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Emory's Woodruff Library Acquires Love Letters of Ted Hughes and Assia Wevill

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media specialist with a brand new MLIS, we were able to turn the NMTC/GH library into a professional resource for both faculty and students. Our goal was to make this the best library possible — not to get SACS accreditation — though that was the end result.”

Linda Floyd, director of library services at Coosa Valley Technical College (CVTC), says, “I am thrilled that the library has been an integral part of CVTC’s COC process and that we have been able to make strides during the past several years with the college’s support. It is very nice to feel you are providing your faculty, staff and students quality library services that meet the criteria of an accrediting agency such as COC.”

Although the process directly involved only a few of the 34 technical colleges, it brought the whole DTAE Library Council together like a family with a few members going through a big test. Kathryn Tomlinson, library/media services coordinator at Valdosta Tech, found that “the most effective preparation was visiting other libraries in the technical college system. Librarians at numerous technical colleges shared their experiences, knowledge and resources.” Linda Floyd is grateful for “the support of other DTAE libraries during this process. Without the open sharing of information through this group, the task would have been much more difficult. This is a great group to work with.”

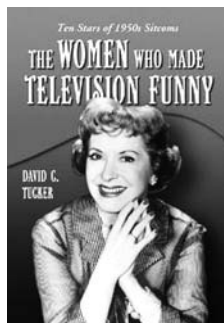
Congratulations to all who worked so hard to achieve this new accreditation! ▶▶

Librarian publishes book on TV comedies

Lucille Ball, Donna Reed and Gracie Allen are among the famous names profiled in *The Women Who Made Television Funny: Ten Stars of 1950s Sitcoms*, a new book by Georgia librarian David C.

Tucker. The book was published in February by McFarland and Company, Publishers.

Tucker, an administrator at DeKalb County Public Library, describes in the book how some of the most beloved and historically important television shows of the 1950s came into being — “Our Miss Brooks,” “Topper,” “I Married Joan” and others. Readers will learn how these shows were created, the problems and challenges that early TV presented and what happened in the lives and careers of the women who were their stars. While many public library readers will find the book a



nostalgic look back, academic libraries supporting performing arts, communications, or women’s studies programs will appreciate the extensive research and scholarly documentation that make it a valuable and authoritative resource.

“One of the best experiences in researching and writing this book,” Tucker said, “was the opportunity to interview two great ladies — Gale Storm, who starred in “My Little Margie,” and Betty White, who began her national TV career with a show called “Life with Elizabeth.” I’ll always be glad that I had the opportunity to meet such remarkable women and that they shared their stories with me.” ▶▶

Emory’s Woodruff Library acquires love letters of Ted Hughes and Assia Wevill

Emory University’s Woodruff Library has acquired the correspondence from Ted Hughes, the late poet laureate of Britain, to his lover Assia Wevill.

In one letter in the collection, Hughes instructs Wevill to “please burn all my letters,” an instruction she obviously did not follow. The surviving correspondence begins in March 1963, continues until 1969 and “offers readers unprecedented access to Hughes’ state of mind at a time of crisis in his personal and professional life,” says Stephen Ennis, director of Emory’s Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library.

The collection includes more than 60 letters from Hughes to Wevill, six from her to him, as well as a number of notes, sketches, fragmentary diary entries and a small number of photographs of Wevill.

Wevill is remembered as the woman with whom Hughes began an affair in the summer of 1962 which led to Hughes and his wife, poet Sylvia Plath, separating. Although Wevill often was erroneously described as Hughes’ second wife, the couple never married, and in March 1969, she tragically took her life and that of her daughter, Shura, in a manner resembling Plath’s death.

The correspondence spans the period in Hughes’ life when he was writing “Gaudete,” editing Plath’s “Ariel” for publication and writing the sequence of poems based on the life of a mythical crow figure. This intimate correspondence reveals Hughes’ struggle to find peace in the years after Plath’s death and his sometimes tortured relationship with Wevill. “This correspondence, which joins Ted Hughes’ own literary archive already at Emory, further strengthens the library’s Hughes holdings and promises to add greatly to our understanding of one of the major poets of the 20th century,” says Ennis. ▶▶