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West Georgia's Ingram News and Notes

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Georgia Southern news and notes

Henderson Library Information Services librarian LiLi Li's book, *Emerging Technologies for Academic Libraries in the Digital Age*, has been published by Chandos of Oxford. It provides an overview of the strategic management made necessary in the new and future environment of the digital world. It helps in the essential task of anticipating both emerging technologies and their implications for every facet of academic librarianship.



Two other Information Services librarians, Dr. Robert W. Fernekas and Dr. Sonya S. Shepherd, were presenters (Fernekes in person and Shepherd by teleconference) in the Conference on Educational Renewal and School Development in an Era of Cultural Diversity, held May 19 at Huazhong Normal University in Wuhan, China. Their topic was "Information Literacy for Teachers: Is Reform Necessary and How To Establish a Successful Model Program." Based on an extensive review of the literature for the teaching of Information Literacy K-12 in 16 Southern Regional Education Board states, as well as interviews with program coordinators at selected institutions, their program reported on best practices and innovative actions for teaching this subject, identifying special training for teachers as well as examples of partnerships created between the teacher education curriculum and the academic library. They delivered the same presentation June 30 at the American Library Association Annual Conference in Anaheim, Calif.

Another Information Services librarian, Joan Ellen Broome, was one of the lecturers at the third International Symposium on Environment at the National Technical University of Athens, Greece. Broome spoke of the *Rivers of America* series, which an American publisher began bringing out during the Great Depression and which raised environmental consciousness in this country. The volumes were even best-sellers, and one-third remain in print. Her analysis of the volumes on four rivers — the Hudson, the Missouri, the French Broad and the Yukon — was followed by an update on the condition of each today, based on the comprehensive 2005 text *Rivers of North America*. ▶▶

West Georgia's Ingram news and notes

Jan Ruskell, professor and reference librarian at the University of West Georgia's Ingram Library, retired June 30, 2008. Ruskell began her career at West Georgia in

1970 after completing the M.L.S. at George Peabody College. She earned an M.A. in English and an Ed.S. in curriculum and supervision at West Georgia. She served as photo editor on *From A & M to State University: A History of the State University of West Georgia*, published in 1998 and as editor on *At Home in Carrollton 1827-1994*, published in 1995. A longtime member of GLA, Ms. Ruskell served on the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the Hubbard Scholarship Committee.

Chris Huff, assistant professor and systems librarian, was honored as Ingram Library's Centennial faculty member for 2007-08. Huff attended the 2008 Peabody Professional Institute on Academic Library Leadership with support from the Centennial grant.

Katie Mitchell, a graduate of the University of Georgia who holds a B.A. in psychology, and Kathleen Holcomb, a graduate of the University of West Georgia who also holds a B.A. in psychology, have joined the circulation department of Ingram Library.

Ingram Library opened the panel exhibit "Speaker Tom Murphy: Steady Leadership in Changing Times" at the Neva Lomason Library in May. Dr. Tracy Stallings, former member of the Georgia House of Representatives and former mayor of Carrollton, spoke at the opening. Georgia House Speaker Glenn Richardson spoke at the exhibit opening at the Dallas Branch of the Paulding County Public Library in June. The exhibit, funded by a grant from the Georgia Humanities Council, will travel to each county in the West Georgia Regional Library System before returning to the university.

The university received an \$8 million FY 2009 appropriation from the Georgia General Assembly to renovate Ingram Library, a project that will incorporate the installation of the State Capitol office of the late Speaker Murphy, who died in December 2007. The university's Center for Public History and Murphy Center for Public Service will join Georgia's Political Heritage Program as offices within the library renovation project.

Ingram Library's Penelope Melson Society hosted "An Evening of Poetry and Jazz" in April in celebration of National Poetry Month and Jazz Appreciation Month. Members of the UWG Jazz Ensemble entertained society members prior to readings by faculty and students whose work was published in the 2008 *Eclectic Art and Literary Magazine of West Georgia*. Art published in the *Eclectic* was displayed in the library lobby during the evening. The Society was organized in 2008 in honor of the library's centennial. ▶▶