

Summer 2004

Stateside News

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Alabama

Alabama Inaugurates History Web Portal

During the Alabama Library Association Centennial Conference in April 2004, Dr. Robert S. Martin, director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), introduced public access to AlabamaMosaic, a webportal for Alabama history. The project is sponsored by the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL), and made possible in part through a \$500,000 grant from IMLS. NAAL is assisting libraries, museums, archives, and other repositories to digitize materials from special collections that will enrich research in Alabama history topics. The portal, currently under development, can be found at <http://alabamamosaic.org/>. The search engine and digital file management system are part of Encompass provided by Endeavor, Inc.

Media Center Opens

The University of Alabama Libraries has opened a leading edge, digital media production center for students on the second floor of Gorgas Library. As an open resource for the University's students at large, the Lillie Florence Jones Sanford Media Resource and Design Center, also known as THE R&D, provides students with collaborative and interdisciplinary learning opportunities. The facility will feature computers, audio-visual hardware, software, and instruction, and will give students the experience of becoming producers and authors of multimedia content. Resources in THE R&D will allow students to work in graphic design, Web design, remote file transfer, page layout, video editing, DVD authoring, audio recording, musical composing, CD authoring, and file format conversions. For more information about THE R&D, contact Dickie Cox, Media Services Coordinator, University Libraries, rccox@bama.ua.edu. Online information is available at <http://www.lib.ua.edu/randd/>.

University of Alabama Receives Grant

The University of Alabama Libraries, in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, General Library System, has received a grant of \$226,653 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to digitize publishers' book bindings and develop a thesaurus and glossary of trade binding terminology. The three-year grant will permit the libraries to develop a digital encyclopedia documenting the history and artistry of decorative book bindings produced between 1815 and 1925. The Web-accessible database

produced through the grant will include up to 10,000 images of 19th century trade book bindings, including covers, spines, end papers, and title pages.

Arkansas

Encyclopedia Arkansas

An ambitious endeavor to produce The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture has been undertaken by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, a department of the Central Arkansas Library System. The encyclopedia will be a comprehensive reference tool available in multiple formats and will cover Arkansas history, politics, culture, folklore, and more. The online version will be introduced during a celebration of Arkansas Statehood Day on June 15, 2005. Soon to follow will be the CD/DVD version, complete with lesson plans and instructional materials for grades K-12. A two-volume print edition will be published in 2010. Updating of the online version will be continual. Several grants have contributed to the feasibility of the project.

Clinton Presidential Library to Open This Fall

The opening celebration of the Clinton Presidential Center will be held November 14-18, 2004. The Center is located on the banks of the Arkansas River in downtown Little Rock's River Market District. The Center will include a museum, an archival collection, and educational and research facilities. Adjacent to the Center will be the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service. The Clinton School will begin offering degrees in public service in the fall of 2004. The Presidential Center and the School of Public Service are both located within a thirty-acre park that will include a pavilion, an amphitheater, a children's playground, and walking/biking trails.

Watercolorists Exhibition Held

The 34th Annual Mid-Southern Watercolorists Exhibition was held April 3 - May 29, 2004, in the Showcase Arkansas Gallery of the Central Arkansas Library System's Cox Creative Center. The exhibit featured entries from Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Missouri, Tennessee, and Texas. The Central Arkansas Library System's annual exhibition is coordinated by its history and archives division. The division's large permanent collection on Arkansas history and culture includes numerous holdings in the visual arts.

Florida

Anonymous Donors Give USF Medieval Manuscripts Worth \$4.5 Million

The University of South Florida Libraries has received a medieval manuscript collection as an estate gift, USF President Judy Genshaft announced at a benefit reception in February. Worth an estimated \$4.5 million, this collection of sacred writings documents the religious beliefs and practices of Christians, Muslims and Buddhists and provides an invaluable and often aesthetically beautiful record of humanity's quest for the divine. The collection is on display through Aug. 31 in the library's Special Collections Reading Room on the fourth floor. This exhibition is the second in the six-part series *Sacred Leaves*, which features selections from the gift collection. Faculty and students of the School of Art and Art History and the Tampa Library's Special Collections staff have collaborated to produce the display.

UCF Opens Rosen College of Hospitality Management Library

The University of Central Florida (UCF) Libraries opened the Rosen College of Hospitality Management Library on January 5, 2004. The 9,000 square foot branch is an integral component of the school's new, \$28 million campus located near International Drive and the Orange County Convention Center, in the heart of Central Florida's tourist and convention region. The library offers seating for 150, 24 public access computers, wireless laptops for checkout, a 25-seat instruction room, media workstations, group study rooms, an opening collection of 4,000 volumes (with capacity for 17,000), 80 print serial subscriptions onsite, and access to the entire UCF Libraries collection. The library will serve the research needs and interests of the Rosen School's 900 students and faculty, the greater UCF community, as well as providing an information resource for the hospitality industry in Central Florida. Staffing consists of two librarians, three support staff and six student assistants. The campus of the Rosen College of Hospitality Management was made possible



largely through a generous gift of Orlando

hotelier and UCF trustee Harris Rosen. For more information go to <http://www.library.ucf.edu/Rosen/>. Pictured above are left to right: Barry Baker, Director of UCF Libraries; Abraham Pizam, Dean of the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management; and Deborah Ebster, Head of the UCF Rosen Library. Dean Pizam is checking out the first book at the Rosen Library.

Library Wins Betty Davis Miller Award

The LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System was named winner of the Florida Library Association's 2004 Betty Davis Miller Award for *Baby Time: A Storytime Program for Infants and Caregivers*. The award recognizes outstanding direct library service to youth in Florida by a library or library organization. Developed in response to emerging trends in the library's traditional storytime programs, Baby Time targets babies and toddlers (0 – 2 ½ years) and their parents or caregivers. The Baby Time program aims to nurture a love of reading and language by using songs, music, finger rhymes, action rhymes, poems and short stories. Pictured below from left to right are Mary Jo Peltier, Public Services Manager; Maria Mena, Youth Services Coordinator; and Gary Crew, Youth Services



Librarian.

Georgia

Teens Win Poetry Contest

The Sequoyah Regional Library System held its first annual poetry-writing contest during April, the month designated by the Academy of American Poets as National Poetry Month. Over 90 poems were submitted by 70 teens, aged 13 to 18. Three judges--Harry Farrell, a former school principal, Patti Baker, a Cherokee County Board of Education member, and Linda Stetson, from the Georgia Public Library Service--

selected a winning poem in each of two age groups--13 to 15 years old and 16 to 18 years old, and an overall runner-up. The 1st place award in the 13-15-year old category was presented to Amanda Schroeder of Woodstock. The 1st place award in the 16-18 year old category was presented to Hannah Bobo of Holly Springs. Each 1st place winner received a \$100 savings bond from the Bank of North Georgia. Runner-up was awarded to Caleb Smith of Fairmount. The contest was open to all teens in Cherokee, Gilmer, and Pickens Counties and was conducted by Deborah Corrao and Jan Fogarty of the Youth Services Department.

Kentucky

KLA Update

The Kentucky Library Association (KLA) held a successful joint conference with the Kentucky School Media Association in October, 2003 at the Galt House in Louisville. Over 600 attended. New officers were installed during the business meeting. KLA Executive Board members for 2004 are:

Carol Nutter - President
Linda Kompanik - President-Elect
Candy Zaluski - Secretary
Sue Burch - Immediate Past President
Tom Underwood - Executive Secretary

With a current membership of 1,596, the association is strong and financially healthy. KLA has recently partnered with Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com to generate additional association revenue. The KLA home page has links to these companies and a percentage of the sales from orders placed through these links comes back to the state library association. This partnership is a result of the work of the Membership Committee during 2003 and 2004.

Louisiana

Louisiana Students Choose 2004 Young Readers' Choice Award Winner

Students across Louisiana have chosen *Petite Rouge: A Cajun Red Riding Hood* (Dial Books for Young Readers, 2001) as the winner of the 2004 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award. Authored by Mike Artell of Mandeville, the winning title garnered 3,434 votes from Louisiana third, fourth and fifth graders. The Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award is a reading enrichment program of the Center for the Book

in the State Library of Louisiana. A committee of school and public librarians chooses the 15 recent children's titles that comprise each year's YRCA ballot. The list offers young readers a well-balanced array of books in various genres, including fiction, nonfiction, folklore and poetry. *The Other Side*, by Jacqueline Woodson (Penguin USA, 2001), received 1,469 votes, making it the 2004 Honor Book. "Studies indicate that children who read for pleasure are more likely to excel at reading and succeed in school," noted State Librarian Thomas F. Jaques. "Teachers, librarians and parents recognize that the Young Readers' Choice Award program is an excellent way to encourage Louisiana students to read by enabling them to participate in selecting the winning book." More information about the Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Award program, including a list of titles on the 2005 ballot, is available from the State Library web site at <http://www.state.lib.la.us/>.

Mississippi

"Mississippi Reads" *Girl In Hyacinth Blue*

Mississippi Reads," a statewide reading project of the Mississippi Library Commission and the Mississippi Center for the Book, kicked off April 1, 2004. The program is designed to encourage Mississippians to read and discuss the same book during 2004. The selection complements The Glory of Baroque Dresden exhibit currently on display in Jackson. The selected book, *Girl in Hyacinth Blue*, by Susan Vreeland, shares the same historical theme and period and offers many opportunities for learning through history, art, and literature. Book discussions and programs relating to the theme will be held around the state. "Mississippi Reads" is a partnership between the Mississippi Humanities Council, the Mississippi Commission for International Cultural Exchange, Inc., Friends of Mississippi Libraries, Inc., and the Mississippi Library Commission. The mission of the Mississippi Center for the Book is to celebrate Mississippi's rich literary heritage through reading, writing and the books arts. The Center for the Book is an affiliate of the Library of Congress Center for the Book program.

Digital Desktop Comes to MSU

A unique collaboration between Mississippi State University and the Maryland-based National Agricultural Library is allowing Mississippi researchers easier and faster access to the most recent science-based agricultural information available. In a recent campus ceremony,

university President Charles Lee and NAL director Peter R. Young officially inaugurated the first-of-its-kind partnership between the Bethesda facility, the world's leading repository of agricultural materials, and MSU. Called DigiTop- or Digital Desktop- the service now being demonstrated at Mitchell Memorial Library provides full-text electronic access to resources in the agricultural sciences, as well as reference and article delivery services. The project also is testing the feasibility, costs and effectiveness of the system, with the goal of potentially expanding to other universities. For MSU agricultural researchers spread among Mississippi's 82 counties, the project will mean easy access to thousands of current journals and newspapers, said Vance Watson, MSU vice president for agriculture, forestry and veterinary medicine. The MSU Libraries already participates in the NAL's Agricultural Online Access, or AGRICOLA, which contains bibliographic records of materials acquired by NAL and cooperating institutions in agricultural and related sciences. The National Agricultural Library (<http://www.nal.usda.gov>) is part of the Agricultural Research Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's primary agency for scientific study. Pictured below: Dean of Libraries Frances Coleman assists President Charles Lee (second from left) with documents formalizing a new collaboration between Mississippi State and the National Agricultural Library. Looking on are NAL director Peter Young (second from right) and Vance Watson, the university's vice president for agriculture, forestry and veterinary medicine.



North Carolina

NCSU Libraries Receives ALA Award for Excellence in Reference Services

The North Carolina State University Libraries is the 2004 recipient of The Gale Group Award for Excellence in Reference and Adult Services awarded by the Reference and User Services

Association (RUSA), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). The \$3,000 award and citation, donated by The Gale Group, recognizes a library or library system for developing an imaginative and unique library resource to meet users' reference needs. The NCSU Libraries won the award for the creation of the U.S. Congressional Bibliographies Web site. The database is freely available via the Internet. Users should go to the NCSU Libraries' Research Resources page www.lib.ncsu.edu/eresources/ and click on the link entitled "Congressional Bibliographies."

NCSU Librarians Receive Samuel Lazerow Fellowship

Karen M. Letarte and Jacqueline P. Samples, both Cataloging Department librarians at North Carolina State University, are the joint recipients of the 2004 Samuel Lazerow Fellowship, which includes an award of \$1,000 to support travel or writing. The fellowship, sponsored by Thomson Scientific and presented annually by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), fosters advances in collection development and technical services. In their fellowship application, Letarte and Samples presented a research proposal focused on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR). Their proposal was entitled "Looking at FRBR Through Users' Eyes: Toward Improved Catalog Displays for Electronic Serials."

South Carolina

University of South Carolina Acquires Unique Fitzgerald Collection

More than 2,000 manuscript pages of screenplays written by F. Scott Fitzgerald during 1937-1938, when he worked for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Hollywood, have been acquired by the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library. The collection, which comprises the largest single cache of Fitzgerald manuscripts ever offered for sale, was purchased with private funds for \$475,000. According to American novelist, John Jakes, "The acquisition is important to the teaching and study of Fitzgerald now and for decades to come. Understanding an author's process is fundamental to understanding his finished work, and that's especially true of the 'Hollywood Period,' much of which is still befogged in rumor and half-truth." The new collection will be called the Warner Brothers Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald Screenplays and

will become part of the University's Matthew J. And Arlyn Brucoli Collection of F. Scott Fitzgerald, which is the most comprehensive collection of material about the author and his era. Dr. Brucoli was instrumental in negotiating the acquisition of the manuscripts for the library. The new collection will be made available to scholars for research and will be used in classes at the University.

New Exhibit Highlights Rare Books about Mexican History

A new exhibit at the University of South Carolina's Thomas Cooper Library displays illustrated books and maps about Mexico from the sixteenth century to the late nineteenth century. The exhibit documents the gradual process by which information about the cultures and history of pre-Columbian Mexico was described and publicized in Spain and in Mexico itself, as well as in rival European countries such as the Netherlands, Britain, and France, and in the United States. Most of the books on display have been in the USC library since the 1830s and 1840s. They are dramatic evidence of the intellectual ambitions of the original South Carolina College and of the worldwide range of the books that were purchased for its library. The oldest item on display is an engraving of Mexico City printed in 1565, from the Italian writer Ramusio's *Voyages*. Other early works include illustrations of Aztec customs by the German Theodor de Bry from 1594, and Dutch engraved maps from the seventeenth century by the Dutchmen De Laet and Montanus. Some of the most impressive volumes are from the early

nineteenth century such as Alexander von Humboldt's great folio *Vue des Cordelleres et Monuments des Peuples Indigene de l'Amerique* (Paris, 1810) and Lord Kingsborough's seven-volume *Antiquities of Mexico* (London, 1830), with its colored facsimiles of pre-Columbian illuminated manuscripts. The architecture of the pre-Columbian Aztec and Mayan cultures is represented both from Kingsborough's work and from the American J. L. Stephens's books about the Yucatan (1841 and 1843). For inquiries about the exhibit items, contact the Department of Rare Books & Special Collections, at (803) 777-8154.

Correction

Volume 52, No. 1, (Spring 2004) of *The Southeastern Librarian* contains two articles which did not recognize all authors. "Is There a Next for Reference Librarians" is co-authored by Linda Cox, Gail Stern Kwak, Abbie Landry and Fleming Thomas. "Results of a SELA Planning Survey is co-authored by Carol S. Brinkman, Diane Brown, Ravonne Green, Mary L. Smalls and Wil Weston.