

How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies 2010-2012

First Edition

**Gail Ann Schlachter
R. David Weber**

A List of: Scholarships, Fellowships, Loans, Grants, Awards, and Other Funding Opportunities Set Aside to Support Study, Research, Projects, Creative Activities, and Conference Attendance for Students Working on a Degree in Library & Information Studies. Plus a Set of Seven Indexes: Program Title, Sponsor, Residency, Tenability, Specialty, Diversity, and Deadline.

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Reference Service Press (RSP) began in 1977 with a single financial aid publication (*Directory of Financial Aids for Women*) and now specializes in the development of financial aid resources in multiple formats, including books, large print books, disks, CD-ROMs, print-on-demand reports, eBooks, and online sources. Long recognized as a leader in the field, RSP has been called, by the *Simba Report on Directory Publishing*, "a true success in the world of independent directory publishers." Both Kaplan Educational Centers and Military.com have hailed RSP as "the leading authority on scholarships."

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Introduction

WHY THIS DIRECTORY IS NEEDED

Are you planning to get an undergraduate or graduate degree in library and information studies? Congratulations. Not only have you picked a career that is exciting and intellectually rewarding, but one that is cutting-edge as well. The future, too, looks promising. As the 2010-2011 edition of *Occupational Outlook Handbook* reports, median librarian salaries are closing in on \$55,000 and (primarily because of impending retirements), job growth in the field is expected "to be as fast as the average and job opportunities are expected to be favorable." There's no question, though, that you've picked a challenging time to prepare for your career! To borrow an over-used but never truer literary phrase, it is the best and worst of times for the field. On the one hand, more Americans have a library card and are using their libraries than ever, the vast majority are satisfied with their libraries and believe they will play an important role in their futures, well over 90 percent of public libraries provide Internet access, reference librarians are fielding more than 7 million questions a week, and according to the American Library Association's *Quotable Facts about America's Libraries*, "Americans go to school, public and academic libraries more than twice as often as they go to the movies."

On the other hand, the depressed economy has clearly impacted the field: costs are up, salaries are under attack, library cutbacks and closures are common, and budgets are in jeopardy. The current economy has also affected students interested in preparing for a career in the library/information field. College tuition and fees are at an all-time high. For example, according to the latest information on www.libraryschool.wikispaces.com, the cost of a master's degree in library and information studies "ranges from about \$10,000 on the low end to about \$45,000 on the high end." Of even greater concern: tuition and fees have increased three times faster than the growth of inflation. As a result, as Vice President Biden has pointed out, "the growth of college tuition is far outpacing that of family income."

Fortunately, the news for students is not all bad. As it turns out, more financial aid than ever before is available to help to pay for college. And, for the library field, there are literally hundreds of financial aid programs, representing millions of dollars, that have been set aside just for students working on a library/information studies degree. The question is: how can you find out about these opportunities? After all, you can't apply for this assistance if you don't know what's available.

Up until now, it has been nearly impossible for library students to identify the full range of funding available specifically to them. General online sites (like www.fastweb.com and www.petersons.com) and print directories (like *Kaplan Scholarships* or *Chronicle Financial Aid Guide*) just scratch the surface, identifying only a couple of dozen funding opportunities specifically for library and information studies. Even the library-oriented resources have provided limited coverage. The American Library Association's free booklet, *Financial Assistance for Library and Information Studies*, does identify a number of (mostly school based) financial aid programs for library students, but little detail is provided, the listing is incomplete (for example, only around 70 "portable" programs are included), and few links to applications or additional information are included. There are also several Internet "directories" that identify funding for library students (for example, www.cappex.com, www.eduinreview.com and its twin www.nextstep.com, www.librarylandindex.org, www.collegescholarships.com, and lists posted by individual library schools). Ironically, though, given the potential for currency that online can offer, many of the entries on these sites are out of date or contain broken links. Further, even if a student were to check out every one of the listings in every one of the available print or online directories, the collective coverage would represent only a small portion of the opportunities available.

That's why the publication of this first biennial edition of *How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies* is so important. Here, in just one place, you'll have access to detailed information on more than 800 "portable" (not limited to one school) scholarships, fellowships, loans, forgivable loans, grants, awards, and other funding opportunities available specifically to support students interested in working on an undergraduate or graduate degree or certification in library and information studies. Individually, these awards range from \$100 to \$20,000 or more; collectively, they represent millions of dollars available to library students each year. No other source, in print or online, can match the currency, comprehensiveness, and detail you will find here.

WHAT MAKES THIS DIRECTORY UNIQUE?

How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies has been designed so you can easily scan through a wide array of funding programs available specifically to support the activities of most importance to students in library and information services: study, research, creative activities, past accomplishments, future projects, travel, and conference attendance. All aspects of library and information studies are covered, including specific library services, various types of libraries, archives, museum studies, informatics, and more.

This directory is unlike any other financial aid listing. Not only does it provide the most comprehensive coverage of funding opportunities open to students working on a degree or certification in library and information studies, but it also offers the most informative program descriptions (on the average, three times the detail found in any other source).

An even bigger plus: unlike other funding directories, which generally place program descriptions in a straight alphabetical arrangement, *How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies* groups funding activities by both degree level (undergraduates and graduate) and activities funded (study, research and other creative activities, and conference attendance), making it easy for a user to search for appropriate programs. The same convenience is offered in the indexes, where the entries are also subdivided by educational level and program focus. With this unique arrangement, users with one set of characteristics (e.g., graduate students looking for tuition support) will be able to find the programs set aside specifically for them—and not be distracted or have to waste time sorting through descriptions of programs intended for individuals with other funding needs.

Third, the focus of the directory is on citizens, permanent residents, and visa holders in the United States and Canada who are college-bound high school seniors, current or returning college students, beginning graduate students, and continuing or returning master's or doctoral students interested in working on a degree or certification in library and information studies. If a program doesn't support study, training, research, creative activities, or conference attendance for these students, it is not covered here.

In addition, unlike the American Library Association's *Financial Assistance* booklet and other financial aid print or online listings, which often identify large numbers of scholarships available only to students enrolled at specific schools, all of the entries in this book are "portable." You can use the funds awarded at any number of institutions or locations. Another plus: many of the programs listed here have never been covered in other financial aid sources. So, even if you have checked elsewhere, you will want to look at *How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies* for additional leads.

Further, we have tried to anticipate all the ways you might wish to search for funding. We've organized the volume so you can identify programs not only by educational level and program focus, but by program title, sponsoring organization, where you live, where the money can be spent, library specialty, applicant diversity characteristics, and when you plan to apply for funding. In addition, we've included all the information you'll need to decide if a program is right for you: purpose, eligibility requirements, financial data, duration, special features, limitations, number awarded, and application date. You even get fax numbers, toll-free numbers, e-mail addresses, and web sites (when available), along with complete contact information.

Finally, we've included all types of funding in our listing:

- *Scholarships.* Programs that support study and/or conference attendance on the undergraduate level. Usually no return of service or repayment is required.

- *Fellowships.* Programs that support study and/or conference attendance at the graduate level. Usually no return of service or repayment is required.
- *Grants.* Programs that provide funding to support innovative efforts, projects, creative activities, or research at any level (from associate degree through doctoral). Usually no return of service or repayment is required.
- *Awards.* Competitions, prizes, and honoraria granted in recognition of personal accomplishments, research results, creative writing, or other achievements.
- *Loans.* Programs that provide money to undergraduate or graduate students in library and information services for study, training, research, conference activities, or other activities that eventually must be repaid—with or without interest.
- *Forgivable Loans/Loan Repayment Programs.* Sometimes called scholarship/loans, fellowship/loans, or loans-for-service, these are loans that waive repayment or are cancelled if the recipient meets certain service requirements.

WHAT'S EXCLUDED?

While the directory is intended to be the most current, comprehensive, and detailed source of information on available funding, there are some programs we've specifically excluded from the listing:

- *Programs not focused on library and information studies:* Only funding opportunities set aside for students working on a degree in library and information studies are covered here. If you are looking for money to support study, training, research, projects, creative activities, or conference attendance in a different, or broader, subject area, be sure to check out Reference Service Press's other award-winning directories (you'll find those listed on the inside of the front cover of this book), especially *Kaplan Scholarships* (if you are interested in an undergraduate degree) or *Money for Graduate Students in the Social & Behavioral Sciences* (if you are interested in a master's or doctoral degree). If you want information on general federal aid, go online to www.studentaid.ed.gov. To find out about the general financial aid opportunities your state offers undergraduate and graduate students, click on the appropriate link in the state directory on www.rspfunding.com/finaidinfo_stateaid.html.
- *Programs that do not accept applications from citizens, permanent residents, or visa holders in the United States or Canada:* The focus of *How to Pay for Your Degree in Library/Information Studies* is on portable programs open to students in the United States or Canada who are interested in library or information studies on the undergraduate or graduate school level. If a program excludes Americans or Canadians from applying, or if the funding program is open exclusively to nationals of other countries, it is not covered here.
- *Programs that do not award funds specifically to degree-seeking students to pay for activities associated with their degree:* While financial aid programs available to students working on a library/information studies degree are covered comprehensively in this directory, funding available to library staff, professionals, or others solely for nondegree-related continuing education (e.g., seminars, workshops, etc.) or other activities are excluded. To find money available to support those activities, use Reference Service Press's electronic database: RSP Funding for Professionals and Postdoctorates.
- *School-based programs:* This directory identifies portable programs—ones that can be used at any number of schools. Financial aid administered by a single school solely for the benefit of its incoming or continuing students is not covered. You should contact the schools directly that interest you to get information on all of their offerings. You can find a link to many of these schools in the American Library Association's "Education & Careers" section on www.ala.org.

- *Programs that did not respond to our research inquiries:* To make sure that the information included in *How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies* is both reliable and current, the editors at Reference Service Press 1) reviewed and updated all relevant programs in our funding database and 2) searched exhaustively for new program leads in a variety of sources, including directories, news reports, newsletters, annual reports, and sites on the Internet. Our policy is to write program descriptions only from information supplied by the sponsoring organization (no information is ever taken from secondary sources). When that information could not be found, we sent up to four collection letters (followed by up to three telephone inquiries, if necessary) to those sponsors. Despite our best efforts, however, some sponsoring organizations still failed to respond and, as a result, their programs are not included in this edition of the directory.

HOW THE DIRECTORY IS ORGANIZED

How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies is divided into two parts: 1) a detailed list of funding opportunities open to students working on an undergraduate or graduate degree or certification in library/information studies; and 2) a set of indexes to help students pinpoint available funding programs.

Funding for Students Working on a Degree in Fields Related to Library & Information Studies. This directory describes 833 scholarships, fellowships, grants, awards, loans, and other funding opportunities for students working on a degree or certification in library/information studies. While funding for both undergraduate and graduate funding is included here, it is not surprising that programs for graduate students make up more than 75 percent of the listings—since the master's degree is generally considered the basic requirement for professional status in the field. The programs described here are sponsored by nearly 500 different federal and state government agencies, professional organizations, foundations, and educational associations. All specialties related to library/information studies are covered, including types of libraries, types of library services, archives, museum studies, informatics, etc.

To help you focus your search, the entries in the directory are grouped into two main chapters:

Undergraduates: Described here are 209 scholarships, grants, awards, loans, and other funding opportunities that are open to high school seniors, high school graduates, currently-enrolled college students, and students returning to college after an absence who are interested in earning a degree in a field related to library/information studies. Money is available to support these students in any type of postsecondary institution, ranging from technical schools and community colleges to major universities.

Graduate Students: Described here are 624 fellowships, grants, awards, loans, and other funding opportunities that support entering or continuing students working on a master's, doctoral, or professional degree/certification in fields related to library and information studies. Originally, we had planned to divided this chapter into two separate groups: master's and doctoral students. It turns out, however, that the vast majority of graduate funding opportunities for library and information studies are open to students working on either degree. Dividing the chapter, therefore, would have resulted in unnecessary duplication. So, we followed the organization we use in our other directories and kept "Graduate Students" as an integrated chapter.

Both of these chapters are further divided into three type-of-activity sections:

Study: Described here are programs that provide funding for tuition, fees, books, and other educational expenses.

Research, Projects, and Creative Activities: Described here are programs that provide funding for independent or degree-related research, money for projects in a work environment, and support for writing, speaking, service, or other creative activities.

Conference Attendance: Described here are programs that provide financial support for students interested in attending international, national, or state conferences or other professional meetings.

SAMPLE ENTRY

- (1) **[494]**
- (2) **REFERENCE SERVICE PRESS FELLOWSHIP**
- (3) California Library Association
950 Glenn Drive, Suite 150
Folsom, CA 95630
(916) 233-3298 Fax: (916) 932-2209
E-mail: info@cla-net.org
Web: www.cla-net.org/awards/rspf.php
- (4) **Summary** To provide financial assistance to entering or continuing library school students interested in preparing for a career in reference/information service.
- (5) **Eligibility** This program is open to 1) California residents attending or planning to attend an ALA-accredited library school's master's degree program in any state, and 2) residents of any state attending or planning to attend an accredited library school's master's degree program in California. Applicants must be interested in preparing for a career in reference or information service and, if awarded the fellowship, agree to take at least 3 classes specifically dealing with reference or information service. Students working on an M.L.S. on a part-time or full-time basis are equally eligible to apply. Along with their application, they must submit 1) academic transcripts; 2) an essay (up to 1,000 words) on their career plans and preparation; 3) a biographic statement (up to 125 words) that describes their background and how they became interested in librarianship; and 4) 2 letters of recommendation.
- (6) **Financial data** The stipend is \$3,000. Funds are distributed in 3 equal payments to the recipient by Reference Service Press, as the recipient completes each of 3 reference or information classes with a grade of "B" or better (official transcript documentation required).
- (7) **Duration** Recipient has 4 years from the date of the award to complete the fellowship requirements (no extensions).
- (8) **Additional information** The funding for this program is provided by Reference Service Press. The program is administered by the California Library Association.
- (9) **Number awarded** 1 each year.
- (10) **Deadline** June of each year.

DEFINITION

- (1) **Entry number:** Consecutive number assigned to the references and used to index the entry.
- (2) **Program title:** Title of scholarship, fellowship, grant, or award.
- (3) **Sponsoring organization:** Name, address, and telephone number, toll-free number, fax number, e-mail address, and/or web site (when information was supplied) for organization sponsoring the program.
- (4) **Summary:** Basic program requirements; read the rest of the entry for additional detail.
- (5) **Eligibility:** Qualifications required of applicants and factors considered in the selection process.
- (6) **Financial data:** Financial details of the program, including fixed sum, average amount, or range of funds offered, expenses for which funds may and may not be applied, and cash-related benefits supplied (e.g., room and board).
- (7) **Duration:** Period for which support is provided; renewal prospects.
- (8) **Additional information:** Any benefits, features, restrictions, or limitations (generally nonmonetary) associated with the program.
- (9) **Number of awards:** Total number of recipients each year or other specified period.
- (10) **Deadline:** The month by which applications must be submitted.

Within each of these sections, entries appear alphabetically by program title. Since some programs supply assistance to more than one specific group or provide more than one type of assistance, those are listed in all relevant sections. For example, the College Scholarships Foundation Library and Information Science Scholarship supports undergraduate *and* graduate studies, so it is described in the "Study" section of both the Undergraduates *and* Graduate Students chapters. Similarly, because the Beatrice Davis Education Award provides funding for both graduate studies *and* conference attendance, it is included in the "Study" *and* "Conference Attendance" sections of the Graduate Students chapter.

Each program entry has been designed to provide an informative profile that identifies (when available) program title, organization address, telephone number, fax and toll-free numbers, e-mail address, web site, purpose, eligibility, money awarded, duration, special features, limitations, number of awards, and application deadline. (Refer to the sample on page 9).

We wrote each entry in the directory using information provided by the sponsoring organizations (in print or online) through the first quarter of 2010. While *How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies* is intended to cover available funding as comprehensively as possible, some sponsoring organizations did not respond to our research inquiries and, consequently, are not included in this edition of the directory.

Indexes. To help you find the aid you need, we have constructed seven indexes; these will let you access the listings by program title, sponsoring organization, residency, tenability, specialty or practice area, diversity characteristics, and deadline date. These indexes use a word-by-word alphabetical arrangement. Note: numbers in the index refer to entry numbers, not to page numbers in the book.

Program Title Index. This index lists alphabetically all program titles and variant names (former names, abbreviations, etc.) of the scholarships, fellowships, grants, loans, awards, and other funding opportunities covered in the directory. To help you target your search, each entry number in the index has been coded to indicate both degree level (undergraduates or graduate students) and funded activities (study, research and creative activities, or conference attendance). By using this coding system, readers can easily identify the programs that match their funding needs and educational level.

Sponsoring Organization Index. This index makes it easy to identify agencies that offer funding to students working on an undergraduate or graduate degree or certification in library and information studies. Nearly 500 sponsoring organizations are listed alphabetically, word by word. In addition, as in the Program Title index, we've used a code to help you identify the degree level and activity funded by these organizations.

Residency Index. Some programs listed in this book are restricted to residents of a particular city, county, state/province, or region. Others are open to students wherever they live in the United States or Canada. This index helps you identify programs available only to residents in your area as well as programs that have no residency restrictions.

Tenability Index. Some programs in this book can be used only in specific cities, counties, states/provinces, or regions. Others may be used anywhere in the United States, Canada, or even abroad. Use this index to find out what programs are available to support your activities in a particular geographic area.

Specialty Index. Refer to this index when you want to identify funding opportunities for undergraduate or graduate students interested in a particular specialty or practice area related to library/information studies. More than 30 specialties are covered here, including specific library services, various types of libraries, and the related fields of archives, museum studies, informatics, etc.

Diversity Index. Most of the programs established to fund library studies are open to students of any ethnicity, physical condition, or sexual orientation. But, because diversity is an important goal for the field, some funding opportunities have been created specifically to encourage ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, and GLBT students to enter the profession. To identify those programs, turn to the Diversity Index, which is arranged by degree level (undergraduate and graduate students) and subdivided first by type of activity funded (study, research and other creative activities, or conference attendance) and then by the applicant characteristics that can contribute to a more diverse profession: ethnicity, disability status, and sexual orientation. Keep in the mind that only programs that focus specifi-

cally on library and information studies are listed in this directory and, therefore, indexed here. If you are interested in identifying more general aid available to these groups, there are several other resources available to help you with that: 1) for minorities, see the four-volume *Minority Funding Set* published by Reference Service Press, which lists thousands of programs available to African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native Americans; 2) for persons with disabilities, check out *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families*, also published by Reference Service Press, which identifies more than 1,200 opportunities representing billions of dollars in aid; and 3) for GLBT students: go to the *LGBT Scholarship Directory*, which is available as a free download at www.lgbtsa.org.

Calendar Index. Since most financial aid programs have specific deadline dates, some may have closed by the time you begin to look for funding. You can use the Calendar Index to identify which programs are still open. This index is arranged by degree level and subdivided first by type of activity funded and then by month during which the deadline falls. Filing dates can and quite often do vary from year to year; consequently, the dates in this index should be viewed as only approximations after mid-2012.

HOW TO USE THE DIRECTORY

Here are some tips to help you get the most out of the financial aid listings in *How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies*.

To Locate Funding by Educational Level. If you want to get an overall picture of the funding opportunities that are available to support students working on a degree in library/information studies, turn to the appropriate chapter (Undergraduates or Graduate Students) and browse through the listings there.

To Locate Programs Supporting a Particular Type of Activity. If you are looking for funding to support a particular type of activity (e.g., for tuition support, or dissertation research, or conference attendance), turn to the appropriate chapter and read through all the entries in the section that applies to you (study, research, or conference attendance). Since programs with multiple purposes are listed in all appropriate locations, each of the three type-of-activity sections functions as a self-contained entity. In fact, you can browse through any of the chapters or subsections of the directory without first consulting an index.

To Browse Quickly Through the Listings. Look at the listings in the chapter that relates to you (undergraduates or graduate students), go to the section that covers your funding needs (for study, research and creative activities, or conference attendance) and read the "Summary" field in each entry there. In seconds, you'll know if this is an opportunity that might apply to you. If it is, read the rest of the information in the entry to make sure you meet all of the program requirements before writing or going online for an application form. Remember: don't apply if you don't qualify!

To Find Information on a Particular Financial Aid Program. If you know the name of a particular financial aid program, *and* the group eligible for the award (undergraduates or graduate students), *and* the type of activity funded by the program (e.g., conference attendance), then go directly to the appropriate chapter and section in the directory listing, where you will find the program profiles arranged alphabetically by program title. If you are looking for a specific program and do not find it in the section you have checked, be sure to refer to the Program Title Index to see if it is covered elsewhere in the directory. To save time, always check the Program Title Index first if you know the name of a specific award but are not sure under which chapter and/or section it might be listed.

To Locate Financial Aid Programs Sponsored by a Particular Organization. The Sponsoring Organization Index makes it easy 1) to determine which groups are providing funding to undergraduate and graduate students working on a degree or certification in library/information studies and 2) to identify specific financial aid programs offered by a particular sponsor. Each entry number in the index is coded to indicate both educational level and type of activity funded, to help you target appropriate programs.

To Locate Financial Aid Based on Residency or Where You Want to Study. Use the Residency Index to identify funding that has been set aside for applicants from your area. If you are looking

for funding to support activities in a particular city, county, state/province, or region, turn to the Tenability Index. Both of these indexes are subdivided by educational level and type of activity funded, to help you identify the funding that's right for you. When using these indexes, always check the listings under the country where you live ("United States" or "Canada"), since the programs indexed there have no geographic restrictions within the specific country and can be used in any area there.

To Locate Financial Aid for a Specific Library/Information Studies Specialty or Practice Area. Turn to the Specialty Index first if you are interested in identifying available funding in a specific specialty or practice area related to library/information studies; more than 30 specialties are covered here, ranging in alphabetical order from academic libraries to youth services. Each entry in the index indicates the type of funding available to undergraduates or to graduate students.

To Locate Funding Programs Designed to Encourage Diversity in the Library Field. If you want to know which funding opportunities in this directory are aimed specifically at minorities, persons with disabilities, and GLBT students, turn to the Diversity Index. There, you'll find access to appropriate programs by degree level, diversity characteristics, and activity supported.

To Locate Financial Aid by Deadline Date. If you are working with specific time constraints and want to weed out financial aid programs whose filing dates you won't be able to meet, turn first to the Calendar Index and check the program references listed under the appropriate group (undergraduates and graduate students), type of activity funded (study, research, or conference attendance) and month that the applications are due. Note: not all sponsoring organizations supplied deadline information; those programs are listed under the "Deadline not specified" entry in the index. To identify every relevant financial aid program, regardless of filing dates, read through all the entries in the chapter that matches your degree level (undergraduates or graduate students) and funding needs.

PLANS TO UPDATE THE DIRECTORY

This directory is the result of years of planning and research. While we've made every effort to identify all available portable funding opportunities for students working on a degree in library and information studies, there may be some we've missed. You can help us build our database! If you are aware of a funding opportunity that is not listed here but meets the criteria we've established for inclusion in the directory, please go to www.rspfunding.com/submit_scholarship.html and submit information on the program. We'll investigate and, if appropriate, add it to our listings in the next edition, which will cover the years 2012-2014 and will be released in mid-2012.

OTHER RELATED PUBLICATIONS

How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies is one of more than a dozen financial aid titles published by Reference Service Press that deal with specific subject areas, including *How to Pay for Your Degree in Education & Related Fields* and *Money for Graduate Students in the Social & Behavioral Sciences*. For more information on those and other award-winning financial aid directories, you can 1) write to Reference Service Press's Marketing Department at 5000 Windplay Drive, Suite 4, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762; 2) call us at (916) 939-9620; 3) fax us at (916) 939-9626; 4) send us an e-mail at info@rspfunding.com; or 5) visit our web site: www.rspfunding.com.

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dr. Gail Schlachter has worked for more than three decades as a library educator, a library manager, and an administrator of library-related publishing companies. Among the reference books to her credit are the biennially-issued *Directory of Financial Aids for Women* and two award-winning bibliographic guides: *Minorities and Women: A Guide to Reference Literature in the Social Sciences* (which was selected as an "Outstanding Reference Book of the Year" by *Choice*) and *Reference Sources in Library and Information Services* (which won the first Knowledge Industry Publications "Award for Library Literature"). She is the former editor of *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, was the reference book review editor of *RQ* for 10 years, is a past president of the American Library Association's Reference and User Services Association, and is currently serving her fifth term on the American Library Association's governing council. In recognition of her outstanding contributions to reference service, Dr. Schlachter has been named the University of Wisconsin School of Library and Information Studies "Distinguished Alumna of the Year" and awarded both the prestigious Isadore Gilbert Mudge Citation and the Louis Shores–Oryx Press Award.

Dr. R. David Weber taught history and economics at Los Angeles Harbor College (in Wilmington, California) for many years and continues to teach history as an emeritus professor. During his years of full-time teaching there, and at East Los Angeles College, he directed the Honors Program and was frequently selected as the "Teacher of the Year." Dr. Weber is the author of a number of critically-acclaimed reference works, including *Dissertations in Urban History* and the three-volume *Energy Information Guide*. With Gail Schlachter, he is the author of Reference Service Press's award-winning *High School Senior's Guide to Merit and Other No-Need Funding* and a number of other financial aid titles, including *Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel, and Their Dependents* and *Financial Aid for the Disabled and Their Families*, which was chosen as one of the "Best Reference Books of the Year" by *Library Journal*.

How to Pay for Your Degree in Library & Information Studies

- Undergraduates* ●
- Graduate Students* ●

