Library News
LIBRARY NEWS:

Mississippi

Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Library to Present Local Artist’s Works by Van Arnold

Gulf Coast artist Milton Williams will be exhibiting more than 40 of his impressionistic landscapes at the University of Southern Mississippi’s Gulf Coast Library through Nov. 15.

“Marshes to Island, an Adventure in Textures” includes several creations from his earlier series such as “Beneath Our Islands” to his most recent “Arcadia Bayou Scenes.” Paintings will show the various techniques he uses to get the texture effects that make his work unique.

Subject matter will include fish, crabs, nets, flowers, marshes and trees. Also on display will be several sculpture pedestals and low relief paintings.

According to Williams, “Texture is used in most of my paintings and can be very subtle to almost three dimensional,” said Williams. “I use a palette knife to apply paint and often add sand, marble dust or pumice to the fluid paints to re-create an impressionistic landscape.”

Williams notes that this texture helps enhance the viewing due to the light reflecting off the various angles of color and delicate surfaces. Experimenting in art mediums and techniques over the past 40 years and exploring ways to render the subject matter led to other series of paintings, “Roof Tops”, “Wood Grain Primitives” and “Flower Studies.”

In his “Beneath Our Islands” series, begun about 25 years ago, Williams points out that the visible part of the islands above the surface, with their indigenous flora, trees and man’s structures or boats, represent the traditional landscapes. The hidden part of Mississippi’s barrier islands, with the mix of sand, shells and buried wood, have multiply layers that anchor these islands in the coastal water ways. This part of the painting represents the imaginative abstract design. Thus the abstract and traditional are combined in one work of art.

Williams received a commercial art degree from Mississippi State University in 1975, practicing his vocation as a graphic artist at the Naval Construction Training Center for 22 years. Currently he is serving as an art specialist for the Armed Forces Retirement Home where he both teaches and studies art techniques with the veterans.

Williams is hopeful that his art works bring a moment of pleasant joy to the viewer and an awe of God’s creation. On the back of his works, one is likely to find these words: “To God Be the Glory.”

A reception is scheduled from 4-6 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 7 in the Gulf Coast Library on the Southern Miss Gulf Park Campus in Long Beach. Refreshments will be served and select artwork will be available for purchase. In addition, a drawing will be held for two prints by the artist. For more information, call 228.214.3450.

Banned Book Week at Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Library

On September 23, 2014, The College of Arts and Letters' English Department and the Gulf Coast Library participated in their first Read-Out to celebrate Banned Books Week. Banned Book week is an annual event that highlights the value of free and open access to information. This event is typically held during the last week in September, and brings together the entire book community-librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers in shared support of the freedom to seek and express ideas, as well as those who may be considered unorthodox or unpopular.

Banned Book Week focuses on efforts to remove or restrict access to books in libraries and schools across the country.

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This event also draws national attention to the harms of censorship. While books continue to be banned, part of the Banned Books Week is to commemorate all of the books have remained available. Due to the efforts of librarians, teachers, students, and community members who stand up and speak out we have the freedom to read these books.

University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Library Offers Exhibit

"Cruisin' The Coast: Coming of Age" is on display at USM's library on the Long Beach campus during Cruisin’. The exhibit includes plenty of information on the event, plus several posters, metal dashboard plaques and hat pins and other memorabilia.

The exhibit is in display cases on the library’s first and second floors. The library is open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and noon to 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

NHPRC Awards Publication Grant to Ulysses S. Grant Association

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) awarded a grant of $43,490 to the Ulysses S. Grant Association for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

Established by Congress in 1934, NHPRC is the grant-making affiliate of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The NHPRC helps non-Federal institutions preserve and make broadly accessible other records of historical value through grants to archival institutions, manuscript repositories, and publications in multiple formats.

This grant will allow the Association to continue its work on the publication of Vols. I and II of the Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant: an annotated scholarly edition in print and a complete digital edition, which will show the various drafts of the Memoirs, from first to final. The digital edition will be published with free online access.

Grant’s Memoirs, published in 1885 by Mark Twain’s own publishing house Charles L. Webster and Co., have been touted as the greatest work of nineteenth-century non-fiction literature. The best-selling Memoirs received critical praise in their day and still remain a model for contemporary presidents when they write their own presidential memoirs. President Clinton kept a copy of Grant’s Memoirs on a bookshelf near his oval office desk.

The scholarly edition will be of tremendous value to historians and those who wish to understand more completely Grant’s military career, mainly in the Mexican-American and Civil War. The annotations will have meticulous research and solid scholarship behind them.

Revealed in the drafting stages are the personal struggles Grant faced while writing his Memoirs, particularly his battle with throat cancer. Having been diagnosed with the illness shortly after beginning the Memoirs, Grant dealt with losing his voice and periods of intense physical pain and weakness. On July 16, 1885, Grant wrote to his doctor regarding the Memoirs that “There is nothing more that I should do to it now, and therefore I am not more ready to go than at this moment.” He passed away only a few days later on July 23, 1885.

The Grant Association’s goals for the Memoirs are to complete drafting and verification of the annotations for Vols. I and II and to send out both volumes for peer review by the end of the 2014-15 fiscal year. Groundwork on the digital version will continue alongside the work on the print edition.

The Grant Association greatly appreciates the continued financial support of the NHPRC so it may continue to grow the scholarship on Ulysses S. Grant and his family.

Grant Association Executive Director John F. Marszalek said, “Over the years of the Grant Association’s editorial work on the 32 volumes of the Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, the NHPRC’s financial support has been crucial. Its continuing support this coming year will help ensure the first scholarly edition of the Grant Memoirs, an American classic.”
North Carolina

Panoramic Display Technology Puts Davis Library on the Map

UNC-Chapel Hill students who want to visit the Great Barrier Reef, the Louvre, or even the moon can now do so without leaving campus.

Thanks to a new Liquid Galaxy display system on the second floor of Davis Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, visitors can call up any Google Earth destination in a surround-screen immersive environment.

The installation, made up of seven screens joined in a semi-circle, invites exploration with a high-resolution display and intuitive navigation. The Library knows of no other Liquid Galaxy in North Carolina.

“From the moment the installer closed his tool box, students have been lining up non-stop to try the screens,” said Amanda Henley, one of the Library’s two Geographic Information Systems librarians.

Developers at Google created Liquid Galaxy in order to display Google Earth images and data linked to Google Earth, which is sometimes referred to as a virtual globe. The Google Earth library includes files such as maps, 360-degree building tours, geographic features, ocean data, street views, satellite images, and images of the moon and Mars.

Henley is currently working to add digitized maps and images from UNC-Chapel Hill to the display in Davis Library. The collections include interactive maps that are part of the Library’s North Carolina Maps project and Driving Through Time: The Digital Blue Ridge Parkway. Both projects laid historic maps over current ones in order to demonstrate changes to the natural and built landscape.

While the Liquid Galaxy encourages play, Henley is in conversation with faculty members from several disciplines who see serious research possibilities in the 7-foot-tall installation. These include geography professors who could map data such as housing patterns, disease spread, or industrial activities over time. In the Department of City and Regional Planning, students routinely create scenarios using Google Earth. Wandering around and among their virtual creations will provide “a very different perspective,” says Henley.

For art history professor Claire Anderson, the immersive display capacity may even improve upon some real-world experiences. Anderson has been experimenting with an ultra-high-resolution panoramic photography process called GigaPan.

For one project, Anderson is researching a medieval aviation experiment that took place on a mountainside in present-day Spain. “Using GigaPan and Google Earth on the immersive display would be very helpful to my research group as we try to understand the landscape and topography that may have contributed to this early flight’s success,” says Anderson.

She also uses the GigaPan to document monuments around the world and works of art right on campus at UNC’s Ackland Art Museum. Showing these files on the Liquid Galaxy, she says, “might be the next best thing to seeing them in person”— sometimes even providing a unique opportunity for what she calls “close looking,” without obstacles such as tight schedules, poor access, and crowds of tourists.

The Liquid Galaxy is part of the Research Hub, a UNC Library initiative to make the entire research lifecycle at UNC more connected, collaborative, and technology-enabled. The Research Hub in Davis Library also offers consulting, software, and equipment for Geographic Information Systems (GIS), data and data visualization, statistics, and digital humanities.

The Research Hub at Kenan Science Library features a new makerspace and 3D printing facility, while the Research Hub at the Health Sciences Library focuses on health-intensive information needs such as grant support, data management, and open access compliance.

A grand opening and open house for the Research Hub will take place in Davis Library on Oct. 23 from 3:30 to 5 p.m.
The Liquid Galaxy will be open for demonstrations and test drives.

For Henley, the promise of the Liquid Galaxy lies in uses that she has not even thought of yet. “I’m eager to see what people do with it,” she said. “The world is not flat. When people see what it really looks like, it sparks their imagination in all kinds of ways.”

**NCSU Libraries Developing Toolkit to Make it Easier to Collect and Preserve Social Media**

The North Carolina State University Libraries has been awarded a grant to tackle a significant emerging opportunity for academic libraries and the historians, social scientists, and other researchers that they support: how best to capture and save the increasingly critical but ephemeral social media conversations that now regularly document our lives and times.

The EZ Innovation Grant from the State Library of North Carolina will enable librarians Jason Casden and Brian Dietz to lead a team to develop a freely available web toolkit to help guide institutions that preserve our cultural heritage by collecting and curating the primary documents that are the raw materials of history. Increasingly these materials are created and shared on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social media platforms. But since few institutions are systematically saving these conversations, much of our current history’s raw material is quickly and irrevocably disappearing as quickly as it is produced. And while tools to save these materials are becoming more sophisticated and less expensive, very little has been done to help libraries and others deploy them in thoughtful, effective ways.

The NCSU Libraries has previously taken a lead role in this area with its award-winning Lentil platform, an open-source tool that harvests and makes it easy to present collections of social media images from the Instagram platform. The new grant would build on this work by exploring methods and best practices for integrating social media into existing ways that libraries collect primary materials. The team will start by investigating social media associated with campus events, spaces, student groups, and campus units at NC State—and will develop software, procedures, and documentation to cost-effectively implement social media archiving at the NCSU Libraries.

This work will then allow the team to develop a web toolkit to help other institutions:

- Collect official communication of various organizational groups
- Collect unofficial, crowdsourced communication from communities of interest
- Develop techniques for enriching collections at a minimal cost by taking advantage of harvesting interfaces provided by social media platforms

The toolkit will also include materials to help other cultural heritage institutions design and document criteria for what they collect and strategies to begin collecting social media. These materials will include a scan of work being done in the area, a risk assessment for potential legal concerns, and a discussion of the impact of social media on archival research.

The social media toolkit is planned for release in Summer 2015.

Jason Casden is the Lead Librarian for the Digital Services Development group at the NCSU Libraries, where he helps to develop and implement scalable digital library applications. Casden was named a *Library Journal* “Mover & Shaker” in 2011, a designation for young leaders who show promise for fundamentally changing how we gather and share information.

Brian Dietz is the Digital Program Librarian for Special Collections at NCSU Libraries. Dietz has served as principal investigator on several LSTA-funded projects. He recently moderated “Getting Things Done with Born Digital,” a session at the Society of American Archivists’ 2014 annual conference.

The EZ Innovation grants are made possible through funding from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) as administered by the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources.

**NCSU Libraries Offering Grants to Help Faculty Develop Free or Low-cost Open Textbook Alternatives**

In the latest of several initiatives designed to help students reduce the expense of textbooks as part of their university educations and make it easier for faculty to explore and create new resources for their teaching, the NCSU Libraries is inviting North Carolina State University faculty to apply for grants to adopt, adapt, or create free or low-cost open alternatives to today’s expensive textbooks.

Ranging between $500 and $2,000, the competitive Alt-Textbook grants will be awarded to help faculty pursue innovative uses of technology and information resources that can replace pricey traditional textbooks. Larger grants may be available for larger-scale or especially high-impact projects.

Textbook costs have outpaced inflation by 300% over the last 30 years. These runaway prices have become a major strain on students, with textbooks averaging $1,200 a year and 7 out of 10 students admitting on a recent Public Interest Research Group survey that they have not purchased a required text because of its cost.

Grants are available to develop textbook alternatives for the Spring 2015 and Fall 2015 semesters. Possible approaches include:
As faculty work on their proposals, NCSU librarians are available to collaborate and to share expertise in copyright, licensing, open access, course management software and tools, electronic reserves, subject-matter content, and multimedia resources.

“Academic libraries have always been a powerful way to reduce the financial burden of a university education by pooling key resources for everyone to use,” reminds Susan K. Nutter, Vice Provost and Director of the NCSU Libraries. “The Alt-Textbook grants offer an innovative way to leverage that advantage in the digital age while at the same time giving our faculty a powerful tool to tailor their course materials to the exact needs of their students.”

The NCSU Libraries will hold several information sessions about the project in September. Faculty can learn more about the project, review the call for proposals, sign up for information sessions, and download grant applications at the Alt-Textbook Project website.

The Alt-Textbook initiative builds on a successful partnership with the university’s Physics Department that resulted in a free physics e-textbook that is now used by 1,300 NC State students each year.

Other NCSU Libraries initiatives to reduce costs for students include providing at least one copy of every required course book on reserve each semester, supplying online reserves to electronically disseminate materials within the bounds of copyright law, and Library Course Tools, an innovative use of the Libraries’ website to present custom, course-related library content for every course at the university.

Alt-Textbook is supported by a grant from the NC State University Foundation.

**TRLN Announces 2014 Management Academy Class**

The Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN) announces the thirty-two participants in the 2014 TRLN Management Academy: The Business of Libraries, which was held in Chapel Hill, NC, October 20-24. The program prepares current and potential mid-level managers in academic libraries to operate with entrepreneurial and business acumen in the management of financial and human resources.

Academic faculty from TRLN member institutions, which include Duke University, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University, and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, conducted sessions customized for a library environment.

The participant group includes representation from twelve states within the U.S. as well as Canada.

In keeping with the design of the program to meet the management training needs of its members, fourteen of the participants are from TRLN libraries. Noting prior satisfaction with the program, sixty-two institutions (outside of TRLN) have nominated applicants for the Academy in previous years.

In making final selections, the TRLN Academy Selection Committee paid close attention to applicants with some management responsibility and to those statements of interest that best matched the program’s design. The thirty-two participants selected were:

- Jonathan Beeker, North Carolina Central University
- Elizabeth Berney, Duke University
- Jennifer Bordy, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Carolyn Caizzi, Northwestern University
- Jeffrey Campbell, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Jason Casden, North Carolina State University
- Bertha Chang, North Carolina State University
- Galadriel Chilton, University of Connecticut
- Adrienne DeWitt, North Carolina Central University
- John Dorr, Northwestern University
- Tyler Dzuba, University of Rochester
- Robin Gustafson, University of California at Davis
- Amanda Henley, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Leslie Hurst, University of Washington
- Adrian Johnson, University of Texas at Austin
- Mike Kastellec, North Carolina State University
- Kelly Leong, Duke University
- Lesley Looper, Duke University
- Glenn McGuigan, Penn State University
- Ellen Mueller, University of Michigan
- Michael Peper, Duke University
- Mary Radar, University of Texas at Austin
- Erika Ripley, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Rebecca Schroeder, Brigham Young University
- Emily Shaw, Ohio State University
- Jason Sokoloff, University of Washington
- Doug Stewart, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Jennifer Sundheim, University of Washington

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The program was designed with input from library directors to support succession planning and talent management by addressing gaps in the preparation of librarians for management roles in the current environment. DeEtta Jones, an organizational development consultant whose library background includes ten years with the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), will facilitate the Academy for the fifth year.

Asked after six months whether they would recommend that a colleague attend the Academy, participants offered strong endorsements. “Absolutely,” wrote one librarian, “It did a great job addressing the specific needs of middle managers. The challenge now is to retain my enthusiasm in the midst of day-to-day work. I really think these tools will help a lot.” Members of previous classes reported feeling “happier and more confident,” “more aware of managing meetings effectively,” and “more focused on what [they] can do to solve problems,” — personal outcomes they attributed to their attendance at the Academy.

The Farm at Black Mountain College: A Hunt Library Happening

On August 4, the North Carolina State University Libraries presented “The Farm at Black Mountain College: A Hunt Library Happening.” The program will be a multimedia event that will allow David Silver, Visiting Scholar at the NCSU Libraries, to use the unique technologies of the event that will allow David Silver, Visiting Scholar at the NCSU Libraries, to tell the story of America’s boldest experiment in higher education.

Silver will employ an unconventional storytelling approach that unfolds as participants walk through the building.

North Carolina Architects & Builders Website Reaches Milestone in Documenting State’s Architectural Legacy

Mid-twentieth century modernist architect G. Milton Small, Jr. of Raleigh; Victorian era Charlotte house designer Harriet Morrison Irwin; German-born carpenter John Dietrick Tavis in antebellum Germanton; Civil War era joiner and A.M.E. minister George A. Rue of New Bern—these are just a few of the two dozen architects and builders whose new biographies have been added recently to North Carolina Architects & Builders: A Biographical Dictionary.

With these new postings, the popular North Carolina State University Libraries website passes a major benchmark, now presenting more than 300 biographies of architects and builders who worked in North Carolina and accompanying data on more than 3,000 buildings they created in the state.

Launched in 2009 with 170 entries, the biographical dictionary project had its roots in the late 1970s in research for the book, Architects and Builders in North Carolina: A History of the Practice of Building (University of North Carolina Press, 1990), by Catherine W. Bishir, Charlotte V. Brown, Carl R. Lounsbury, and Ernest H. Wood III. The biographical dictionary was originally conceived as a companion print publication, but in 2007 the concept shifted to a web-based, “born digital,” resource that can be easily searched and constantly expanded.

The free, user-friendly ncarchitects.lib.ncsu.edu contains essential information about the lives and works of the people who created the state’s architecture from the colonial period to the late 20th century. Content developer and architectural historian Catherine W. Bishir says, “We believe it’s important to include not just the great architects of landmarks like Biltmore and the Dorton Arena, but also lesser-known artisans and builders, black and white, enslaved and free, who actually built most of our architectural legacy.”

A frequent user of the site, Andre’ D Vann, coordinator of the University Archives and Instructor of Public History at North Carolina Central University, reports that in his research on historic houses in Durham, “I have found the North Carolina Architects & Builders website essential in uncovering the rich and unique stories behind many historical buildings and builders.” In particular it has “shed light on African American architects and designers like Gaston Edwards who braved a new world and created a body of work worthy of emulation.”
Frank Harmon, Raleigh architect and professor at NC State’s College of Design, sees *North Carolina Architects & Builders* as “exceptionally useful to our students and to scholars in North Carolina and beyond” because it offers “insight into the lives of the men and women who have shaped the built environment of our state, a lineage that continues to inspire us today.” Few states have achieved such a comprehensive biographical dictionary, says Harmon, and “none has a better website of architects and builders.”

The site has won prizes from the Preservation North Carolina and the Vernacular Architecture Forum for its innovative and inclusive approach. Multiple authors have contributed to the biographies and accompanying building lists. New entries are in progress, and as project manager Markus Wust comments, “The website itself attracts new information from users who help make it more complete. There’s always more to learn.”

**PERSONNEL NEWS:**

**Florida**

*University of Central Florida*

The University of Central Florida (UCF) Libraries announces the retirement of Laila Miletic-Vejzovic, Head, Special Collections & University Archives (SCUA).

Ms. Miletic-Vejzovic, department head for the Special Collections & University Archives (SCUA) at the University of Central Florida Libraries, retired in June 2014 after six years leading the department. She received her MALIS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her first position was as the Rare Book Cataloger at the Huntington Library, San Marino, California. Before coming to UCF, she was the head of Manuscripts, Archives & Special Collections at the Holland & Terrell Libraries, Washington State University, Pullman. She joined the UCF Libraries in 2008.

During her tenure at the John C. Hitt Library, Ms. Miletic-Vejzovic acquired many notable materials to support the six areas of collection for the UCF SCUA, including a first edition of Zora Neale Huston’s eight book, *Moses: Man on the Mountain*, for the Floridiana collection; a Spanish Antiphonary of the Catholic Ritual Music for the first Sunday of Advent, ca. 1600, for the Rare Books Collection; and for the Travel & Tourism collection the papers of George Millay, Founder of Wet & Wild. With the donation of *African Americana Legacy, The Carol Mundy Collection*, an extensive collection of diverse materials, UCF SCUA added another key area of collection.

Ms. Miletic-Vejzovic has been quite active at the library, university, state, and national levels, serving on such committees as the Security Committee and Publications & Communications Committee of the Rare Books & Manuscripts Section of the Association of College & Research Libraries, a part of the American Library Association. Working with UCF Department of History and the Burnett Honors College, She was part of the planning committee that began the UCF Veterans History Project. The histories, which students began recording during the fall 2010 semester, are archived and made digitally available through the UCF Libraries’ Digital Initiatives and Library of Congress websites. She was also invited to serve as juror for the Florida Book Awards Competition.

Ms. Miletic-Vejzovic is recognized in the “Who’s Who in Sciences in Croatia,” an e-project of the Ministry of Science, Education, and Sports promoting Croatian academics in Croatia and abroad, and taught at the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Zadar in Croatia for many years.

*UCF Librarian Bogle-Pratt International Library Travel Fund Recipient*

The American Library Association (ALA) International Relations Committee announced that Sai Deng, metadata librarian and associate librarian at the University of Central Florida (UCF), is the 2014 recipient of a $1,000 cash award from the “Bogle-Pratt International Library Travel Fund.”