

Winter 2009

## State News

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**Application Deadline:** May 14, 2009

**For assistance with your grant application, contact Jessica Leming, Preservation Services Librarian at [jleming@solinet.net](mailto:jleming@solinet.net) or 1-800-999-8558 x 4936.**

For more PAG Program information and eligibility requirements, visit the [NEH grant](#) site. Please note: All applications for PAG must be submitted through [grants.gov](http://grants.gov), the government-wide grants portal. For more information, visit [www.neh.gov/grants](http://www.neh.gov/grants).

## **SOLINET PERSONNEL NEWS**

**Timothy Cherubini** joined SOLINET as the Director of Information Resources, Collections, and Scholarly Communications. In this newly created role, Mr. Cherubini will build on SOLINET's solid reputation within the information industry by directing and managing the overall framework guiding SOLINET's offerings of collections-related products and services.

A 20 year veteran in the library industry, Mr. Cherubini brings to SOLINET member libraries a wealth of knowledge in the areas of collection management, digitization, open access, and scholarly communication. In addition to providing the vision for collections initiatives, including educational opportunities and guiding members and partners on scholarly communication, Mr. Cherubini will also share valuable industry insights on SOLINET's blog and in a regular column in SOLINET's quarterly newsletter, *Solutions*.

SOLINET reinforces its Consortial Licensing Program with the addition of

**Nancy Harris**, Consultant. SOLINET is reinforcing its newly formed Consortial Licensing Program with the expertise of Nancy Harris. Formerly the Director of Consortia at Thomson Gale, Ms. Harris has more than 18 years of experience working in and with libraries. Her areas of expertise include vendor negotiation, integrated library systems and project management.

## **STATE NEWS**

### **FLORIDA**

The State Library and Archives of Florida announced that the University of Central Florida (UCF) Libraries' Central Florida Memory (CFM) project "Picturing the Past: Photographs and Postcards of Central Florida" was awarded one of the 2008-2009 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants in the amount of \$52,002. The grant will be used to build upon the successful Central Florida Memory project (<http://cfmemory.org>) which is the work of a consortium of regional historical societies and libraries, including the UCF Libraries' four partners in the grant: Museum of Seminole County History, Orange County Library System, Orange County Regional History Center, and Rollins College Olin Library. This year CFM welcomes two more partners: Stetson University's duPont Ball Library and Bethune Cookman University's Carl S. Swisher Library.

Central Florida Memory was created to provide access to library, museum, historical society, and archival content in Central Florida; produce an extensive digital resource for scholars, students, teachers, genealogists, residents, visitors,

and the general public; assist museums, historical societies, and libraries in digitizing their collections and becoming forums for sharing expertise and technical knowledge; offer a digital archive for those unable to establish their own digital infrastructure; provide a digital resource for K through 12 teachers to bring the region's history into lesson plans; and contribute to the larger body of knowledge of Florida history via access to the CFM Web site through other statewide project sites.

During previous phases, the partners digitized approximately 60,000 images covering the period 1880-1930. The project expansion will add up to 30,000 images and offer participants the opportunity to have materials described and digitized by project staff. While CFM will continue to provide a comprehensive collection of manuscripts, public records, ephemera, artifacts, books, photographs, and maps documenting social, business, political, educational, cultural and civic life, "Picturing the Past" will add images in the form of photographs, postcards, and visual ephemera to broaden our collective memory of what Central Florida looked like before theme parks and air conditioning.

## GEORGIA

The Georgia Conference on Information Literacy invites proposals across disciplines for workshops and presentations that will consider, extend, or otherwise address information literacy in K-12 and postsecondary settings:

- Defining information literacy in a digital age.

- Effective means of developing information literacy skills in learners.
- Partnerships between librarians and classroom teachers to teach students research skills.
- Information literacy across the disciplines.
- Assessment of information literacy initiatives.
- Intellectual property, copyright, and plagiarism in the digital age.

Please go to <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/content/infolitproposals.html> to submit a proposal or learn more about the conference, which is in its sixth year.

## KENTUCKY

The drama of Abraham Lincoln's years in the White House was made even more dramatic by a number of Confederate in-laws. These included First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln's sister Emilie, who caused a stir in Washington, D.C., when she visited the White House after the death of her husband, Confederate Gen. Benjamin Hardin Helm, at the Battle of Chickamauga.

The story of Lincoln's Confederate relatives will be told in an exhibit at the Central Library Gallery sponsored by the Mary Todd Lincoln House. The exhibit, "A House Divided: Mary Todd Lincoln's Confederate Relatives," will run from March 6 through June 7.

"A House Divided" will include eight interpretive panels—each three feet by seven feet—plus a display of artifacts from the Mary Todd Lincoln House. The panel exhibit also will travel throughout

the state and elsewhere after the library exhibit ends.

During the Civil War many families had members on both sides of the war. Mary Todd Lincoln's family was one such family. Not only was her sister married to a Confederate general, but two of her brothers were soldiers in the Confederacy. This exhibit tells the story of the Todds and their impact on the Lincolns and the presidency.

The Lexington Public Library designed and produced the exhibit panels for "A House Divided" in conjunction with the Mary Todd Lincoln House, which provided research, text and images.

The Mary Todd Lincoln House at 578 W. Main St. in Lexington was Mary Todd's childhood home. The two-story brick, late Georgian house is more than 200 years old. It was restored by the Kentucky Mansions Preservation Foundation, a private nonprofit organization, and opened to the public in 1977 as the first site restored to honor a First Lady.

"A House Divided" and the Kentucky Chautauqua performance were funded in part by the Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc., the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Commission.

For information on borrowing exhibit panels for public display, call the Mary Todd Lincoln House at (859) 233-9999.

NOTE: A printable image from the exhibit and samples of the exhibit panels are available for download at [www.lexpublib.org/pressroom](http://www.lexpublib.org/pressroom).

## MISSISSIPPI

### MegaResource School Librarian Workshop

The Mississippi State University Libraries hosted the 9<sup>th</sup> MegaResource School Librarian Workshop on February 6, 2009. Fifty-four K-12 library media professionals attended the day long workshop from throughout the state of Mississippi. Dr. Deborah Lee provided the keynote address, which focused on teaching and engaging the digital native.

In addition to the workshop, the Mississippi State University Libraries released two companion web resources in support of the K-12 community. One, the MegaResource School Librarian Blog, provides information about related topics year round to both participants and others. The moderated blog is available online at: <http://blogs.library.msstate.edu/megaresources/>. The second web resource is the MAGNOLIA Training Resources guide, which provides information and training materials for use with MAGNOLIA databases. The guide is available online at: <http://guides.library.msstate.edu/magnolia>.

For additional information about these resources or the MegaResource School Librarian workshop series, please contact Dr. Deborah Lee at (662) 325-0810 or [dlee@library.msstate.edu](mailto:dlee@library.msstate.edu).

### Papers of President Grant find a new home at MSU Libraries

Through an agreement signed recently with the Ulysses S. Grant Association, correspondence, photographs, books, memorabilia, and other documents

related to the military career and presidency of Ulysses S. Grant now are being housed at Mitchell Memorial Library on the campus of Mississippi State University.

In December, MSU Libraries officials took delivery of nearly 90 filing cabinets of original and photocopied manuscripts, the largest single Grant collection in the world. Formerly housed at Southern Illinois University, the material includes letters written to leading political and military figures of the day, as well as epaulets, headgear, diaries, and other war memorabilia.

Civil War scholar John F. Marszalek, a Mississippi State University Giles Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History, is assuming the duties of executive director and managing editor of the Ulysses S. Grant Association. He continues a 46-year-old project begun by the late John Y. Simon, another nationally renowned scholar who died in 2008 in Illinois. Marszalek said Mississippi State University now becomes one of only a few U.S. institutions to house a collection of presidential papers.

Over the next five years, Marszalek and MSU Libraries will be leading efforts to produce a supplementary volume, as well as a scholarly edition of *Memoirs*, the Union Army general-in-chief and 18th president's autobiography. The Libraries also will be working to develop a digitized version of the entire series and a cumulative index, which will precede a formal opening of the collection to visiting scholars.

In early May 2009, Mitchell Memorial Library will be the host for the Grant

Association's first national meeting to be held in the South.

Ulysses S. Grant (1822-1885) is renowned for a military career in which he rose through the officer ranks ultimately to lead all Union forces during the 1861-65 conflict. He was architect of the 1863 Vicksburg campaign, among others, that effectively split the Confederacy and is considered a key battle in the war.

The Grant Collection at Mitchell Memorial Library joins those of former U.S. senator John C. Stennis and other more contemporary political figures in the Libraries' Congressional and Political Research Center.

Organized in 1962 during the Civil War centennial, the Ulysses S. Grant Association has maintained ownership of the papers during their earlier sojourns at Ohio State and Southern Illinois universities. Rhode Island Chief Justice Frank J. Williams, winner of Mississippi State's 2006 MSU Distinguished Jurist Award, is Association president. A former commissioner of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and a New York Metropolitan Museum of Art vice president, as well as two direct Grant descendants, are other officers.

For more information on the Ulysses S. Grant Collection, including photographs of memorabilia and photographs from the official signing of the acceptance agreement, and more information on MSU Libraries, please visit <http://library.msstate.edu/>

provides a premier reference collection in the subjects of conservation, book-binding and the book arts.

### **Inspiration, Innovation, Celebration: an Entrepreneurial Conference for Librarians**

The libraries of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Wake Forest University are organizing a conference entitled, "Inspiration, Innovation, Celebration: an Entrepreneurial Conference for Librarians." The conference will be held June 3-4, 2009 in the Elliott University Center at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro to share and celebrate entrepreneurial accomplishments in libraries. For more information, including a list of presenters, registration information, hotel/travel details, and contact information, see <http://zsr.wfu.edu/iic/>.

Keynote speakers are: Steven Bell, Associate University Librarian for Research and Administration, Temple University and Joyce Ogburn, University Librarian and Director of the J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah.

The purpose of this conference is threefold:

- To learn about and celebrate entrepreneurial accomplishments in libraries
- To inspire each other to be innovative in our libraries
- To create a community of interested librarians who will perpetuate the discussion beyond the conference.



Mississippi State University President Mark Keenum and First Lady Rhonda Keenum view a portrait of Ulysses S. Grant at Mitchell Memorial Library prior to a program officially accepting the Grant Collection for MSU. Photograph by Jim Tomlinson – MSU Libraries)

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

### **Library Acquires Etherington Collection**

The University Libraries at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro have acquired the collection and papers of Don Etherington, President of Etherington Conservation Services. Etherington, who has served as a consultant to the National Archives on the display of the Declaration of Independence, among other projects, is internationally recognized for his innovative binding design and the implementation of state-of-the-art conservation procedures, including phased preservation programs for libraries and institutions. In the aggregate, the Etherington Collection

You may register for the conference from the website at <http://zsr.wfu.edu/iic/registration> or by calling 866-334-2255 (toll-free). Registration is \$165 and includes all sessions, two continental breakfasts, lunch, and an all-conference reception at UNCG's Weatherspoon Art Museum. Register now, as space is limited.

### **A Tsunami May Be Quietly Ravaging School Libraries**

*Author's Definition of Tsunami: the potential of a large number of occurrences that may completely change the landscape of a place or profession*

Imagine a school library in a high school in Charlotte, North Carolina, where 2000 students from diverse socio-economic families hear the school librarian say, "This is a house of dreams...regardless of what you want to make of yourself, if you make the library your first step you'll be on your way." (Charles Brown, Director of Public Libraries of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County)

Imagine the librarian and her two assistants opening the library doors each day, assisting with checking out books, guiding use of computer instruction and testing, teaching a required "library science" course, organizing activities and book reading clubs, encouraging competitive gaming, and assisting with one-on-one guidance to prepare homework assignments. This is a busy place. It is engaging to see the energy of the place. Look at the attractive displays of new books and listen to the interactions of the students and staff as groups change on a rotation between classes and library time. See the

teachers come in to ask for advice and take materials to supplement their texts and workbooks. See the bulletin boards and posters that promote learning to read and the joys of books and reading. You may hear a staff member say: "Open a book and travel with the author anywhere in the world—and it is free!"

In coming days, this school library in Charlotte, North Carolina, may have only a librarian and possibly no assistants. How can one person check out books, teach "library science" classes, advise on research, help with technology issues, shelve books, straighten chairs, replace paper in printers, monitor behavior, update bulletin boards, coordinate with local and state boards of education to order and receive books, abide by state standards for student literacy awareness, create special activities and programs to prepare junior and senior students for college and university educations?

In a special report to the Charlotte Observer, writer Ann Doss Helms wrote "Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools will eliminate 332 jobs, including 66 elementary school teachers and more than 100 people who work in school libraries, Superintendent Peter Gorman announced Wednesday (July 15, 2008)." Of the 100 school library staff, 93.5 are school media center assistants and 11 media center specialists. Superintendent Gorman is not recommending removing librarians from school libraries but the removal of "school media-center assistants" rings the alarm bell for the future staffing of school libraries.

Across the nation, the reduction or elimination of librarians and library staff in school libraries has quietly been a cost

saving measure that may become a tsunami. Look back to the 1980s, “getting rid of certified librarians isn’t new in Utah. Most districts started eliminating them about 20 years ago when the state legislature halted funding for school libraries.....Jordan School District, the largest in Utah, has four certified media specialists who divide their time among 57 elementary schools.”(D.L. Whelan, School Library Journal 52, May 2006)

“Philadelphia’s school district woes just got a lot worse. In the most sweeping cuts ever, 16 public schools have eliminated their library media specialists. That means 130 of the city’s 266 elementary to high schools will operate without a librarian.” (School Library Journal 48, July 2002) In the 1990s, the Pennsylvania State Department of Education removed a requirement to hire librarians for high school libraries. The cost for hiring or supporting a librarian was higher than hiring a teacher because a librarian must have a Master’s degree. Hiring a Library Instructional Materials Assistant was favored over hiring a librarian who was certified to teach—“so long as a teacher remains in the room.” (SLJ, 48, July 2002) Certified school librarians are prepared to teach literacy skills and fluency in the use of technology. They provide academic support to teachers and are accountable to state standards of performance in assuring student literacy outcomes. Hal Moss of the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers explained: “Graduating seniors are required to complete a major research paper, and high school librarians are a key player in that process...the bottom line is this hurts kids.” (SLJ 48, July 2002)

Debra Whelan wrote in School Library Journal, December 2003 that high school librarians waited to see if their positions might be eliminated after a cost cutting recommendation by the Superintendent and School Board in Providence, Rhode Island. The Department of Education for Rhode Island mandated two full-time certified library media specialists and one clerk for each high school with more than 1,000 students. However, the state mandate was not sufficient reasoning for those advocating elimination. A librarian wrote to suggest that the implication that “schools no longer need qualified librarians because technology can take the place of an information specialist” was not an educated reason for eliminating qualified librarians.

In Helms’ article in the Charlotte Observer on July 10, 2008, she quotes Superintendent Gorman as saying, “These are cuts that will have a real impact on children.” A question for the Superintendent might be, “If this is true, why advocate for these particular cuts to Charlotte Mecklenburg School teachers and library staff?” Of course the answer is that he must be the one to prepare and present a budget to the Mecklenburg County Commissioners. He is aware of the challenges they have set before him. He is obligated to find budget lines to reduce.

As citizens, our responsibility is be alert to the needs of the children of our community and to the professionals who have trained themselves to fulfill the promise of “a house of dreams regardless of what you want to make of yourself, if you make the library your first step you’ll be on your way.” Educate yourselves by visiting a school library in your neighborhood and judge



for yourself if reducing staff needs to be the priority in order to render an acceptable budget to the County Commissioners in September. Slow or hold back the tsunami that may approach our community as in Pennsylvania, Utah, and Rhode Island. Make your opinions known to your superintendent of schools, county commissioners and to members of your local boards of education.

Contributed by:  
Dr. Carol Walker Jordan  
Dorothy Colmer Bailey Librarian  
Everett Library  
Queens University of Charlotte  
1900 Selwyn Avenue  
Charlotte, NC 28274

### **ACE Scholars Program at UNC Greensboro**

The University Libraries and the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) have received a grant from IMLS Laura Bush 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarian Program to create the Academic and Cultural Enrichment (ACE) Scholars Program. The grant fund will help recruit twelve ethnic minority students into a two-year master's degree at the library and information science program at UNCG. The graduating ACE Scholars will help increase the number of ethnic minority librarians in the academic libraries in U.S.

The selected ACE Scholars will receive the following package:

- Tuition and fees to attend the UNCG MLIS program, up to five semesters

- Monthly stipend of \$1,500
- Supply fees of \$500 per school year
- Travel expenses to a national and a state conference during the program
- Laptop computer for each student at the beginning of the program

Additionally, the ACE Scholars will be provided with internship opportunities, matched with an experienced mentor, and will be able to participate in networking events during the grant period.

The admission requirements:

- A Bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited college or university
- Two official copies of all applicable transcripts must be submitted to the Graduate School
- An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale during the last two years of study
- Scores from the Graduate Record Examination must be submitted. GRE scores up to five years old will be accepted
- A minimum of three letters of reference are required from teachers, supervisors, or other persons who are in a position to assess qualifications and professional potential
- A resume and a statement of personal and professional goals must be submitted.

The UNCG MLIS application deadline is March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and the acceptance

notification is May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. More information on the ACE Program is on <http://www.uncg.edu/lis/acescholars/>

For MLIS admissions information, contact:

Julie Hersberger  
[jahersbe@uncg.edu](mailto:jahersbe@uncg.edu)  
336.334.3482

For Grant information contact:

Sha Li Zhang  
[slzhang@uncg.edu](mailto:slzhang@uncg.edu)  
336-334-3705

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

### **Exciting New Grants at the Greenville County Library System!**

The Greenville County Library System is one of 12 libraries in the country to receive a Smart Investing grant from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) Investor Education Foundation and the American Library Association. The System will receive \$49,550 from FINRA, which will be used to improve the library's finance and investment collection, and provide ongoing public programs to address the financial and investment education needs of women ages 18-64, with particular emphasis on low-income heads of households. Programs will begin in September, 2009.

The System is also one of 34 libraries to receive a \$5,000 American Dream grant, funded through a two-year grant from Dollar General Literacy Foundation. In an effort to influence foreign language speakers to turn towards the public library for help in learning how to read, write and speak English, GCLS is currently filming an educational video.

The film will provide instructions on how to obtain a library card, present the types of materials available at the library and explain basic, unfamiliar vocabulary used in library culture.

### **Reader, Meet Writer!**

Over 200 Southern authors and independent Southern bookstores have come together with the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance (SIBA) to launch **STARS—The Southern Traveling Authors Registration Service**—a new resource for finding authors and literary speakers. Designed to bring readers and writers together at community bookstores and events all over the south, the STARS directory lists Southern authors available for events and speaking engagements, interested in talking to schools, book clubs, and any other gathering of people who love to read.

Are you in charge of getting speakers for your Rotary Club? Do you work in a library or school? Does your book club daydream about meeting authors? Are you in charge of a conference? Do you run a daycare or adult care? Do you need to put together fundraisers? The STARS directory has the answer. Simply visit [www.authorsroundthesouth.com](http://www.authorsroundthesouth.com) and take a look around and when you find an author of interest, click on the **request this author** link. Your request will be directed to the author and your local bookstore will assist in making arrangements for your event. The South is really full of STARS!

The STARS directory boasts an extensive search capability where users are able to sort authors by a variety of criteria including available dates, location, book titles and topics such as

“poetry” or “children’s author.” Detailed profile pages list authors’ books, press material, blogs and websites, biographical information as well as the speaking topics they specialize in. One special feature of the directory is a detailed database of the traveling plans of registered authors, so you can know when a writer will be in or near your area, and when they will be appearing at independent bookstores in your town. Authors are using STARS to help make the most of their book tours. Bookstores are using STARS to enhance their own in store event programs, and they are encouraging their customers to use STARS to find authors they would like to meet.

The STARS directory is part of [Authors Round the South](#) (ARTS!), a website for people who love Southern literature, managed by independent bookstores and the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance. Aside from STARS, [Authorsroundthesouth.com](#) also hosts one of the most complete literary event calendars in the South, featuring hundreds of author readings, book club meetings, literary festivals and other literary events. ARTS is also the home of popular The Lady Banks’ Commonplace Book newsletter, and carries Southern literary news, the latest Southern Indie Bestsellers, feeds from the blogs of Southern bookstores and authors, and exclusive interviews with Southern writers. If you love Southern writing, then you need to visit [authorsroundthesouth.com](#).

## TENNESSEE

**From Web to Page: University  
Libraries and  
UT Press Partner in Print-on-Demand  
Service**

The University of Tennessee Libraries Newfound Press ([www.newfoundpress.utk.edu](http://www.newfoundpress.utk.edu)) and the University of Tennessee Press ([www.utpress.org](http://www.utpress.org)) are partners in producing print-on-demand copies of online books.

Newfound Press expands access to specialized works by publishing online books, journals, and multimedia for general and scholarly audiences. All Newfound Press publications are open access, freely available to anyone via the internet. Content is evaluated by subject experts to ensure quality scholarship, and published online in easily searchable pdf files. Newfound Press books can be discovered via Google, ISBN, and Library of Congress cataloging.

Many readers and authors recognize the benefits of printed books which can be annotated, read without electricity or an internet connection, and represent tangible evidence of achievement. To order print versions of Newfound Press books, a reader clicks a button at the online book home page which connects to the UT Press shopping cart. UT Press uses a Chicago Distribution Center publishing service, BiblioVault, for digital print runs in small quantities.

University publishing in the digital age expands access to scholarship for a global audience. UT’s library and university press partnership promises ongoing innovations in today’s rapidly changing publishing culture.