



2022-2023 SOLIS Officers Nominees

Nominee for SOLIS President:

Bio: Roxanne Williamson is originally from Jamaica and moved to the U.S. in 2005. Roxanne acquired a B.A.S degree in Health Supervision and Management from Palm Beach State College. She resides in Stone Mountain, GA, and has worked for DeKalb County Public Library for the past 7 years. Roxanne now holds the position of Library Specialist and hopes to graduate May 2023.



Election Statement: The election to the position of SOLIS president will allow me to do more in encouraging fellowship among MLIS students and spreading the word of this wonderful student organization and all the good that it has done. I have previously had the pleasure of serving as secretary of SOLIS and look forward to the opportunity to step up and do my part to make real change. It provides a means for me to stretch myself and use my strengths in the service of faculty and my fellow students. Along with these things, I will also gain valuable experience in strengthening my own abilities as a future leader in the profession.

Nominee for SOLIS Vice President:

Bio: Sussan Ayala Rodriguez is currently the manager at the Upper King William branch of Pamunkey Regional Library. Throughout her time in libraries, Sussan has been an associate, assistant, and a programmer, so she is familiar with most aspects of public librarianship. This is Sussan's fourth semester in the MLIS program at Valdosta State, and she is hoping to graduate Summer of 2023.



Election Statement:

I wish to run for the position of Vice-President of SOLIS because I want to continue to engage with other MLIS students to promote the success of our program. I was an advisory member last year and I want to help build on the successes of last year in a different capacity. The work done by this committee enriches our educational experience by providing scholarship funds and providing opportunities for students to communicate ideas and experiences. I would be proud to serve the organization in this new capacity.

Nominee for Communications Officer:

Bio: Vanessa Claros holds a Bachelors of Arts in Broadcast Journalism from the University of Georgia. She is currently pursuing her Masters in Library Science and hopes to graduate in the Fall of 2023. Most of her experience is in public libraries, but she has worked in an academic setting, and is currently employed at a private military library. In her free time, she enjoys listening to true crime podcasts, YA audiobooks, and exploring local parks with her two small children.



Election Statement: Vanessa Claros is a dedicated and hardworking professional who is passionate about informing and fostering relationships within her community and online. As a digital native, she believes that social media is an invaluable tool for libraries in multiple capacities and allows users to stay connected and build a community. She hopes to do just that in her role as a Communications Officer. In the past, she helped manage an academic library's social media channels. The experience was rewarding; she collaborated with a team of individuals to create content that was not only informative, but also engaging. In addition, her background in broadcast journalism has allowed her to polish her communication and writing skills and she plans to use her knowledge to serve the MLIS community.

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Nominee for Secretary:

Bio: Griffin Kilby works full-time at the Flint River Regional Library as a Courier/ Library Assistant. This is Griffin's penultimate semester for the MLIS program at Valdosta State.

Election Statement: I am interested in the Secretary position for SOLIS; I have served in similar positions before, and enjoy the responsibilities involved with the title.



SOLIS Advisory Board Member Nominees

Bio: My name is Alana Baldwin-Joiner. I am a new MLIS student who lives in the Portland, Oregon area, and currently work at the Lake Oswego Public Library. I have been in library systems for two years now, and my favorite aspects of library work are reading, connecting with people, and making knowledge and resources accessible.



Election Statement: I would like to run for a position on the Advisory Board. I am incredibly passionate about the services, outreach, and resources that libraries provide, and I am so excited to be a part of increasing the accessibility and inclusivity of libraries.

Bio: My name is Taylor Naquin. I'm from South Carolina but currently living overseas in Japan! I am an English as a Second Language teacher part time here while completing my Master's degree. When I'm not working or studying, I read, play video games, and go jogging with my dog Sawyer. Before I moved to Japan, I was the Multimedia Specialist at the Spartanburg County Library in South Carolina. I



have had a passion for books and libraries since childhood and was absolutely delighted to have a chance to turn my love of books into a career. After my degree is completed, my husband and I are planning to move back to the United States, where I will hopefully be able to work in a Collections or Multimedia related field.

Election Statement: I'm currently about halfway through my MLIS studies with Valdosta and hoping to get more involved in the program through SOLIS. While living overseas has been a lifechanging experience, one drawback is I have a limited ability to network in person. I am a straight A student with a passion for books, academia, and writing. I am also very detail oriented and love curating, organizing, and working with spreadsheets! My other areas of interest include building and promoting diverse collections, trauma informed librarianship, digital collections, and promoting libraries as accessible and welcoming community centers for everyone.

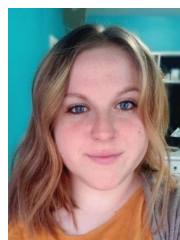
Bio: Astrid E. Larson lives in Chicago, Illinois with her two cats, Lulu and Snoopy, and she works at DePaul University as a metadata assistant. Astrid has been working in libraries since 2018 and is on year two of her MLIS career at VSU; she specializes in metadata and cataloguing. She received her B.A. in English with Cum Laude honors at Northern Illinois University in 2018; at NIU she served as president of the Xi Delta chapter of Sigma Tau Delta. Her writing-based achievements include being published in multiple literary magazines and chapbooks, is a teaching artist of poetry, and serves on the Teen Writers and Artists Project as a board member from being a former TWAAP attendee.



Election Statement: I am running as an advisory board member for the 2022/2023 year because I would like to challenge myself beyond what VSU has to offer academically. Aside from my experience of leading organizations and working with teams of people in academic and career settings, my creativity and ability to work under pressure is what I take pride in. These two strengths of mine help me collaborate with others and problem solve, and I believe these strengths would be an asset to SOLIS.

Bio: Heather Wolf is a former Youth Services Librarian of two years, she holds an M.A. in Law, Justice & Culture and is currently a third-grade teacher in Dayton, Ohio. Her interests include equity and diversity, Readers Advisories, YA literature, and programming. She wishes to become a YS Coordinator or Cultural Programming Manager.

Election Statement: As prior Executive Chairperson for the Center for Student Legal Services at Ohio University and Communications Officer for a local LGBTQIA+ organization, I feel confident in my abilities to represent the SOLIS team. My goal is to be inclusive of all, foster connections with fellow students, and have open communication.



Election Statement: As prior Executive Chairperson for the Center for Student Legal Services at Ohio University and Communications Officer for a local LGBTQIA+ organization, I feel confident in my abilities to represent the SOLIS team. My goal is to be inclusive of all, foster connections with fellow students, and have open communication.

SOLIS Advisory Board Member Nominees

Bio: I'm **Will Wood**, and I've enrolled in Valdosta's MLIS program because of my interest in archival focused practices and work environments. I currently work in a public library. Before this, I received a master's in history spurred on by living in one of the most historic cities in the southeast.



Election Statement: I wish to run for a position on the advisory board. Ever since starting the MLIS program I have felt a gulf of separation between myself and others in my cohort due to its remote learning nature. Being on the board will help me bridge that gap for myself and others. Being on the advisory board will not just relegate me to a representative role, either. In all things of this nature, I am inspired by the Mayan tradition of "leading by obeying," where I do not represent myself but speak on behalf of all MLIS students at Valdosta. I will bring this to bear as best as I am able in this position.

Alumni Spotlight: Ashley D. R. Sergiadis

1 What were your favorite classes while in the MLIS program?

My favorite courses were Research Methods, Capstone, and Marketing Library Services. These courses had assignments that I was able to re-use in my past and current positions.

2 What was your favorite course project while receiving your MLIS degree?

My favorite course project was my capstone. I analyzed the content of tweets that mentioned works within an institutional repository. I enjoy researching questions that often arise in my area of librarianship.

3 How has what you learned while getting your MLIS degree directly affected or been applied to your work?

As mentioned, I loved working on my capstone. Not only was it a topic that interested me, but it has been useful in my career. I have used the research in my job when talking with faculty about their research impact. I also wanted a tenure-track faculty position after I graduated. Knowing how to research and having that experience was important to me. I even published [a version of the paper as a peer-review article](#). Aside from my capstone, I enjoyed creating a marketing plan for the Marketing Library Services course. I have used versions of that plan several times when deciding how to market institutional repositories.

4 Do you have any advice for upcoming graduates on how to navigate the job search and/or the field as a new graduate?

My advice would be to get as much experience as you can working in libraries. Having an MLIS will open many doors, but your work experience is what will set you apart from the other applicants.



Ashley D.R. Sergiadis graduated in December 2016 from VSU MLIS and is the Digital Scholarship Librarian and Assistant Professor at East Tennessee State University (ETSU). She co-manages ETSU's institutional repository, [Digital Commons@ETSU](#), and their [Open and Affordable Course Materials Initiatives](#). She recently received the [ETSU Distinguished Faculty Award in Service](#). She previously worked as the Digital Collections Specialist at Georgia Southern University where she managed their institutional repository.

SOLIS Calls for News Items!

Please share with us your news about a recently awarded scholarship, a conference presentation, or a paid internship opportunity, or other exciting news of your scholarly and professional achievements. Please send your news items to xren@valdosta.edu as they happen. Thank you!

Support the Student Organization of Library and Information Science (SOLIS) by ordering your own T-shirt with the VSU and MLIS insignias!

Proceeds of sales in years have funded ALA conference registrations for students, travel reimbursements for SOLIS officers representing SOLIS at GLA conferences, a reception for the travelling rare books exhibit on loan from the Remnant Trust, a 15th anniversary celebration in downtown Valdosta, and many SOLIS activities such as virtual 5k, and t-shirt design contest. The proceeds of sales will be the main funding source for a newly created SOLIS scholarship starting from Fall 2021.

Shirts are sold at \$10 each at face-to-face events such as GLA conferences and previous New Student Orientations.

SOLIS T-Shirt Order Form

Yes, I want to support SOLIS! Please send me _____ (number) of shirts.

Please fill in the oval next to your preferred t-shirt design:



Please indicate the **quantity** for each size:

Small_____ Medium_____ Large_____ X-Large_____ 2X-Large* _____ 3X-Large* _____

**sizes not available for white t-shirt*

Order of one (1) shirt is \$20 (includes processing and shipping via USPS). Order of 2 or more shirts is \$15 per shirt (processing and shipping included)

Total enclosed: _____

Check payment only. Make check payable to **MLIS Foundation**. Allow two to four weeks to receive your t-shirt(s).

Your shipping address:

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Please mail this form with your check to:

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