According to Bacote, among Atlanta University President John Hope's aspirations for the University was a Six-Year Plan which designated a school of library service. As a library school was already in existence at Hampton Institute in Virginia and the University lacked sufficient funds to open a school, Hope's dream was deferred. When it was evident that the school at Hampton would close, as indeed it did eventually, conditions were conducive in Atlanta to establish a library school. Following a great amount of planning and preparation, the School of Library Service at Atlanta University opened in September 1941 during President Rufus Clement's administration.

These events happened in the South during the time when racial segregation reigned supreme and separate educational facilities, as with every other facet of life, were mandatory by law. According to an Announcement for 1942-43 some of the objectives of the school were:

1. To provide one year of general instruction which will serve as a basis for library activity in all types of professional library situations. Included in this general program will be certain special reference to service in the college, the school, and public library fields.
2. To place special emphasis on the library in the Southern scene, utilizing in this connection all resources of the School of Library Service and the additional resources of other departments of the University.
3. To provide a curriculum influenced by what is believed to be the best thought in the library world. It will be based upon:
   a. The importance of principles as well as techniques. An attempt will be made to teach students not only how certain things are done, but why they are done and that this "why" is as important as the "how."
   b. The idea that the first year of library school work is a unit designed to prepare the student for library service; it is not a collection of courses.
   c. The place of the library in the contemporary scene. This will necessitate a knowledge of society and of social and economic trends.
   d. The contributions of other departments of the University, and of the University as a whole.
   e. The place of a library in a democracy. Here will be set forth the contribution that an accumulation and dissemination of facts and ideas may make toward the ultimate goal of a better world. This implies that since the Negro is a part of this world, that he should have a right to participate fully in the advantages which accrue from this accumulation and dissemination of facts and ideas.
4. To exercise its influence toward the improvement of better general library facilities and in turn improved library facilities for the Negro.

The purpose of this Chronology is to present in capsule the first fifty years of an institution which, begun to train Negro librarians for assimilation into society, has become a living legend. The compiler regrets that space limitations preclude the detail necessary to capture and trace each occurrence to its final conclusion. Notably omitted in this account are the following: names of secretaries (except the first), names and dates of service of some part-time faculty, intermittent dates of some faculty, and identification of specific events which became traditional.

A broad sampling of events was selected purposely in order to present a panoramic view of the diversity of the activities, faculty development, curriculum, students, and alumni accomplishments. The terms Negroes and blacks, used interchangeably, are those appearing in the many sources consulted; they reflect terminology to denote racial identity during that period. The term African-American, used by the compiler, is a reference to racial identity in current use.

1941-42 To train Negro librarians when the Hampton Institute (1st year) Library School closed in 1938, and made possible through the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the resources of Atlanta University, the School of Library Service began on the third floor of Trevor Arnett Library with twenty-four full-time and two part-time students from Colorado (1), Florida (3), Georgia (8 full-time and 2 part-time), Kentucky (2), Louisiana (3), Massachusetts (1), North Carolina (1), Tennessee (1), Texas (1), and Virginia (3) selected from a pool of sixty-three applicants of those states; faculty and staff was composed of Eliza Atkins Gleason, Ph.D.*, Director; Wallace Van Jackson, M.A. in L.S.; Virginia Lacy Jones, M.S. in L.S.; Lillie Katrina Daly, B.S. in L.S.; Secretary-Librarian; programs of cooperation were initiated with the Emory University Library School and the Librarians Club of Atlanta; twenty-two students were graduated with the B.S. in L.S. degree in 1942.

1942-43 Jackson resigned as full-time faculty member to become Atlanta University librarian, replaced by Dorothy Williams Toles, M.S. in L.S.; Hallie Beachem Brooks, Certificate, Indiana State Public Library Training Course, B.L.S.; joined faculty as part-time member; School instituted book parties, film forums, and rental libraries in cooperation with the People's College of Atlanta University.

Eliza Atkins Gleason 1943-44 School was accredited (3rd year) by the Board of Education for Librarianship of the American Library Association in July 1943 with accreditation retroactive for previous graduates; Jones was granted leave to study toward doctorate at University of Chicago; Jenny Pritchard, a 1943 graduate, was hired to teach technical processes during Jones' absence; lectures related to literature in special subjects by faculties of the Atlanta University

*Conferred by the University of Chicago in 1940, Gleason was the first African-American to receive the Ph.D. degree in library science.
1944-45 Jones remained on study leave; Toles received the Rosenwald Fellowship to study toward the doctorate at Chicago and was replaced by Ann McKay; Daly left staff to study for master's degree at Columbia; Frankye Warner joined staff as secretary; School introduced combination program allowing students to study two academic years toward the B.S. in L.S. and a subject degree elsewhere in the University; two students were enrolled, one in English and one in biology.

1945-46 Gleason was granted twelve-month leave of absence; Jones received the Ph.D. degree and served as Acting Director; Pritchard organized and chaired the first meeting of the SLS Alumni Association; McKay resigned and was replaced by Minnie Redmond Bowles; Daly returned as librarian and taught The College Library; Annie L. Watters McPheeters, librarian of the Auburn Branch of the Atlanta Public Library, was hired to teach The Public Library; Pritchard left to study toward the M.S. in L.S. at Columbia.

1946-47 Jones was appointed Director of the School with the rank of professor; Brooks began teaching full-time, was granted leave for remainder of the academic year, and received the M.S. in L.S. from Chicago; Annette Lewis Hoage joined the faculty; Daly received the M.A. in L.S.; the SLS faculty displayed an exhibit, "World View of the Negro," on an impressionistic map drawn by Hale Woodruff, Atlanta University Professor and famed African-American artist, which showed the distribution of the 210,000 Negroes on the continents of North and South America and Africa, and distributed copies of five annotated bibliographies at the Greater Atlanta Book Fair held at the Municipal Auditorium and attended by thousands of citizens; professional courses leading to the B.S. in L.S. degree were offered during the summer for the first time; audio-visual materials were introduced in SLS as new media for dissemination of ideas; two new courses, Backgrounds in Librarianship and The Book Arts, were added to the curriculum.

1948-49 In the absence of a University librarian, Jones also served as acting University librarian from September 1947 through April 1948 during which time Daly became School's full-time administrative assistant; Josephine Fawcett Thompson joined the staff as acting SLS librarian; Louise Elder joined faculty; Hoage and McPheeters attended summer school at Illinois and Columbia, respectively; with financial support from the Carnegie Corporation, School held a conference for public librarians attended by ninety-two public librarians serving Negro clientele in the South; students and faculty went on first extensive field trip and visited eleven libraries including the Library of Congress and the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

1949-50 M. Lucia James and Vivian Davidson Hewitt joined faculty with the respective ranks of instructor and instructor-librarian; Martha E. Riddick, employed as visiting instructor for the summer continued teaching through 1934 and taught during the summer of 1959; consisting of forty-five hours of course work plus a thesis, a new program leading to the M.S. in L.S. degree was adopted by the School, thereby ending the B.S. program which was being abolished in all library schools; the Washington, D.C. field trip was expanded to include a day visiting the Enoch Pratt Free Public and Folger Shakespeare Libraries in Baltimore; students participated in the organization of three Georgia rural libraries: the library of the Seminole Training School in Donaldsville, Brooks High School in Quitman, and the Rip Van Winkle Community library in Gray; an alumna, LaVerne Johnson Holland (1949), was recipient of one of two awards presented by the Medical Library Association for summer study at Columbia University.

1950-51 Graduates were employed in twenty-eight states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, and Japan with a high degree of stability in their employment; of the 201 degrees awarded (198 B.S. in L.S. and three M.S. in L.S.) since 1941 to 200 graduates (one graduate earned both the B.S. in L.S. and the M.S. in L.S.), only eight graduates were males; monthly book review programs, which were to last for eighteen consecutive years, were instituted; because of the excellence of the published proceedings on its three-day Conference on Undergraduate Education attended by forty-two teachers of library science at thirty-one Negro colleges, SLS received the American Library Association Board of Education for Librarianship's recognition "for making a great contribution to national library development."

1951-52 On October 16, 1951, SLS celebrated its 10th (11th year) Anniversary in tandem with Atlanta University's 86th Charter Day with an address presented to the University community by Charles R. Graham, librarian of the Louisville, Kentucky Public Library and former President of ALA; to accommodate in-service librarians and non-professionals, late afternoon and Saturday morning classes were instituted; Hewitt resigned.

1952-53 Elizabeth Lee was employed as librarian; in library publications, The Atlanta Daily World, and Negro weekly newspapers, announcements of $20,000 in scholarship
1955-56 Local Book-Author Teas were instituted by the School, the first of which honored Hylian Lewis, Professor, School of Arts and Sciences, Department of Sociology, for publication of his book, Blackways of Kent; Lucretia P. Parker joined staff as librarian; James A. Hulbert, University Librarian, became part-time faculty member teaching College and University Library Administration; Ella B. McCain of Birmingham, Alabama, served the first of twenty-one consecutive years as guest instructor for children's and young people's library service during the summer session when ninety-seven graduates were enrolled and twenty-six were graduated.

1956-57 New course, Libraries and Librarianship, was added to the curriculum; the H. W. Wilson Company gave $500 to the School (and to other library schools throughout the country) to be used for scholarships for the 1955-56 academic year; five SLS graduates were employed at beginning salaries of $4,000 each in the New York Public Library system (four at Brooklyn, one at Queens); the School cooperated with Trevor Arnett Library in presenting the first Atlanta University Book Fair; in the absence of a full-time librarian at Morris Brown College in Atlanta, SLS students operated the library; additionally, three students were employed on a part-time basis by the Board of Education and worked under the direction of Edythe Thomas to assist teachers in acquisition and organization of library materials; Hoage and Washington resigned.

1957-58 Brooks was promoted to the rank of associate professor; Carolyn W. Ford joined faculty to replace Hoage; Jones contributed a chapter on John Marshall Slaton to a book of collected biographies of Georgia governors published by the Georgia Chapter of the Special Library Association; she was elected to the Board of Beta Phi Mu, the international library science honor society; congested housing conditions in Washington, D.C. prevented the annual field trip to Washington and Baltimore which began in the 1943-44 academic year; Sara Bond Davis librarian of Turner High School, Atlanta, and Dorothy Scofield and A. Venable Lawson, both of the staff of the Atlanta Public Library, were hired to teach part-time; Ford resigned at the end of the summer session.

1958-59 Leonide D. Carroll joined faculty as assistant professor; J. R. Davis joined faculty to replace technical processes; Davis, Scofield, and Lawson returned for a second year as part-time instructors; on Jones's leave during the summer, she visited the School of Librarianship at the University of London and major European libraries while touring eight countries; Shiyali R. Ranganathan, famed Indian librarian, philosopher, and teacher visited the School and gave a series of lectures to the students and faculty including one public lecture to the University community.

1959-60 The Sadie Peterson Delaney Memorial Student Loan Fund (named in honor of one of Jones's mentors who was librarian at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Tuskegee, Alabama, for more than thirty years) was established to assist students who needed small to nominal amounts of money for short-term use; Maurice Tauber, Professor, School of Library Service, presented lectures to students and faculty on library surveys and new approaches to cataloging and classification; Zeta Chapter of Beta Phi Mu, the international library science honor society, was established at SLS on May 30, 1960 with initiation of eight persons installed as Charter members by Dean Jones who represented the Board of Directors; twenty-one local members of the fraternity attended.

1960-61 Major revisions in the areas of technical processes and advanced reference service were made in the curriculum; fifty-six percent of the thirty-nine graduates enrolled came from Georgia, the remainder from nine states and one foreign country, India; Lucius Fears, Jr. (now deceased) received the Beta Phi Mu award for his essay, "Education for Librarianship in Great Britain". Robert M. Ballard wrote thesis, "Job History of the Atlanta University School of Library Service Graduates, 1948-59," because of his decision to leave the city, Lawson resigned.

1961-62 Edna LaVerne Lester joined the faculty to teach the children's and school courses; faculty and students assisted the Greater Atlanta "Books Abroad" Committee in cooperation with the United States Information Agency in weeding, sorting, and classifying by subject 5,400 books collected in Atlanta to be shipped to foreign countries as part of the U.S. President's People to People Program.

1962-63 A grant from the Asia Foundation enabled two Asian students, Muhammad K. Hussain of Pakistan and Lily Shaw of Malaya, to attend the Annual Conference of the American Library in Miami Beach, Florida; tuition for the year was $450.00; board and room was $340.00 for a single room, $486.00 for a double room; under the aegis of the U.S. Information Agency, William Bennett (1950) was appointed Director of the Library at the Middle East Technical University at Ankara, Turkey.

1963-64 Annette L. Hoage Phinazee, having received her doctorate from Columbia, returned to the faculty on a part-time basis; Lillie K. Daly Caster was hired to teach during the summer; Lester resigned; Jones received notification of the reaffirmation of accreditation of the School by the Committee on Accreditation of the American Library Association; survey by Jones revealed that approximately thirty Negro college libraries in the South were headed by graduates of the Atlanta University School of Library Service.

Pouring tea is a 1947 graduate Marmesha Hill (now Northover), a Trevor Arnett staff member, later a librarian with the Schomberg Collection. At far left are Annie McPeehter (in hat) and Venable Lawson.
1964-65 Carroll was granted study leave; Tommy Morton (24th year) Allen joined faculty to replace Lester; receipt of a $275,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to be used over a three-year period for scholarships, enrichment of the instructional program and professional development of the faculty, library materials, conferences and workshops, and furniture and equipment represented the singular most significant development since the School's establishment.

1965-66 Affirmation of cooperative efforts which had been (25th year) established in 1941 between Eliza Gleason and Tommie Dora Barker, Director of the Division of Librarianship of Emory, was reflected again when the Division cooperated with the School in presenting a conference, "The Role of the Library in Improving Education in the South," which was attended by 123 participants from fourteen states; with the cooperation of the staff of Trevor Arnett Library, the School sponsored an "Institute on Materials By and About Negroes" which was attended by ninety-six librarians from twenty-one states and the District of Columbia; proceedings of both conferences were published and given favorable reviews in the literature; Allen resigned.

1966-67 Mary L. Cleveland and Thelma Freides joined the (25th year) faculty; to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the School, a "Seminar on Documentation" which presented nine nationally recognized guest lecturers including Professors Helen Focke, Western Reserve University; Allen Kent, University of Pittsburgh; Pauline Alberton, American Institute of Physics; Gerald Jahoda, Florida State University; and Ralph Parker, University of Missouri; other outstanding library scholars speaking at the School through the year were Wayne Yenawine, Director of Libraries at the University of Louisville, Kentucky and former Dean of the Library School of Syracuse University, Howard Winger, Professor, Graduate School of Library Service, University of Chicago and Editor of The Library Quarterly, and Mary Herrick, Assistant Director for Bibliographic Organization at the Chenery Library of Boston University; Charles D. Churchill (1953) became the first SLS graduate and the first Negro man in the United States to earn the Ph.D. degree in library service; Casper L. Jordan joined the faculty during the summer session.

Annette Phinaze with Dr. John Hope Franklin, who delivered the opening address at a 1967 conference.

1967-68 Phinaze returned to full-time teaching; Charles K. (27th year) Boulting and Theodore J. Kopkin, information specialists Georgia, were hired to team teach Indexing and Abstracting, a new course; two other courses, Special Librarianship and Systems Analysis and Programming were added to the curriculum; the largest number of graduates in any year since the School was established, ninety-six persons earned the M.S. in L.S. degree; SLS received a $278,050 grant from the Ford Foundation to be used over a three-year period to prepare sixty librarians to serve a minimum of two years in the libraries of predominately Negro colleges, program was directed by Jordan.

1969-70 Phinaze resigned to become Dean of the Library (29th year) School at North Carolina Central University at Durham where she was later to bring it to ALA accreditation and was replaced by Eleanor Hinton Hoytt; supported by the Hill Family Foundation of St. Paul, Minneapolis, and the 3M Corporation at a cost of approximately $200,000, School hosted two workshops for librarians and faculty members of thirty black colleges on the use of microfilm reader printers and microfilmed materials on black history and literature; Brooks was promoted to professor and Thompson to associate professor.

1970-71 Carolyn Stroman joined faculty; "The Improvement (30th year) of reading and the stimulation to read in order to enable every individual to reach his maximum reading potential were the objectives of a four-day Right-to-Read Institute sponsored by SLS and the Division of Librarianship of Emory University, with the cooperation of the National Book Committee of the U.S. Office of Education; from contributions to the Christine Coffey Memorial Foundation in Iowa, the school awarded $1,000 for a scholarship for a black student in memory of the late Miss Coffey who worked diligently through the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for freedom to employ black librarians in Iowa; Josephine Thompson received the 6th Annual Atlanta University Trustees' Award for Excellence in Teaching.

1971-72 Penelope Bullock joined the full-time faculty, Dorothy (31st year) Blake, Coordinator of Libraries for the Atlanta Public Schools, was employed as part-time faculty; sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education and conducted jointly by SLS and the Atlanta Public Library, twelve participants were selected from seventy-six applicants to participate in an "Institute for Public Librarians for the Urban Disadvantaged" which prepared a corps of social action-oriented librarians to evaluate the social, cultural, and economic solutions to problems available through dynamic public programs and group activities; Jo Ann Bayneum was hired as Coach-Counselor; the SLS faculty joined that of the Division of Librarianship of Emory in honoring John Rowe Townsend, Children's Book Editor of the Manchester Guardian and author of numerous children's books, who delivered the May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture through the generosity of a grant from Scott, Foresman and Company; Cleveland resigned to become head librarian at Talladega College in Alabama; School established program for the degree of Specialist in Library Service.

1972-73 Jones served as an evaluator for the Right-to-Read (32nd year) Institute for Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana held at the University of Washington in Seattle and as a consultant on interdisciplinary programs initiated by the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Library and Information Science; Augusta Baker, Coordinator of Children's Services for the New York Public Library, and E. J. Josey, Chief of the Bureau of Academic Libraries for the New York State Education Department were guest lecturers; Herbert Goldhor, Professor, University of Illinois, consulted with the faculty regarding curriculum and new national trends in library education; Jones was presented the distinguished 1973 Melvil Dewey Award of the American Library Association during the Annual Conference in Las Vegas; Carolyn L. George began a three-year part-time teaching assignment of school media courses; Frances Eure was graduated as the first student to receive the School's Specialist in L.S. degree.

1973-74 Louis Wilson (now deceased) and Joyce White Mills (33rd year) joined faculty; Freides was granted sabbatical leave; under the editorial leadership of a student, Joan B. Herron (now deceased), students began publication of The Benchwarmer, a student paper which ran for nine consecutive years; guest visiting lecturers included Keith Doms, Director, Free Library of Philadelphia; A. P. Marshall, Dean of Academic Library Services, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan; Judith F. Krug, Director, ALA Office of Intellectual Freedom; Robert Wedgeworth, Executive Director of ALA who presented a public lecture on "Information Services and Community Control"; School received Andrew W. Mellon Special Purpose Grant of $185,000 to span a three-year period and provide for the training of eleven black college librarians and also an Education Development Professions Act Grant of $36,000 to train five students as urban academic librarians; Stroman resigned to accept a fellowship at Syracuse to work on her doctorate; Jordan resigned full-time teaching to become University librarian, but continued part-time teaching through summer 1989.
Penelope Bullock (l) and Joyce White Mills chat with Mona C. Garvey (r), a 1967 graduate.

1974-75 Lorene Byron Brown joined faculty and Edward (34th year) Fontenette was employed as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs; Freides returned from sabbatical; Student Chapter of Special Libraries Association was organized by Charles Bauer; part-time lecturer who served as advisor; Mills published first of her four consecutive volumes of The Black World in Literature for Children: a Bibliography of Print and Non-Print Materials which is used widely as a selection tool by librarians, teachers, and parents; Hardy R. Franklin (1956) was named Director of the District of Columbia Public Library system; colloquium speakers included Donald Foos, Dean, School of Librarianship, Louisiana State University; Eileen D. Cooke, Director of the ALA Washington Office and Editor of the ALA Washington Newsletter; and Andrew H. deHeer, Director, Ghana National Library and Editor of the Ghana Library Journal; School was accredited again by the American Library Association.

1975-76 SLS received $100,000 from the U.S. Office of (35th year) Education to fund the Public Library Institute for Rural Citizens which was directed by Wilson and utilized unique features of analysis of techniques used by rural human resources service agencies for reaching rural citizens; through the leadership of Brown, personnel from the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in California assisted her in conducting workshops for the Atlanta University Center on the use of basic databases in retrieving information in a variety of subject areas; the Center received a digital computer which was placed in the Computer Center of Morehouse College and SLS received a terminal which was connected to the computer; Jones received triple recognition at ALA: Honorary Membership in the American Library Association, its highest honor, was bestowed upon her; a plaque from the Black Caucus of ALA in honor of "more than 30 years of Service to Library Education of Black Americans;" and the SLS alumni paid tribute to her at its Annual Alumni Banquet where she was presented with a gold locket and chain and a generous check; at the end of summer school, by which time the School had graduated 1,463 librarians, Josepine Thompson, associate professor, and Lucretia Parker, librarian, retired and Wilson and Fontenette resigned.

1976-77 Stephen E. James and Kenneth Carroll (now deceased) joined the faculty; Chih Wang was appointed librarian; Brown spent the summer at Livermore Laboratory and was instrumental in initiating the first internship program with that institution which accepted Sandra Beedles as the first SLS intern; Brooks retired after forty-seven years of faithful and outstanding service to Atlanta University, thirty of which were spent in full-time teaching in the School; Ella Gaines Yates (1951) was appointed first black and second woman to head the Atlanta Public Library system.

Dean Jones conducting a committee meeting about 1975 with faculty members (l-r) Lorene Brown, Louis Wilson, Penelope Bullock, Josephine Thompson.

1977-78 Edmund SantaVicca joined the faculty; under the (37th year) direction of Brown, a Library Training Grant of $101,000 from the U.S. Office of Education, Title II B, a special program was designed to teach eleven students to transfer printed information into machine tape for storage and retrieval in computerized databases, the School's computer laboratory was begun with the purchase of four computer terminals; and all of the Atlanta University theses and dissertations in the University Library were stored on tape in the Atlanta University Center Computer Center; directed by Mills, a $25,213 grant from the Ethnic Heritage Studies Branch of the Division of International Education of the U.S. Office of Education supported the training of librarians in the evaluation, selection and use of multi-ethnic media for children and young people in addition to providing field work experiences with various ethnic groups including Afro-Americans, Cubans, Mexicans, and Oriental and Native Americans; ALA presented the coveted Joseph W. Lippincott Award to Jones for "distinguished service in the profession of librarianship;" Pauline Manaka, a native of Pretoria, South Africa and believed to be the first black librarian from that country to attend a university in the United States, entered SLS.

1978-79 Faculty voted to change name from School of Library (38th year) Service to one which encompassed more relevance of current trends and emerging issues in librarianship; Gwendolyn S. Cruzat (1954), Professor of Library Science, University of Michigan, delivered the Janet Doe Lecture, one of the highest honors the Medical Library Association can bestow upon a member, during its Annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii; Brown was appointed Associate Dean of the School with major responsibilities for curriculum development, continuing education, research, and proposal writing; students participated in library internships in the Atlanta Public School system; the Coca Cola Company and the Georgia Institute of Technology, the Library of Congress; the Public Library of Columbus and Franklin County, Ohio; the U.S. Army Aviation Center, Fort Rucker, Alabama; and the U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C.

1979-80 James Whitehead joined faculty; name of School was (39th year) changed officially from School of Library Service to School of Library and Information Studies; SLIS hosted the open meeting of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science and its twenty-four Commission members; resulting from a proposal written by Brown and funded by the U.S. Office of Education for $80,000, she directed a program designed to increase the number of minority information professionals with the technological knowledge and skills required to deliver effective services in an information environment which prepared ten students with learning experiences which integrated computer based reference services through subject bibliography courses; the Atlanta Area Alumni Association of the School of Library and Information Studies (AAAASLIS) was organized with Willie
Means Allen (1965) elected as its first president; continuing education workshop, "Computer Applications to Libraries," was held; Kenneth Carroll, assistant professor, suffered a fatal heart attack; Larry Ellis (1978) was selected to participate in the National Library of Medicine's Internship Program at Bethesda, Maryland.

1980-81 The University's fiscal austerity and severe financial (40th year) problems resulted in across the board cuts and freezes making this year for the School, in comparison with others, perhaps its "leanest." nevertheless, student volunteerism skyrocketed and was felt significantly in their choice to staff the library with no remuneration for many hours; Floyd Ingram, a student, was recognized and singled out for his devoted service; the SLIS library conducted a study of the utilization pattern of reserve books which resulted in an improvement in reserve procedures; Arlene Means and Carolyn Jones Stephens, two students, were each awarded $1,500 scholarship during its Annual Convention in Atlanta; a brief biography of Jones appeared in the 1981 ALA Yearbook following her receipt of an honorary degree from the University of Michigan's School of Library and Information Studies.

1981-82 James and Mills were granted leave to complete work (41st year) on their doctorates at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and the Florida State University, respectively; Rosaline Y. Odom, who established the reference internship program at the new Woodruff Library, replaced James; Virginia Lacy Jones, "Dean of Library School Deans," retired after thirty-five years of illustrious and distinguished service to the School and the profession and immediately was appointed Director of the new Robert Winship Woodruff Library at the Atlanta University Center which was formed through a merger of the holdings of all the libraries within the Atlanta University Center; Lorene Brown, faculty member since 1974 was appointed third Dean of the School since its inception in 1941; the Virginia Lacy Jones Endowed Scholarship Fund was established; the Archival Education Program, awarded to SLIS under Title II B, was directed by Penelope Bullock; the School acquired the former Trevor Arnett Library staff lounge for use for its students and the Library's former Lincoln Room for an enlargement of the computer science laboratory; Charles Bauer, who had joined the faculty in 1967 as part-time lecturer, died on March 31, 1982; Anna Anthony Curry (1961) was appointed ninth Director and first black Director of the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, Maryland.

1982-83 Gale P. Peters served as visiting lecturer; Saundra (42nd year) Shirley-Reynolds, a 1983 graduate, was selected for the Library of Congress Internship, serving on a team of proposal writers for Atlanta University to the Title III Challenge Grant Program which resulted in a $1.2 million grant to the University for the 1983-84 academic year, Brown enhanced the computer laboratory equipment and expanded media services for the School; Robert Wedgeworth, Executive Director of ALA, was awarded an honorary doctor of Laws degree on the occasion of the University's Charter Day celebration; Odom was Editor of Vol. 1, No. 1 issue dated December 1982 of School of Library and Information Studies Alumni Newsletter; the H. W. Wilson Company continued its scholarship funds to the School.

1983-84 Chih Wang, who was (43rd year) granted a study leave, was replaced by Pamela B. Craig; Annette Lewis Hoage Phinazee, former professor, died on September 17, 1983; funded by the Council on Library Resources, J. K. Lucker, Director of Libraries, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Herbert White, Dean of the Library School at Indiana University, served as consultants to structure a curriculum designed to educate librarians holding undergraduate degrees in the sciences for employment in research libraries; Hallie Beahem Brooks was granted the status of Professor Emerita by the Trustees of the University in recognition and honor of her outstanding contributions to the University, the School, the profession, and the community at large; Carl Moody (1981, now deceased), a librarian at the Atlanta Constitution, was selected by the Institute for Journalism Education to participate in the Summer Program for Minority Journalists at the University of California at Berkeley.

1984-85 Craig was employed as Assistant to the Dean for (44th year) Special Projects; visiting and part-time lecturers included James B. Dodd, Frank A. Edwards, Frances E. Kaiser, and Orrin Walker; because of her deep and abiding love for the School, Dorothy Henderson Skelton (1970), Head Reference Librarian at William and Mary College bequeathed the bulk of her sizeable estate to SLIS to provide scholarships for aspiring librarians; made possible by the LeFlore and Ward families in memory of Ruth LeFlore Ward (1963), SLIS presented the first Alumni-in-Residence Program and honored Leila Gaston Rhodes (1963), the first black to earn a Ph.D. in library science at Florida State University, as the Alma-in-Residence; Brown wrote a proposal which was funded for $250,000 from the Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE) and directed the three-year Project Designed to Integrate Computer-based Reference Services into Bibliographic Instruction in Seventeen Historically Black Colleges and Universities; Virginia Lacy Jones died on December 3, 1984; the Patricia Roberts Harris Fellowships for graduate education at Atlanta University awarded grants to SLIS students for the first time; SLIS was granted Charter Membership as a student chapter group of ALA.

1985-86 Joseph Coffman and Hemalata Iyer joined the full- (45th year) time faculty, R. Bernard Welmaker joined as visiting lecturer; the University Senate and Academic Council granted permission to name the student lounge the Hallie Beahem Brooks Lounge in memory of the late SLIS professor who died on October.
Major R. Owens (D, NY), pictured with Dean Lorene Brown, delivered the commemoration address and received an honorary doctorate in 1986.

Charles D. Churchwell (1953) was honored as the second Alumni-in-Residence recipient; the Honorable Major R. Owens (1957) [D, New York], first librarian elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, delivered the Atlanta University Commencement Address and was presented the honorary Doctor of Laws degree; Penelope Bullock (1943), professor, retired following fifteen years of distinguished teaching in the School.

1986-87 Albert Spenser received a joint appointment with Emory’s Division of Librarianship to teach the school media and children’s literature courses; two new internships were established. Joan Redmond Leonard went to the U.S. Olympic Committee’s Sports Medicine Library in Colorado Springs, Colorado and Deborah Rhodes to Time, Inc. (now Time Warner, Inc.) in New York City; SLIS alumni attending the Southeastern Library Association in Atlanta joined in celebration of Atlanta University’s Charter Day at its Annual Banquet held at the Westin Peachtree Hotel; Beta Phi Mu sponsored Hardy Franklin in a colloquium; James resigned to accept a public library position in Saginaw, Michigan; Casper L. Jordan (1951) was chosen the third Alumni-in-Residence honoree, his April 23, 1987 lecture, “With Twenty-five Carefully Selected Students: An Informal Account of Black Library Education,” was published; Wang resigned as librarian and was replaced by Almeta Gould Woodson (1961), an Atlanta University librarian since 1962; again, reaffirmation of accreditation was extended to the School by the Committee on Accreditation of ALA; Spencer left at the end of summer school and Craig resigned at that time to enter law school at the University of Illinois.

1987-88 A. Fazle Kabir and William Welburn (1978) joined the full-time faculty, Carolyn George resumed part-time with special emphasis in children’s literature; Gwendolyn S. Cruzat (1954) Professor, University of Michigan, was selected as the Fourth Alumni-in-Residence recipient; the SLIS Alumni Support Committee in the Washington, D.C./Baltimore area contributed $1,000 to the School’s matching fund toward the purchase of a computer; Julie V. Hunter (1965) was appointed Administrative Librarian for Public Services for the DeKalb County (Georgia) Public Library System; Wayne Crocker (1979) was featured in the ALA recruitment campaign, “The Future is Now: Take Charge of the Future,” which received national circulation; Eliza A. Gleason, first Dean, returned to visit the School and the University campus for the first time since she left in 1946; Josephine “Billie” Thompson, retired associate professor died on July 25, 1988; the Archives Institute of Emory University was transferred to SLIS with its seed money and was directed by McDermott; Clark College and Atlanta University consolidated and became Clark Atlanta University on July 1, 1989.

Smiles from two deans: Lorene B. Brown and Eliza Atkins Gleason.

1989-90 Coffman and Iyer resigned; Brown was granted a (49th year) semester’s sabbatical leave and returned to full-time teaching following her leave; Raylynn Hughes served for a semester as visiting instructor and Guy C. Craft (1961), Director of the Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Centers served as Interim Dean during the same period; on January 1, 1990, Charles D. Churchwell (1953) was appointed the School’s fourth Dean; William Boyd and Donald Oehlerls were employed as visiting faculty during the second semester; McDermott conducted the Archival Institute prior to her resignation at the end of summer school; Jones was awarded, posthumously, the Black Caucus of ALA’s Trailblazer’s Award; Vinson McKenzie (1984) was appointed Head of the Architectural Library at Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama.

1990-91 Boyd and Oehlerls began employment as assistant (50th year) and associate professors, respectively; Chandler was granted leave to complete her doctoral studies at Michigan and was replaced by Gwendolyn Callaway (1977); full-time faculty were provided with electronic work stations to assist them in their research for SLIS students in the Woodruff Library; Churchwell was appointed Interim Provost concurrently with his duties as Dean; the following were named as an Advisory Board for the School and convened in April 1990: Ella Gaines Yates (1981), Chair; Larry Besant, Director of Libraries, Morehead (Kentucky) State University; Gwendolyn S. Cruzat (1954) Professor, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Michigan; Hardy Franklin (1956), Director, Washington, D.C. Public Libraries; Emily Mobley, Dean of Libraries, Perdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana; Nancy Paysinger, Director of Media Planning Services Unit, Georgia Department of Education; Herman L. Totten, Professor, School of Library and Information Sciences, University of North Texas; and Edward Weldon, Director, Georgia Department of Archives; Bonita Johnson Perry (1971) was appointed Assistant Director for Research Services at the Smithsonian Institution Library in Washington, D.C.; during the 110th Annual Meeting of ALA, held in Atlanta for the first time since the turn of the century, SLIS held a Homecoming Picnic for its alumni during which time “African-American Architects and Builders: A Historical Overview,” an exhibit presented by Vinson McKenzie (1984) and sponsored by the SLIS Library, opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony; continuing to support the School, the Washington, D.C./Baltimore Support Committee presented the Dean with a generous check during the picnic; Paul Coates (1980) Director of the Black Classic Press, presented Churchwell with a check for $1,000 for scholarship aid on behalf of ten black publishers who co-sponsored with the Black Caucus of ALA, a combined book exhibit and reception during this historic ALA Convention.
EPISODE
This has been a brief account of a school whose time had come in September 1941. The glorious history of the first fifty years of this institution, which was established as a "training ground for black librarians," is but one of the many examples of struggles and endeavors to overcome them which have been endured by African-Americans during this Twentieth Century.

This Chronology substantiates the following:

1. The School's original objectives were stated with the understanding that they would change in accordance with developments in the profession and societal needs. SLIS's present mission, goals, and objectives have evolved through the years and remained in tune with those of the University.

2. Structured by the faculty, and revised as necessary through the years in keeping with the best thought in library education, the curriculum has undergone a metamorphosis from a general one of preparing graduates to perform almost all activities in a library to one which offers a small degree of specialization by type of library functions in which the graduate plans to work. Since its initial accreditation in 1943, the School has maintained continuously its reaffirmation of accreditation by ALA, with the last visit having occurred in 1987.

3. The physical facilities have been improved and expanded from the original quarters on the third floor of Trevor Arnett Library to include new quarters erected for use during the 1954-55 academic year. With the restructuring and relocation of the University library, additional space was acquired to include a computer laboratory and a media center laboratory for the purpose of integrating theoretical implications into practical applications.

4. From modest beginnings and never possessing an enormous endowment, the School has remained visible and viable largely because of the stability of the administration (there have been only four deans within the span of half a century) and the faculty, its very lifeblood, which has been innovative, creative, resourceful, committed, and capable of exemplifying Atlanta University's motto, "I'll find a way or make one." The School has remained on the "cutting edge" of knowledge in the profession through conferences, workshops, and other activities which have been supported and underwritten through the generosity of some of the country's most prestigious private philanthropic organizations along with financial assistance from the federal government.

5. As exemplified by demographics traceable back to the entering class in 1941-42, always the School's influence has been national in scope, and to some extent global, rather than being confined to the state or region. SLIS has contributed significantly to the cadre of African-Americans in the library/information profession throughout the United States and to the number of multi-ethnic librarians throughout the world. In addition to serving as leaders in various professional associations, these graduates are serving as directors of major academic, public, special, and school libraries and state library agencies, and as members of the faculty in library schools.

6. As the School begins its second fifty years, having graduated 1,994 librarians and now the only ALA accredited library school in Georgia, its challenge is to exert even greater influence in the education of a multi-ethnic/multi-culturally diverse corps of library/information professionals who will fill vacant positions at the local, state, regional, national, and international levels.

References

Editor's Acknowledgements
Many hands and hearts have gone into the preparation of this special issue of The Georgia Librarian. Two members of the Editorial Board, Dorothy W. Blake and Joyce E. Jelks, worked with me on this project; many thanks to them for their help. I am indeed grateful for the encouragement and support of Dean Charles D. Churchill and the assistance of members of his staff, especially Ms. Gwendolyn Callaway and Ms. Lillie Brown. Special thanks go to Dr. Lorene B. Brown for making me aware of the interview with Dean Jones and for lending me her copy. Additional thanks are in order to the Schlesinger Library of Radcliffe College and K. G. Saur, a division of R. R. Bowker, for graciously permitting the use of substantial portions of this segment of their oral history project. Kudos to Almeta Gould Woodson, SLIS librarian, for identifying the photographs used in this issue, for entrusting them to me for duplication, and for preparing the outstanding chronology of the school. I am grateful to Casper Jordan for permission to reprint his special address in its entirety and to Clarence Chisholm, Merchuria Chase Williams, and Ella Gaines Yates for their contributions.

This issue is dedicated to the memory of Willis L. Bolton (M.S.L.S., 1968; Ed.S., 1976), who, were he still with us, would have contributed his own individual encouragement, good humor, and support to this endeavor.

Because of the length of this issue, some regular features such as news and book reviews had to be omitted. They will return with the winter number.