2016-2017/2018 ALA-COA Biennial Narrative Report

The Department of Information and Library Science (ILS), School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering (SICE), Indiana University at Bloomington (IUB)

Standard I: Systematic planning

2016-2017 (and now continuing into 2018), witnessed further integration of the department of Information and Library Science into the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering (SICE), a process which began in 2012. At the request of the School's dean, Raj Acharya, the department, along with all other SICE departments, composed a strategic plan report[1] that described more focused objectives for the department within the context of the School and the School's other departments than had the earlier 2014-2015 strategic plan ("ILS 20/20"). The development of this report was led by the new Chair, Ron Day, along with new Associate Chair, Carol Choksy; the document was reviewed, amended, and received full approval by the faculty in October 2017. Within it, the department is oriented toward a renewed documentary approach, particularly in regard to the importance of digital documents in the MLS curriculum, while preserving the traditional specializations of ILS, such as Archives and Record Management and Rare Books and Manuscripts, among others. The report also maintains the emphasis on a sociotechnical perspective informed by social informatics, particularly in the Master of Information Science (MIS) curriculum.

Toward these ends, Dr. Rob Montoya was hired in August, 2017. Dr. Montoya specializes in biological classification and information infrastructures, and the department is currently in a search for another faculty member, perhaps with a digital media specialization or sub-specialization.

With this direction, the department defines itself as a cornerstone in the School, with a core focus on the preservation, organization, and provision of access to documents and data, looking at documents and data from the aspect of sociotechnical systems and intersecting information, media, and communication ecologies. With this perspective, the department compliments the core distinctions of the School's department of Informatics (specializing in the design, evaluation, and use of digital technologies), the department of Computer Science (specializing in programming languages, computational hardware and software), and the department of Intelligent Systems Engineering (specializing in computational engineering). Together, and along with data science (a cross-School program that ILS participates in), these departments span the entire spectrum of the preservation, organization, and access to, the use, the computational development, and the engineering of information and new knowledge and knowledge products (see appendixes A, B, C, and D).

With respect to programs of library and information science at other universities, the ILS program strives to define and differentiate itself by a return to the documentary paradigm, this time from the leading perspective of the digital document and its data, while maintaining its concern with traditional documents, especially in academic libraries and special collections and archives (though also in public and other types of libraries). We hope to do this within the broader, more powerful, range of the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering, in a way that is very difficult for smaller and stand-alone LIS schools to replicate. The ILS program also hopes to further leverage its alliances with library and other documentary and data units on campus, from which many of the ILS adjunct professors originate and within which almost all of the MLS and some of the MIS students work.[2, 3]   IU

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[1] Public version at: https://www.sice.indiana.edu/doc/ILS/accreditation/strategic-report-2017.

[2] Adjunct numbers since Fall 2015: 20 (Fall, 2015); 27 (Spring, 2016); 17 (Fall, 2016); 25 (Spring, 2017), 19 (Fall, 2017), 25 (Spring, 2018)

[3] IU Libraries have provided the following numbers for fiscal year, number of ILS student employees, and total hours worked by the students. Please note that not all library and document centers on the IU Bloomington campus are part of the IU library system, so these are only partial numbers, and of course these numbers don't include the Monroe County Library or other off-campus sites of student employment:

FY12-13	52 employees	15,844 hours
FY13-14	109 employees	45,945 hours
FY14-15	117 employees	47,454 hours
FY15-16	110 employees	39,259 hours
FY16-17	124 employees	57,062 hours

Bloomington has an amazingly rich breadth and depth of such institutions, such as the top ranked Wells Library system, the Media Digitalization and Preservation Initiative, the Moving Image Archive, the Black Film Center/Archives, the Kinsey Center for Sexual Studies collection, the music library, the ethnomusicology library, the Lilly Library of rare books and manuscripts, University Archives, the Eskenazi Museum of Art, the Glenn Black Library Native American and anthropology collections, the Mather Museum of World Cultures, the paleontology collection, and other such institutions and collections on campus. IU Bloomington and local business and non-profits in the surrounding area also host MIS students who are placed as information and data managers and information systems professionals, such as information architects and web services managers. Toward these ends, the Department Chair, the Associate Chair, program directors, and other faculty and staff have been reaching out to these units and organizations, strengthening our internship program, and reestablishing a GAship program to these units (providing the library and other documentary and data units with our best tuition funded students for extended work opportunities).

Other elements of systematic planning have been implemented, such as a new advisory board, organized by our former dean Deborah Shaw together with the department Chair. The mission statement was also revised and posted to the website.

The ALA reaccreditation process was started in 2017 with a steering committee. The committee is currently lead by Professor Howard Rosenbaum and Senior Lecturer Carol Choksy, with staff direction by Katie Novak and the additional work of several student employees and School staff. Faculty groups submitted draft self-study standard reports to this committee in late November 2017, with revisions due during April of 2018.

Standard II: Curriculum

Changes made to the curriculum during 2014-2015 were rolled out during 2016-2017. The activities reported here occurred between January 2015 and December 2017

During the 2014-2015 academic year, the curriculum committee and the faculty approved the implementation of accelerated programs for both MIS and MLS degrees. These innovative programs allow undergraduate students to take selected graduate courses during their senior year and to graduate with both master's and bachelor's degrees in five years. We began enrolling students into the programs in spring 2016. The enrollment for these programs stays small but steady.

We also conducted reviews of core courses for both the MIS and MLS programs. After the reviews, we revised the core courses for the MLS program; the new curriculum started in fall 2017. Changes include revisions of the content of courses and the addition to the MLS core of ILS 550 ("Perspectives on Librarianship"; recently changed to "Information Institutions and Their Management).

In addition to these revisions, we also developed the following new specializations:

- IT leadership for MIS (started in spring 2016)
- Front End Development for MIS (started in fall 2016)
- Digital Curation for MIS and MLS (started in spring 2016)
- Digital Humanities for MIS and MLS (started in fall 2015)

To expand our program and also to assist enrollment in our master's programs, we proposed an undergraduate minor on Strategic Intelligence, which was approved and began accepting students in fall 2016.

Finally, we added the following 12 new courses to the curriculum:

- Z399 Introduction to Game Programming (undergraduate)
- Z399 Introduction for Motion Graphics with Adobe After Effects (undergraduate)
- Z399 The Dark Arts: Corporate, Industrial, and Economic Espionage (undergraduate)
- Z399: Information Visualization (undergraduate)

- Z399 Mud, Sheep, and Hard Drives: Information and Culture (undergraduate)
- Z604 Social and Organizational Informatics of Big Data (graduate)
- Z604/764 Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (graduate)
- Z604 Information Architecture in Practice (graduate)
- Z638 Big Data Analytics for Web and Text (graduate)
- Z639 Social Media Mining (graduate)
- Z644 Information Networks (graduate)
- Z646 Seminar in Documents and Documentation (graduate)

We also added a number of 1.5 credit workshops to the summer curriculum covering topics such as grant writing for librarians, Ajax and Javascript, and PHP/Postgres SQL. Overall, our curriculum evolves and strives to stay on top of the current issues and topics in Information and Library Science.

In an effort to facilitate better long-term curriculum planning, as well as to increase core faculty participation in essential core and elective courses, student advisor Corey Tarbell, working with Graduate Program Director Howard Rosenbaum, has been working during 2017-2018 on revising the schedule.

As approved by the faculty in 2017, MLS, as well as MIS students can also now take up to six of their credit hours outside of the ILS department (and the School). This was done in order to accommodate requests from students interested in subject specializations (e.g., acquiring foreign language skills or history courses for Rare Books and Manuscript or Archives and Record Management specializations students).

Last, as of this writing, as directed by the School's Dean, the Chairs of the SICE departments of Informatics and ILS have entered into agreement to begin cross-listing select courses, subject to approval by the ILS curriculum committee. Work has begun on implementing this agreement.

Standard III: Faculty

As mentioned, in response to the new School structure, several (former) department faculty aligned with disciplinary specializations in non-ILS SICE departments have moved into those departments (Informatics and Engineering), which has allowed ILS to more aggressively recruit faculty that align with our emphasis on the preservation, organization, and access to digital documents. We were able to hire three assistant professors (Donaldson, Riddell, and Montoya), two of whom through university diversity hiring, and we have an active search in progress. We also had three additional retirements (Cronin, Jacobs, and Robbin). The current faculty size is 10 full time tenured/tenure track faculty (three assistant professors, three associate professors, and four full professors), one lecturer (Carol Choksy), one zero percent FTE faculty member (Katy Borner, now in Engineering), one visiting lecturer, and another visiting lecturer to join in fall 2018. The department enjoys the participation of a large group of adjunct professors from the IU libraries and other documentation and data centers on campus, the local public library (the Monroe County Public Library), and some doctoral and former doctoral students.

In the summer of 2017, faculty of SICE departments of Informatics and ILS approved a Memorandum of Understanding that allows for joint appointments between the two departments, given the approval of the two department Chairs. No faculty, however, have yet asked to enter into this.

As mentioned, we added one visiting lecturer shared with the Department of Informatics, who started spring, 2018, and we have another who is contracted to join us in fall 2018. These individuals were (or in the case of the latter, still currently is) adjuncts. We are able to give them a more equitable salary per credit hour taught and more fully engage them in the department by advancing them to visiting lecturers.

Robert McDonald, Associate Dean for Research and Technology Strategies and Associate Librarian at the IU Libraries, was added as a Visiting Research Associate to ILS, starting in 2017. McDonald has considerable technical experience in libraries and is a Principle Investigator at the IU Bloomington Hathi Trust Research Center and a Deputy Director of the Data to Insight Center on campus.

As mentioned, we continue to form stronger relationships with campus partners such as the Media Digitalization and Preservation Initiative and the Center for Biological Research Collections for Paletontology, as well as off-campus, such as the Monroe County Public Library, to good effects. Such relationships are evolving,

with long-term plans for expansion and systemization. We also have placed a member of the ILS faculty (Montoya) on the committee charged by the provost with developing a museum curation program. Montoya is also exploring the possibility of working on Indiana University's interdisciplinary Grand Challenge project, Building for Environmental Change; such involvement could establish ILS-specific expertise in information organizations as integral to the success of University-wide initiatives.

In response to the closing of the campus art library and the temporary loss of a head of the art library collection, we hired an online adjunct faculty member (Emilee Mathews) who works in the libraries at UC-Irvine (Mathews is soon to move to Ohio State University). Mathews is teaching our Art Librarianship class for our Art Library specialization. She is currently working with the now newly hired (January, 2018) art librarian at IU Bloomington, who is the advisor to our Art Library specialization students. Emilee is the former head of the art library at IU Bloomington, and she worked with the IU online instructional designers at the Indiana University Technology Services to design the course. As the hiring of Mathews shows, we will continue to be innovative in trying to keep long term specializations open and serving those students already here in the face of external disruptions.

Faculty productivity remains strong, with book publications, peer reviewed articles, presentations nationally and abroad, internal and external grants, and research positions at other universities.

Associate professor Xiaozhong Liu has been given one to two years leave to do big data research at the 'Chinese Amazon,' Alibaba. John Walsh was named the interim co-director of the HathiTrust Research Center. Pnina Fichman continues her role as the director of the Rob Kling Center for Social Informatics. Devan Donaldson took over as head of the department's Archive and Record Management Specialization.

The department hosted very high-quality speakers in its colloquium series, in the department directed Rob Kling for Social Informatics sponsored talks, in its annual endowed Kaser lecture, and in its Ethics and Values seminar series (2017-2018). These talks have hosted speakers such as Mary Gray and also Tarelton Gillespie (Microsoft), Geoffrey Bowker (UC-Irvine), Maurizio Ferraris (University Turin, Italy), and many other speakers, including talks by the department's own faculty and faculty from other IU departments.

The department also hosted the international Document Academy conference in the fall of 2017, with participants from ten different countries in North America, Europe, and Asia.

Faculty also continued national service on major conference committees and the peer reviewing of international journals, conference papers, and awards.

Standard IV: Students

Student enrollment in the MLS declined a bit, after a rise in 2015, but we anticipate a steady enrollment. Current admission numbers for 2018-2019 look similar to last year. Over the years we have noticed that ILS enrollments tend to increase in times of weak employment and decrease in times of strong employment.

Initially, following the merger and at the time of the 2015 report, ILS recruitment and alumni relations had been transferred to the School, with somewhat mixed results. Since January 2017 ILS has been actively redirecting marketing and recruitment back into ILS management and readdressing messaging with our alumni and others, largely through the efforts of ILS office manager Katie Novak, student advisor Corey Tarbell, and their staff, working with School marketing and alumni officers and offices.

The ILS newsletter[4] has also been refurbished, enhanced and brought more within ILS staff (Katie Novak) since 2017, and it is being used as a tool for connecting with alumni and potential students, as well as current students and other departmental stakeholders through both its print and online formats.

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[4] https://www.ils.indiana.edu/innovators/index.html

https://www.sice.indiana.edu/doc/ILS/newsletters/spring17newsletter.pdf

https://www.sice.indiana.edu/doc/ILS/newsletters/fall-newsletter-2017.pdf?platform=hootsuite

Student recruitment has been enhanced by live visits and by virtual chat opportunities with our admissions officer, Stephanie Smith. We offer about ten full tuition grants and a number of smaller grants to MLS and MIS students. All students qualify for a thousand dollar 'technology scholarship' upon admission, as well, in order to help them in purchasing laptops, etc.

In 2017 we replaced the assistant to the department Chair with a staff member dedicated, along with the Associate Chair, to improving internship opportunities for the students, and overseeing current student outreach. (This position is now being refilled after the departure of the staff member.) In terms of student outreach, in 2017 we formed a student advisory council, comprised of MLS, MIS, and Ph.D. student representatives in order to improve communication with the Chair, faculty, and staff.

With the work of student advisor Corey Tarbell, during 2017, the Ph.D. application and scholarship awarding was moved up to synch with the rest of the school and the MIS and MLS review were streamlined through the MIS and MLS advisors to get more timely responses to students and make them aware of department financial aid and scholarships sooner.

A "Professionals in Practice" MLS/MIS speaker series was started in fall, 2017, and has had three alumni speakers during the current academic year, from private industry in Minneapolis, Google, and from the UC-Irvine libraries. Planning is ongoing for speakers for the next academic year.

The Monroe County Public Library hosted interested public library students from our program during the fall of 2017.

Program assessments and statistics have been posted to the department website. A public version of the department's recent strategic report has been posted to the department website. SICE is in the process of transferring more control over department websites to SICE departments.

Recent student internships have been both local and at renown institutions, such as the Library of Congress, Smithsonian, and at Presidential libraries.

Departmental support for career services advising has been supplemented by the School's career services personnel since the merger.

The new Luddy Hall classrooms provide additional screens and movable furniture for classes.

Standard V: Administration, Finances, and Resources

The School hired a new dean in 2016, and has added another executive associate dean and a research dean since then. An engineering department was created in the School during and after 2015. Much of the school, including ILS, has moved into a new building, Luddy Hall, in January 2018. Consequently, ILS now has a closer physical location and access to the departments of Engineering, Computer Science, and the deans of the School, with the Department of Informatics in the neighboring building. The Bloomington campus school name changed from the School of Informatics and Computing (SoIC) to the School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering (SICE) in the fall of 2017.

The School took over ILS budgeting and finances in 2016 with the dissolution of the SLIS-SOIC MOU that had given ILS budgetary independence for three years post-merger. All budget lines and approvals now pass directly or indirectly through the School and its financial and faculty administrative officers. ILS foundation funds remain within the jurisdiction of the department, however, per the most recent MOU with the School.

Adjunct hiring and adjunct hiring handbooks have been created in order to smooth and make more consistent adjunct hiring. Also, in spring 2017, standard adjunct wages were nearly doubled from the previous level.

Since summer of 2017 the department has employed students in the scanning of paper documents into digital documents in preparation for its move to the new Luddy Hall building.
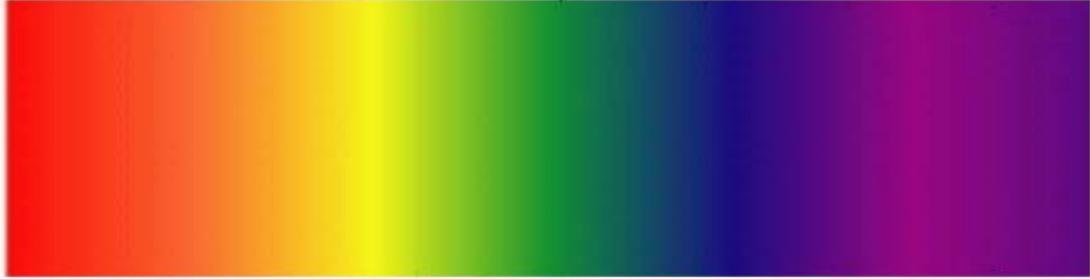
The department maintains good relations with the School administration, as shown by the recent hires and current hiring process, healthy finances, and its strategic report, and it maintains good relations with other units in the School and throughout campus as evidenced by shared visiting faculty, shared doctoral students,

adjunct instructors from the libraries and other documentation centers, and students working throughout the campus library system and other documentation and data units on campus.

Overall, ILS is gaining a sense of renewed vigor in this new integrated School environment. ILS is poising itself to not only enhance our historically traditional domain strengths, but also to take advantage of the breadth of complementary disciplinary approaches SICE offers. The department is also looking to expand its reach and impact on campus, across the Indiana University system, as well as with our community partners. All this success is attributable to incredible faculty, staff, and students of ILS and the School that believe in our core mission and values—values that we believe are central to an informed, ethical, and diverse society.
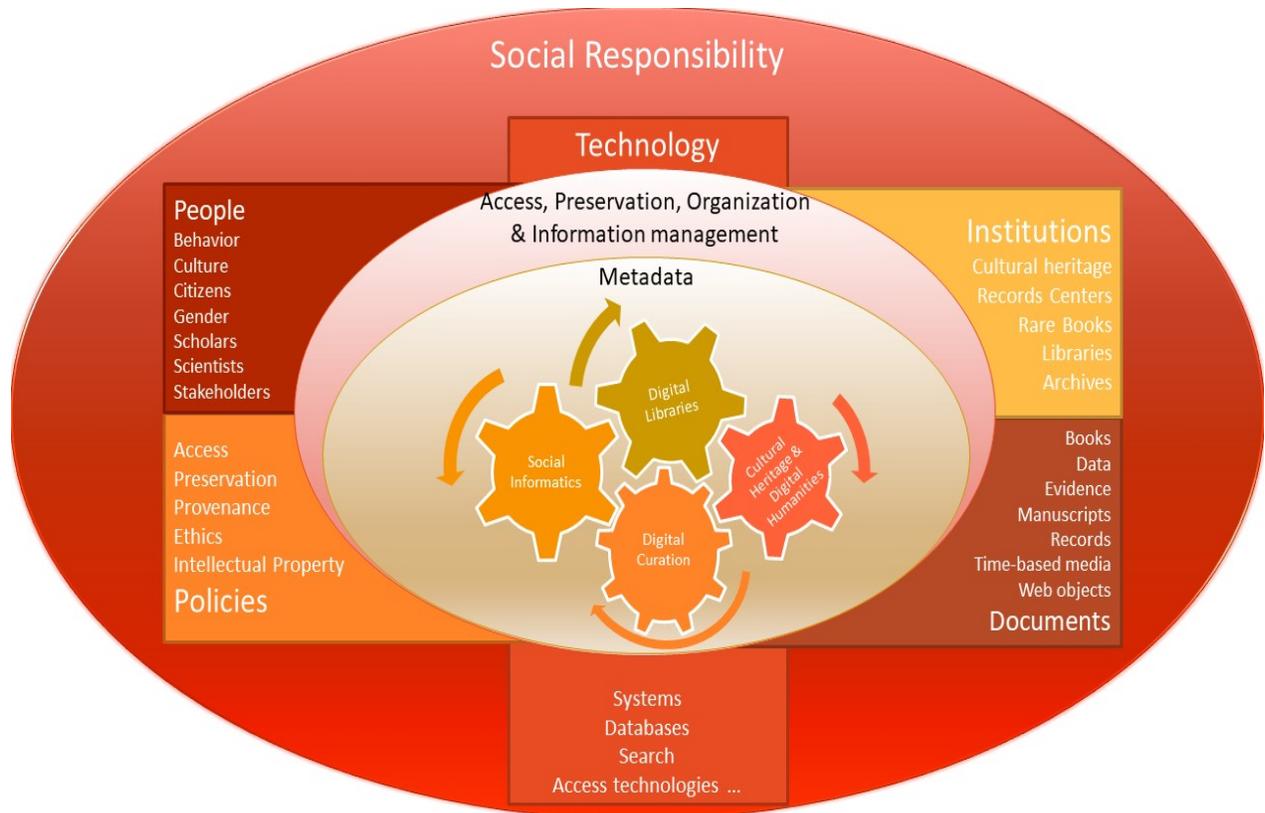
Addendum: This report was prepared by the ILS department Chair and the faculty and staff of the department.

ILS Core	INFO Core	CS Core	Intelligent Systems Engineering Core
ILS core: preserving, organizing, and accessing documents and data for cultural transmission and secure knowledge and science. Bringing together the organization of information (MLS) and the information of organizations and social systems (MIS) so as to connect information and people and people and people. Investigating information within document and data ('information'), communication and media ecologies and their sociotechnical mediations	Social, cultural, and material affordances of digital materials in everyday and mobile use.	Hardware, software, and middleware platforms for digital computation and the algorithms for this.	Producing large data and self-learning knowledge and material artifacts from computational processes, using secure knowledge and science in respect to their social, cultural, and material affordances in use.
Historical Warrant: 4,000+ years	**Historical Warrant**: approx. 40 years.	**Historical Warrant**: post-World War II (plus some earlier work)	**Historical Warrant**: relatively recent
Social Warrant: service and trust regarding true and reliable information for many different publics, institutions, and uses, and the faithful cultural transmission of information and knowledge	**Social Warrant**: technical, social, and scientific innovation through digital devices	**Social Warrant**: advanced science, large scale computing; the basis for much of our current digitally mediated world	**Social Warrant**: new knowledge and new practical tools as result of machine learning and large datasets and their analyses

Appendix B: ILS ecology

Social Responsibility

Technology

Access, Preservation, Organization & Information management

Metadata

People
Behavior
Culture
Citizens
Gender
Scholars
Scientists
Stakeholders

Access
Preservation
Provenance
Ethics
Intellectual Property
Policies

Institutions
Cultural heritage
Records Centers
Rare Books
Libraries
Archives

Books
Data
Evidence
Manuscripts
Records
Time-based media
Web objects
Documents

Digital Libraries
Social Informatics
Cultural Heritage & Digital Humanities
Digital Curation

Systems
Databases
Search
Access technologies …

Appendix C: ILS program synergy
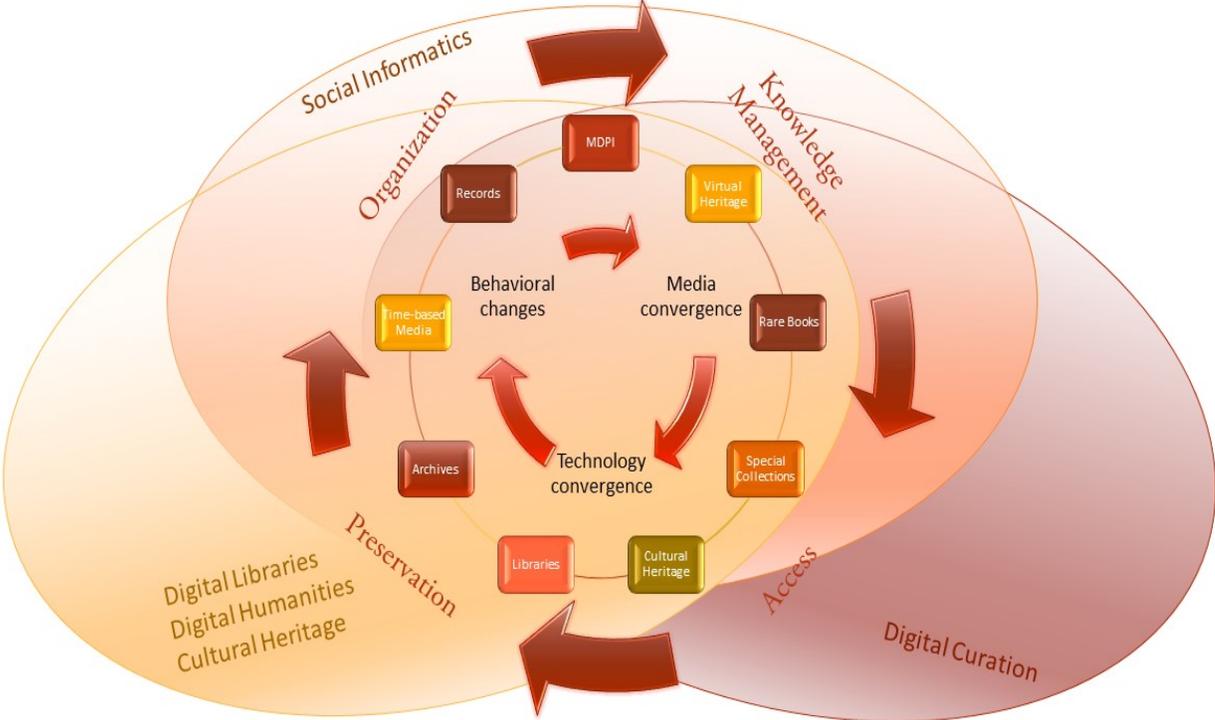
Appendix D: ILS Programs and strategic plan

MIS: information management, organizational and social systems, and sociotechnical mediation

MLS: preservation, organization, access of documents and data ('information')

MLS specializations

Ph.D. program

MIS specializations

MLS Digital focus

- Info tech leadership
- Info. architecture
- Front end development
- Data science
- Digital libraries
- Digital humanities
- digital curation

- Digital Humanities, Digital Libraries, Cultural Heritage
- Digital Curation, Archives
- Time based media, media convergence

- Archives & records management
- Children & youth
- Rare books and mss.
- Art Librarianship
- Music Librarianship

Non-SoIC Institutional partners (adjunct faculty, student employers and internship sponsors), including:
- IU libraries
- IU special collections (Lilly, moving picture archive, Kinsey Institute collection, etc.
- Media Digitalization and Preservation Initiative MCPL
- Art Museum
- Mather Museum of World Cultures
- Glenn Black Library

19 MIS and MLS dual degrees