Student Retention and Time to Degree Completion

An average of 112 new students enroll in the Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) each academic year. The following chart demonstrates MLIS total enrollment - with differentiation by full- and part-time enrollment.

The SOIS MLIS program achieves excellent retention to completion statistics. The fall semester to fall semester retention rate is currently 95.4%, with an average rate of 89% over the past 7 years. The portion who complete the MLIS within three years averages 84.1%. The average time to complete the MLIS is 2.6 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year of MLIS start</th>
<th>Total new MLIS students</th>
<th>Returned to Year 2</th>
<th>MLIS Completion rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
<td>83.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>91.8%</td>
<td>85.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>86.8%</td>
<td>80.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>84.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-22*</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>89.2%</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Office of Institutional Effectiveness, 2022
Employment Outcomes of Program Graduates
SOIS students achieve excellent career outcomes upon completion of their Dominican University experience. Employers rate SOIS graduates highly across key competencies in the field and in their demonstration of our program student learning goals and outcomes.

The majority (81%, N = 109) of graduating students have secured full or part-time employment in the LIS field immediately upon graduation. Six months later, employment rates reach 86% in the LIS field. A list of employers of recent graduates follows. Employers rate SOIS graduates highly, as illustrated in the graph below.

Source: Graduating Student Survey – Office of Institutional Effectiveness - 2021
Organizations employing SOIS 2015 – 2021 graduates

Source: Annual Dominican University Alumnae/i (6-months post-graduation) Survey 2016 – 2021 data and Emsi Alumni Outcomes research portal

Addison Public Library
Advanced Resources
Al-Haram Al-Maki Al Shareef Library
Allied Benefit Systems
Alsip Marriionette Park Public Library
American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons
American Library Association
American Veterinary Medical Association
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital
Archdiocese of Chicago
Aurora Public Library
Austin Community College
Backstage Library Works
Barbara’s Bookstore
Batavia Public Library
Billings Public Schools
Bozeman Public Library
British International School of Chicago
Carol Stream Public Library
Central Piedmont Community College
Center for Research Libraries
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago Public Library
Chicago Public Media
Chicago Public Schools
Christian Church of Clarendon Hills
City of Springfield, IL
Columbia College Chicago
Concordia University
Cook Memorial Public Library District
Crafton Public Library District 215
District GCAM
Dominican University
Doody Enterprises, Inc.
Downers Grove Public Library
Eisenhower Public Library
Ela Area Public Library
Elk Grove Village Public Library
Elmhurst College
Elmwood Park Public Library
Erie County Public Library
Evanston Public Library
Evanston Township High School
Everest Academy
Fox River Valley Public Library
Frances Xavier Warde School
Franklin Park Public Library
Fremont Public Library District
Frost Elementary CCSD 21
Gail Borden Public Library District
Glen Ellyn Public Library
Glencoe Public Library
Glenview Public Library
Grande Prairie Public Library District
H.W. Lochner, Inc.
Harvard Diggins Library
Hillsdale College
Hinsdale Public Library
History Works
Hitchcock Design Group
Homewood Public Library
Hudson Public Library
Indian Prairie Public Library
Indian Trails Public Library
Itasca Community Library
Junior Library Guild
Kenosha Public Library
La Grange Park Public Library
LaGrange Public Library
Lagrange School District 105 South
MacArthur Foundation
Maternity BVM
Maywood Public Library
McDonald's Corporation
Medford School District
Megan Lee Designs
Melrose Park Public Library
Meridian Middle School
Midwestern University
Monroe County Community College
Morton College
Mountain View Whisman School District
Naperville Public Library
National Park Service
Network Ninja
Neuqua Valley High School
New Lenox Public Library
Newberry Library
Northbrook Public Library
Northwest Quality Logo Products
Northwestern University
Northwestern University Libraries and Press
Oak Park Elementary School District
Oak Park Public Library
Oakwood Public Library District
Palatine Public Library
Park Ridge Public Library
Pennoyer Elementary School
Pierce & Associates, P.C.
Prairie State College
Pritzker Military Library and Museum Public School System
Quality Logo Products
Regina Dominican High School
River Forest Public Library
Robert Morris University
Roselle Public Library District
RPX Corp
Sacred Heart schools
Saline County Library
Schaumburg Township District Library
School District 13
School District 46
School District 91
Skokie Public Library
St Luke Parish School
State law library of Montana
Sugar Grove Public Library
Sycamore Publishing
UCHicago Creative
Underwriters Laboratories
United Airlines
University of Chicago
University of Delaware
US Naval Academy
Village of Skokie
Warrenville Public Library District
Wauconda Area Library
Westmont Public Library
Wheaton Public Library
Winnietka-Northfield Public Library District
Wolters Kluwer
Woods Creek Elementary School - District 47
Yaskawa America, Inc.
Employers rate the preparation and contribution of the SOIS graduates highly, as illustrated by the graphs below.

**SOIS employers: Rating SOIS graduates on Program Learning Goal competence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Extremely competent</th>
<th>Very competent</th>
<th>Slightly competent</th>
<th>Not at all competent</th>
<th>Can't judge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Effectively communicating and collaborating to deliver, market and advocate for library and information services</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthesizing theory and practice within a dynamic and evolving information environment</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigating, curating and creating information across the spectrum of human records</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding the essential nature of information and its relevance to society</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing a professional identity and philosophy within the library and information professions</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: SOIS Biennial Employer Survey – Office of Institutional Effectiveness – 2020-21*

**Student Achievement Data**

Student achievement throughout the MLIS program is assessed through a variety of course-embedded assessments that align to the stated learning outcomes of each course. In the comprehensive e-Portfolio, students reflect upon and demonstrate mastery of the program’s five learning goals and outcomes as a culminating assessment project. These graphs illustrate the MLIS
2020-21 graduates’ e-portfolio achievement across the five student learning goals and their corresponding outcomes.
For more information about the School of Information Studies data, please contact:
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