



2014 Survey of SLAIS the iSchool Graduates

The School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, The iSchool at The University of British Columbia, conducts surveys of its graduates to help identify career progress and employment patterns, approximately 12-24 months after completion of their degree programs.

The following online survey was conducted with Master of Archival Studies (MAS), Master of Library & Information Studies (MLIS) and Dual Master of Archival Studies/Master of Library & Information Studies (MASLIS) graduates whose degree convocation ceremonies were held between May 2011 and May 2013.

The results from this survey and others conducted by the School will be used to continually inform future directions for all programs offered at SLAIS, The iSchool.

A total of 243 graduates were eligible to complete the survey, 183 MLIS, 30 MAS, and 30 Dual MASLIS graduates; of which 227 were successfully contacted by email. A total of 108 (22 male, 86 female) graduates completed the survey, for a total response rate of 47.6% (108/227). Of the 108, 78 are MLIS graduates, 13 are MAS graduates, and 16 are Dual MASLIS graduates.

Questions may be directed to the Melissa Nightingale, Acting SLAIS Student Services Coordinator at ischool.ssc@ubc.ca, or by telephone at 604-822-2461.

What degree did you complete at SLAIS / the iSchool?

Answer		Response	%
Master of Archival Studies		13	12%
Master of Library & Information Studies		78	73%
Joint or Dual MAS/MLIS		16	15%
Total		107	100%

When were you conferred your SLAIS / iSchool degree (convocation ceremony)?

Answer		Response	%
May 2011		26	25%
November 2012		12	11%
November 2011		6	6%
May 2012		29	28%
May 2013		32	30%
Total		105	100%

What is your current age range?

Answer		Response	%
20-29		51	47%
30-39		39	36%
40-49		16	15%
50-59		1	1%
60+		1	1%
Total		108	100%

Did you attend SLAIS / the iSchool as a domestic or international student?

Answer		Response	%
Domestic		72	67%
International		36	33%
Total		108	100%

Are you currently employed?

Answer		Response	%
Yes		105	97%
No		3	3%
Total		108	100%

If you are currently not employed, are you currently seeking employment in a field related to your SLAIS / iSchool degree?

Answer		Response	%
Yes		3	100%
No		0	0%
Total		3	100%

Is your current employment related to your SLAIS / iSchool degree?

Answer		Response	%
Yes		94	90%
No		10	10%
Total		104	100%

What best describes your work status?

Answer		Response	%
Employed full-time in a single position		84	81%
Employed full-time in multiple positions		5	5%
Employed part-time in a single position		7	7%
Employed part-time in multiple positions		8	8%
Total		104	100%

Please indicate your current annual salary. If you hold multiple positions, please include all positions in your annual salary.

Answer		Response	%
Less than \$25,000		6	6%
\$25,000 - \$49,999		34	33%
\$50,000 - \$74,999		58	57%
\$75,000 - \$99,999		4	4%
\$100,000+		0	0%
Total		102	100%

How many months elapsed between the completion of your degree and your first job placement?

Answer	Response	%
Zero - I obtained the position before completing my degree	36	34%
1-6 months	53	50%
7-12 months	12	11%
More than 12 months	3	3%
I have not received my first job placement	2	2%
Total	106	100%

What is your job title?

- Researcher
- Liaison Librarian
- Digital Projects Librarian
- Information Services Librarian
- Archivist/Librarian
- Communications Librarian
- Interaction Designer
- Librarian - Children and Youth
- Librarian
- Electronic Records Coordinator
- Research & Instruction Librarian
- Content Coordinator
- Information Architect
- Temporary Full Time Children's Librarian
- Prospect Research and Management Analyst
- Public Services Library Assistant
- Special Collections Librarian
- Records Analyst
- Children and Families Librarian
- Communications and Member Services Officer
- Research Analyst
- Teacher Librarian
- Metadata Librarian
- Digital Repository Coordinator
- Manager
- Archivist
- Library Director
- Self-Employed Archivist
- Collection Maintenance Assistant
- Library Technician Assistant - Supervisor (Circulation Coordinator)
- Adult Services Librarian
- Knowledge Management Consultant
- Outreach and Interlibrary Loan Librarian
- Research Officer
- Senior Writer
- Projects Librarian
- Patron Services Librarian
- Manager Content
- Reference & Instruction Librarian
- Collection Development Librarian
- Art, Media, Design Librarian
- Programmer Analyst
- Clerk
- Records Management Business Analyst
- Public Services Librarian
- Records Management Specialist
- Instructional Technology and Subject Specialist Librarian
- Art Gallery Owner
- Senior Consultant
- Archivist and Records Manager
- Analyst Records Management
- Exhibitor Support
- Information and Records Coordinator
- Digital Asset Management Officer
- Creative Services Coordinator
- Archivist
- Recreation Programmer
- Children's and Family Literacy Librarian
- Document Control Administrator
- Senior Records Management Specialist
- Children's Librarian
- Manager, Image Services
- Collections Analyst
- Archives Assistant
- Health Librarian
- IST & Business Liaison Librarian
- Project Archivist
- Youth Services Librarian
- Teaching and Learning Librarian
- Sales Manager
- Archives and Rare Books Librarian
- Manager of Archives and Special Collections
- Senior Writer
- Law Librarian
- Public Service Librarian
- Information Assistant
- UXD Web Content Strategist
- Government Clerk

How long have you held this position?

Answer		Response	%
Less than 6 months		33	32%
Between 6 and 12 months		24	23%
Between 13 and 24 months		27	26%
More than 2 years		20	19%
Total		104	100%

In what type of organization is this position? For organizations that cross these boundaries, choose based on the administrative unit you report to directly.

Answer		Response	%
Academic		31	30%
Public sector		34	33%
Private Sector		12	12%
Government		15	14%
Non-profit		8	8%
Other (please specify)		4	4%
Total		104	100%

Where is this position located?

Answer		Response	%
Metro Vancouver		33	32%
Lower Mainland (Whistler to Hope)		8	8%
Vancouver Island		8	8%
Other BC		3	3%
Other Canadian province/territory		20	19%
Outside Canada (please specify)		31	30%
Total		103	100%
Outside Canada (please specify)			
United States (26)			
Australia			
Astana, Kazakhstan			
New Zealand			

On a scale from 1-10, how satisfied are you with your current position?

Answer	Min Value	Max Value	Average Value	Standard Deviation	Responses
	3.00	10.00	7.79	1.55	97

Which resources did you find useful for locating job opportunities and position announcements after graduation? (Check all that apply)

Answer	Response	%
SLAIS Jobs (Yahoo Groups E-mail Discussion List)	22	21%
SLAIS News work placement blog / portal announcements	28	27%
Other job boards (e.g. AABC site, highereducationjobs.com, government job boards, libraryjobs.ca, Monster.com)	82	80%
Professional email discussion lists	32	31%
Personal contacts and networks	59	57%
Other (please specify)	14	14%

Other (please specify)

I found my current position from the role I had at the company I worked at straight out of SLAIS

Library system career page

Australian Society of Archivists job board

library websites

found current job through checking government website

job board sites

library organizations from various regions

Internal postings available to me as a student librarian

I went back to the job a held before starting my masters at UBC and over time was promoted to a new position.

Work BC

indeed.com

Are you a member of any professional organizations (BCLA, ACA, etc.)?

Answer	Response	%
Yes (please list)	72	69%
No	33	31%
Total		105
		100%

Yes (please list)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MLA • BCLA • SLA • ALA • ISKO • CHLA • CLA • ARMA • AKLA • AFP • APRA • SKOS • IAI – Information Architecture Institute • HLABC • ARLIS/NA – Art Libraries Society of North America • TCART – Twin Cities Archives Round Table • California Library Association • ASA • BCTF • BCTLA • Foothills Library Association • Library Association of Alberta • Code4lib • DCIM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAA • WAPRO • LLAMA • NPS • Australian Society of Archivists • Oregon Library Association • LIANZA • ACRL • YALSA • OK-ACRL, COIL (Oklahoma Organizations) • AISL, GISL (American and Georgia Independent School Librarians) • AIIM • IAPP • PNLA • AILA • The Partnership (Yukon Library Association) • CARL (California Association of Research Libraries) • ACA • AAO • VALL • AABC • CALL • CEAL |
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Please check any of the following continuing education or professional development activities you have participated in since graduation:

Answer		Response	%
Participated in a course or workshop		84	87%
Delivered a course or workshop		29	30%
Attended a work-related conference		77	79%
Other continuing education activities		26	27%

Other continuing education activities

Webinars

participating in professional associations, similar groups (not organized by an association), conference organization

blogging

Conferences

Selected readings

Management training

Participate in local chapter meetings for Georgia Independent School Librarians, blogging for YALSA

Participated in a post-graduation internship

Self-directed job related study at home.

Library Juice Course series on the Linked Data and the Semantic web

obtained CIP certification

Presented at a conference

project management courses

Participated on professional organization committee.

Completed a certificate program at a local college

Delivered conference presentations

practicing job related skills at home through self paced learning

Thinking of your education at SLAIS / the iSchool, what areas or topics best prepared you for the positions you have been in since graduation? Please consider topics rather than specific courses.

Text Response

Work Experience (16)
 Group Work (8)
 Children's Services (14)
 Management (19)
 Cataloguing (13)
 Preservation (8)
 Info Design (11)
 Info Visualization (7)
 Database Design (11)
 Collection Management (16)
 Legal Courses (5)
 Research (5)
 Arrangement & Description (7)
 Communication (5)
 Reference Services (10)
 Public Librarianship (3)
 Information Technology (14)
 Records Management (10)
 Archival Theory (2)

What, if any, of the following activities during your SLAIS / iSchool degree contributed to your career success to date? (Check all that apply)

Answer	Response	%
Co-op	29	31%
Professional experience (for credit)	53	57%
Employment at SLAIS (such as STA or research assistantship)	18	19%
Employment at UBC (such as GAA or student librarian)	55	59%
Student leadership (such as LASSA, ACA Student Chapter, ASIS&T Student Chapter)	22	24%
Networking with graduates and other professionals during your time as a student	44	47%
Internship or practicum (for credit)	54	58%

Upon Graduation, please rate the level to which you felt prepared for the job market in the following areas:

Ability to assess the needs of diverse groups of people and respond to those needs through the design and provision of information resources, services and systems:

Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total Responses	Mean
Completely unprepared:Fully prepared	3	10	29	48	9	99	3.51

Ability to organize and manage information for effective preservation, discovery, access and use:

Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total Responses	Mean
Completely unprepared to Fully prepared	2	8	32	42	16	100	3.62

Ability to apply knowledge of information technology and resources to real world situations:

Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total Responses	Mean
Completely unprepared to Fully prepared	2	8	21	51	18	100	3.75

Ability to reflect in a critical and informed manner on the role of information professions in society:

Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total Responses	Mean
Completely unprepared to Fully prepared	1	6	24	45	24	100	3.85

Ability to communicate effectively:

Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total Responses	Mean
Completely unprepared to Fully prepared	0	3	17	52	28	100	4.05

Ability to be an effective manager:

Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total Responses	Mean
Completely unprepared to Fully prepared	19	31	23	24	3	100	2.61

Ability to conduct research and assess information resources:

Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total Responses	Mean
Completely unprepared to Fully prepared	0	4	10	38	48	100	4.30

Ability to represent your chosen profession through advocacy initiatives, professional development, teaching, research, etc.:

Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total Responses	Mean
Completely unprepared to Fully prepared	1	11	28	43	16	99	3.63

Did you apply to and were you accepted into the Arts Co-op program during your time at SLAIS / the iSchool?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	54	53%
No	47	47%
Total	101	100%

How many co-op terms did you complete?

Answer	Response	%
0	20	37%
1	16	30%
2	13	24%
3	5	9%
Total	54	100%

Why did you not do any co-op terms? [check all that apply]

Answer	Response	%
Applied for jobs but did not get hired	12	60%
Did not see suitable jobs to apply for	8	40%
My plans changed	5	25%
Found a job outside of co-op	6	30%
Other	6	30%

Do you feel that the pre-employment training, individual advising, and co-op work experience gave you a competitive advantage when searching for full-time work?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	37	71%
No	15	29%
Total	52	100%

Would you recommend participation in the UBC Arts Co-op Program to future SLAIS / iSchool students?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	42	81%
No	10	19%
Total	52	100%