

July 2007

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Recommended Citation

(2007) "VSU's MLIS Program Receives Accreditation, Graduates 12 in First 'Split Ceremony'," *Georgia Library Quarterly*: Vol. 44 : Iss. 2, Article 6.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/glq/vol44/iss2/6>

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*People, Libraries
and Agencies* **IN THE NEWS**

VSU's MLIS program receives accreditation, graduates 12 in first 'split ceremony'

Valdosta State University's Master of Library and Information Science Program was officially accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of the American Library Association at its meeting June 24.

The VSU MLIS is now the only ALA-accredited program of its kind in Georgia. There are only 56 accredited institutions in the US, Canada and Puerto Rico. The distinction of ALA-accreditation will allow VSU to offer library and information science education to all of Georgia.

Approved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia in 1999, the program formally began in fall of 2001 with knowledgeable faculty members and its first class of enthusiastic students. The ALA-accreditation process takes a minimum of five years and VSU was granted permission to begin in 2001, successfully advancing through each phase, including a site visit in February 2007. Based on an evaluation of all evidence and reports, the Committee on Accreditation granted initial accreditation to the VSU MLIS Program for the full term of seven years. The program's next review will be in spring 2014.

The focus of the MLIS Program is to educate librarians for academic, public and special libraries in Georgia. The program is primarily distance education, using Internet instruction with brief periods of face-to-face classes at central locations, normally selected weekends at Macon State College. It is designed for students who cannot return to a single campus for extended periods of time.

On May 4, the Valdosta State University Master of Library and Information Science Program graduated 12 new master's level librarians in a "split ceremony." Using IP videoconferencing technology, graduations were held both in Valdosta and at the Dunwoody campus of Georgia Perimeter College. VSU President Dr. Ronald Zaccari officiated at the Valdosta ceremony, and he formally conferred the MLIS degree to all students. ▶▶

NGAL sponsors program on 'green practices'

The next meeting of North Georgia Associated Libraries (NGAL) will be held Oct. 9 at the Robert E. Fulton Regional Library in Ocee. Belinda Morrow and David Greenebaum will speak on "Green Library Spaces and Practices."

NGAL is a nonprofit group of library systems from 53 counties in northern Georgia. Members include public library systems, academic institutions, school systems, and special libraries. Meetings are held four times a year, in January, April, July, and October. Annual dues are \$35.00.

NAGL programs provide informative and motivational speakers on a wide range of topics. Credits toward state license requirements are available to attendees. For more information, visit www.ngalweb.org. ▶▶

Armstrong Atlantic picks university librarian

Doug Frazier has been named university librarian of the Lane Library at Armstrong Atlantic State University (AASU). Frazier had served as interim university librarian since June 2006.



Frazier

In that capacity he oversaw the relocation of the library from a temporary space on campus to the fully renovated Lane Library building last June. He will oversee a budget of \$1.7 million and a staff of 19, including 10 librarians.

From 1996 to 2006, Frazier served as assistant university librarian. He joined AASU in 1991 as head of technical services and systems librarian. He holds a master's degree in library science from the University of Washington and a bachelor's degree from Western Washington University.

Part of the University System of Georgia, AASU offers more than 100 undergraduate and graduate academic programs and serves more than 6,700 students. ▶▶