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Tech Retirees Account for 95 Years of Service

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with brand-new books, expanding the collection by more than 75,000 items.

Although Liza said it was a difficult decision to retire, she knew it was time to move to the next phase of her life. "I have been so lucky. I have worked with so many wonderful people — my colleagues, my board members, our patrons. I have been one of the fortunate few to have a job I absolutely loved," she said.

In retirement, Liza plans to put her organizational skills to good use and possibly join her fellow workers in volunteering. "One of the best things about working at the library," she says, "is meeting all of our wonderful volunteers: John Thomas, Laura Daughtery, Lynn Devery, Kay Scott, Jan Feese, Merrilee Casady, John and Kate Swiderski, Anita Shelton, Sarah Smart, Jody Leonard and many more. They've set a wonderful example for me." ►►

Tech retirees account for 95 years of service

Kathy Brackney, head of the Architecture Library; Jean Hudgins, head of Information Control and Management; and Crit Stuart, associate director for Public Services retire from the Georgia Tech Library in spring 2007.

Kathy Sharp Brackney came to Georgia Tech as a reference librarian in July 1977 after earning her masters in librarianship from Emory University. She has a bachelor's in history earned in 1972. Kathy served as a reference librarian from 1977 to 1980 before taking over the library's document delivery service. In 1982, she assumed responsibility for managing the Architecture Library and she's served well there ever since. Focusing her professional activities on art and architecture, Kathy has provided direction for this branch library and contributed frequently with papers at meetings of the Association of Architecture School Librarians. She distinguished herself by winning the college's Staff Service Award in 2001. According to Dr. Thomas Galloway, dean of the College of Architecture, Ms. Brackney has played a substantial role in deepening the college's instructional and scholarly resources. He stated, "Kathy's impact on the college through her leadership has been immense and all of us in the college will miss her greatly."

In 1974, Jean Price Hudgins joined the staff of the library as library assistant. From that time until 1977 Jean worked part-time for the library while matriculating on her masters in librarianship at Emory. She returned to work full time in 1977 and was appointed to a faculty position in 1978. Jean took over as head of monographic cataloging in 1979 and became head of Information

Control and Management in 1992. She has served assertively to keep the library's complex agenda of bibliographic control moving forward effectively. Outside the library, Jean has been actively engaged with both ALA and SLA throughout her career, where she has given numerous papers and presentations as well as worked diligently to help shape the transition of the cataloging profession as the digital workplace matures. Jean won the prestigious Kaiser Award from the Georgia Tech Library in 2004 for her leadership and exceptional management of her department and as an early adopter of metadata and cataloging technologies.

Crit (Charles Crittendon) Stuart joined the staff at Georgia Tech as a library assistant in 1975 not long after receiving his bachelor's degree in history from the University of Arkansas.

After taking the opportunity in 1979 to work part-time while studying for his masters in librarianship at Emory, Crit returned to work full time in 1980 as the assistant head of circulation. Following several promotions to higher levels of management through the circulation, document delivery and interlibrary loan units, Crit became associate director for public services in 2000. Since that time, Crit has ably managed the consolidation of the various components of public services into a successful partnership with other campus service entities as the profession transitions toward a more collaborative approach to information support services.

His leadership includes collaborative reconfiguration of public services and computing center support activities resulting in one of the most creative enterprises of its kind in the United States. The integrated East and West Commons areas of the library provide a model for the country that has eventually led Crit to retire from Georgia Tech to assume programmatic leadership for the Association of Research Libraries' new agenda to incorporate restructure information commons throughout the U.S. academic and research libraries. Crit won the prestigious Kaiser Award from the Georgia Tech Library in 2005 for his leadership and vision for academic library services and student engagement. He has been active professionally and given numerous papers and presentations. ►►



Brackney, Hudgins (seated) and Stuart