

EXCITING NEWS!

Exciting News!

The University of North Texas Department of Library and Information Sciences is beginning a new cohort program in September 2010 in Montana. Through this outstanding program, students can earn a master's degree by participating in two four-day institutes to be held in Missoula, Mt - *September 3 - 6, 2010 and in Billings, MT - January 14 -17, 2011.*

YES!!! UNT will bring its ALA accredited Master's program and popular online format to the Northwest beginning Fall 2010. You can earn your Master's by participating in two four-day Web Institutes and complete the rest of your degree online! The Web Institute portion of the Master's program includes an orientation, technology training, and instruction in the Master's program core courses, as well as time to socialize with your Institute classmates and faculty. Students will enroll in the University of North Texas, Department of Library and Information Sciences blended learning program, a 36 credit-hour program combining: distance learning (on-line) courses delivered via the Web (at least two courses per semester for six academic semesters) in addition to the two intensive in-person four-day Web Institutes.

More Exciting News - Scholarships!

Four states—South Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana—have formed a formal partnership called SWIM to address library education needs in the region. The SWIM Regional Collaborative Library Education Project will provide scholarships to educate librarians through the UNT/LIS master's program to work in the region's rural communities. The funding is sponsored by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

SWIM scholarship includes:

- An opportunity to earn a MLIS degree from an ALA accredited graduate program.
- Financial Support — Recipients will receive scholarships to cover approximately 80% of the cost of tuition, fees, and books (approximately \$12,960).
- Travel stipends for required training, residencies, and state library association conferences in the SWIM region including support to attend the in-person Institute.

Scholarship requirements for applicants include:

- Be a resident of Idaho, Montana, South Dakota or Wyoming
- Have a BA/BS degree completed prior to fall 2010
- Not be currently enrolled or have been previously enrolled in a MLIS since January 1, 2005
- Apply to and be accepted to the MLIS distance program at UNT
- Begin the MLIS program in the fall of 2010 and complete the program in two years in accordance with the cohort agreements (taking at least 6 credit hours a semester and attending courses every semester until you graduate).

- Agree to work in an Idaho, Montana, South Dakota or Wyoming academic, public, school, special, or tribal library in a professional librarian position for 24 months after obtaining the graduate degree

The scholarship application is due or must be postmarked by March 15th, 2010. The application will be available in October on your State Library's website.

Scholarships will be awarded on or before April 30th, 2010.

Information Sessions

Come find out more about the UNT/LIS graduate program and the SWIM scholarships at information sessions to be held in your area. There will be information sessions on the following days:

Idaho Area Information Sessions – September 28 – October 3, 2009

Date/Time	Location
Monday, September 28, 2009 10am – noon	Boise State Albertson Library 1910 University Drive Boise, ID Room 201C
Monday, September 28, 2009 3pm – 5pm	Boise Public (downtown) Marion Bingham Room 715 S. Capitol Blvd. Boise, ID 83702
Tuesday, September 29, 2009 Noon – 2pm	Idaho State University Eli Oboler Library 850 South 9th Avenue Pocatello, ID Room 114
Tuesday, September 29, 2009 4pm -6pm	Marshall Public Library 113 S. Garfield Ave Pocatello, ID 83204
Wednesday, September 30, 2009 2pm – 4pm	Idaho Falls Public 457 W. Broadway Idaho Falls, ID 83402
Thursday and Friday, October 1 & 2, 2009	Idaho Library Association – Burley, ID Look for the UNT Booth in the Exhibits Area
Thursday, October 1, 2009 5:00 p.m.	Idaho Library Association – Burley, Idaho Lobby Area of the Best Western Inn

I have attached materials about the SWIM scholarship program and the UNT/LIS master's degree program. Please share this information and the announcement of information sessions with your colleagues, staff, and friends.

Information About Applying to the UNT/LIS Master's Degree Program

For directions and more information about the University of North Texas Graduate School and [Department of Library and Information Sciences](http://www.lis.unt.edu) application process go to the webpage – <http://www.lis.unt.edu>. Information about the master's program and application process to UNT are located on the LIS webpage. You will find information about the program, information sessions, the application, and information about how to apply for admission to the University and to the master's program. Be sure to review the [Master's Admission Checklist](#) page on the UNT/SLIS homepage at <http://www.ci.unt.edu/main/ViewPage.php?cid=195>. The Master's Admission Checklist will give you step by step instructions on the application process for the Univ. of North Texas. The Checklist is where you begin the application process. You should review the application instructions and start collecting supporting materials to submit with your application.

- A. The UNT - Toulouse School of Graduate Studies is the first school that you must submit an application and be admitted in order to qualify for evaluation for the IMLS scholarship.
- The directions for applying to the Graduate School are located at: http://www.tsgs.unt.edu/admission_to_graduate_studies.htm
 - The online application to Graduate School is at: https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX?s_logon_msg=Y
 - Complete official transcripts from all colleges and universities you attended must be submitted to:
Toulouse School of Graduate Studies
University of North Texas
P.O. Box 305459
Denton, TX 76203-5459
 - Official score reports from either the Graduate Record Examination – <http://www.ets.org/gre/> (The UNT school code for the GRE is 6481) or the Miller's Analogies Test – <http://www.milleranalogies.com/> must be submitted to the Graduate School.
Information about GRE and MAT testing centers as well as practice materials is available at:
GRE: <http://www.takethegre.com/> (Test sites are available in South Dakota, Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana)
MAT: <http://psychcorp.pearsonassessments.com/haiweb/Cultures/en-US/site/Community/PostSecondary/Products/MAT/mathome.htm> (Testing sites are available in South Dakota, Montana, and Idaho)

If a test date for one of the entrance exams is not available in your area, you can be admitted as a “non-degree seeking student and submit your test score before the completion of your first semester of courses.

- B. The UNT – Department of Library and Information Sciences application is at: <http://www.ci.unt.edu/main/PDF/FormFillin-LISApplication.pdf>. The application to SLIS cannot be completed online - you must fill it out online, print it out, and send it.
- You must submit three recommendation forms. Letters should be from former professors or others who can evaluate your academic qualifications and from job supervisors who can assess your potential for success as an information professional. The forms are located at <http://www.ci.unt.edu/main/PDF/FormFillin-LetterOfRecommendation.pdf>
- C. You will need to submit a one-to-two-page essay stating your purpose and goals in applying to our program. In your statement, include the nature of your interest, how you became interested in the field, your short- and long-term goals, the strengths that you would bring to the information profession, and how the UNT program will help meet your career and educational objectives.

For more information about the master’s degree program, information sessions, or the SWIM scholarships feel free to contact either:

Dr. Yvonne Chandler – via email at yvonne.chandler@unt.edu or by phone at 940-565-3777

Charlotte Thomas – via email at charlotte.thomas@unt.edu or by phone at 940-369-7275.

Yvonne J. Chandler

Yvonne J. Chandler

Yvonne J. Chandler, Associate Professor and Director, Nevada, Georgia and SWIM Cohort Programs

College of Information, Library Science, and Technologies

Department of Library and Information Sciences

1155 Union Circle #311068

Denton, Texas 76203-5017 Office: 940-565-3777

Home: 940-566-4830

Cell: 940-391-0555

Email: yvonne.chandler@unt.edu