



School of Library & Information Science Catholic University of America

October 16, 2009

It is with great pleasure that the SLIS Faculty announces Ms. Jennifer McDaniel as this year's recipient of the Howard and Mathilde Rovelstad Scholarship. We had an exceptionally strong pool of applicants this year; however Ms. McDaniel distinguished herself with her service ethic evidenced by her participation in an assortment of activities sponsored by various professional organizations and her commitment to the field she articulated in her goals while at SLIS and after graduation.

In Ms. McDaniel's formal statements to the committee we learned of her professional interest in employment as an academic medical librarian and providing leadership in promoting health information literacy across diverse populations, overcoming disparities in access to authoritative health information, and global librarianship, especially within Ghana. She also has an interest in increasing the recruitment and retention of diverse library professionals and has already completed research on this topic which involved interviewing a sample of D.C area practitioners. She is currently gaining experience in technical services by working at the Himmelfarb Health Science Library of George Washington University.

She has been an active member of the Special Library Association, American Library Association, Medical Library Association and the Association of Christian Librarians: attending, at least, one of each association's conferences in the last few years.

The references for Ms. McDaniel mentioned her high level of intellectual ability, intellectual curiosity, ready to share her new discoveries, service ethic, adaptable, effective communicator in written and oral form, outstanding organizational skills, easy going and quick to offer a friendly smile. In short, as Professor Stephanie Walker of Brooklyn College put it, "She is a wonderful person, with all of the skills and attributes to become a truly exceptional librarian." After interviewing Ms. McDaniel we have to agree. Ms. McDaniel shows great commitment to and potential for a long and successful career in LIS and the SLIS faculty are grateful to have such an outstanding student in our program.

Kimberly B. Kelley, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Libraries and
Dean, School of Library and Information Science