient features to facilitate communication including live video feed, chat with the whole class or person to person, and the capability to view classroom visual materials. Just like MediaSite, classes offered via Adobe Connect can be viewed live or recorded and viewed at a later date.

**Microsoft Office File Extensions** have changed with the advent of Microsoft 2007. Applications in the Microsoft Office Suite such as Microsoft Word previously had file extensions ending with .doc. The new file extension is .docx. This makes files with the new extension impossible to open unless you have the new version of Microsoft Office installed on your computer. To remedy the situation, simply save all work as a 97-2003 document. This ensures the document will be compatible to be read and opened on any computer that has yet to receive an upgrade.

Are you new to distance learning, MediaSite, and Desire2Learn? Students enrolled in IM 554: Developing Skills for Online Learning created a **web-based distance learners student orientation** for students enrolled in CIM courses. The website includes useful information including links to student services for distance learners, a distance learner inventory to determine if online learning is right for you, in-depth information about MediaSite, and animated tutorial walking you through the various features of Desire2Learn. The site is located at <http://web.stcloudstate.edu/jeanne/im554/project/>.



## Welcome New Graduate Assistants

Originally from Canada, **Neil Andruschak** now lives in St. Cloud with his wife and two children. He received his Bachelor of Science in Sports and Recreation Management from the University of Minnesota, Crookston. He is currently enrolled in CIM's Track II program, educational media, which he began last spring. "I love to teach, read, and use technology. Can you think of a better fit than library media specialist?" Neil asks. In his new work role as a graduate assistant in LR&TS, he provides faculty D2L support and works in the Curriculum Technology Center. As these two roles provide real world experience, they are "an awesome experience" and "an excellent fit," Neil says.

Family is very important to Neil, and he says his wife—"the picture of beauty"—is what has influenced him the most. "I would not be at SCSU without her." Besides reading Tom Clancy and Dan Brown novels, Neil enjoys water sports, mechanics, and woodworking. Neil has also traveled extensively. On his most memorable trip, he saw a "humpback whale, mountains, ocean, porpoise, a highway bridge for sale, an eagle, moose, wolf, tear gas, halibut, salmon, a bear that wanted to eat salmon, and immigration officers with very 'friendly' K-9s." It was, he claims, "the trip of a lifetime!"



Meet CIM's newest GA—**Emily Stenberg**. She grew up in Greenbush, Minnesota, and is the youngest of six kids. Emily completed her undergraduate work at the College of St. Benedict (St. Joseph, MN) in 2006 earning a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature with a minor in art. Some of her college highlights include working in the Communication and Marketing Services office as a news writer, interning at the North Dakota Museum of Art in Grand Forks, ND, and studying abroad in London for a semester.

After graduating from St. Ben's, Emily spent a year as an AmeriCorps volunteer, working with emergent readers who receive Head Start Services. Her work with readers, along with encouragement from her family, inspired her to become a school library media specialist.

When Emily is not working as an editor of *CIM News*, serving as a teaching assistant in IM 260: Exploring Information Technologies, or going to class, she enjoys a variety of hobbies.

Watching classic movies from Netflix, baking cookies, writing, reading, and traveling are a few things she likes to do. She is even planning on traveling to Alnwick, England, this summer to study British children's literature and photography.

New graduate assistant **Sudhakar Chirravuri** was born and raised in Hyderabad, India, one of the fastest growing cities in the world. Last summer, he moved to the United States to begin his career at SCSU in Track III of the IM program, instructional design and training. In India, Sudhakar received a degree in mechanical engineering and was employed as an instructional designer at Adayana Automotive, but when he decided to gain more experience in this area by enrolling at SCSU, his colleagues were very supportive.

Coming to central Minnesota was, of course, quite a change, but Sudhakar is determined to make the most of it. "I want to be the best instructional designer," he says. Very few institutions offer IM training in India, Sudhakar explains, so the decision to move to the U.S. was an easy one. His graduate assistantship provides a fantastic experience in instructional design and training, as he is working as a D2L support team member.

In his free-time, Sudhakar claims to "eat, sleep, and drink automobiles." Unfortunately, he doesn't have a license yet. While he's waiting to gain that license, he enjoys dancing, watching movies, reading books and playing cricket.



After living in Nepal, India, Pakistan, and Hong Kong, **Prabal Shah** has found a home here at SCSU. Prabal graduated in 2003 from SCSU with a BA in Elective Studies with a focus on networking and a minor in data communication. He returned home for 3 years to work in Kathmandu as a computer engineer and systems administrator for the Nepal Investment Bank. Working behind computers all day helped Prabal come to the realization that his true passion lies in teaching, training, and interacting with others. This passion led him to enroll in the Track III Program, instructional design and training, through the Center for Information Media.

Prabal currently is employed to serve as a liaison between the CIM and the Blaine/Spring Lake Park/Mounds View fire department to develop fire safety multimedia training materials for kids age 11-14. (More information about this exciting partnership will be featured in our next issue!) When Prabal is not working, he enjoys playing basketball, writing poetry, and spending time with his family. His son, Tejas, is 2 ½ years old, and his wife, Shristi, works as a psychiatrist in New York. Prabal credits Dick Mowe, chair of the Statistics and Computer Networking Department, for being his mentor. When asked for a word of wisdom, Prabal had the following to say, "Don't just plan your life—make it happen!"

# Congratulations to the 2007-2008 CIM scholarship recipients!

The Center for Information Media is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's scholarships.

## Luther Brown scholarship

*Luther Brown was the first Dean of Learning Resources at SCSU. This scholarship is to encourage and assist students in the pursuit of graduate work and leadership in information media.*

### Jill Berg

Track I graduate student

Expected graduation date: Spring 2009

Career goals: To be a technology integration specialist for a school or district.

Jill says, "This scholarship allowed getting my Master's degree more quickly, and be less of a financial burden."

### Ann Carstens

Track II graduate student

Expected graduation date: Fall 2008

Career goals: To work as a media specialist at the high school level.

Ann says, "CIM supports my academic endeavors, and more importantly, individuals have recognized the necessity of school library media specialists and shown their support for the work we do."

### Romarie Zongo

Track III graduate student

Expected graduation date: December 2008

Career goals: To secure a teaching position in a computer science or business and administration department with a 2-year institution.

Romarie says, "This scholarship makes me feel that someone cares about my future and my success. My family was with me at the gala, and my children and my spouse were proud."

### Holly Speiker Thompson

Track II graduate student

Expected graduation date: 2009

Career goals: To be a school library media specialist.

Holly says, "This scholarship meant that I could cut my hours at work in order to drive to SCSU 3 days per week in order to complete my teacher licensure requirements with the College of Education. Without this scholarship, the financial hit would have been much harder. I can't wait to get kids excited about reading, learning, and technology from my post in the Media Center!"

### Jenny Hill\*

Track II graduate student

Expected graduation date: Spring 2008

Career goals: To be a school library media specialist.

Jenny says, "It was great to receive financial support while I pursue a Master's degree. Scholarships are what make higher education possible!"

\*Jenny also received the **Carl and Marilyn Savage Endowment in Information Media.**

## Inez Rank scholarship

*This scholarship is awarded to undergraduate information media students who demonstrate leadership qualities. Ms. Rank was born in rural Tennessee during the depths of the Depression. Despite having to leave school at the age of 13 to support herself, the joy of learning continued throughout her life.*

### Megan Wegman

Undergraduate CIM major

Expected graduation date: Spring 2008

Career goals: To be a zoo educator, preferably at the Minnesota Zoo.

Megan says, "[This scholarship] will help with higher costs that students encounter."

## Dennis and Anne Fields scholarship

*Dennis Fields was a long-time faculty member in the Center for Information Media, and Anne served many years as assistant registrar. The scholarship they established is designed to support international students working toward a graduate degree in Training and Instructional Design.*

### Prabal Shah

Track I graduate student

Expected graduation date: December 2008

Career goals: To be a technical training consultant and professor in technology education.

Prabal says, "[This scholarship is] a great boost to my confidence and a push to work harder."

These scholarship recipients were recognized last spring at Dessert Fest 2007. The College of Education hosts Dessert Fest each spring to honor scholarship donors and recipients. To read more about Dessert Fest 2007, please visit <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/news/outlook/story.asp?storyID=23272&issueID=188550>.

Applications for next year's scholarships are due on **February 1, 2008**. For more information on these scholarships and others, please visit <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/cim/scholarships.asp>. All scholarship applications are available in the CIM office, MC 110.

## Other Scholarship News

**Emily Stenberg** has been awarded a 2007-2008 Graduate Dean's Distinction Scholarship. Emily is pursuing a Master of Science in Information Media, Track II. She completed her Bachelor of Arts in English at the College of Saint Benedict. This scholarship is available to new academically gifted graduate students who are U.S. residents or citizens beginning their program in the fall semester. To be considered, an applicant must possess an overall G.P.A. of 3.5 or higher. Emily was awarded \$2,000 over a period of two semesters. The Husky Bookstore sponsors these scholarships.

## Welcome New LR&TS Faculty

**Cindy Gruwell** calls her decision to obtain her MLS and embark on a new career path “a good move....I saw the light,” she explains. Very active in the profession, Cindy is no stranger at conferences. She has served as a presenter and panelist for local, regional, and national symposiums and workshop sessions; and she has published a variety of articles, written a book chapter, and co-edited a book.. Cindy’s diverse interests include “information literacy, library instruction, educational technology and software/websites that make aspects of what we [librarians] do easier,” she says. In addition she has done work with the recruitment and retention of librarians of color.



Born on the East Coast, New York, and educated on the West Coast, California, Cindy moved to the middle of the country, Minnesota, in 1995. Before coming to SCSU, she worked as a reference librarian and coordinator of instruction at the Bio-Medical Library at the University of Minnesota.

This spring at SCSU she’ll be teaching IM 204: Research Strategies in addition to providing reference services in the library.

Cindy shares her home with her two children, Jada and Kevin, two dogs, two cats, more than two fish, a yard full of creatures, and her one husband, Michael. She is excited to be working at SCSU, where she has “the opportunity to work with a wider variety of students,” as well as pursue her interests in library instruction and information literacy. The shorter drive, she says, doesn’t hurt either.

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**Olivia Olivares** loves books. “I love to read. I love the English language,” she says. “A trip to the bookstore is always nice. A trip to the bookstore with a café is even better. A trip to the bookstore with a café, gift certificate in hand, is best,” she declares. For inspiration, she turns to authors like Jane Austen, Charles Dickens, and JK Rowling. And luckily her new job, as a bibliographic/library research skills instructor at SCSU, allows her to be surrounded by books daily. In the spring, she’ll be teaching IM 204: Research Strategies, but for now, you can find her teaching research skills to a variety of classes from many departments.

Born in San Jose, Olivia grew up in Guatemala and Venezuela. She received much of her education in Arizona, including her Master in Library and Information Science from the University of Arizona-Tucson in 1995. For the last 15 years, she has worked in university libraries performing a variety of different roles, including stints as an interlibrary loan coordinator, reference librarian, and a social sciences team librarian. But a love of tuna casserole, the appeal of lots of snow and rain—and the opportunity to teach semester-long courses in the field—is what brought her to SCSU.



**Tina Gross**, who grew up in northern Minnesota, recently moved back to the Midwest with her husband after living in Pittsburgh for the last 12 years. She is an assistant professor in LR&TS and also serves as a catalog librarian and works in collection management. Tina received her Bachelor of Arts from Bennington College in Vermont, concentrating in literature/creative writing and Spanish. Both of these concentrations, it turns out, have been put to good use so far. After receiving her MLS from the University of Pittsburgh, Tina accepted a position as the Hispanic/Latin American Languages Cataloger there. But the opportunity to teach cataloging, which she’ll be doing next fall, was one reason she decided to accept the position at SCSU. “I’ve done it before at night, as an adjunct,” she explains, but the opportunity to teach it as part of her “day job” was impossible to say no to. This spring, Tina will also be teaching IM 104: Information Quest.

Tina’s interest in cataloging has inspired much of her research and writing. She recently wrote an article on the history of Spanish translations of the Sears List of Subject Headings, which will be published in the forthcoming Spanish translation of Sears. She also co-authored a study with Arlene Taylor on the effect of subject headings on keyword searching. Next, Tina hopes to research the “effect of table of contents/summary enhancements on the precision of searching in library catalogs.”

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**Jennifer Quinlan** is a new assistant professor and reference and instruction librarian at SCSU. This spring, she will be instructing IM 204: Research Strategies. Jennifer has much experience and interest in online information literacy tutorials—a pursuit that will be especially helpful to SCSU distance students. “I am interested in best practices in the provision of these tutorials and usability testing the effectiveness of such tutorials,” she says. She has been active in her profession, writing and presenting on online tutorials, as well as chat reference.

Jennifer comes to SCSU from the Chicago area. She has a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as a Master of Arts in English from Iowa State University. She has worked as a librarian at Iowa State University, DePaul University in Chicago, and Mount Hood Community College in Gresham, Oregon. She says she is excited for the “excellent professional opportunity” here in St. Cloud. Jennifer, who has a 10-year-old son Brody “obsessed with football,” enjoys reading her favorite authors and poets, including Margaret Atwood, Adrienne Rich, Louise Gluck, W.S. Merwin, and Michael Ondaatje in her free time.





**Michael Gorman** is a new assistant professor at SCSU who also works in reference services. He will be teaching IM 104: Information Quest this spring. Before coming to SCSU this fall, he worked as a Public Services Librarian at the Lake Agassiz Regional Library in Moorhead.

Michael received his Master of Science in geography from Minnesota State University, Mankato and a Master of Library Science from Emporia State University in Kansas. His current research studies seem to combine the focus of his two Master's degrees and include virtual reference, settlement patterns in Minnesota, and the documentation of historical and geographical information. Michael, who grew up in Kansas and currently lives in St. Cloud, is excited about "the opportunity to assist students in achieving academic success" here at SCSU.



Originally from Minneapolis, new SCSU Archivist **Tom Steman** has been working in Ohio for the last few years, at the Oberlin College Archives and at the Case Western Reserve University Archives in Cleveland, OH. But a desire

to be closer to family and friends brought him, along with his wife Suzanne, his children Neil and Anna Mae, and a cocker-spaniel named Sophie, back to Minnesota.

Naturally, an archivist must love history and librarianship. Thankfully for SCSU, Tom does. In fact, he received his B.A. from the University of Minnesota and his Master's from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in history. He also received a Master's in Library Science, specializing in archival administration, from UW-Milwaukee. And he claims to have an interest in "all aspects of archives," from arranging and describing to preserving and reference. He especially savors "the thrill of the hunt for information." Besides history and archiving, Tom's interests include sports, "especially hockey," family time, and Spiderman.

## Welcome New Adjunct Faculty

Adjunct Instructor for

InforMedia Services and the Center for Information Media, **Brad**

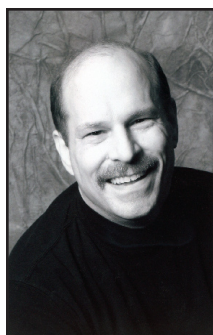
**Busse** is teaching three classes at SCSU this fall—two sections of IM 422/522: Information, Technology and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Learning as well as a freshmen course called Discovering the College Experience. "I volunteered for [the College Experience course] because I have always enjoyed working with young people, and now

that I have a college freshman in my family, I can relate!" Brad's daughter, Kelly, has just started her freshman year at Bemidji State; his son, Jordan, is a senior at SCSU. Brad and his wife Mary Jo, a surgical nurse, have been married for 25 years, 12 of which have been spent in St. Cloud.

Brad's experience is in television, including producing and writing for a variety of shows, and advertising. But he "jumped at the chance" to work in the library at SCSU. He received his Master's degree from SCSU in 1999 and "had always hoped to find a job here," he said.

Besides his work and family, Brad's real passion lies in community theatre. "I have appeared in, or participated behind the scenes in 19 productions here in St. Cloud in the last 3 years," including "Deer Camp" this past summer, along with IM professor John Theis. He is also on the board of the Actor's Playhouse of St. Cloud, which he calls "a small group, but an organization with big plans!"

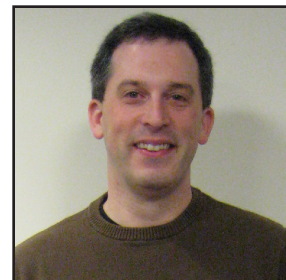
Brad has enjoyed his time at SCSU very much so far, and he hopes to continue working here "for a long time... It's a terrific atmosphere!"



**Bob Lessinger** is a new adjunct faculty member in CIM, but he is a familiar face; he came to SCSU in the winter of 2001 to work in the Computer Store. Besides instructing IM 260: Exploring Information Technologies, Bob is also a member of the Information and Technology Services department, working

as an open computer lab support specialist. Naturally, computer technology is of great interest to Bob; "just about anything that's got a computer chip gets my interest," he says. But he also claims to "have a difficult time resisting any conversation where legal issues are debated." It shouldn't be surprising then, that he holds a Juris Doctor, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in history from the University of North Dakota.

Bob was raised in New York, but he, along with his wife, three kids, and dog, now live in Rockville. When not working—or debating—Bob enjoys video games and a variety of sports, including football, baseball, and golf. He has a knack for languages and has traveled extensively; his favorite city is Oslo, Norway. Bob was greatly influenced by his high school guidance counselor, but not for the typical reasons; the "lack of direction" from his counselor, he claims, was "the most significant influence I ever had."







*Do you love children's and young adult literature?*

*Want to connect with others for book discussions on new titles?*

## **Check Out the CIM Online Book Club!**

**by Marcia Thompson**

I'd like to invite you to join the CIM Online Book Club. It is in the planning stages, and you have a chance to become a charter member. My idea is that we will read one young adult book and at least one picture book each month, and then meet monthly in cyberspace to discuss and enjoy the books. Adobe Connect, the software that I am currently exploring, requires that you have a computer with a high speed Internet connection and a headset with a microphone; a web camera is optional. The software has an audio and a chat feature that allows a discussion to take place in real time. In the event that you can't log on during the actual meeting, the session can be recorded for later viewing. Of

course, I think that once during the year we should also plan a face-to-face meeting with home-baked goodies—what is a good book without some chocolate to go along with it?

If this sounds like something that you would like to be a part of, please send an e-mail to:  
[mthompson@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:mthompson@stcloudstate.edu).

Signing up does not obligate you to join, but it will put you on the "list" to receive further information.

The Book Club was launched the last week of November, but it's not too late to join! I hope that you will join me for the journey. I also welcome suggestions for children's and young adult books that you would like to discuss.

## **Save The Date!**

### **For the 29th Annual Children's Literature Workshop**

**June 16-17, 2008**

**by Sandra Williams**

The 29th Annual Children's Literature Workshop, sponsored by the Center for Information Media at St. Cloud State University, will be held on June 16-17, 2008, at the Holiday Inn in St. Cloud. The keynote presenters will be Eric Kimmel and Janet Stevens. Eric is the author of many books about different countries and cultures, and his Anansi books are always favorites. He won a Caldecott Honor Medal for *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins* and many of his books have appeared on state lists of best books. Learn more about Eric at <http://www.ericakimmel.com/>.

Janet Stevens is an award-winning illustrator whose *The Great Fuzz Frenzy* just won the Colorado Children's Book Award for 2007. Besides illustrating books, she also writes and adapts stories. Her *Tops & Bottoms* won a Caldecott Honor Medal. It will be fun to have Eric and Janet present on the same day because Janet illustrates Eric's Anansi stories. See Janet's website at <http://www.janetstevens.com/>.

Gertie Geck will bring us up to date with new books for 2007-2008, and we will also offer four small-group sessions from which participants will choose three to attend.



Workshop Fee: \$175 if postmarked on or before May 30, 2008; \$200 if postmarked after that date. This fee includes lunch both days, breaks, and all materials. One semester credit will be available at either the graduate or undergraduate level. Tuition may be paid at the workshop on Monday, but the registration fee must be paid in advance to hold your place.

Please note that this workshop may meet the requirements of the 8710.7200 clock hour requirement for reading by increasing knowledge of children's literature and higher order thinking skills. Check with your district.

For information about the workshop, please contact either Chris Inkster ([cinkster@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:cinkster@stcloudstate.edu)) or Marcia Thompson ([mthompson@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:mthompson@stcloudstate.edu)). Sandra Williams ([sqwilliams@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:sqwilliams@stcloudstate.edu)) can also be contacted, but she will be on sabbatical spring semester so will not be reading email on a regular basis.

You may register by mail, fax, or email. Contact Lu Ann Rice ([rice@theodysseygroup.com](mailto:rice@theodysseygroup.com)) at The Odyssey Group at (320) 202-1831. We hope to see you there!

*Words of Wisdom from a graduate: "You can and should shape your own future. Because if you don't, someone else will."  
~ Joel Barker (Future Edge) as quoted by Jon Tufte, Track III*

# DIKW: It's What We Do

by John Theis

Other colleges and departments only dream of the kind of collaboration that occurs within the Center for Information Media (CIM) and LR&TS. This collaboration creates a unique opportunity that enriches student learning. How is this possible? It's simple: it's DIKW (Data, Information, Knowledge, Wisdom).

Beginning with the IT department, there are numerous **data** creation and storage devices (the 'D' in DIKW). As new programs, processes, and procedures are developed throughout SCSU, the amount of data that are produced is phenomenal. That data must have a place to be stored for future use. The IT professionals create "the process and the place" for the data to be captured and stored.

As the data becomes organized, stored, and displayed, it turns into **information**, (the 'I' in DIKW). That is where ITIS and the librarians enter the picture. When data are organized and some form of meaning is applied to it, it becomes information. Examples of data turning into information include web sites, books, journals, etc.

Through the processing of information, the human brain

stores the newly obtained information. Many cognitive psychologists refer to the processing, storage, and retrieval of information as learning or "**knowledge**," (the 'K' in DIKW). Helping students increase their knowledge requires instruction. That's where the Center for Information Media (CIM) enters the picture. CIM's primary function is to teach. But the teaching isn't confined to CIM. All representatives within LR&TS combine their efforts to teach. InforMedia Services workshops and library instruction sessions are two of many ways others participate in helping students gain knowledge.

Once a student has the knowledge and integrates it with life experiences, it becomes **wisdom** (the "W" in DIKW). Wisdom is the most difficult to measure but is probably the most valued. When does one become wise? That is for each individual to decide for themselves. We in CIM and all of LR&TS can only provide some of the ingredients in the trek for wisdom. We have a unique opportunity as stewards of data, information, and knowledge to enhance students' abilities to reach the ultimate goal of wisdom.

## Want to know more about DIKW?

Here are some suggestions for further analysis:

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-666540182028461233>

This presentation by Cliff Stoll was recorded in April 1996, but his ideas are still relevant today.

Stoll is a physicist and the author of **Silicon Snake Oil** and **High Tech Hectic: Why Computers Don't Belong in Schools**.

## Information Literacy and Workplace Performance by Tom Goad (2002)

In this book, Goad discusses the economic impact of an information literate workforce and relates it to the data, information, knowledge, wisdom cycle.

## 2007 John G. Berling Award for Outstanding Graduate Projects

By Chris Inkster

Two recent Information Media students have been recognized in the third annual selection of the John G. Berling Award. Paula Masad's Plan B paper, *Comparative Study of Library Media Programs in International Schools in the Gulf Cooperation Council Region Based on Information Power*, was nominated by Paula's advisor, Mert Thompson. Alissa M. Adams was nominated by her advisor, Chris Inkster, for her Plan C Portfolio, *Integrating Information Literacy Skills at Sturgis Brown High School*. Each received a \$100 award in recognition of their scholarly achievement.

In spring 2005, the Center for Information Media established the John G. Berling Awards for Outstanding CIM Graduate Projects. This award honors exceptional work done by graduate students in Information Media. Graduate advisors may nominate the work of only one advisee in each category for Plan A (thesis), Plan B (paper), and Plan C (portfolio). A committee of graduate advisors then evaluates the nominated projects on the basis of clarity,

scholarship, methodology, contribution to field, and an overall rating. The committee may then choose to select a winner for the award if the members find that one of the projects nominated is truly outstanding work. All nominees receive a certificate recognizing their project as an honor project.

The IM graduate faculty offers their congratulations to Alissa and Paula for their strong scholarship produced as part of their master's degree in information media. Graduate advisors will have a chance to nominate outstanding graduate projects for the 2008 Berling Award, which will be selected during spring 2008 for students who completed their work during the previous calendar year (spring 2007, summer 2007, fall 2007).

The award is funded through the Foundation Account # R 43007. Donations to the account may be sent to SCSU Foundation noting the account number. The name of the account is John G. Berling Award for Outstanding CIM Graduate Project.

*Words of Wisdom from Cliff Stoll: "I want to prove that knowledge does not lead to power. Who has the most knowledge in your community? Librarians, and they are famous for having no power. Who is the most powerful? Politicians, and they are notorious for having no knowledge."*



## CIM Launches Saturday Institute by Mert Thompson

On Saturday, September 8, 2007, the Center for Information Media held the first Saturday Institute for all students enrolled in 400/500 and 600 level courses. The purpose of the Institute was to:

- Provide a single day when all 400/500 and 600 courses meet for the first time and in a face-to-face manner.
- Facilitate a learning community among Information Media students.
- Provide opportunities for advising for new and returning students.
- Familiarize students with the technologies used for distance learning.
- Acquaint students with services to support distance learners.

Approximately 65 students and 15 faculty members attended the institute that began with a continental breakfast and a general session at 8:00 a.m. This session covered information about services available to students taking

classes on campus and at a distance, including library services, student IDs, and the bookstore.

The first meeting of the various classes was held during three time slots throughout the day beginning at 9:00 a.m. Following the first class meeting time, a Tech Tips session was conducted providing an opportunity for faculty to explain and demonstrate distance technologies being used this semester. Technologies covered include Interactive Television, MediaSite, and Adobe Connect. This was followed by lunch and an opportunity for students to meet or renew acquaintances.

When students were not in classes they were able to meet with their advisor to discuss their program of study, licensure, and other issues.

Based upon the evaluations, students were pleased with the institute. Over 80% of those completing the evaluation stated that it was a positive way to begin the semester. Several commented on the fact that it was a good way to build community among the students and they appreciated the ability to talk to their adviser.

A shorter version of the Saturday Institute will be held **January 19, 2008** to begin spring semester.

## Top ~~10~~ **15** Reasons to Participate in the British Children's Literature and Photography Study Abroad Program July 14 - July 31, 2008

by Mert and Marcia Thompson

1. The landscape that influenced authors such as David Almond, Beatrix Potter, and J. K. Rowling
2. World renowned Alnwick Gardens
3. Quidditch, anyone??
4. The bracing North Sea air and stunning coastal views
5. Hilltop Farm garden, inspiration for the Tales of Peter Rabbit
6. Two nights in one of the most peaceful B&Bs in the world
7. The quayside of port city Newcastle-Upon-Tyne
8. The ancient stones of Hadrian's Wall
9. Good food and friendship
10. The medieval market town of Alnwick
11. Breathtaking vistas to photograph
12. The Duke's Hulne Park
13. A real 12th century castle



*A view of Alnwick Castle in Northumberland, where the Children's Literature and Photography Study Abroad Program will be headquartered. You may recognize it as Hogwarts, from the Harry Potter movies.*

14. The study of an eclectic mix of children's and young adult books, from the classic to the contemporary

15. Seven Stories, the Centre for Children's Books in Newcastle upon Tyne  
...need we say more?

The airline tickets have been reserved—one of them should have your name on it. Don't delay—apply today. Applications are due on **February 1, 2008** and can be downloaded at <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/studyabroad/application.asp>. Program website is at <http://web.stcloudstate.edu/methompson/england/>.

If you need further persuasion, contact either Marcia at [mthompson@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:mthompson@stcloudstate.edu) or Mert at [methompson@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:methompson@stcloudstate.edu) for reasons 16-50!

*Words of Wisdom from a graduate: "My words of wisdom to current students is that every project is like a real battle: if you can win it while on campus, you can win it out in the real field again." ~George Limin Gu, Track III*

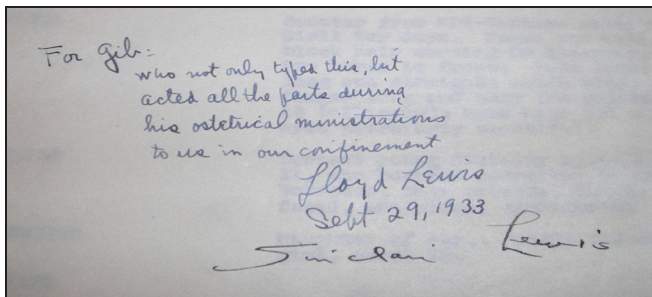


# University Archives Receives Gift of Sinclair Lewis Manuscripts

During the Great Depression, Hubert Irey Gibson had difficulty finding work. His wife suggested that he return to school to learn how to type. He did and was soon employable as a transcriptionist. Gibson's first job was found in a newspaper ad, which was placed by writer Sinclair Lewis. Lewis needed someone to transcribe a manuscript he and Lloyd Lewis (no relation to Sinclair) were working on. The play "Jayhawker," a fictional account of a Civil War battle, was created in a Chicago hotel room during the fall of 1933. Lloyd, who had written several books on the Civil War, and Sinclair gave Gibson permission to keep all versions of the manuscript, as well as notes from the authors and other materials.

Earlier this fall, 74 years after "Jayhawker" was written, several drafts of the play, along with newspaper clippings and other personal items collected by Gibson, were donated to the St. Cloud State University (SCSU) archives. Gibson's daughters, Barbara Gibson-Gustafson and Doris Gibson-Simonis, and his son, David Walter Gibson, decided to donate these materials to a place that already housed other Sinclair Lewis materials, and so SCSU was contacted, along with several other universities and historical societies. Last summer, SCSU received word that it had been chosen by the Gibson family to receive this gift, which was appraised at \$25,000. On October 12, Barbara Gibson-Gustafson visited SCSU and formally presented the manuscripts and other materials to the SCSU Archives.

University Archivist Tom Steman explains that this donation is valuable because "nothing like it exists." It is not very often that sets of manuscripts are received, Steman notes, and "this set of manuscripts shows how 'Jayhawker' evolved. It shows the process Sinclair and Lloyd Lewis went through as they wrote this play." Steman continues, "We are so glad to receive this gift here at SCSU. It's really an important piece of literary history."



Left: Title page of a manuscript that reads, "For Gib: who not only typed this but acted all the parts during his obstetrical ministrations to us in our confinement. Lloyd Lewis, September 29, 1933, Sinclair Lewis"

## Who is Sinclair Lewis?

*Did you know that Sinclair Lewis's boyhood home is less than 45 miles north of St. Cloud? The Sinclair Lewis Foundation operates and maintains his boyhood home, his gravestone, and the Sinclair Lewis Interpretive Center, all located in Sauk Centre. Harry Sinclair Lewis grew up in Sauk Centre, which is also the setting of perhaps his most famous novel, Main Street. He changed the name of Sauk Centre, however, to Gopher Prairie.*

*Lewis was the recipient of the first Nobel Prize for Literature, in 1930. He wrote 23 novels during his lifetime, including Babbitt, Arrowsmith, Dodsworth, and It Can't Happen Here.*

*The SCSU Archives houses over 11.5 linear feet of Lewis materials, including personal correspondence, photographs, clippings, autographed copies of his works, photocopies of his poems, short stories and criticisms, and collected works about him. All of these works are available for public viewing and use in the University Archives, located on the 3rd floor of the Miller Center.*

*Information provided by The Sinclair Lewis Foundation, Sauk Centre, MN.*



Above: The briefcase full of manuscripts, newspaper clippings, and other materials that Barbara Gibson-Gustafson donated to University Archives.

## Congratulations to the Following Graduates and Certificate Recipients!

### Spring 2007

Karen Gfroerer (Track II)  
Howard Jacobs (Track I)  
Todd Koenig (Track II)  
Julie Reginek (Track III)  
Zafar K. Durrani\*  
Ryan Gillen (minor)  
Soutchay Ithivongkham (minor\*)  
Heather Kopp (minor)  
Adam Northenscold (major\*)  
Nick Reina (minor)  
Eric Reverman (major)

Grant Schuette (minor)

Andrew J. Syverson (minor)  
Ann Washa\*  
Roxanne Welle\*

### Summer 2007

Nichole Burshem (minor)  
Jennifer Dahlstrom-Lage (Track II)  
Sandra Lee-Muske (Track II)

**\*Denotes Undergraduate  
Instructional Technology Certificate.**

Words of Wisdom from Sinclair Lewis: "There are two insults which no human being will endure: the assertion that he hasn't a sense of humor, and the doubly impertinent assertion that he has never known trouble."



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Co-editors: Emily Stenberg, [stem0701@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:stem0701@stcloudstate.edu) and Jenny Hill,  
[hije0202@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:hije0202@stcloudstate.edu), Dr. Karen Thoms, Faculty Advisor  
*E-mail: [kthoms@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:kthoms@stcloudstate.edu)*

The Center for Information Media and Learning Resources & Technology Services staff welcomes news of events, issues, and current and former students. To forward news items or change of address information, please contact:

Center for Information Media  
Miller Center, Room 110  
St. Cloud State University  
720 4th Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498  
Telephone: 1-320-308-2062  
*E-mail: [cim@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:cim@stcloudstate.edu)*  
<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/cim>



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Miller Center, Room 110  
St. Cloud State University  
720 4th Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498