4-1-2008

Spring 2008 Library Newsletter

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A Message from the Assistant Vice-President for the Library and Archives

A new year brings with it much promise and hope and a new year also brings new books and some new “old ones,” all of which offer excitement, delight, learning and pleasure. I hope that for each of you this will be an exciting year for discovering many books which are new to you.

Robert Williams, Assistant Vice President for Library Services

NAACP Cobb County Historical Records Donated to University Archives

The Kennesaw State University Department of Archives recently announced the donation of the historical records of the NAACP’s Cobb County Branch to the KSU Archives. The NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) was founded in 1909 by a diverse group of individuals and represents a rich legacy of ensuring opportunities for all people. The Cobb County branch is a highly organized, democratic and structured organization that has played a significant role in the history of Cobb County for more than 45 years. One of its proudest achievements has been to develop a strong advocacy program for the Cobb County juvenile and criminal justice system. The first college chapter of the NAACP in Cobb County was established at Kennesaw State University in 1986.

To help accommodate this donation, the archives is completing an expansion that more than doubles their current size. The additional space, a large room previously used for storage on the second floor of the library, has been equipped with a set of compact shelving to maximize use. This freeing of space also allowed for a new research area with chairs and workspace to be installed. “Students working on projects barely had room to breathe,” said Tamara Livingston, Archives Director. “We’re thrilled.” A ceremony is planned for February 21st at 2 PM, followed by tours of the new renovations and a reception. Guests are asked to make a reservation with Vera Gargano at 770-423-6289 or by sending email to vgargano@kennesaw.edu.

More To Come - A Message from the Library Director

A number of years ago the library made its first purchase of a service called JSTOR. JSTOR is a dedicated full-text archive of back issues of journals used in support of research, scholarship and learning. In less than a decade JSTOR has grown from a mere 60 scholarly journals to about 730 journals. For KSU students and faculty, the future is bright regarding electronic journals to come. More and more publishers of databases are rushing to add back files to their services. As the library continues to purchase these resources, students and faculty will have access to greater depth and breadth of scholarly periodical material. The value to students will include more ways to access and use the database content. Another benefit will include better navigation between multi-discipline databases with more content to come.
How May We Help You?: Acquisitions

Acquisitions is responsible for ordering and receiving new materials in print and digital formats. Even when funding is tight, acquisitions is looking for suggestions for new additions. For faculty who wish to contribute, there are a number of options.

Choice Reviews Online

Choice Reviews Online is the library’s book review and recommendation service. It provides monthly reviews of “academic books, electronic media, and Internet resources of interest to those in higher education.” Items of interest can be marked and emailed to the acquisition department.

Subject Specialists

In the interests of developing the collection, the library has several subject specialists responsible for recommending new purchases. If you have requests you wish to make, or want to discuss the scope or direction of the collection’s development, contact the appropriate librarian.

Direct Requests

If you have a specific need, there is always the direct approach. Online forms are available for requesting items for purchase. In all cases, when funds become available, purchases can be made.

Helpful Links:

♦ Request items for purchase: http://www.kennesaw.edu/library/services/purchaseitem.htm
♦ Subject area specialists: http://www.kennesaw.edu/library/services/subjectarea.htm.

Database Spotlight: Books@Ovid

As Kennesaw moves towards adding more and more online classes, the Sturgis Library has responded by investing in a number of electronic book databases. One of the lesser known sources is the database Books@Ovid. Books@Ovid is a full text source for medical, nursing, and pharmacy textbooks from a range of publishers.

The Books@Ovid database includes the complete text of each book, including references, charts, and photographs. Ovid uses a simple graphic user-interface for ease of navigation. Users can move through each book in a variety of ways, either by simply browsing the contents or by searching for the reference they need. They also have the option to search multiple titles at once for greater efficiency. Unlike NetLibrary, the user can print multiple pages at a time, or email the information to themselves or others. Online help is available if needed. All of these features help make Books@Ovid a valuable resource for library users.

Facts from the Publisher:

♦ Ovid updates their books with the most recent edition available, or with chapter/section updates when they are received from the publisher.
Spotlight on Achievements

♦ Rita Spisak participated in the panel discussion, “Friends Groups in Academic Libraries” at the 2007 Georgia Council of Media Organizations held on Jekyll Island October 17th-19th. Ms. Spisak was also part of a delegation of the Friends of Georgia Libraries organization in receiving a commendation from Governor Sonny Perdue on September 26th.
♦ Sandra Barclay, Lillie Barber, and Cynthia Parkins all completed the Ethical Leadership Certificate program offered by the Center for University Learning. This program is offered by the Center to provide leadership, character, and ethical development to KSU employees.

New Library Faces

Some new faces have been added to the library staff.

Kristen Denison is a new addition to the serials department in technical services. She has a background in psychology from the University of Illinois. Prior to coming to Kennesaw, she worked at the Beaverton public library in Oregon, as well as a massage therapist.

Jeff Mathews is a former intern turned employee. Jeff has his Masters in Library Science from Florida State University. He previously worked in the Newton County Public Library System. He’s now working in Interlibrary Loan.

Erin Murrietta is also a new member of the serials staff. She previously worked at Nestlé Waters as admin assistant and site coordinator. She has an English degree from George Mason University.

Johnny Woods comes to us from Georgia Highlands College library. He is currently working in circulation & microfilm, and has just taken over managing reserves. Johnny graduated from Georgia State with a bachelors in history.

Please join us in welcoming all our new staff members!
Apollo Astronaut Visits Rare Book Room

The Sturgis library received a singular gift on October 17th—artifacts carried and used by astronaut Charles Duke on his flight to the moon. Charles Duke was the lunar module pilot for Apollo 16 in 1972, and is the tenth man to have walked on the moon. The items donated included the Apollo 16 lunar rover map, the lunar module contingency checklist, and twenty miniature Georgia state flags flown aboard Apollo 16. At the presentation of his gift, he gave a talk about his experiences to a crowded presentation hall and answered questions from the audience. Afterwards he visited the Bentley Rare Book room, where his donation will be housed.

More information about the Charles Duke donation can be seen online at http://www.kennesaw.edu/library/duke/intro.htm.

Story Updates

♦ The E-Reserve system reported on in the Fall 07 issue (“Coming Soon: E-Reserves”) has been brought online and is currently being tested with a few classes. “Once we’re sure of how well its working, we’ll start adding more classes,” said Martha Henry-Croom, head of Circulation.

♦ Last issue’s comparison of GIL Express and Interlibrary Loan (“Getting What You Need: GIL Express vs. Interlibrary Loan”) accidentally left off an important point: renewals. Interlibrary Loan: not all items can be renewed. Renewals may be requested up to three days after the item is due before your account is blocked. GIL Express: items may be renewed twice. You must renew an item up to the day before it is due; items may not be renewed on their due date. Failure to renew/return automatically blocks your account; the block is handled at the university system level, not locally. The library cannot override this block. Please plan accordingly.

In Brief

♦ The Sturgis Library has begun working with the Institute for Global Initiatives for next year’s Annual Country Program. Each country has a subject guide provided by the library for faculty wishing to incorporate the program into their classroom. Next year’s program will be “The Year of Turkey.”

♦ Information Technology Services has finished upgrading the library’s wireless network. Last semester saw the library’s network change from an open to a secure network. This semester additional wireless nodes were installed throughout the library to improve connectivity.

♦ The Art Gallery in the Sturgis Library is currently hosting the Annual Art Faculty & Staff Exhibition. The exhibition runs through February 28th. The library is also working with the Art Galleries to prepare their exhibition, “Athos Menaboni: Conversations with Nature.” This exhibition opens to the public May 18th in the Clayton Gallery, located in the Bailey Performance Center.

♦ Thanks to all who donated items to the Fall Friends of the Library Book sale and to those who purchased items. It was our most successful sale to date. Also, our thanks to everyone for donating items to the "Deck the Halls with Books and Holly" book drive for the Zion Academy. The school was very appreciative.

Newsletter written and edited by Jon Hansen. Additional text by Tamara Livingston and Rita Spisak.

Kennesaw State University is a comprehensive, residential institution with a growing student population over 20,000 from 132 countries. The third largest university out of 35 institutions in the University System of Georgia, Kennesaw State offers more than 60 graduate and undergraduate degrees, including a brand new Doctorate of Education in Leadership.