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Georgia Southwestern State News

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Georgia Southern University news and notes

Henderson Library celebrated Constitution Day Sept. 7 with a reception in its atrium featuring refreshments, educational displays and video, a lecture by a political science professor and staff people in period dress mingling with the guests.



On Oct. 4, in a symposium sponsored by the library, four nationally renowned authorities addressed "Scholarly Communication in the 21st Century: Trends and Issues" in a free forum in the Russell Union

Ballroom. The panel included James Neal, vice president for information services and university librarian at Columbia University; Bob Stein, research director for the Institute for the Future of the Book; Ann M. Bartow, associate professor of law at the University of South Carolina; and James Pringle, vice president of product development and government markets for Thomson Scientific. The four responded to questions about the most pressing challenges for access to and preservation of content, as well as challenges being created for national and international legal systems by emerging scholarly communication technologies. The entire two-hour session may be viewed at <http://library.georgiasouthern.edu/support/centennialforum.html>.

From Nov. 10-18, Henderson Library Dean W. Bede Mitchell traveled in Russia among a delegation of 19 academic librarians sponsored by the People-to-People Ambassadors Program of LAMA, of which he is president. They met with counterparts in the Russian Library Association and enjoyed discussions comparing library conditions here and in Russia. Dr. Mitchell made several presentations on Henderson Library's automated retrieval storage system. ▶▶

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The James Earl Carter Library hosted two book signings this fall. On Sept. 12, renowned author June Hall McCash visited GSW and spoke at a convocation. Following the convocation, the library hosted a book signing, where McCash signed copies of her books and visited with the GSW community. She is the author, co-author and editor of six books and numerous articles, including *The Jekyll Island Cottage Colony* and *Jekyll Island's Early Years*.



President of Georgia Southwestern State University Dr. Kendall Blanchard, professor of English Dr. Gabriele Stauf, author June Hall McCash and Dean of the Library Vera Weisskopf

On Oct. 10, the library also hosted a book signing for Jack Riggs, the author of *When the Finch Rises*, a book that various English classes read for the fall semester. Riggs teaches creative writing and film studies at Georgia Perimeter College in Atlanta.

The library also kicked off the "Lunches at the Library Fall Program" with a Banned Books Celebration on Oct. 4. Members of the faculty, staff and student population of GSW participated in the event. Readings included *The Lovely Bones* by Alice Sebold, *Heather Has Two Mommies* by Leslea Newman, *Ulysses* by James Joyce and *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck. ▶▶

LaGrange College honors Shepherd

On Oct. 27, LaGrange College honored Dr. Sonya Gaither Shepherd with the Wall of Outstanding Alumni Award, which is given to alumni who have distinguished themselves in their professions and communities. Shepherd graduated from LaGrange in 1993 with a bachelor of science degree in computer science. She went on to earn her master of science in library service from Clark-Atlanta University and her Ed.D. in educational administration from Georgia Southern University. Since 1995, she has worked at the Zach S. Henderson Library at Georgia Southern University, where today she serves as a tenured associate professor and associate department head of information services. Shepherd is an active member of the Georgia Southern faculty and has served on the Black Green Task Force, as a faculty senate representative, on the Academic Standards Committee, the SACS Reaffirmation Team and Governance Task Force. Over the years, Shepherd has received numerous grants and recognitions, including being named a Frye Leadership Fellow in 2005. ▶▶