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Macon State Showcases 'Lost' Literature

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Agnes Scott College news and notes

Agnes Scott's McCain Library is the recipient of a Georgia Humanities Council grant supporting a lecture by Martha Ackmann on "The Mercury 13: The Untold Story of Thirteen American Women and the Dream of Space Flight." The free event will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 5 in Presser Hall, Gaines Chapel on the ASC campus in Decatur. The public is welcome, and a book signing and reception will follow the talk.

Also, the library and college are pleased to welcome Casey Long as User Education Librarian starting Oct. 1. Since 2002, she has served as Business Liaison Librarian at Georgia State University Library. Casey was recognized as a *Library Journal* Mover & Shaker 2009, and she has won two awards for effective and innovative instruction from Georgia State. »»

Digital Library of Georgia news and notes

The Digital Library of Georgia and its partners have recently released several new digital collections as part of the Georgia HomePLACE initiative:

- Milledgeville Historic Newspapers Archive, 1808-1920 <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/milledgeville/>
- Columbus Enquirer, 1828-1890 <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/enquirer/>
- Macon Telegraph, 1826-1908 <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/telegraph/>

(The newspaper databases above require a one-time free plug-in download to view images.)

Also:

- Georgia State Fair, Macon, 1886-1960 (in partnership with the Middle Georgia Archives, Middle Georgia Regional Library) <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/gastatefair/>
- African American Funeral Programs from the East Central Georgia Regional Library (in partnership with ECGRL) <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/funeral/>

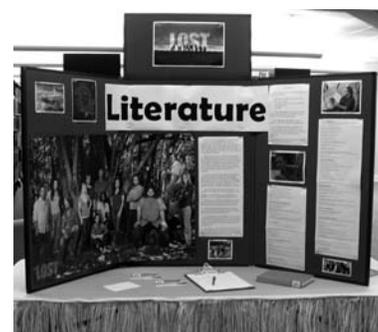
The Digital Library of Georgia is also reintroducing:

- Hall County Georgia Historical Photograph Collection (in partnership with Hall County Public Library) http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/CollectionsA-Z/hchp_search.html
- Black History Society Photograph Collection (in partnership with Hall County Public Library) http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/CollectionsA-Z/bhsp_search.html

Georgia HomePLACE is supported with federal LSTA funds administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Georgia Public Library Service, a unit of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The Digital Library of Georgia is a GALILEO initiative based at the University of Georgia Libraries (<http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu>). »»

Macon State showcases 'Lost' Literature

A few months ago, Macon State College's Assistant Librarian Felicia Haywood had a fairly simple idea for a library display that would highlight a number of books in the collection. That simple idea grew into the library's largest display to date—an exhibit that snakes around the entire second floor and includes a full-sized boat, a tent constructed of bamboo poles, and a smoke monster.



The "Lost" Literature exhibit

And books, of course.

Books as diverse as *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Bad Twin*. "All these titles are from the library's collection," says Haywood, "but they have something else in common. They also play a part in the popular ABC-TV Show *Lost*—along with many other titles covering a spectrum of time periods and genres."

Lost follows the plight of the survivors of Oceanic Flight 815, which crashes onto a mysterious island and leaves them stranded—but not alone. If you've watched *Lost* (or heard your friends talk about it), you'll know the show is a mind-bending puzzle. Through events on the island and flashbacks to the characters' earlier lives, viewers discover that the Flight 815 survivors have intriguing connections to one another. Were they brought to the island for a reason?

As Haywood says, "Tiny bits of information turn out to provide important clues later on, so when a character is shown reading a particular book at a particular time, it's probably important."

And the literary clues abound! The survivors of Flight 815 read books to pass the time. The Others have a book club. Characters quote from books. Writers reference them in episode titles and character names. Sometimes story lines seem to follow famous plots.

In a strange twist of life imitating art, there's even one Flight 815 passenger who wrote a novel called *Bad Twin*. The popular character Sawyer was seen reading the manuscript in his reading chair (a salvaged airplane seat), and viewers were curious. So a real-world publishing company later published the book, and Macon State College added this unique title to its collection—and to Sawyer's reading chair in the display.

Sawyer's area also contains a reproduction of his tent, Oceanic Airlines water bottles and blankets, and a replica of his bizarre reading glasses, patched together from two pairs salvaged from the wreckage.

"My original idea," says Haywood, "was to draw attention to some classic library books. And also to the second floor of the Library. We used to occupy just one floor, and even a couple of years after our renovation, some folks don't seem to be aware that the library now has two floors. Since a few of us at the Library are *Lost* fans, the idea sort of snowballed. But what better way to get patrons to check out the upstairs than to provide them a recreation of the Survivors' beach camp, Dharma stations, and even a model of the infamous Smoke Monster!"

In conjunction with the exhibit, the Library has plans for events, contests, and give-aways throughout the fall semester. "All of the books in the Exhibit are available for check-out," says Haywood, "even if it's the Stephen King book under the polar bear's paw!"

Additional photos of the display can be viewed at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/maconstatecollegelibrary/sets/72157622092833534/>. ►►

Valdosta State news and notes

Linda Most has been appointed Assistant Professor of Information Studies in the Master of Library Science Program at Valdosta State University. Linda received her Bachelors degree in English from Goucher College in Baltimore. She holds the Master of Science in Library and Information Studies from Florida State University and the Master of Arts in History from Florida Atlantic University. Prior to beginning her doctoral studies she worked as a reference librarian at the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore and as the Business Reference Librarian for the Palm Beach County Library System in Florida. ►►



Most

Woodruff Library news and notes

The Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center is undergoing a major interior renovation that will transform the Library space into a 21st century learning environment. Library operations are continuing throughout the construction project, with a temporary entrance and Lower Level service area in use until January.

Until December 2009, archival research and reference services will be relocated and may be limited due to construction in the Woodruff Library Archives & Special Collections Reading Room. Researchers planning a trip to the Woodruff Library Archives this fall are strongly urged to make research appointments by contacting Archives staff at archives@auctr.edu or 404-978-2052.

As construction unfolds, the Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University will continue to share additional service changes at <http://www.auctr.edu/renovation-site/index.asp>. For more renovation information, call 404-978-2067 or email libraryrenovation@auctr.edu. ►►

Athens Regional news and notes

With environmental concerns on everyone's minds, the Athens Regional Library System has taken steps to "go green" as a library system. ARLS branches began offering reusable book tote bags for sale in August. The tote bags, which are just the right size to hold books and other library materials, are bright blue with the slogan, "Buy the bag. Borrow the books," printed on the front and back. They sell at branches for \$2 each. Plastic bags, formerly available at check out desks all the time, are now only available at the libraries on rainy days. "We feel that we are taking a step in the right direction," said Athens Regional Library System Director Kathryn Ames. "Americans throw away an average of one billion plastic bags every year, and each one can take 1,000 years or more to break down. We want to do our part to help reduce the number of bags thrown away each year and protect our environment."

The move toward reusable bags coincided with the System's participation in the Georgia Public Library Service's "Kill-A-Watt" loan program. Each of the System's branches has the Kill-A-Watt toolkits available for checkout. "We are pleased to have these toolkits available to our patrons," Ames said. "Now people can find out how much energy they use at home and have the information they need to make decisions that could save energy and reduce their utility bills."

In an era where technology is constantly evolving, it is