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The Southeastern Librarian v. 53, no. 4 (Winter 2005/2006) Complete Issue

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The Southeastern Librarian

Volume 53, Number 4 Winter, 2005/2006

Message from the President

Welcome to the inaugural on-line edition of *The Southeastern Librarian*. Beginning with this issue, the association's newsletter will be available on your desktop winter and summer. The journal will be published twice yearly and mailed to you in the spring and fall. Thanks to SELn editor, Perry Bratcher for shepherding the organization through this cost effective change.

We are in the countdown phase for our joint conference with the Tennessee Library Association slated for Memphis from April 5th through 7th. This strong conference has been planned by an energetic team of librarians from throughout the Southeast and I would like to recognize the dedication and hard work of the joint planning committee and in particular, SELA President-Elect Faith Line. This is the third consecutive SELA conference that has profited from Faith's involvement. She worked with exhibits in Charleston, the planning committee in Charlotte, and now is coordinating SELA efforts in Memphis.

Check out the newly designed Tennessee Library Association home page at <http://www.tnla.org/> to find the gateway to conference information. With over 100 programs, this will be an ideal venue for continuous learning and networking opportunities. Technology, E-Learning, Accreditation, Copyright and Marketing are a few of the myriad topics showcased.

The host hotel is the Memphis Hilton which has recently undergone a \$12 million renovation. The conference rate is \$99.00 per room. Conveniently located near I-240, the hotel also provides complimentary airport shuttles and a wide variety of amenities to accommodate the business traveler.

Advocacy is an ongoing conference theme and this is an opportunity to encourage you to join, sustain and lead advocacy efforts on the local, state and national level. Our joint conference is the site for the first American Library Association Regional Advocacy Institute and reinforces the strong connection between our various library organizations. This pre-conference and a keynote address from ALA Past-President Carol Brey-Casiano will remind us that grassroots advocacy is a key for developing strong libraries.

Located at the Memphis Public Library, the Advocacy Institute is the perfect venue to strengthen the voice of library advocacy nationwide by providing training and tools to help the library community speak out at a local level. This three and a half hour session will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 5th. Each participant will receive an action planning guide that will be useful in charting your course. The Institute is only \$25.00 and is open to all library staff, trustees, friends and community library supporters. It is helpful to bring your team to the pre-conference so that you can start working together to develop your action plan.

At the conference, the SELA board will be meeting on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. The SELA Luncheon and Awards presentation will be held on Thursday, April 6th from 11:45 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. This will also include the general membership meeting. A major topic of discussion will be voting on proposed changes in the committee structure and recommended changes for state representatives. A second board meeting will be held at 7:00 a.m. in the hotel restaurant. Watch for conference and association updates on the SELA web site at <http://sela.jsu.edu/>.

See you in Memphis,
Judith Gibbons

MINIMIZE DISASTER. PLAN AHEAD.



It's **NEVER too soon!** The **more** we understand about disaster preparedness, and the **sooner** we get a disaster plan in place, the **better** off we'll be when disaster strikes. Learn **now** how to protect our cultural collections.

To help library staff and archivists get started with this process, the Preservation Service of the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) is offering a series of classes during March and April 2006 on disaster planning and recovery and hurricane preparedness. The cost per session is only **\$25** – a *very small price to pay* compared to the loss of valued collections.

These classes will be held at strategic locations throughout the Southeast. Library and archival staff everywhere are welcome to choose the date and place most convenient to them at the same great rate. For information about the series and how to register, visit www.solinet.net/disasterseries. Again, it's never too soon! Register now to learn and prepare.

These classes are made possible thanks to support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Preservation and Access.

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www.solinet.com
1.800.999.8558



**AN INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE TENNESSEE LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION TO SELA**

Have you mailed in your registration form for the 2006 Annual conference? If not, what are you waiting for?

Pre-conferences begin on Wednesday, April 5th. There are **ten** (count them, ten!!) pre-conferences to choose from, including the ALA Regional Institute on Advocacy. I attended this institute at midwinter in Boston last year and let me tell you, it is amazing! I am quite sure the other nine pre-conferences are equally amazing, but I happen to have some first hand knowledge of this one!

The conference begins on Thursday with the Intellectual Freedom Breakfast, which will feature Joe Raiola from MAD Magazine. Three awards will also be presented during the breakfast. We move from breakfast to the General Session which will feature Carol Brey-Casiano, past president of ALA. Immediately following the General Session will be the grand opening of the Exhibits Hall, which is followed by the SELA Luncheon.

Now, I have only taken you half-way through the first day of the conference and I am sure there are several things you already want to do and see! So rather than me keeping on tying and you keeping on reading, just drop everything and follow this link to the conference information page, which has hotel registrations forms, conference registration forms, exhibitor registration forms, volunteer forms and IRS Income Tax Forms (just kidding! I threw that in for all the public libraries living in Tax Form Land!). Please visit the TLA conference website: <http://www.tnla.org/displayconvention.cfm> for more information.

See you in Memphis - and be on the lookout for Elvis! I am told he will be there.....

Cathy M. Farley, Director
White County Public Library
President, Tennessee Library Association

LIBRARIES BUILD COMMUNITIES: A SPECIAL ALA OPPORTUNITY

Librarians and library staff attending the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in New Orleans, June 22-28, will show how "Libraries Build Communities" through daylong community service efforts to help rebuild New Orleans.

As part of ALA's ongoing efforts to help the libraries and communities in the Gulf Coast, conference attendees will be able to volunteer for a full-day community service project on Friday June 23 or Tuesday, June 27. Conference goers will be able to choose from activities to help the New Orleans Public Library, Orleans Parish School District, or other community rebuilding efforts. To volunteer register at www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2006a/registration.htm under the 'Special Registration Section.' The registration fee is \$10 and will include transportation to and from the community project, lunch, and a 'Libraries Build Communities' T-shirt.

Contact: Michael Dowling, Director, ALA Chapter Relations
312-280-3200
mdowling@ala.org

LIBRARY ADVOCACY IN THE POST-KATRINA SOUTH

**Memphis Public Library
3030 Poplar Avenue
April 5, 2006
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Cost: \$25.00**

Now more than ever, library advocacy is crucial to the longevity of our libraries. As leaders in our communities, we need to build coalitions of advocates who can effectively communicate the critical role that libraries play in our society.

The joint conference of the Tennessee Library Association and the Southeastern Library Association will co-host the first American Library Association Regional Advocacy Institute: *Library Advocacy in the Post-Katrina South*. Speakers will include Carol Brey-Casiano, Past-President, American Library Association; Judith Gibbons, National Co-Chair, ALA Advocacy Campaign; Marci Merola, Public Information Office, American Library Association; and Kathleen Imhoff, Executive Director, Lexington, KY Public Library.

By attending the 2006 ALA Advocacy Institute, you will build your advocacy skills and develop new strategies to successfully advocate for your library; learn to create effective coalitions with library staff members, trustees and Friends in your community; and leave with a draft of an advocacy action plan for use in your library. The Advocacy Institute is designed for the beginning advocate or anyone who wants to sharpen their skills.

To register, go to the new TLA website (www.tnla.org) and print off the TLA/SELA Conference registration form. Deadline for pre-registration is March 3. Pre-conference attendees are welcome to attend the entire conference but it is not a prerequisite.

SOLINET PROVIDES AFFORDABLE DISASTER PREPARADNESS THROUGHOUT THE SOUTHEAST

In an effort to promote disaster preparedness throughout the Southeast, and to assist libraries and archives in developing and implementing realistic plans to mitigate damage and facilitate recovery, SOLINET is offering a series of disaster classes strategically located throughout the region. Support from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Preservation and Access, makes it possible to offer these classes at only \$25 each. The classes will be held in March and April – and one in May – in each of the ten states that comprise the SOLINET region.

The memory of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita is still fresh, and the work of salvage and recovery continues. The importance of informed preparation is strikingly clear, as is the need for training in this regard. “We hope that the reduced registration fee will enable staff at more libraries and archives to take advantage of this training, especially those from smaller institutions with very limited budgets for staff development,” says SOLINET Preservation Services Manager Tina Mason. “Time and money spent taking the steps to protect your collection repays itself in minimizing loss. Everyone is at risk – whether it is mold due to a broken AC, or water damage from a pipe burst or leaky roof. It’s not just institutions threatened by hurricanes or tornados. A developed plan, a prepared staff, and materials and resources at hand when disaster strikes is the best assurance you can have.”

Two topics are offered through this series. The one-day Disaster Preparedness class will provide the training necessary to plan, organize, and execute a disaster plan and a salvage operation, with demonstrations of salvage techniques such as packing out wet materials, air-drying books, separating and drying manuscripts, and drying photographic materials. The Hurricane Preparedness class is a must for libraries and archives in at-risk areas. The one-day class will address the general issues involved in developing a disaster plan. It will show how to make an institution more storm-proof and teach what to do before, during, and after a storm, including where to look for available assistance.

SOLINET encourages library staff and archivists anywhere in the region to consult the class schedule on the SOLINET website (www.solinet.net/preservation/disasterseries) and select the class date and location that is most convenient. These classes are available to all, not just SOLINET member librarians and staff.

SOLINET AND PARTNERS EVALUATE RECOVERY NEEDS AT LIBRARIES AFFECTED BY HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA

In partnership with libraries, state agencies, and library consortia throughout the region and with support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, SOLINET will perform a two-month evaluation of the libraries impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and, in February 2006, present a set of recommendations for long-term recovery. Partners in this effort include state libraries and archives in all affected states (Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas), Amigos Library Services (TX), the Louisiana Library Network (LOUIS), and other state-based consortia serving impacted libraries. In addition, SOLINET will be coordinating evaluation efforts with those underway on behalf of other cultural organizations to share information and identify opportunities for joint recovery activity.

The 2005 hurricanes affected libraries throughout a large geographic area along the Gulf Coast. Travel restrictions and health hazards in the hardest hit areas meant it was sometimes weeks before staff could begin to assess damage at their libraries. Although they are individually at various stages of response, most libraries and archives have by now completed damage assessment and are working on collection stabilization and recovery. According to SOLINET Executive Director Kate Nevins, "A regional evaluation at this time will be valuable for identifying needs for long-term recovery, needs that libraries will still be struggling to address long after the initial outpouring of support has faded."

The evaluation will seek to identify: (1) needs and strategies for short-term and long-term collection recovery, (2) support and services that would better assist libraries in immediate response to future disasters, and (3) opportunities for improving hurricane preparedness and response planning in libraries. Project partners, representatives from impacted libraries, and preservation and disaster recovery experts will meet to develop recommendations in all three areas based on information gathered through damage assessment reports. A report on the evaluation effort will be made available through SOLINET's website.

BARRON PRIZE AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes, founded by young adult author T.A. Barron, seeks nominations for its 2006 awards. The Barron Prize honors young people ages 8 to 18 who have shown leadership and courage in public service to people and our planet. Each year, ten national winners each receive \$2,000 in support their service work or higher education. Nomination deadline is April 30. For more information and to nominate -- as well as to request or download free heroes educational materials -- visit <http://www.barronprize.org/>

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

College & Undergraduate Libraries, a peer-reviewed journal published by The Haworth Press, Inc., welcomes the submission of manuscripts.

Aiming to provide practical, informative articles addressing undergraduate services, operations, and concerns or issues of interest to busy college and undergraduate library staff, the journal welcomes manuscripts from all staff members as well as faculty and students. Current topics of particular interest include assessment/standards, organizational configuration, information literacy, the library as place, electronic reference, digitization of resources, intellectual property issues, plagiarism, and the roles of the library within the college or university.

Submission information is available at: <http://www.haworthpress.com/journals/SIresults.asp?sku=j106>. All manuscripts or proposals should be sent directly to the editor, Christopher Millson-Martula of Lynchburg College at millsonmartula@lynchburg.edu. Telephone contact is at 434/544-8399. In addition, the journal regularly publishes columns dealing with humor in the library, instructional issues, and the roles of the Internet and Web-based resources in college and undergraduate libraries. Opinion pieces addressing issues of current interest are also welcome. For additional information, please contact the editor.

SOLINET, AMIGOS, NELINET, NYLINK, AND PALINET LAUNCH THE NETWORK EDUCATION EXCHANGE

SOLINET, Amigos Library Services, Inc., NELINET, Nylink, and PALINET announce the launch of the Network Education Exchange, a cooperative training program that makes selected online courses available to the members of the five networks. The purpose of this new exchange program is to provide their memberships with expanded opportunities to develop skills and knowledge via online training and to provide more cost-effective services by leveraging time and resources among the networks' staff.

The five networks have agreed to provide member pricing to one another's members for selected online training programs. Students are expected to register directly with the providing network and are required to pay by credit card. The selected courses and descriptions are available on the five networks' Web sites.

"I'm thrilled that our members are able to participate in this important new online training initiative," said Susan Abell, Marketing Director, NELINET, Inc. "The Network Education Exchange is an effective way for each network to offer their members a wider range of program topics and ideas without the added costs associated with developing new programs."

Cal Shepard, Manager of SOLINET's Educational Services, concurred. "This is a huge benefit to all of our members, and it's a powerful example of the rewards of coordinating and sharing our resources. We all win!"

"As the networks have dedicated many resources to developing distance-learning programs, the Network Education Exchange is a perfect way for us to maximize those efforts to benefit all of our members," added Diana Bitting, Manager of the PALINET Educational Program.

The Network Education Exchange will offer library and technology-related programming on a wide variety of topics ranging from Internet searching and Web publishing to MARC basics and emerging metadata topics.

[About SOLINET](#)

Founded in 1973, SOLINET is a non-profit membership organization serving more than 2600 libraries of all types and sizes in ten Southeastern states and the Caribbean. Primary programs are Member Outreach, OCLC Services, Preservation & Access, Electronic Resources, Library Products, Digital Services, Educational Services, and Consulting. Visit SOLINET at www.solinet.net.

[About Amigos](#)

A non-profit, membership-based organization, Amigos is one of the largest library service networks in the nation. Amigos membership consists of over 650 libraries and cultural institutions, located primarily in Arizona, Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas, that utilize a comprehensive array of services including cataloging, reference, resource sharing, preservation, digital imaging, consulting, and training. Visit Amigos at www.amigos.org.

[About NELINET](#)

NELINET is a non-profit membership cooperative of nearly 700 academic, public, and special libraries in the six New England states. NELINET works collaboratively with members to shape the future of New England libraries in the evolving information environment. NELINET invites museums, archives, and historical societies to become members. Visit NELINET at www.nelinet.net.

[About Nylink](#)

Established in 1973, Nylink is a not-for-profit membership organization for all types of libraries and information organizations throughout New York State and surrounding areas. Nylink's goal is to assist and provide libraries and related organizations with the information, training and support they need, while maintaining a high level of service and commitment. Visit Nylink at www.nylink.org.

[About PALINET](#)

PALINET is a cooperative membership organization of hundreds of institutions that collect, preserve and provide access to the record of humankind. These institutions include libraries, information centers, museums, archives, and other similar organizations situated in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and neighboring states. Visit PALINET at www.palinet.org.

SOLINET MEMBERS SAVE 67% ON CCC TRANSACTIONAL REPORTING FEES

SOLINET member libraries using the Copyright Clearance Center's (CCC) Transactional Reporting Service (TRS) for interlibrary loan, document delivery, and print reserves can now save money by participating in the Volume Purchase Program (VPP). TRS, a popular and widely used CCC solution for academic users, provides internet access to permissions and prices for photocopying copyrighted material. VPP is a consortial discount program for TRS users that provides a 67% discount off the TRS processing fee.

A VPP-eligible consortium is a voluntary and expandable aggregate of TRS users whose collective annual payout on copyright permission was at least \$10,000 the previous year. The SOLINET membership as a whole meets that requirement, making any SOLINET member using TRS eligible to participate. The greatest benefit will be experienced by libraries with more than 30 such transactions per year – in particular, mid-size libraries with smaller collections and a greater need for ILL.

Participation will be renewable annually with an \$85 annual registration fee. CCC will continue to directly invoice the VPP libraries for TRS royalty and processing fees. The royalty fee, of course, goes

to the copyright holder. The processing fee is where the VPP discount takes place. At 67%, the regular \$3.00 processing fee becomes only \$1.00, a significant savings for volume users. Members can expect to receive the discount within ten business days of registering. SOLINET will submit registrations to CCC weekly through March 31, then monthly, with the discount becoming effective by the first of the next month.

Details of the program are available at www.solinet.net/library_products/ccc. For registration information, please contact the [SOLINET Member Services Help Desk](#) by email or 1-800-999-8558. For all other questions and requests, you may contact the [Copyright Clearance Center](#) by email or at 978-646-2600.

SOLINET AND THE HBCU LIBRARY ALLIANCE PUBLISH *THE STATE OF LIBRARIES AT HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES*

The Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) and the HBCU Library Alliance recently completed and published an assessment of the state of libraries at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Produced with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, *The State of Libraries at Historically Black Colleges and Universities* uses data collected by the National Center for Education Statistics through its biennial Academic Libraries Survey.

The statistical study describes levels of support for and services from HBCU libraries and compares it to that for other, peer academic libraries in the U.S. It offers a baseline for future comparison among HBCUs and of HBCUs with non-HBCUs. It also provides data that can be used to strengthen libraries at HBCUs, individually and as a group. The report is available on SOLINET's website at www.solinet.net/resources/HBCUStats and on the HBCU Library Alliance website at www.hbculibraries.org.

Created by the deans and directors of HBCU libraries in 2002, the HBCU Library Alliance is a consortium that supports the collaboration of information professionals dedicated to strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their constituents. The purpose of the HBCU Library Alliance is to ensure excellence in HBCU libraries through the development, collaboration, coordination, and promotion of programs and activities to enhance members' collections and services. Visit the HBCU Library Alliance website at www.hbculibraries.org.

ASERL VIRTUAL REFERENCE EXPANDS SERVICE SPONSORS IPOD GIVEAWAY

The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) finalized a new partnership with the University of Alabama's School of Library and Information Studies to provide additional service hours for its groundbreaking regional virtual reference service, "Ask a Librarian." Students from UA-SLIS will now supplement the chat service coverage provided by reference staff at ASERL libraries into the late-night hours.

To mark the expanded service, ASERL will give away a 1MB iPod Shuffle to one user of the online reference service at each participating ASERL institution.

Beginning February 6, the service will be open until midnight (ET) seven days a week. "This is an exciting time for us," commented John Burger, ASERL's Executive Director. "We have been seeking a cost-effective way to meet our patrons' reference needs later into the evenings. Working with future librarians is a great way to provide the additional service, and to forge new relationships with our colleagues of tomorrow, too." The "Ask a Librarian" service is open to affiliated users of the participating libraries via each library's home page.

The iPod giveaway will run during the month of February. Users affiliated with the participating universities will be eligible to win one iPod per campus. To enter, a user simply needs to log into the system via their library's home page and chat with the librarian as usual. Winners will be selected via a random drawing in early March. ASERL reserves the right to verify the winners' affiliation with the participating university before prizes are awarded. All official rules are available at www.aserl.org

ASERL libraries participating in the "Ask a Librarian" service are the College of William & Mary, Florida State University, Mississippi State University, the University of Alabama, the University of Central Florida, the University of Memphis, the University of Mississippi, UNC Charlotte, and Virginia Commonwealth University.

Founded in 1956, ASERL is the largest regional academic library cooperative in the country, with 37 research libraries and six state libraries. ASERL was a founding member of the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), the largest OCLC regional network in the U.S. Launched in 2004, ASERL's "Ask a Librarian" project is the first regionally-staff chat-based reference service dedicated to the needs of research library patrons.

**ART LIBRARIES SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA / SOUTHEAST CHAPTER
21ST ANNUAL LOPRESTI AWARD
FOR OUTSTANDING ART PUBLISHING IN THE SOUTHEAST
2005**

In 1985 the Southeast Chapter of the Art Libraries Society established the LoPresti Publication Awards Competition to recognize and encourage excellence in art publications issued in the southeastern United States. The publication awards are named in honor of [Mary Ellen "Mel" LoPresti](#), former Design Librarian at North Carolina State University, who died in 1985. Ms. LoPresti was also a Past Chair and one of the founding members of the Chapter.

Museums and galleries, educational institutions, libraries, organizations, and commercial presses are encouraged to submit publications for consideration. All publications are judged on the quality of content and format within the appropriate category. The number of items that may be submitted is not restricted.

Art and architectural books, exhibition catalogs, and serials published during an individual calendar year are eligible for consideration. Only publications from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee or the Virgin Islands are eligible for consideration. For information about past winners and on submissions, see [Announcements](#) on the ARLIS/SE website.

Winners of the awards are announced at the ARLIS/SE annual meeting normally held in late October or early November. Winners will be notified by mail and will be reported in various regional library and arts publications. There is no entry fee, but ARLIS/SE reserves the right to retain all works submitted for consideration. The winning publications are housed at the Duke University East Campus Library in Durham, NC.

The nominees for the 2005 award included 45 total entries. The breakdown was 26 books, 13 exhibition catalogs, 3 artist's books, and 3 serials. Entries were submitted from 22 publishers broken down with 6 University Presses, 9 Museums, 2 Commercial publishers, and 5 Other. Among the states submitting entries were Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and North Carolina with 4 publishers each;

Tennessee with 3 publishers; and Mississippi, Puerto Rico and South Carolina with 1 each. This was the first year that Tennessee publishers submitted entries. Alabama was the only state within the chapter region that did not submit an entry.

The winners were announced by Melissa McDonald of the Savannah College of Art and Design, 2005 LoPresti Awards Chair at a special reception in St. Petersburg and included "Common Ground," exhibition catalog by the Georgia Museum of Art; the Art of Enameling and the Penland Book of Handmade Books, both by Lark Press of Asheville NC; and Zydeco Shoes by Pelican Publishing, a multimedia book including recipes and a cd with music.

The ARLIS/Southeast Chapter invites institutions to participate and is looking forward to receiving many fine and outstanding entries for the 2006 Awards. If you would like addition information about submitting nominations, please consult the ARLIS/Southeast website at <http://www.arlis-se.org/>.

HEALTH INFORMATION ACCESS

Does your library provide consumer health information in your community? The National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern Atlantic Region, (<http://nnlm.gov/sea>) is your regional office for training and assistance with health information access. The Network provides free training for librarians and funding opportunities for libraries in the region. Whether you are interested in obtaining the consumer health information specialist certification from the Medical Library Association by taking classes that we provide, or provide training yourself to your local community in accessing consumer health information, we can help.

We offer four consumer health classes for public librarians:

- Beyond an Apple a Day: Providing Consumer Health Information in the Public Library
- From Snake Oil to Penicillin: Evaluating Consumer Health Information on the Internet
- Looking in All the Wrong Places: PubMed for Public Librarians
- Prescription for Success: Consumer Health Information on the Internet

For information on all our classes, please visit our website at:

<http://nnlm.gov/sea/edn/index.html>.

Funding provided by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine allow librarians to implement outreach activities in their local community. Funding opportunities include exhibiting, training, and outreach projects. New prospects for funding will be available in spring 2006. If you have an idea or a project that you would like to make happen, please consider applying or contact us to discuss your ideas. To take full advantage of these benefits, libraries can become members of the Network, either at the affiliate or full membership level, depending on the type of consumer health service you provide. Membership is free. For a description of membership categories and how to apply, visit <http://nnlm.gov/sea/membership/meminfo.html>.

For more information, contact Terri Ottosen, Consumer Health Outreach Coordinator, at 800-338-7657 or 410-706-2855, tottosen@hshsl.umaryland.edu or Becky Hebert, Community Outreach Coordinator, at 800-338-7657 or direct at 443-451-5108, bhebert@hshsl.umaryland.edu.

GEORGIA CONFERENCE ON INFORMATION LITERACY

You are invited to submit a proposal for the Georgia Conference on Information Literacy to be held on October 6 - 7, 2006 at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah, Georgia.

Complete details about the Call for Proposals (including the online submission form), registration, location, accommodations, and featured speakers may be found on the website:
<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/infolit.html>

BOOK REVIEW

The Confederate Battle Flag: America's Most Embattled Emblem

John M. Coski

401 pages, 6 X 9

ISBN: 0-674-01722-6 \$29.95 (hardcover)

Harvard University Press: Cambridge, MA; London, England

March 2005

The Confederate Battle Flag: America's Most Embattled Emblem, will interest general readers and scholars for its in-depth examination of the flag's singular power in Southern politics and culture. In a deceptively brief 380 pages, Coski, the director of the Museum of the Confederacy, illuminates a controversial and violent history with the sensibility and objectivity of historian, anthropologist, and legal scholar. The subtlety of his analysis will both stimulate and bemuse readers across a wide political spectrum, and disappoint those who prefer tidy polemics.

The book contains twelve chapters separated into three sections. The opening section, "Confederate Flag", is the most viscerally appealing, because Coski performs an excellent job in narrating the mythopoetic accounts of Confederate soldiers dying for their beloved flag in battle. Beyond the obvious dramatic elements, chapter two provides the rich historical and cultural context for the use of the Confederate flag as the everlasting symbol of a vanquished army and its slave-holding empire. Chapters three and four recount the grim years of Reconstruction, and the attempt by the South to re-establish itself as a nation whose allegiance was divided between the stars and stripes and its own battle flag. From rebellion to foiled reconstruction, from Jim Crow to the gleaming Klan knights of *Birth of a Nation*, the Confederate flag was unfurled as a provocative reminder of its original use as a battle standard. Memorial organizations such as the United Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy defined the symbolism of the battle flag as one of ancestral remembrance, martial valor (or memories thereof), and the persistently sectionalist incarnation of southern patriotism.

In the second section, "Rebel Flag", the author elucidates the bellicose and bloody history of the postwar Civil Rights era. Coski points out that African-Americans had entirely different perceptions of the grandeur of those sweet, bygone days of white supremacy. As African-Americans have increasingly organized and advocated for equality, the Confederate battle flag became the loathsome symbol of a social and economic order that exploited their fellow citizens in the guise of paternalism. After World War II, and the assassinations of Medgar Evers and MLK, the battle flag became synonymous with murder rather than moonlight and magnolias. The cumulative effect of such burdensome history and racial struggle was continuously exacerbated as cultural, demographic, and political powers changed during the pre-war and Civil Rights eras. Gradually, the flag was transfigured from the noble symbol of the Lost Cause to the despotic banner of an *apartheid* culture.

The third section, "Flag Wars", describes the recent controversies that have erupted over the visibility of the flag in public and private institutions. After gaining remarkable political strength, African Americans began to compete with whites in defining the particular meaning and nature of the battle flag. In political moves that were condemned as "revisionist" by traditionally minded southerners,

African-Americans challenged the placement of the flag in a variety of locations, especially those which represent state and local government. Epic protests as those on the capitol steps of Columbia, South Carolina and Montgomery, Alabama forced many whites to reconsider the role of the flag as a racist emblem. Prior to the civil rights era and the bussing crises of the 1970's, whites lived in a cultural surround which was pleasantly bereft of any objections to the ubiquitous and often kitschy use of the Confederate battle flag. Once African Americans were able to assert themselves as a political power, the campaign for flag removal began in earnest.

In the concluding chapter, "The Second American Flag", Coski maintains that the Confederate battle flag has become an ineradicable part of American history, and attempts to erase or deny its deep significance are essentially doomed to fail. The shameful and regrettable use of the flag by the post-war Klan, Ole Miss students, or George Wallace need not distort its original, and historically based meaning as the standard by which brave men died to defend a civilization founded on a reprehensible ideal.

Like any cultural artifact, the flag accumulates meaning through the contexts in which is displayed by its supporters or challenged by its detractors. Therefore, its history is perpetually open-ended and its nature fundamentally protean. Indeed, the battle flag is a supreme artifact of American culture, and evokes the same atavistic passions as religious iconography. Coski recommends saving the battle flag from future misuse by restricting its display to museums and memorial events. By placing the flag solely within the context of cultural memory, it is spared the multitudinous abuses of our consumer society, as well as the political machinations of those who wish to resurrect dear, dead Dixie from its unquiet grave.

This scholarly and highly precise volume is the first and best treatment of the Confederate battle flag as a cultural symbol, one freighted with multiple meanings and interpretations. An essential purchase for all academic libraries, public libraries, and students of American history.

Michael E. Matthews

Northwestern State University of Louisiana

PEOPLE NEWS

ARKANSAS

The Arkansas State Library Board has named **Carolyn Ashcraft** as State Librarian. As State Librarian, Ashcraft will also serve as the director of the Arkansas State Library. She replaces **Jack Mulkey**, who retired in the fall. Ashcraft formerly served as the State Library's associate director for library development and services.

FLORIDA

John Abresch has been hired as a new research librarian at the Tampa Library. John worked as a

Henrietta Smith Resident and a Tampa Library staff member where he served as a paraprofessional in both the public and technical services. John holds masters degrees from USF in both library science and geography. John offers a strong social sciences background with his education in human geography and his study of sociology, psychology, and anthropology, as well as geography. He will be providing leadership to coordinate the library's social sciences research collection needs.

Maryellen Allen has been appointed to the executive board of the Florida chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries. Ms. Allen co-authored an article with Dr. Cheryl Dee from the School of Library and Information Science entitled, "A Survey of the Usability of

Digital Reference Service on Academic Health Science Library Web Sites" will be published in the January issue of The Journal of Academic Librarianship. Ms. Allen also co-authored the text Wireless Networking: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians, with Louise Alcorn, Reference Technology Librarian at the West Des Moines Public Library. It will be published by Neal-Schuman Publishers and this spring.

Susan Ariew has been hired as a new research librarian at the Tampa Library. Ariew comes most recently from the USF SLIS. Prior to coming to the Tampa Library, she served as a "College Librarian" for Education & Human Development at the Virginia Tech University Library for over 10 years. With that experience, coupled with her masters degrees in both library science and education from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ariew will bring a wealth of understanding and first-hand knowledge of the role of the research librarian at a university.

Barbara Lewis has accepted the Tampa Library position of Outreach/Instruction Librarian. This is a newly defined position within the Reference & Instruction Section. Barbara will work with the Tampa Library to identify target audiences, both on campus and within the community, to design programming to meet individualized information needs, and to craft strategic planning initiatives and goals for outreach. Barbara comes to the Tampa Library with a background in engineering and manufacturing with a BS in Industrial Engineering from the General Motors Institute. She received her MLA from USF in December. Barbara has extremely advanced skills with online systems and applications in support of instruction and information delivery, as well as in-depth project management experience.

Using a process developed by **Audrey Powers**, a librarian at the USF Tampa Library), The Charleston Advisor (TCA) launched a new service called Reader Reviews. The Charleston Advisor will provide web-based evaluations for electronic products. TCA has adapted her online evaluation program to create the Web-based Reader Reviews service that will allow information professionals from around the world to enter rankings and opinions of Web-based products of interest to libraries. Powers agreed to be the editor for Reader Reviews and is looking for volunteers to review electronic resources.

Dr. Keli Rylance is a new Assistant Librarian for Special Collections Department & Florida Studies

Center. Rylance received a BA in Visual Arts (cum laude) from the University of North Dakota, an MA in Art History from the University of Minnesota, an MLS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a PhD in Art History (Spanish Baroque) from the Pennsylvania State University. Rylance has in-depth subject knowledge in art and art history. She was a post-doctoral fellow at the Newberry Library in Chicago and most recently completed intensive study in the History of the Book and Papermaking.

GEORGIA

William N. Nelson, Library Director at Augusta State University, was awarded the Georgia Library Association Nix-Jones Award, "For Outstanding Support of Georgia Libraries." The award was presented on October 13, 2005 at the GLA annual conference in Columbus, GA.

"The Nix-Jones Award is given each year to a practicing librarian for distinguished service to Georgia Librarianship. It recognizes substantial contributions to the library profession, such as: stimulation of library development, leadership in library programs, unusual and imaginative services, and outstanding support of Georgia's libraries. A plaque and a \$100.00 check will be given to the winner during the Annual Conference."



Katherine Skinner has been appointed Digital Programs Team Leader for the General Libraries of Emory University. Ms. Skinner completed her PhD in Emory's Institute of the Liberal Arts in 2005 and has served as the Scholarly Communications Analyst in the Library Systems Division for the past year. Previously she was project manager for multiple digital library grant projects at Emory including AmericanSouth.org, MetaArchive.org, and Music of Social Change. She was recently appointed to the National

Council on Library and Information Resources Advisory Committee on Scholarly Communications.

Rachel Borchardt has been appointed Science Librarian for the General Libraries at Emory University. Ms. Borchardt graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in August 2005 with her MLIS after earning her BA in Neuroscience and Psychology degree from Oberlin College in 2002. During her program at Pittsburgh she served internships in the public health library and in reference at the Hillman Library. She also has experience as a research assistant at the Center for Cognitive Imaging at Carnegie Mellon.

KENTUCKY

Terri Kirk, librarian at Heath High School, McCracken County Kentucky (Paducah, KY) was re-elected as AASL Division Councilor on the ALA Executive Board. An outstanding leader, ALA is fortunate to have Terri's leadership and Kentucky is fortunate to have her representing us.

NORTH CAROLINA

Elisabeth A. Wheeler, Professor Emerita of Wood and Paper Science in the NC State College of Natural Resources, has received the 2005 NCSU Libraries Faculty Award. The award is presented annually to an NC State faculty member in recognition of outstanding contributions that support the Libraries' mission and its role within the university. The Libraries presented its seventeenth annual Faculty Award to Wheeler at the Friends of the Library Fall Luncheon on October 24, 2005. One of the world's leading scholars on wood anatomy and the identification of tree species, Wheeler spearheaded a highly fruitful collaboration between the College of Natural Resources and the NCSU Libraries that resulted in the creation of [InsideWood](#), an extensive online wood anatomy research and image database. Wheeler partnered with NCSU librarians in securing two significant grants from the National Science Foundation for the development of this internationally acclaimed resource--\$270,000 in 2003 and \$243,039 in 2005. Wheeler's collaboration with the NCSU Libraries began more than a decade ago when she partnered with Natural Resources Library staff to integrate information skills instruction into her courses. In 1994 she joined a team of Natural Resources Library staff, other faculty in the college, and Computing

Services personnel in an early university-supported project to develop online teaching materials, focusing on digitization of a large wood anatomy slide collection and the design of tools and interfaces to make those images accessible to students via the Web. She was a successful participant in Project 25, a 1997 university initiative facilitated by the Libraries and the Information Technology Division that provided resources and support for a group of faculty to engage in development of online courses and demonstration of instructional technologies. Her donation of a personal copy of *The American Woods, Volumes I-XIV* by Romeyn B. Hough to the Special Collections Research Center enabled library staff to digitize contents from this rare book for access through the InsideWood web site. Wheeler is a long-time member of the Friends of the Library, the NCSU Libraries' advocacy organization.

The North Carolina State University Libraries has appointed **John Vickery** as Collection Manager for the Humanities and Social Sciences, effective February 1, 2006. In this role, Vickery will be responsible for developing and managing collections in several subject areas spanning the humanities and social sciences through close, consultative relationships with faculty, researchers, and students. In addition, he will serve on the Humanities and Social Sciences Subject Team and will also be involved in the ongoing departmental efforts in data gathering and collection analysis. Vickery joined the NCSU Libraries in July 2005 as an NCSU Libraries Fellow, holding a home department assignment in Collection Management, while pursuing project assignments in Administration and Digital Library Initiatives.



Andrew Pace, the NCSU Libraries' Head of Systems, has been named a 2006 Frye Leadership Institute Fellow. Acceptance into this program is prestigious and highly competitive. Only 18 percent of this year's applicants were selected. The [Frye Leadership Institute](#) provides an intensive

two-week residential program held in early June for faculty, librarians, and university information technology professionals who aspire to more significant leadership roles. The program, which focuses on creative leadership and the qualities needed to confront strategic changes in higher education, does not end once the residential portion is completed. Participants go on to conduct a year-long practicum to explore, at their own organization, some of the key issues raised. Sponsored by the Council of Library and Information Resources (CLIR), EDUCAUSE, the Woodruff Foundation and the program site, Emory University, the institute accepts about forty-five Fellows each year. Mr. Pace was voted 2002 "Librarian of the Year" at the fifteenth annual Data Research Associates, Inc. Users Conference for his significant contributions in the area of library automation. Prior to joining the NCSU Libraries in 1999, he worked as a product manager at Innovative Interfaces, Inc., a leading library software vendor. He holds the Master of Science in Library Science from the Catholic University of America and the Bachelor of Arts with high distinction from the University of Virginia.

The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) has appointed **Peggy Hoon** as Visiting Scholar for Campus Copyright and Intellectual Property projects. Hoon is currently the Scholarly Communication Librarian and Special Assistant to the Provost for Copyright Administration at North Carolina State University. Ms. Hoon's primary responsibility will be to lead the planning and development of a multi-phase ARL Copyright Education Initiative for ARL member institutions. In this effort she will work closely with the Public Policies Steering Committee and key ARL and Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) staff. The Initiative will offer information, resources, and tools that reflect of library principles and goals and specifically target major campus constituent groups. Ms. Hoon joined the NCSU Libraries in January 1998, when it became the first academic library in the country to establish a Scholarly Communication Center (SCC). In April 2004, she took on the additional role of Special Assistant to the Provost for Copyright Administration. Ms. Hoon holds a JD degree from the University of Washington and a BS degree in nursing from the University of Colorado.

The NCSU Libraries has announced the creation of a Digital Publishing Center and appointed **Monica McCormick** to the new position of Director of Digital Publishing, effective July 1, 2006. As

Director of Digital Publishing McCormick will establish and lead the Libraries' Digital Publishing Center, part of the [Learning and Research Center for the Digital Age](#). She will develop a program to facilitate the Libraries' collaboration with faculty members who are engaged or interested in creating and publishing digital scholarly content and will play a leadership role in library and university digital asset management. She will also lead digital publishing and institutional repository initiatives and establish priorities for projects and partnerships in light of university and library disciplinary strengths, contributions, and trends. Working closely with library colleagues, McCormick will play a key editorial and design role for online exhibition materials, exhibit catalogs, and other unique library content and publications. Her work will contribute to the definition of library standards and practices for digitization and online presentation of text, images, and multimedia. With sixteen years experience at the University of California Press, McCormick brings to the position a rich background in scholarly publishing and collaboration with prominent faculty authors. She served for ten years as Principal Editor, contracting for up to 25 books annually in history and ethnic studies. In that capacity, she arranged for peer review of publications and served as a resource for authors on copyright and fair use issues. Ms. McCormick will receive the M.S. in Library Science in May from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a *cum laude* graduate of Carleton College, with the B.A. in History.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Stacy Winchester was recently named Outstanding New Professional Librarian by the New Members Round Table of the South Carolina Library Association annual conference in Columbia, SC. The New Professional Award recognizes an individual member of the library profession in South Carolina who, within their first two years of library service, has made an outstanding contribution to the profession. Those recognized receive a plaque and \$300." Ms. Winchester, currently Assistant Manager at the Hendricks Branch in Simpsonville, came to the Greenville County Library System in 2003 as a business reference librarian at the Hughes Main Library.

NECROLOGY

Paul Mercer Cousins, Jr., 1931-2005

Longtime Emory University Librarian, Paul Mercer Cousins, Jr., died on Dec. 12, 2005, at his home in Decatur, GA, of complications of multiple myeloma at the age of 72. Following graduation from Emory in 1953, Mr. Cousins entered the U.S. Navy for two years. He then taught English at the Darlington School for two years before returning to Emory where he earned a Master of Librarianship in 1958. After a one-year stint as a reference librarian at Hampton-Sydney College in Virginia, Mr. Cousins returned to Emory in 1960 for the next 32 years, retiring in 1992 after serving in a variety of high-level positions for the Emory Libraries in serials, circulation and administration.

Paul Cousins help usher Emory University's libraries into the modern age. During his career at Emory, he coordinated efforts to apply new machine techniques to library operations by developing the first punch card automated system for acquisitions and was involved in the move to an online catalog at Emory. He also planned the move of the collections and operations from the original Candler Library to the new Woodruff Library in 1969, a building which he helped design. His positions included Associate University Librarian, Assistant Director of Libraries (serving for one year as Acting Director), Associate Director of Libraries, and finally, Director of Fiscal and Administrative Services.

"Paul was dedicated to Emory, extraordinarily knowledgeable about every aspect of Emory libraries, well known and respected across campus, patient and good humored always, a gracious and generous person, a person whom everyone trusted and on whom we all depended for so much. All of us who knew him have such warm and treasured memories of him as colleague and friend. Paul loved baseball and travel and had enjoyed his retirement immensely, only slowing down a year or so ago because of illness," said Linda M. Matthews, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries at Emory.

STATESIDE NEWS

ARKANSAS

The board of the Arkansas Library Association held a retreat February 3 - 4 at the Ozark Folk

Center in Mt. View, Arkansas. In addition to regular association business, the board addressed the association's mission statement, worked on long-range goals and plans, and enjoyed social activities. Association president, Diane Hughes, is in charge of the retreat.

The Arkansas Library Paraprofessional (ALPS) will hold their annual conference May 17-18 in Little Rock. One of the highlights of the conference will be a visit to the Clinton Presidential Library. This year's scholarship fundraiser will be "The Perfect Purse Silent Auction."

FLORIDA

USF LIBRARIES TWO-MILLIONTH VOLUME EMPHASIZES SPANISH HERITAGE

As the University of South Florida prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary, the USF Libraries marks its own milestone: the addition of the two-millionth volume. Housed in USF Tampa Library's Special Collections department, the special edition of Miguel de Cervantes' *Don Quijote de la Mancha* was presented to USF President Judy Genshaft and Dean of USF Libraries, Derrie Perez, during a recent trip to Spain.

The two-volume work was commissioned by the provincial government of Asturias in Spain for the 400th anniversary of this popular classic novel and includes specially produced brilliantly colored plates and essays from contemporary Spanish authors. The President of Asturias, Vicente Alberto Álvarez Areces, presented the beautifully bound and illustrated volumes in honor of the collaboration between USF Libraries and the Fundación Archivo de Indianos and its Museo de la Emigración located in Asturias. Former recipients of this work are the King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sophia of Spain and the Prince of Asturias.

The collaboration between USF Libraries and the Fundación Archivo de Indianos came about as a result of the Libraries' large collection of important documents and photographs relating to Spanish, and specifically Asturian, immigrants in Tampa. Ybor City and West Tampa were major destinations for emigrating Spaniards because of the establishment and rapid growth of the local

cigar industry. The Fundación and its Museo de la Emigración in Asturias have entered into a cooperative agreement with the university where archival materials pertaining to the immigration of Spaniards from Asturias to Tampa are shared among partners. More information about the partnership can be found at www.lib.usf.edu/spain.



Pictured Above: USF Library System Dean Derrie Perez and USF President Judy Genshaft accept *Don Quijote de la Mancha* from the President of Asturias, Spain, Vicente Alberto Álvarez Areces.

USF Tampa Library Celebrates USF's 50th Anniversary with "The First 50 Project"

In Celebration of USF's 50th Anniversary and the release of the coffee-table book, *University of South Florida: The First 50 Years*, the Tampa Library has created a series of educational, reflective and thought-provoking lobby displays for 2006.

A total of seven displays will highlight the university's growth since its inception in 1956. A complete listing of the display themes and installation dates can be found in the First 50 Project companion pamphlet.

The second display, *Growing Pains* will be viewable through March. It depicts images that show the university saw some of its greatest

growth during troubled times. As concerned citizens, students often made their opinions known through activism, awareness campaigns, and protests. The so-called "Shorts Riots" began the tradition of activism, which grew during the Vietnam War and renewed itself as issues arose, such as apartheid and cuts to education spending.

As a part of the First 50 Project, the library partnered with the USF Bookstore to produce a collector's set of bookmarks to coincide with the display themes. As each theme is introduced, a new bookmark will be made available at the USF Tampa Library and the USF Bookstore. Quantities are limited.

To keep up with changes and view portions of the displays, visit the First 50 Project website, www.lib.usf.edu/First50.

Andy Huse, a Special Collections' Librarian who worked on researching USF's history alongside Mark Greenberg for the 50th anniversary book, played a major role in developing the project. The photos and artifacts he selected offer a glimpse into USF's past to compliment the book.

USF Libraries Key in New Karst Initiative

The USF Tampa Library is partnering with the USF Karst Research Group and 18 other organizations around the world to develop the Karst Information Portal. This portal will act as a web-accessible, open-access, global link between researchers, teachers, government agencies, and members of the public with current research concerning karst geology. The goal is to support a virtual scholarly community that will advance karst research, facilitate informed decision-making, and develop future research agendas.

What is karst and why is this project important?
The word "karst" refers to an area of irregular limestone in which erosion has produced fissures, sinkholes, underground streams, and caverns. As residents of Florida, this research is especially important as much of the area under our state consists of karst geology that houses the Florida aquifer and provides much of our drinking water. What you may not realize is that karst formations occupy approximately 10 percent of the Earth's landmass and are home to 25 percent of the world's population. The importance of these formations is due primarily to their sensitivity to environmental pressures that are compounded by the effects of globalization and their relationship to

issues of water quantity and quality. Forty percent of the entire world's groundwater drinking supply is inaccessible because of a lack of information about karst geology.

The 18 organizations developing the information portal, led by the National Cave and Karst Research Institute, the University of New Mexico University, and the University of South Florida, met on January 18-20 in Carlsbad, New Mexico to discuss the strategy and the implementation plan. USF Libraries Technology and Technical Services Director **Todd Chavez**, a founding and lead member of the project team, attended the meeting and will coordinate the Library's involvement in the project including services such as technology, cataloging, assessment, researcher access, digitization, copyright coordination/consultation, and GIS Services. This project promises to further our aim of achieving ARL quality collections through serving a unique interdisciplinary niche for researchers throughout the globe. To learn more, visit www.lib.usf.edu/KIP where Chavez has developed a website to track the process and progress of the project.

GEORGIA

Emory University's Special Collections and Archives Has a New Name—Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, or MARBL

In 1911 Emory acquired its very first collection of manuscripts, a collection of papers related to the Wesleyan Methodist Conference and to the cofounder of Methodism John Wesley. The gift of the Joel Chandler Harris collection in 1927 led to a corner room in Emory's original library, the Candler Library, being designated to house that collection of books and manuscripts of the Georgia-born author. A few years later, in 1940, the Special Collections Department was formed when the library acquired the Keith M. Read collection of Confederate books and manuscripts. Much has occurred since those modest beginnings; the Special Collections and Archives Division now holds more than a thousand distinct manuscript collections, well over 100,000 rare books in a wide range of fields, and operates in collaboration with the Emory University Archives. More than seven hundred researchers visit each year, often staying for days or weeks at a time.

Plans for the construction of a new building dedicated to housing and supporting the use of Emory's rare and unique research collections called for a new name that better reflects the nature of the collections and the range of work that the division supports. With these considerations in mind, the Vice Provost and Director of Libraries, Dr. Linda Matthews, is proud to announce that Special Collections and Archives will now be known as the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL, for short). The new email address is MARBL@emory.edu; the telephone number remains the same at 404-727-6887, and for the time being, the location remains on Level 10 of the Woodruff Library, 540 Asbury Circle, Atlanta, GA 30322.

Emory University Libraries Awarded Grant for Second Phase of Access to Major Irish Literary Archives

The Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library (MARBL) at Emory University, in partnership with University of Delaware; the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at University of Texas, Austin; Washington University in St. Louis; and Wake Forest University, has been awarded \$34,000 from the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation to support the second phase of the *Access to Major Irish Literary Archives Project*. During the first phase of the project and with the support of the Delmas Foundation, Emory and Boston College worked together to develop the Irish Literary Collections Portal (www.irishliterature.library.emory.edu). During the second phase, Emory will expand the portal with at least 41 additional finding aids, conduct a survey to identify and add to the portal key companion collections at smaller repositories, and disseminate the technical expertise and tools gained through the first phase of the project.

During the first phase of the *Access to Major Irish Literary Archives* project, Emory University and Boston College encoded 64 finding aids with Encoded Archival Description (EAD) which enabled researchers to access archival finding aids on the Web and to perform very precise searches within and among finding aids. These finding aids have helped scholars locate materials and discover connections among collections in different institutions. The portal created in Phase 1 has greatly increased access to these distinctive collections and has generated a high volume of visits from researchers who, for the first time, can search for relevant research materials across widely scattered research collections.

The project will use EAD and eXtensible Markup Language (XML) for encoding as well as other specialized tools such as Perl scripts. Emory is a

leading expert in Irish Literature and hosts one of the finest Irish literary archives in the world encompassing the Irish renaissance and many of Ireland's finest contemporary writers. Among its holdings, Emory has the letters, manuscripts, and related papers of W. B. Yeats and his circle, and the literary archives of Thomas Kinsella, Michael Longley, Derek Mahon, Paul Muldoon, and Edna O'Brien, as well as a significant collection of the correspondence of Seamus Heaney.

Susan Potts McDonald, Coordinator of the Arrangement and Description Unit, and Stephen Ennis, Director of MARBL, at Emory, will plan and provide oversight and consultation for the work. A half-time project archivist will be hired for one year to coordinate the second phase of the project. McDonald also will work closely with staff at the University of Delaware to train staff in the use of EAD and Perl scripts. With support from the proposed grant, the University of Delaware will hire a graduate student as a half-time project archivist to convert paper-based legacy findings into electronic format and encode them in EAD. Emory and its partners expect to complete the second phase of the project in one year. For more information, please see <http://irishliterature.library.emory.edu/doc-home>.

KENTUCKY

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

This year our Kentucky Public Library Association Legislative Committee, made up of 20 library directors statewide, has chosen as their theme, "Libraries Build Communities"

Over 2 million Kentuckians are registered at their local public libraries. Kentucky's libraries are trying to serve this large and geographically diverse population, but local resources are stretched to the maximum. Only 4 % of local library budgets come from the state while public schools receive 50.5% state support and our public postsecondary institutions receive 50%. In order to address the needs of library users across the state, it's critical that we have a greater investment from the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Each year the Legislative committee arranges a day in Frankfort at the capitol for librarians and library supporters to visit with their legislators in an effort to inform and rally for libraries and support the funding requests. This year Library Legislative Day was Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Kentucky's funding requests for 2006 Legislative Session are the following:

PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION FUND – creating a sense of place and a place to meet, learn and relax

Kentucky's public library facilities are 539,718 sq ft short of minimum standard and 78 of the existing buildings are over 20 years old. As major institutions for bringing communities together, libraries need more and better space to address an information driven economy and a bewildering array of educational, cultural and social challenges facing us. It would take nearly 95 million dollars just to address the minimum square foot standards shortfall. Using local government bonding capacity, we could accomplish 25% of this unmet need in the biennium. Request is *\$1 million in 2007 and an additional \$1 million in 2008.*

PUBLIC LIBRARY IMPROVEMENT AND EQUALIZATION FUND - building resources and services for learning, earning and nurturing families

This program was established to assure quality and equity in contemporary library and information services to improve early childhood development; support lifelong learning opportunities; enhance economic development; enrich cultural resource opportunities for all Kentuckians; and, expand adult education and adult literacy programs. Although the statute became law in 2000, it has never been funded. Request is *\$6 million annually* to help local libraries provide the services listed above.

LIBRARY SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP FUND – educating professional staff for 21st century information services

Kentucky ranks 45th in the number of librarians with master's degree education. Nationally it is estimated that over 46% of librarians will retire by 2008. Clearly we need to be recruiting and educating new professional librarians for our state. To accomplish this, we are requesting a modest beginning of 10 scholarships in 2007 and 20 in 2008 at \$5,000 each in order to help Kentucky meet its growing need for a new and diverse professional library workforce. Request is *\$50,000 in 2007 and \$100,000 in 2008* to get this critical program started.

MOBILE AND VIRTUAL ACCESS – serving the information and knowledge needs of a geographically diverse population

Kentucky is still primarily a rural state and our people are spread over a broad geographic region. We need to restore funds used to continue our historic bookmobile program as well as the grants we give for access to resources in the Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL). Request is \$275,000 annually to help overcome the problems of an aging bookmobile fleet. Of our 101 bookmobiles on the road today, six are over 17 years old and another 29 are between 10 and 16 years old. KYVL serves all Kentuckians, but it is a critical resource for teachers and students in our P-16 education programs. Request is \$111,100 annually to restore funding cut from that program.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2005 KLA/KSMA conference was held at the Galt House East in Louisville during September 14-17, 2005. The theme, *Study the Past, Experience the Present, See the Future @ Your Library*, was brought to life by the many fine poster sessions, presentations and general sessions that were offered. All of these were arranged or led by Kentucky public, school, academic and special librarians. Attendance was strong, with approximately 800 participants. The new KLA website allowed many participants to register online, a first for our association, and it was a process that went smoothly and bodes well for future conferences. The 2006 conference will be held September 27-30 at the Louisville Marriott Downtown. The theme is *KLA Celebrates a Century of Change from Carnegie to Gates*.

MISSISSIPPI

HURRICANE KATRINA RESEARCH CENTER ESTABLISHED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

University of Southern Mississippi officials believe the school's newly established Hurricane Katrina Research Center will provide researchers and others with a definitive source for information about the worst natural disaster to hit the United States.

The Katrina Research Center will serve as a repository that collects, preserves and provides both physical and virtual access to documentary evidence related to Hurricane Katrina. Faculty and staff at the university are already working to build a comprehensive archive of research materials in a variety of formats, including photographs, oral

histories, architectural records, and storm and recovery video, among others. A formal announcement of the center's founding will be made in early 2006. The Katrina Research Center is actively seeking donations of the aforementioned items and others to house in the center, which will be located in University Libraries. "The Katrina Research Center offers the university a unique and extraordinary opportunity to both preserve artifacts and narratives associated with the storm and to give research faculty a conduit to share their Hurricane Katrina-related research with a broad audience," said Dr. David Butler, a Southern Miss assistant professor of economic development who is helping with the development of a business plan for the center.

The Katrina Research Center will also sponsor traveling exhibits and conferences, as well as provide researchers the opportunity to examine documentation that captures the event from a personal standpoint. It will also provide faculty and staff who may be developing research with a vital collection of resources. The storm's impact on Mississippi will be the primary focus of the center, although other information about Katrina's effects on the Gulf South will be available. Those interested in making contributions are asked to also consider donating such items as scientific data; government and planning documents; before-and-after (storm) photos; art; organizational records; literary works; sound recordings; Web site information, including message boards, Weblogs, etc.; journals or diaries; and printed items such as flyers or posters.

For more information, contact University Libraries at Southern Miss at 601.266.4241 or visit Katrinaresearchcenter@usm.edu

NORTH CAROLINA

NCSU Libraries Unveils Revolutionary Endeca-Powered Online Catalog

The NCSU Libraries announced today the first library deployment of a revolutionary new online catalog. Leveraging the advanced search and Guided Navigation® capabilities of the Endeca ProFind™ platform, the NCSU Libraries' new catalog, which is located at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/catalog/>, provides the speed and flexibility of popular online search engines while capitalizing on existing catalog

records. As a result, students, faculty, and researchers can now search and browse the NCSU Libraries' collection as quickly and easily as searching and browsing the Web, while taking advantage of rich content and cutting-edge capabilities that no Web search engine can match.

After submitting a search, users are presented with a list of matching results ranked by relevance and are offered several navigation refinement options based on characteristics of the materials in the results set. Navigation options include topic, author, genre, language, material type, format, and availability. Sorting options include publication date, title, author, call number, and popularity. To help users understand the navigation choices they have made, the application displays a "breadcrumb" of the refinements selected that allows backtracking and broadening of search results. Catalog users can also browse the entire collection by subject, without issuing a search at all, which is a feature that no other library catalog supports.

Endeca's approach to information retrieval mimics the human discovery process by integrating the two most common means of finding information online – searching and browsing – allowing people to continually adapt and hone their search based on their own determination of relevancy. The NCSU Libraries' new catalog allows users to browse their results along pre-defined facets with context-specific values automatically generated from the results set itself. These dynamic navigation schemes and search refinement options are made possible by the Endeca ProFind™ platform, which takes advantage of all of the relationships in the catalog data and how those relationships themselves relate to each other. Resembling what librarians call "faceted classification," this data-driven approach reflects the multiple ways any resource can be described, rather than its location in a rigid hierarchy of categories.

SOUTH CAROLINA

C-Span2 Book TV Tour



The C-Span2 BookTV bus visited the Hughes Main Library in downtown Greenville on January 11. Kindergarten students from Tigerville Elementary School learned about how BookTV shows are made from Scott Crosby with C-Span.

Greenville County Library System Receives Gates Foundation Grant

The Greenville County Library System is pleased to announce it is the recipient of a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The \$58,500 grant will pay for the replacement of 44 public use computers in seven library branches as well as the upgrade of public computer software.

The grant money is important because library users rely on more than 300 library system public computers for Internet access, database research, word processing, job searches, health research, small business research, email, and standardized test preparation. Many people use these free

computers because the library provides the only Internet access available to them. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation grant helps fund the update and replacement of computers that are used nearly every hour the library is open. For more information about the Greenville County Library System, visit www.greenvillelibrary.org and visit www.gatesfoundation.org for more information about the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

In addition, the Greenville County Library System was honored in the Best of the Beat, awards given

by a local weekly publication. The library was voted "Best Place to take the Kids (Rainy Day)."

TENNESSEE

Tennessee Legislative Day was held on **February 28**, See <http://www.tnla.org/> for further information.

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