

GSLIS Gleans More Than \$2 Million in Grants

GSLIS continues to set the bar for excellence among the world's library schools by improving life and learning in a variety of ways. In addition to the grants received last winter to help devastated Iraqi libraries (see Spring '03 *Librarian*), the school recently was awarded \$2,146,881 in grants for several groundbreaking projects that Dean Michèle V. Cloonan said will enable the school to build upon its academic excellence and international reputation.

The school extends its international reach through a program to train nine newly hired librarians from the University of Pristina in Kosovo, funded by a \$350,000 grant from the U.S. Department of State. In collaboration with the Institute for Training and Development of Amherst, MA, the training program will bring the librarians to Boston and Amherst and introduce current library policies and procedures, practical skills, and team-working capabilities. Assistant Dean Terry Plum will lead the semester-long program, which is projected to begin in the coming year.

Professor Ching-chih Chen received a two-year \$493,020 grant from the National Science Foundation for her interna-

tional study on efficient digital image searching, retrieval, and management. Entitled "IDLP: International Collaboration to Advance User-oriented Technologies for Managing and Distributing Images in Digital Libraries," the project will advance the understanding of digital imagery management and distribution technology by using an interdisciplinary team of computer and information scientists from the U.S., China, and Taiwan.

In addition, three grants were funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Dean Cloonan — in partnership with the Association of Research Libraries, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Catholic University of America — received an \$826,182 grant from the IMLS to recruit, educate, and train 45 master's level students who already have completed doctoral work in other fields to attend the Association of Research Libraries Academy. The project will address the need to fill higher-level library positions, based on concerns about the rate of retirement of library specialists within the next 10 to 15 years.

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The National Leadership Grants for Library and Museum Collaboration program of the IMLS awarded Assistant Professor Gary Geisler, in partnership with Northeast Historic Film, a \$272,179 grant to enhance the school's expertise in technology and visual resources. The funding will help a broad range of museums, libraries, and other institutions with video resources to catalog those resources, and make them more accessible through Web-based digital video libraries.

Lastly, GSLIS, in collaboration with the Northeast Document Conservation Center, received a \$205,500 grant to lead a project to help make preservation a basic part of the master's of library science curriculum among regional preservation centers and schools of library and information science. The project goal is to arrive at consensus about content for a preservation course and to create an online curriculum with detailed lesson plans.

"GSLIS has received federal and foundation grants for many years," said Cloonan. "But with the increase in faculty, we are now receiving more grants at once, which will help GSLIS remain at the forefront of international, educational, and technological initiatives."