



SIMMONS GSLIS

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**Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science
Awarded \$455,639 Program Grant from the
Institute of Museum and Library Services.**

Boston (December 3, 2009): The Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) is pleased to announce it has received a grant of \$455,639 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for the project, "Curriculum, Cooperation, Convergence, Capacity – Four C's for the Development of Cultural Heritage Institutions."

GSLIS will partner with seven New England cultural institutions to incorporate museum informatics and data stewardship into an existing program of study. Partner affiliates are: American Textile History Museum, Concord Free Public Library, Connecticut Historical Society, Historic New England, Museum of African American History, Phillips Library Peabody Essex Museum and Shelburne Museum. The grant supports institutional capacity building for cultural heritage convergence at GSLIS. The grant is funded for a period of three years.

GSLIS faculty will develop a sequence of courses that form the basis for education of a new type of information expert, the cultural heritage professional. Partner institutions will develop pilot internships, which will offer teams of students the opportunity to gain in-field experience in areas of the creation, management, preservation, presentation, and use of digital assets. Partners will also create case studies to be used in the curriculum, which will provide additional professional expertise. The curriculum and collaborative efforts of the partner affiliates will be supported by a digital curriculum laboratory, designed by faculty and staff at GSLIS to equip students with the specialist skills necessary for them to have in an emerging digital convergence environment.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas.

The nationally ranked Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science (www.simmons.edu/gslis) is one of the oldest and largest library and information science programs in the nation. It is also ranked as one of the top ten Archives/Preservation Management programs in the country. Founded in 1899, Simmons College (www.simmons.edu) is a nationally recognized university located in the heart of Boston that includes an undergraduate college for women, and graduate programs for women and men in management, social work, health sciences, and library and information science.

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