Daphne Harrington, Director of Libraries

Speaking topics:
- MassBLAST: Building Library Awareness and Staff for Tomorrow in Massachusetts – an internship program designed to attract a diverse population of teens to librarianship

B.A., University of Massachusetts Amherst
M.L.S., State University of New York, Albany

Daphne Harrington has worked at Simmons since 1981, as a cataloging librarian, a reference/instruction librarian, and an associate director for Public Services. Appointed Library Director in 2000, she currently manages all members of the library staff, oversees the collection of more than 250,000 volumes in print, and an additional 20,000 journals, 30,000 books, and 130 databases online, and administers a $3 million library budget.

With a commitment to enhancing customer service and innovative uses of technology, Harrington has led many library initiatives, giving access to thousands of full text books and journal articles anywhere and anytime via the library web site and increasing research assistance, both in person and online. She also initiated the Bravo! Awards to recognize and support faculty research and the Diversity Internship Program, an innovative and highly successful program that introduces high school students from diverse backgrounds to the field of librarianship. She is a key player in the planning and design of a major renovation and expansion of Beatley Library, which includes expanded space for collections and college archives, 15 new group study rooms, an Information Commons, and more.

Harrington was named an honorary GSLIS alumna in 2002 by the GSLIS Alumni Association. She is an active member of the Fenway Library Consortium Director’s Group, the Oberlin Group, the American Library Association, and the Association of College & Research Libraries.