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Georgia State News and Notes

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Clayton State news and notes

During spring semester, the Clayton State University Library in Morrow underwent a “lifestyle lift” renovation. The entire upper level of the library building received a fresh coat of paint. In addition, glass doors were installed at the entrance to Administrative Hall. New tables and chairs were installed in the bibliographic instruction room, and 12 ranges of new shelving were installed in the circulating, periodical and reference areas.

On July 1, the following promotions became effective: Dr. Gordon Baker, dean of libraries; Cathy Jeffrey, associate dean of libraries and head of collection and resource management; and Katherine Ott, assistant dean and head of access and information services.

Kara Mullen is the new electronic services librarian. She received her MLIS from Valdosta State University and was formerly the electronic services assistant. ►►



The Georgia Gwinnett College Library and Learning Center

Georgia Gwinnett news and notes

The LEED®-registered Georgia Gwinnett College Library and Learning Center in Lawrenceville, Ga., designed by international architecture, planning, engineering, interior design and program management firm Leo A Daly, celebrated its completion on July 22 with a ribbon cutting, tours of the new building and refreshments.

Features include a high-tech information commons, numerous small group-study rooms, book storage for up to 300,000 volumes, two classrooms, a lecture room, a quiet reading room, distance learning connectivity, video conference rooms, a presentation rehearsal room, a café and student success center. The project uses sustainable design principles and is expected to receive LEED® Silver certification.

Georgia Gwinnett College is the fastest-growing campus in the University System of Georgia. It opened on Aug. 18, 2006, as the nation’s first four-year public college created in the 21st century. ►►

Georgia Southern news and notes

Jessica Minihan has joined the Henderson Library faculty as coordinator of continuing resources in the Collection and Resource Services Department. Minihan earned her M.S. in librarianship at the University of Tennessee and previously held a position at the J.D. Williams Library at the University of Mississippi.

The first annual Farm-to-Table Dinner on the evening of Aug. 22, featuring gourmet courses of food from local farms and sponsored by the Friends of Henderson Library, was a great success. Funds raised will be devoted to acquiring library resources relevant to Georgia Southern’s Center for Sustainability.

A design by Viktorija Pogue, an art major and library student assistant, was selected to adorn some preliminary items for the 15th anniversary celebration of GALILEO in September. ►►

Georgia State news and notes

Ida Martinez is now the psychology librarian at the Georgia State University (GSU) Library.

Over the course of the past year, the GSU Library’s website (<http://library.gsu.edu>) has been in a redesign process. On Aug. 2, the new site launched, and its alteration has already improved library communication with students and faculty. Three innovations on the site contribute to this: a feed from the library’s dynamic blog, links to social media, and a live-chat-assistance widget embedded on every page.

The GSU Library’s blog is frequently updated with information for faculty and students about new resources, upcoming workshops and Georgia State’s recently published research. It feeds out to the library’s social media channels, including Facebook and Twitter.

Some students are even beginning to use these popular tools to ask reference questions. If they’re not asking for help there, library users are able to get live assistance through the chat widget embedded on each page. In the first week of the 2010 fall semester, chat questions were double what they were a year ago. Likewise, the library’s blog views went up significantly, with a 28 percent increase in the time readers spent there.

While this redesign has been a success for the GSU Library, the website will consistently be evaluated throughout the year to ensure that it meets the needs of the faculty and staff who use it most.

The historic records of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) are available for research at Georgia State University Library's Southern Labor Archives, one year before the 30th anniversary of the strike that broke the union. President Ronald Reagan's confrontation with PATCO in 1981 marked a turning point in U.S. labor relations. The records at the Southern Labor Archives are the largest PATCO collection available to researchers, and they provide insight into one of the most tumultuous and significant events in recent labor-management history.

The PATCO records, created and used by officers and staff at their national headquarters, detail the daily operations of the union and the administration of its regional and local offices. Highlights of the collection include records related to the 1981 strike; files from the offices of the president, vice presidents and director; and publications. The collection consists of more than 200 feet of material housed in more than 450 boxes. ▶▶

Thomas University news and notes

The Thomas University Library celebrated National Dog Day on Aug. 26. "We had the Thomasville-Thomas

County Humane Society come out with two adoptable puppies and invited students, faculty and staff to bring their dogs by the library for a treat," said Robyn Hurst, public services librarian. "We also conducted a dog food drive and collected more than 100 pounds of dog food for the local Humane Society." ▶▶

University of Georgia news and notes

What can you do with a digital library? Win an Emmy!

Stars from several departments in the University of Georgia Library were part of the collaborative effort — from the genesis of the Civil Rights Digital Library to the program conceived by Ambassador Andrew Young — that culminated in this honor.

On June 26, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences held its 36th presentation of the Southeast Regional Emmy Awards in Atlanta. UGA came up a winner for its work on the program "Andrew Young Presents: How We Got Over," which showcases the Civil Rights Digital Library and the role archives play in preserving the past. The program was recognized in the category of Outstanding Achievement: Television Crafts Achievement Excellence, Technical Achievement. ▶▶

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