

Summer 2012

## State News

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### Recommended Citation

(2012) "State News," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 60 : Iss. 2 , Article 3.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol60/iss2/3>

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## OTHER NEWS

You've likely heard about the [Edge Initiative](#), a collaborative effort to create benchmarks for public access technology, where benchmarks and resources combine to help libraries of all sizes drive investment and spark continuous improvement toward technology services. [TechSoup](#) is part of the effort, and is asking libraries to help us create resources that work for everyone.

To do that, thoughts are needed on how the benchmarks might work in your library. Monthly postings of a 2-question survey capture your thoughts. It's very important that libraries across the country weigh in on this project. Please take a moment to let us know what you think about this benchmark: <http://svy.mk/LCA7m3> (And register to win a prize!)

To keep updated on the Edge Initiative and to learn of resources like article, webinars, and donated software and hardware for libraries, please sign up for a monthly newsletter: <http://bit.ly/TSnews>

## STATE NEWS

### GEORGIA

The University of West Georgia's Irvine Sullivan Ingram Library recently completed an \$8 million renovation. The project was funded in 2008 with a special legislative appropriation honoring the late Georgia House Speaker, Thomas Bailey Murphy, 1924-2007, who left office with the distinction of being the longest continuously-serving state house speaker in U.S. history. Murphy donated his papers and office contents to the university in 2003. As part of the donor agreement, the institution agreed to replicate Murphy's iconic state capitol office on campus. The Murphy Office was dedicated on April 19, 2012, with over 700 in attendance, including every living former house speaker. Former governors Roy Barnes and Sonny Perdue, Georgia House

Speaker David Ralston, and Representative Calvin Smyre were on the program, and the Hon. Michael Murphy, Chief Justice of the Tallapoosa Circuit of Georgia spoke on behalf of the family. Steve Anthony, a West Georgia graduate who served as Chief Aide to Speaker Murphy from 1981 to 1995, introduced the speakers.



The Ingram Library renovation was pictured in the Design issue of *Library Journal*, and received coverage in the *Georgia Library Quarterly*. Hank Houser of Houser Walker Architecture of Atlanta was principal architect. Richard Meyer, retired dean of the library at Georgia Tech served as consultant. Associate Dean of Libraries Chris Huff acted as Project Advocate. Parrish Construction served as contractor. Kathy Dixson of Avient Museum Services worked with a team of university faculty, staff and graduate students to develop interpretive exhibits supporting the office installation. The exhibits are aligned with the Georgia Performance Standards for Social Studies. Some 1600 objects from Speaker Murphy's state capitol office were photographed, cataloged and placed in the replicated office setting. In addition to panel exhibits, the installation includes digital exhibits that provide information about the objects in the office, and highlight Tom Murphy's life and accomplishments. The Annie Belle Weaver Special Collections houses the papers and recorded interviews of numerous Georgia politicians, a collection begun in 1985 through Georgia's Political Heritage Program. A Center for Civic Engagement is being developed within the library to coordinate efforts of the university's

Center for Public History and the Thomas B. Murphy Center for Public Service in association with the work of Special Collections. The Thomas B. Murphy Collection has been open for research since 2010. Digitized interviews with Speaker Murphy and other Georgia political figures are available through the Digital Library of Georgia.

## MISSISSIPPI

### **MSU Joining Exclusive List as Presidential Library Host**

Mississippi State soon will officially serve as host to a presidential library--one of only five universities in the nation to share such a distinction.

Ulysses S. Grant Association President Frank J. Williams formally announced the decision of the organization's board of directors to designate the Ulysses S. Grant Collection at MSU's Mitchell Memorial Library as the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library. The announcement came during the association's annual meeting which took place on May 18-20 as part of the organization's 50th anniversary observance.

MSU President Mark E. Keenum recently received a letter from Archivist of the United States David S. Ferriero of the National Archives congratulating the university on the presidential library designation. The National Archives has responsibility for 13 presidential libraries across the nation, including libraries affiliated with the universities of Michigan (Gerald R. Ford) and Texas (Lyndon Johnson), as well as Texas A & M (George H.W. Bush) and Southern Methodist (George W. Bush) universities.

Highlights of the USGA's 50th anniversary meeting included the dedication and ribbon cutting for the new Ulysses S. Grant Exhibit Area on the first floor of Mitchell Memorial Library and presentation of the USGA's prestigious John Y. Simon Award.

The Simon Award honors the late scholar and longtime USGA executive director by recognizing significant achievement in advancing "historical knowledge about General-President Ulysses S. Grant."

Since 2008, Mitchell Memorial Library has been the repository of correspondence, photographs, books, memorabilia, and other documents related to the military career and presidency of America's 18th president.

The Grant Presidential Collection consists of some 15,000 linear feet of correspondence, research notes, artifacts, photographs, scrapbooks, and memorabilia and includes information on Grant's childhood from his birth in 1822, his later military career, Civil War triumphs, tenure as commanding general after the war, presidency, and his post-White House years until his death in 1885. There are also 4,000 published monographs on various aspects of Grant's life and times.

Grant is more renowned for a military career in which he rose through the officer ranks to ultimately 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.



Pictured here during a signing of documentation officially naming the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library at MSU are (l to r) John F. Marszalek, US Grant Association Executive Director; US Grant Association President Frank J. Williams; MSU President Mark E. Keenum; and Dean of Libraries Frances Coleman.

Through a 2008 agreement with the Ulysses S. Grant Association, the MSU Libraries became the official host of the Grant papers. Marszalek, a nationally recognized Civil War scholar and MSU Giles Distinguished Professor Emeritus, was named its executive director and managing editor. Marszalek continued a 46-year-old project begun by the late John Y. Simon, another nationally renowned scholar who died in 2008.

The Grant Collection joined those of former U.S. Sen. John C. Stennis and U.S. Rep. Sonny Montgomery, along with a number of other more contemporary political figures, in the library's Congressional and Political Research Center.

For more information about the Ulysses S. Grant Collection at Mississippi State University Libraries, visit <http://library.msstate.edu/USGrant/>, or telephone Marszalek at 662-325-4552.

### **Mississippi Library Receives John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award**

First Regional Library's branch in Como, MS, The Emily Jones Pointer Public Library, has been selected as one of eight nation-wide winners of the prestigious 65<sup>th</sup> Annual John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award. The \$10,000 prize was awarded to the library for the public relations efforts surrounding the LSTA grant-funded "Como Elders Remember Panola County Music" program, which united the community in an effort to preserve and promote the rich history of Panola County music. (For more information: [www.firstregional.org/comoelders.html](http://www.firstregional.org/comoelders.html)) Other winning libraries were from California, Texas, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Washington, Minnesota, and Utah.



Submitting the award for the Como Public Library were Como Branch Manager, Alice Pierotti (left), First Regional Library Youth Services Coordinator, Judy Card, and First Regional Library Public Relations Specialist, David Brown.

The award was presented this summer at the annual American Library Association conference in Anaheim, California.

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

### **Hunt Library Leads in Technology Initiatives**

Though the [James B. Hunt Jr. Library](#) is still under construction on North Carolina State University's Centennial Campus, it is already—as promised—giving students pioneering, hands-on experience with technologies that they would not have a chance to work with at any other university in the world. NC [State's Digital Games Research Initiative](#) currently supports one of the [top video game design and development programs](#) in North America, based in part on the cutting-edge courses taught in collaboration by the College of Design and the Department of



Computer Science. This semester students have had the opportunity to work with a digital palette the size of which they could only have dreamed of in the past, a prototype of the 21-foot-wide, high-definition video wall that will be the centerpiece of the Hunt Library's Gaming Lab.

Designed to be nothing less than the best learning and collaborative space in the country, the Hunt Library will place cutting-edge technologies in the hands of students and faculty, enabling and encouraging experimentation, supporting technology-intensive projects, and building community by showcasing research and creative work on campus. Four huge high-definition Christie® MicroTiles® video walls, including the one in the Gaming Lab, will provide large-scale visualization canvases that will help spur innovative teaching across the curriculum and give students a competitive edge working with and designing for the latest frontier in digital display.

Professors Scott Townsend and Timothy Buie from the Graphic and Industrial Design program in the College of Design and Dr. Michael Young from the Department of Computer Science have partnered with the NCSU Libraries to enable their advanced graphic design and computer game development students to work together, using a smaller version of Christie MicroTiles walls to be deployed in Hunt Library, to simulate the complex process of creating games in a real-world commercial environment. The combined classes learned to research the needs of a client—in this case, the NCSU Libraries and the vision for the Hunt Library—and orchestrate the work of industrial and graphic design students with budding game designers and software engineers to complete a project on a tight deadline. The students scoped, planned, and delivered *NOL*, a collaborative pursuit game designed to use real-time data delivered from the NCSU Libraries' databases to allow a group of players to work together to guard the Vault of Knowledge, the mystical storage site in which the collected wisdom and secrets gained from the innate human capacity

for curiosity and thirst for understanding are under attack.

“The Hunt Library is a dream environment for Christie MicroTiles, a real test bed that uses our technology as a catalyst in the creative design process,” explains Kevin Barlow, senior director, control rooms for Christie. “This educational facility makes use of our technology most adventurously. We are delighted at the way that the students and their mentors have immediately seen the possibilities and are running with them in NC State's games program.”

In addition to helping develop the game at the core of the project, Professor Townsend's graphic design students approached the Hunt Library as an unprecedented library space—one where the [robotic bookBot book delivery system](#) minimizes the need for book shelves, where large video walls and other technologies dominate space in a way that patrons have never experienced before, and where digital, virtual, and physical environments merge in unique ways. Using the newest in “designing experiences” in graphic and interaction design and working with complex systems of information, the students developed strategies for how to orient users to the new environment. Library planners will use the students' ideas to encourage social interaction and collaborative work across academic disciplines in a space that in many ways redefines what a library can be.

“From the beginning, the vision of the Hunt Library was to give students and faculty a technology-immersive environment that would make it easy for them to try out their most innovative ideas,” explains Susan K. Nutter, vice provost and director of the NCSU Libraries. “We are proud and honored that Professors Buie, Townsend, and Young and their students have been able to produce such great results, even before we have opened the building. What a great job of showing the possibilities of what this iconic new space will be able to do for NC State and for the people of North Carolina!”

The Hunt Library is scheduled to open in January 2013.

### **ALA-APA Recognizes Central Carolina Community College's Graduates**

The American Library Association-Allied Professional Association (ALA-APA) announced today that it has completed an agreement with the Central Carolina Community College (CCCC) in North Carolina that will allow the graduates in the Library and Information Technology Program, who meet the established criteria, to receive the LSSC designation.

ALA-APA and CCCC believe that the degree or diploma coupled with the LSSC will benefit graduates, the library in which they work, and library users. Lorelle Swader, Director of ALA-APA, said, "CCCC's graduates in the Library and Information Technology Program will be recognized for their acquired skills and knowledge with this national certification, which is quickly becoming a standard for the profession. The LSSC will show employers of these graduates that they have made a commitment to furthering their own continuing professional development and future."

The ALA-APA proposed this agreement after reviewing the CCCC curriculum and finding that the graduates of its AAS degree and Diploma programs have completed coursework that meets the majority of LSSC's competency requirements. To receive the LSSC, candidates from these programs must only show LSSC that they have also met the Communications Competency Set.

ALA-APA is has similar agreements with the Pasadena City College and the Palomar Community college in California; the Waubensee Community College, the College of DuPage, and the Illinois Central College in Illinois; and the Ivy Tech Community College in Indiana. ALA-APA is working with 13 other colleges to see if their curriculums also

meet the standards set forth by the LSSC competencies.

The LSSC Program is interested in working with other community or junior college programs.

Funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the American Library Association developed, established the LSSC Program, and support ALA-APA's work with LTA programs.

To find out more about this degree or recognition agreements or about LSSC, please contact LSSC Program staff at [lssc@ala.org](mailto:lssc@ala.org).

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

### **Library Conversion Drafts New Chapter for Historic Courthouse**

Since early in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the Jackson County Courthouse loomed atop a hill overlooking the original Main Street of Sylva, NC. The historic structure, accessible from 107 steps up a hillside, was the dominant landmark for this small community rooted between the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains. The two-story portico, Corinthian-style columns, cupola, arched windows, and clock--stalled at 4:15 in some forgotten AM or PM--made the neoclassical building one of the most photographed landmarks in the Western part of the state.

Amended during a 1960s renovation and totally replaced in 1994 by the county's new justice and public administration facility, the historic courthouse stood vacant with an undefined future. A 12-year initiative instilled new life—and a new mission—in the structure. The efforts restored the original architectural definition during the recent conversion of the facility into a new public library and community center. Sylva and Jackson County residents can be justifiably proud of the community icon far into the future.



Nearly \$8.7 million in private, local, state and federal funding covered the adaptive reuse of the 6,000-sq.-ft. original structure and 20,000 sq. ft. of new construction. Local fundraisers were large and small events, including a book reading by children whose 4000 completed books raised \$8000. The original portion of the building--including the signature cupola--built in 1915, was dismantled to some extent, including the classic cupola and meticulously retrofitted inside and out, along with receiving a new, two-story addition during the two-year effort. A glass atrium with a beautiful stained glass skylight provides a bridge connecting the two buildings and serves as the main entrance to the complex. Because of the exquisite neoclassical design of the historic courthouse, the architect carefully designed the new structure's facade to "reflect the look of the courthouse by repeating its architectural language." The new library footprint also preserved the existing view of the historic courthouse from Sylva's Main Street, while a balcony and terrace on the new side take advantage of the spectacular views across the distant mountains.



Prior to the dedication last June (2011), the library moved over 40,000 items into the now fully modernized facility and acquired 24,000 new media items - books, DVDs, books on CD, and Playaways. Some 18,000 of the expanded collections are for adults and 6,000 for young people. The library now has sixteen public access computers, four in a teen area upstairs with the adult stations, and eight in the children's area located downstairs. There will also be several laptops and netbooks for public use in the library. With sixty per cent of the citizens of the county already issued library cards, the number will surely rise with completion of this state-of-the-art facility.

In addition the library use, the facility has become a cultural center for Sylva, with "Mountain Music", dance and theatrical troupe performances, traditional storytellers, movies and other activities. The original courtroom on the second floor, where so many cases reached final verdicts, now offers a community room seating 150. The facility also houses the county genealogical society, historical association museum and arts council.

Thankfully, the time has become a fading memory when a wrecking-ball mentality cleared many communities of historically significant structures to make way for new buildings. All that began to change with the recognition these landmarks should be preserved and adapted to new uses. The new library in Sylva offers an excellent example.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

### **Center Chooses *Virals* to Represent South Carolina at National Book Festival**

The South Carolina State Library's Center for the Book has selected *Virals*, by Kathy Reichs, to represent South Carolina at the 2012 National Book Festival in Washington, DC. The book is the state's selection for the National Book Festival's "Discover Great Places Through Reading Map". Each state selects one title of fiction or non-fiction, a book about the state or by an author from the

state that is a good read for children or young adults. The map is distributed at the Pavilion of the States at the Festival and lists "Great Reads About Great Places".

*Virals* is published by Razorbill, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers Group, which is dedicated to young adult and middle grade books.

Dr. Reichs is one of only eighty-two forensic anthropologists ever certified by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology. She served on the Board of Directors and as Vice President of both the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and the American Board of Forensic Anthropology, and is currently a member of the National Police Services Advisory Council in Canada. She is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

Dr. Reichs is a native of Chicago, where she received her Ph.D. at Northwestern. She now divides her time between Charlotte, NC and Montreal, Québec.

The National Book Festival will be held on the National Mall on September 22 & 23, 2012. It will feature award-winning authors, poets and illustrators in several pavilions dedicated to categories of literature. Festival-goers can meet and hear firsthand from their favorite authors, get books signed, have photos taken with mascots and storybook characters and participate in a variety of learning activities. The Pavilion of the States will represent reading and library programs and literary events in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. trusts and territories.

The South Carolina Center for the Book is the South Carolina Affiliate of the Library of Congress Center for the Book and is a cooperative project of the South Carolina State Library, the University of South Carolina School of Library and Information Science, and the Humanities Council SC.

## South Carolina 2011 Notable State Documents Announced

The South Carolina State Library is pleased to announce the selection of the most notable South Carolina state government documents of 2011. The selection is announced annually in honor of Freedom of Information Day, March 16, the birthday of President James Madison, an early proponent of citizen access to government information.

Awards were presented to the winning agencies by David Goble, State Library Director, on May 7. "I salute South Carolina state agencies that continue to make their information available to the public, either in print form or electronically. The agencies honored today continue a fine tradition of open government in the Palmetto State," said Goble.

The following winning documents were selected by the staff of the South Carolina State Library. All documents are available to view at the State Library.

- *2011-2012 Sportsman's Calendar and Almanac*, (SC Department of Natural Resources. Calendar available with subscription to South Carolina Wildlife)
- *High Crimes and Misdemeanors: A Five Year Overview of Indicators of Illegal Drug Activity in South Carolina*, (SC Department of Public Safety)
- *A Long-Range Plan for the Arts in South Carolina 2011-2020*, (SC Arts Commission)
- *Palmetto Portraits Project*, (MUSC, College of Charleston and SC State Museum. Available for purchase <http://halsey.cofc.edu/support/publication/palmetto-portraits-project>)
- *South Carolina Business Opportunities*, (SC Budget & Control Board. Available online at <http://procurement.sc.gov/PS/general/scbo/PS-scbo-online.phtm>)
- *The Connector*, (SC Department of Transportation. Available online at



<http://www.scdot.org/inside/connector.shtml>)

- *South Carolina Market Bulletin*, (SC Department of Agriculture. Available by subscription online at <http://www.kellysolutions.com/SC/marketbulletin/LoginView.asp>)

#### Websites:

- SC Works Website (<http://www.scworks.org> SC Department of Employment and Workforce)
- County Labor Market Analysis Website (<http://maps.sccommerce.com/resource/reports.aspx> SC Department of Commerce)
- Report Card Database (<https://ssl.sc.gov/SchoolReportCards> (SC Education Oversight Committee and SC Department of Education).

## PEOPLE NEWS

### ALABAMA

#### “A Lifetime of Librarianship”

**Dr. Paul H. Spence**, lifelong librarian and former SELA president (1982), has served libraries and librarianship well in his more than 60 years as a member of the profession. As the first Director of the University of Alabama at Birmingham’s College of General Studies Library, today known as the Mervyn H. Sterne Library, his leadership and innovative approach was the foundation for the creation of an establishment that today serves 17,000 students and holds over 1 million volumes.

The son of a former teacher, Dr. Spence developed an appreciation for reading at an early age. As a college student at Duke University he studied Religion, aspiring to one day become a missionary. His college years were interrupted by World War II and in 1943 he declined his student deferment and signed

up for service. After the war, he continued his college studies at Emory University, completing an A.B. in History in 1948. A part-time library job at Emory introduced him to Librarianship as a profession and with the encouragement of his supervisor, Rick Harwell, Dr. Spence completed the M.A. in Library Studies at Emory in 1950. He continued his educational pursuits fulfilling the requirements for the Ph.D in Library Science at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 1969.

Dr. Spence began his professional career in 1950, also at Emory, as an Assistant Reference Librarian. A chance meeting with Dr. Jerrold Orne, then Library Director of the Air University Library located in Montgomery, Alabama, prompted his next professional move to serve as Chief Librarian of the Periodical Reference Section at Air University Library. By the time he left Montgomery, he had been promoted to Director of the Library at the Air Force Institute of Technology. Spence went on to serve in various professional positions across the country before eventually landing at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1970, where he has spent the last 32 years.

Dr. Spence was appointed the first Director of the College of General Studies Library at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 1970. UAB was established as an institution only the year before, so Dr. Spence took on the Herculean task of developing an academic library from the ground up. His highest priority was building a strong research collection. He acquired much of that initial collection by purchasing the contents of several book stores and personal library collections, as well as participating in book exchange programs and accepting private donations. Some of his other major contributions to the organization and establishment of UAB’s Sterne Library include the implementation of the subject specific Liaison Program, a program that employs the reference librarian as a subject specialist working closely with a specific academic department, and the placement of