

Winter 2014

State News

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STATE NEWS

FLORIDA

UCF Libraries Names Winners in 2013 Student Book Arts Competition

Now in its eighth year, the UCF Libraries Student Book Arts Competition promotes book arts to student artists, who are invited to submit their original book arts. Winners receive a cash prize, and their books are added to the Special Collections Book Arts and Typography collection. Book arts are considered to be any book or book-like object, created by an artist, which has become something more than just a book: it has entered into the realm of art. First prize was awarded to UCF student Matthew Gregor for *The Trap House Rules*. For more information, contact the head of Special Collections, Laila Miletic-Vejzovic at Laila.Miletic-Vejzovic@ucf.edu.

MISSISSIPPI

Study Abroad Library Course

This June students will once again have the opportunity to study library & information science/archival studies in London through a four-week course offered by the British Studies Program (<http://www.usm.edu/bsp>).

The program is offered June 26 - July 27, 2014 and carries six hours of graduate credit from The University of Southern Mississippi, a fully-accredited institution of higher learning, and the School of Library & Information Science (SLIS), a program accredited by the American Library Association.

The course focuses on historic repositories in Britain, covering the history and scope of specific collections as well as their organization and preservation. Our classrooms are the libraries, archives, and museums of London and Edinburgh. We won't be hearing from boring lecturers; rather, we'll be on-site, hearing directly from British librarians, archivists, and curators who give us a guided behind-the-scenes tour, share their expertise, and show us examples from their collections.

The course is taught by Dr. Teresa S. Welsh (teresa.welsh@usm.edu), Associate Professor of Library & Information Science. Learn more about the course at <http://www.usm.edu/library-information-science/british-studies>

The Southern Miss School of Library and Information Science offers an online MLIS degree, a Graduate Certificate in Archives & Special Collections, and a Graduate Certificate in Youth Services & Literature (<http://www.usm.edu/library-information-science/graduate-programs>).

Mississippi Library Commission Announces 2013 Mississippi Library Leadership Graduating Class

The Mississippi Library Commission is pleased to announce the graduation of the 2013 class of the Mississippi Library Leadership Institute. Twenty-six rising stars in the library profession participated in a year-long program designed to grow the next generation of library leaders in the state of Mississippi.

The Mississippi Library Leadership Institute is a transformational experience requiring participants to attend four three-day training sessions, study leadership theory between sessions, and undertake a community project. The Institute emphasizes experiences that build strong relationships with community partners and involve a very high level of intensity and risk-taking.

"This program not only met my expectations of gaining tools to advance my professional development but it also allowed me to create a diverse network of people who will ardently be there to help me succeed in the future." –Lacy Ellinwood, Mississippi Library Commission

The goals of the Mississippi Library Leadership Institute are to improve participants' abilities to:

- Make judgments and decisions by effectively analyzing evidence, arguments, claims, beliefs and alternate points of view; make connections between information and arguments; interpret information on the best analysis; reflect critically on learning experiences and processes.
- Communicate clearly by articulating thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written and nonverbal communication skills; listen effectively to decipher meaning; use communication for a range of purposes; utilize multiple media and technologies and know how to judge their effectiveness in communication.
- Guide and lead others through the use of interpersonal and problem solving skills to influence and guide others toward goals; leverage strength of others to accomplish common goals; inspire others to reach their very best via example & selflessness; demonstrate integrity and ethical behavior in using influence and power.

Participants in the 2013 Mississippi Library Leadership Institute represented twenty-one different institutions from across the state including K-12 schools, public libraries, community colleges, private colleges, four-year universities, archives, and state agencies. Participants were selected in a competitive application process that required written statements on the future of librarianship, the applicant's vision of service, and how participation in the Institute would benefit the individual and his or her community.

Project Director Jennifer Wann Walker said, "Participation in the Institute is an intensive professional experience that requires a significant commitment of time and energy; however, it is also extremely rewarding and fun for participants who emerge from the program poised to position their libraries and communities for success in an increasingly complex, information-centric world."

The Mississippi Library Leadership Institute is made possible in part by a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant

from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Mississippi Library Commission.

The full 2013 Mississippi Library Leadership Institute class is below:

- **Blair Booker**, Holmes Community College, Ridgeland, Miss.
- **Jennifer Brannock**, The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Miss.
- **Brandon Cain**, Mid-Mississippi Regional Library System, Kosciusko, Miss.
- **Phillip Carter**, Bolivar County Library System, Cleveland, Miss.
- **Sarah Crisler-Ruskey**, Carnegie Public Library of Clarksdale & Coahoma County, Clarksdale, Miss.
- **Sarah Dauterive**, East Mississippi Community College, Scooba, Miss.
- **Melissa Dennis**, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Miss.
- **Lacy Ellinwood**, Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson, Miss.
- **Judy Greenwood**, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Miss.
- **Jessica Herr**, The Library of Hattiesburg, Petal, & Forrest County, Hattiesburg, Miss.
- **Sylvia Leggette**, Cardozo Middle School, Jackson, Miss.
- **Molly McManus**, Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss.
- **Ally Mellon**, Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson, Miss.
- **Maggie Moran**, Northwest Mississippi Community College, Senatobia, Miss.
- **Jennifer Nabzdyk**, Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson, Miss.
- **Carol Phares**, Pearl River County Library System, Picayune, Miss.
- **Victoria Penny**, First Regional Library System, Hernando, Miss.
- **Chameka Robinson**, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Miss.
- **Randy Smith**, Jackson-George Regional Library System, Gautier, Miss.
- **Jennifer Stephenson**, Greenwood-Leflore Library System, Greenwood, Miss.
- **Erin Busbea Stringer**, Columbus-Lowndes Library System, Columbus, Miss.
- **Mara Villa**, Central Mississippi Regional Library System, Brandon, Miss.
- **Ally Watkins**, Central Mississippi Regional Library System, Pearl, Miss.
- **Heather Weeden**, Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission, Clinton, Miss.
- **Jeanette Whisenton**, Jackson Public Schools, Jackson, Miss.
- **Ryda Worthy**, South Mississippi Regional Library System, Columbia, Miss.

Phil Hardin Foundation Gift Funds Library at MSU-Meridian

Mississippi State University officials dedicated the new Phil Hardin Foundation Library at the Meridian College Park Campus.

A \$1.25 million gift by the Meridian-based foundation made possible the new 1,860 square-foot university library that opened last month.

The new facility was created through the renovation of three existing spaces formerly used for classrooms. Though MSU-Meridian has employed a faculty librarian for more than a decade, it represents the first physical library on the College Park Campus.

In remarks during the ceremony, MSU President Mark E. Keenum called the facility a significant educational asset, adding that libraries are the “heart” of all institutions of higher learning.

“We are extremely proud of this new library and profoundly grateful to the Phil Hardin Foundation for the gift that made it possible,” Keenum said.

Keenum also observed that the building’s array of print and electronic resources and instructional technologies are located in a picturesque setting that includes a scenic lake view.

In addition to housing 8,000 print volumes and journals, the library’s resources include 16 public computer workstations, 15 laptop computers, a conference room, microfilm reader print station, and instructional laboratory and teacher station with capacity for 30 students.

Keenum praised and thanked Meridian Community College, which has made its L. O. Todd Library available to MSU students for many years.

“Now, we are delighted to be able to welcome MCC students, and those from Meridian and Lauderdale County schools, to freely use this facility,” Keenum said. The university looks forward to a long and cooperative relationship between the Hardin Foundation and Todd libraries for the mutual benefit of both, he added.

Robert F. Ward, president of the Phil Hardin Foundation Board of Directors, said the gift represents the latest example of the organization’s mission “to improve the education of Mississippians.”

“This wonderful facility will provide a significant environment for reflection and study for students at MSU-Meridian, Meridian Community College and the broader community,” Ward said. “This project is an excellent fit with the mission of our foundation.”

Frances Coleman, dean of MSU Libraries, echoed Keenum and Ward’s remarks.

“We are extremely grateful to the Phil Hardin Foundation for their generous support of our efforts to enhance library services at the MSU-Meridian campus,” Coleman said. “We long have appreciated our cooperative relationship with Meridian Community College and know this facility will expand cooperation.”

Coleman also reminded those in attendance that the Hardin Foundation Library offers access to the same services and resources available on the Starkville campus.

For more information about MSU, see www.msstate.edu; for MSU-Meridian, www.meridian.msstate.edu.



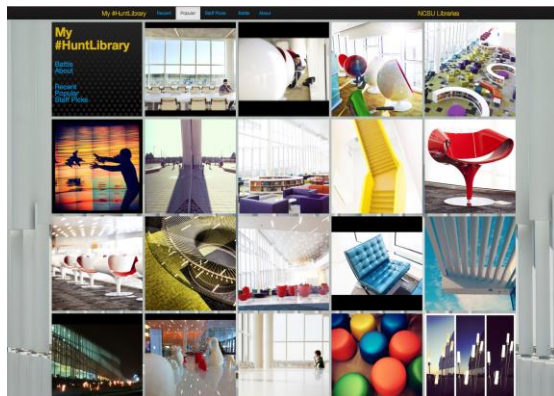
MSU PHOTO ID: Taking part in the dedication and ribbon cutting of the Phil Hardin Foundation Library at the Mississippi State University–Meridian College Park campus on Tuesday were, left to right: Melanie Thomas, MSU-Meridian Library Services Coordinator; MSU Provost Jerry Gilbert; Hardin Foundation executive director Rebecca Combs-Dulaney; Hardin Foundation director Robert B. Deen Jr.; MSU Dean of Libraries Frances N. Coleman; Hardin Foundation Board of Directors President Robert F. Ward; MSU President Mark E. Keenum; Hardin Foundation director Stephen O. Moore; and Steven F. Brown, Dean of MSU-Meridian. Photo by Sid Salter

NORTH CAROLINA

NCSU Libraries Shares Open-Source Solution for Crowdsourcing Photography Collections

The North Carolina State University Libraries is making available a free, open-source solution that allows libraries and other organizations to quickly build, moderate, administer, and display collections of photographs posted to Instagram. A great way to capitalize on the enthusiasm of library supporters, to build special collections based around a topic or event, or to invite participation in evaluating a library program, *lentil* provides an easy-to-deploy software package to capture and put to use the power of today’s smartphone cameras and social media tools.

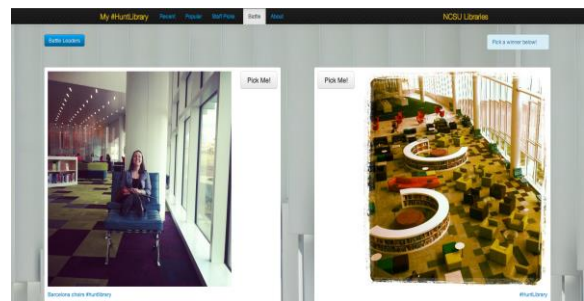
When the James B. Hunt Jr. Library opened in January 2013, the NCSU Libraries wanted a way for NC State students, researchers, and community members to share their reactions to the new building, a “library of the future” designed around collaborative spaces and visually inspiring work areas. In a building created to spur collaboration, it was natural to let library users themselves tell the story of the new center of learning and research on campus.



My #HuntLibrary allowed visitors to show their pride in the Hunt Library by photographing their favorite spaces and activities in the building and then vote as a community on their

favorites through “likes” and a “battle” feature. In a great testament to the new library, over 2,500 photographs were submitted to the site. Some were beautiful; some were playful—and every one was obviously fueled by an awe and joy about a space that has moved the community and helped set great expectations about education and research. Created with responsive web design principles, the software allowed users to view the collection on screens ranging from four inches to the huge large-scale visualization walls that dominate the Hunt Library.

In addition to providing a great way to engage users in exploring the new space, *My #HuntLibrary* allowed the NCSU Libraries to crowdsource the documentation of the Hunt Library opening and dedication. The collection of images will be preserved in the University Archives held by the NCSU Libraries Special Collection Research Center, giving students and others the honor of adding their work to the official history of NC State.



The core of the code for the *My #HuntLibrary* project is now available in the *lentil* package, giving users a simple, inexpensive way to create similar projects. The *lentil* Rails Engine framework can:

- harvest image files and metadata from Instagram
- allow an administrator to moderate and add items into the collection
- create an interactive, responsive browsing platform with multiple browsing alternatives
- allow users to select their favorite images by “liking” photos or voting them higher in the image stream by comparing them in a “battle” vote tool
- submit agreements to contributors to get their permission to reuse images for additional promotional or research purposes

Lentil-based applications can be quickly customized and deployed to any Rails-capable web server, including Heroku.

You can obtain the free *lentil* software at <https://github.com/NCSU-Libraries/lentil>. For more information, please contact Jason Casden (jason_casden@ncsu.edu), Lead Librarian, Digital Services Development, at the NCSU Libraries.

NCSU Libraries Captures Video Oral Histories of Computer Simulation Pioneers with National Science Foundation Grant

The NCSU Libraries, in collaboration with the Edward P. Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at North Carolina State University and with support from the National Science Foundation, is pleased to present a new video oral history archive of noted computer simulation pioneers. The video oral histories are the latest addition to the Libraries’

Computer Simulation Archive, established in 2003, and feature leaders in the field of computer simulation such as Nobel Prize winner Harry M. Markowitz, Stanford University Emeritus Professor Donald E. Knuth, Syracuse University Professor Emeritus Robert G. Sargent, NC State Distinguished Alumni Richard E. Nance, and NC State Professor James R. Wilson.

The Computer Simulation Archive and new video oral histories are available for viewing at d.lib.ncsu.edu/computer-simulation and will be featured during a panel session at this year's [Winter Simulation Conference](#) in Washington, D.C., which is held from December 8 -11. The Winter Simulation Conference is the premier international forum for simulation practitioners and researchers in the field of dynamic systems modeling and simulation.

The Computer Simulation Archive is supported by an endowment to facilitate the addition of more collections, expedite processing of materials in the archive, and enable the digitization of selected materials documenting the history of computer simulation. With the assistance of simulation scholars, the NCSU Friends of the Library, and individual donors, the Archive continues to develop, providing researchers with valuable insights into the history of the field. Supporters of the Archive include the Edward P. Fitts Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE), the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), and the Informs Simulation Society.

The purpose of this NSF grant initiative is to capture and preserve accounts of seminal projects, related pivotal events, and distinguished project contributors from the perspectives of individuals who witnessed the history of computer simulation firsthand. These video oral histories build on the archival collections and audio oral histories already included in the Archive.

Computer simulation was established as a separate discipline of research and practice during the mid-1950s, with many seminal works in the field published from the mid-1950s to the early 1970s. Reflecting the diverse backgrounds of the field's pioneers, simulation encompasses theory, methodology, and practice arising at the interface of applied probability, computer science, electrical and computer engineering, industrial and systems engineering, management, manufacturing engineering, operations research, and statistics.

The Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) at the NCSU Libraries continues to seek the oral histories of computer simulation pioneers in addition to the papers and records of prominent scholars in the history of computing and simulation as well as computer science.

The video oral histories and more information about the project can be accessed at the Computer Simulation Archive homepage at d.lib.ncsu.edu/computer-simulation.

Author and Program Lineup for the 2014 NC Literary Festival

Four Pulitzers, a half dozen National Book and National Book Critics Circle awards, the creator of the *Goosebumps* series, great programs to help young people explore storytelling, and the latest developments in "The Future of Reading"—the 2014 North Carolina Literary Festival is proud to announce the author and program lineup for the April 3-6 gathering at NC State University and at venues throughout Raleigh.

Over 100 writers and events at the Festival will include:

- **Junot Díaz**, recipient of a MacArthur "Genius" Fellowship and author of *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, winner of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award
- Writer, musician, and screenwriter **James McBride**, author of the landmark memoir *The Color of Water* and 2013 winner of the National Book Award for *The Good Lord Bird*
- **Richard Ford**, Pulitzer Prize winner and author of *The Sportswriter* and its sequels, *Independence Day* and *The Lay of the Land*
- **Lee Smith**, North Carolina's own winner of the O. Henry Award and the Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters
- **R. L. Stine**, the "Stephen King" of children's fiction
- **A host of activities for children** provided by NC State's College of Education
- **Bookmaking and comics workshops** that will have you learning to bind your own book or creating your own biopic comic in less than an hour

A full listing can be found on the [NC Literary Festival website](#).

DISCOVER the FUTURE of READING

THE NORTH CAROLINA LITERARY FESTIVAL 2014

APRIL 3 - 6 THE JAMES B. HUNT JR. LIBRARY
NC STATE UNIVERSITY RALEIGH, NC

HOSTED BY: NCSU LIBRARIES

PRESENTED BY: NCSU LIBRARIES, DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, UNC-CHAPEL HILL LIBRARIES, NCCU LIBRARIES

PROGRAMMING FEATURING:

- Children's Activities area presented by NC State College of Education
- NC Literary Hall of Fame
- Video Game Demos
- Tribute to NC Literary Legends
- Screenings of *Girl Rising* documentary film
- Piedmont Laureate Panel
- The Morning After with Daniel Wallace and Scott McClanahan
- Paperhand Puppet Intervention

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.ncitfest.org

AUTHORS INCLUDING:

JUNOT DÍAZ
JAMES MCBRIDE
RICHARD FORD
MARIE ARANA
R.L. STINE
BEN FOUNTAIN
WILLIAM T. VOLLMANN
KAREN JOY FOWLER
PAUL MULDOON
LEE SMITH
KELLY ALEXANDER
JOHN BALABAN
WILTON BARNHARDT
JOHN CLAUDE BEMIS
DEBORAH BLUM
KRISTA BREMER
TOM BROTHERS
JAN BURKE
DIANE CHAMBERLAIN
KIM CHURCH
JIMMY CREECH
H. MARCELLE CRICKENBERGER
JACQUELINE DAVIES
BELINDA ELLIS
BILL FERRIS
IAN FINLEY
THERESE ANNE FOWLER
JAMI SHELTON GREEN

LA TOYA HANKINS
ELIZABETH HUDSON
MARJORIE HUDSON
SCOTT HULER
JEFF JACKSON
JOHN KESSEL
DORIANNE LAUX
THOMAS LEIK
ZELDA LOCKHART
KELLY STARLINGS LYON
FRANCES MAYES
SCOTT McCLANAHAN
JILL McCORKLE
JULIANA NFAH-ABBENYI
ELAINE NEIL ORR
MICHAEL PARKER
DREW PERRY
KATHLEEN PURVIS
SAGE ROUNTREE
JOHN SHERER
ELIZABETH SPENCER
PETER STRAUB
CHRIS TONELLI
LIONEL VATTINET
DANIEL WALLACE
CAT WARREN
ANDREA WEIGL
WALT WOLFRAM
DAVEY WREDDEN
AND MORE TO BE ANNOUNCED!

*Needs subject to change

Our laureate sponsors: **PNC** **STATE LIBRARY NORTH CAROLINA** **Our State NORTH CAROLINA**

As it has since 1998, the NC Literary Festival will provide the area's premier event at which audiences can hear, see, and interact with their favorite writers and artists. In addition to programs on fiction, non-fiction, young adult literature, poetry, and drama, the Festival will allow readers to experience and learn more about how transformative art forms such as graphic novels, comic books, and video games are shaping our literary experiences—and how new technologies such as e-readers and

online publishing are changing how we encounter new ways to enjoy storytelling.

The majority of the NC Literary Festival will be held in NC State's new [James B. Hunt Jr. Library](#). As the "face of NC State in the 21st century," this new space has generated international attention for its iconic architecture, its transformative technologies, and its simulation and large-scale visualization spaces that encourage and enable new forms of storytelling. The Hunt Library will serve as the festival's thematic centerpiece, inspiring conversations about the future of reading and reading-based technologies.

Food trucks, easy parking, [tents with activities for children and their parents](#), and a wide choice of favorite writers will provide a stimulating and fun gathering for all of us who value the future of reading.

The NC Literary Festival is hosted on a rotating basis by the academic libraries at NC State University, Duke University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The event is free and open to the public.

[Laureate sponsors](#) for the 2014 festival include PNC, *Our State* magazine, the Poe Endowment for Southern Americana, the Friends of the Library of North Carolina State University, and the State Library of North Carolina, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources that has administered grant funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act. The following link is a YouTube video for the event: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMRsDWeslTA&feature=youtu.be>

UNC and State Library of North Carolina to Bring Treasures to National Digital Library

Treasures from libraries and archives across North Carolina will soon be at the fingertips of researchers worldwide.

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center (NCDHC) in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Wilson Library will be the state hub and conduit to the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) -- an organization that provides a single point of access for millions of books, photographs, documents, sound recordings and moving images from some of the leading libraries and archives across the country. Through a partnership announced Thursday, the center will compile and provide information about North Carolina's digital collections to the DPLA.

The NCDHC is supported by the State Library of North Carolina with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library and Services and Technology Act, and by the UNC-Chapel Hill University Library.

The Digital Public Library of America (<http://dp.la>) debuted in April.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for North Carolina to demonstrate the wealth of culturally important materials in our state's libraries and to give them the broadest possible reach," said Nick Graham, project coordinator for the NCDHC.

The Center offers digitization and digital publishing services to North Carolina's libraries, archives, museums and historical societies. Since its founding in 2010, it has digitized more than two million pages from the collections of the UNC Libraries

and the Center's partners. The collections are online at <http://digitalnc.org>.

Some of the most frequently viewed items include digitized yearbooks from North Carolina colleges, universities and high schools; student and community newspapers from schools and towns around the state; and growing collections of postcards, photographs, scrapbooks and clippings.

"Rich, unique treasures are found in special collections across North Carolina," said Cal Shepard, State Librarian. "We are excited the Digital Heritage Center is facilitating their inclusion in DPLA to provide broader access to them for researchers everywhere."

Although the NCDHC specializes in digitizing and publishing items from North Carolina's history, the scope of the DPLA partnership will be much broader. The only requirement is that materials be held by a library, archive or other cultural heritage institution in North Carolina.

The State Library of North Carolina and State Archives of North Carolina will be among the institutions that will submit items to the DPLA via the new arrangement. Others include the UNC campuses at Chapel Hill, Charlotte, East Carolina, Greensboro, North Carolina A&T, Pembroke and Western Carolina, as well as independent institutions including Duke, Elon and Wake Forest universities.

The NCDHC has already sent the first load of records to DPLA and will add new records every month.

UNC Library contact: Nick Graham, (919) 962-4836, ngraham@email.unc.edu

State Library of North Carolina contact: Michelle Underhill, (919) 807-7459, michelle.underhill@ncdcr.gov

North Carolina Library Association: 2014-2015

The North Carolina Library Association held its first meeting of the 2014-2015 biennium in Raleigh on January 30-31, 2014. The meeting was an orientation for new Board members and a planning retreat to kick off the work of the year. The new Executive Board, consisting of the Association's sections, roundtables and appointed committees offered introductory comments, gave a forecast of the first quarter anticipated activities, approved the operating budget, and then set about the task of identifying goals for the new biennium. Dr. Anthony Chow (UNC Greensboro School of Library and Information Science) facilitated the conversation on behalf of President Dale Cousins.

The purpose of the Association's activity for the biennium should be:

- To Support, Inform, and Connect members of the Association; (NOTE: this was a nice parallel to the new logo and revised webpage organization as presented by the Marketing Committee)
- To Foster a culture of collaboration
- To Support literacy (reading, cultural, technological, and informational)

The activities identified to support this purpose include:

- Address library related issues of concern to the members
- Reflect diversity in all of its definitions

- Encourage innovation
- Promote respect among all members
- Support professional growth
- Create leadership initiatives
- Advocate for libraries to citizens and government

From this outline, responsibilities will be developed and assigned/assumed. In addition, Dr. Chow led the Board through an exercise to evaluate the effectiveness and functionality of the Board itself. From this focus group activity, the President has appointed a committee to research and submit proposals for improvement of Board operations for discussion at the April quarterly meeting.

PEOPLE NEWS

FLORIDA

The University of Central Florida (UCF) Libraries is pleased to announce the arrival of **Dr. Yolanda Hood**, who joined the Libraries faculty as Head of the Curriculum Materials Center (CMC) in August 2013.



Dr. Hood received her MLS degree from North Carolina Central University, Durham. She earned a Ph.D. in English at the University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. Her pre-library experience includes teaching English and Special Ed to 7th, 9th, and 10th graders in the North Carolina public school system, and African American Literature at University of North Carolina – Asheville. She also served as guest curator for the New England Quilt Museum, Lowell, MA, and for the Vermont Quilt Festival in Northfield, as well as a folklorist in Missouri. Her professional library career began as a Reference Librarian at Valdosta State University and, most recently, as Youth Librarian at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls.

Dr. Hoodis published in several refereed journals and has made many presentations regionally and nationally, written several successful grants, and was named one of the American Library Association (ALA) 2009 Emerging Leaders. She is also a member of the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of ALA, and ALAN (Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of the National Council of Teachers of English).

Dr. Hood is the first permanent department head for the CMC since 2009 when Dr. Penny Beile left the CMC to work in the John C. Hitt Library. Dr. Jason Martin and Rachel Mulvihill served as interim department heads until Hood's arrival in August.

GEORGIA

Jessica Lee has joined the faculty of Valdosta State University Odum Library, Valdosta, GA as an Assistant Professor of Library Science and Electronic Resources/Serials Librarian. Ms. Lee received her Master of Science in Library and Information Studies from Florida State University in 2011.

MISSISSIPPI

Jackson-George Regional Library System

The Jackson-George Regional Library System Board of Trustees has named Lori Ward Smith as Director beginning November 1st. She was promoted from the Pascagoula Public Library where she served as branch manager for the past three years. She will take the position that was held by Carol Hewlett who recently retired with 15 years of service with the system.

"I am incredibly happy to be selected as library system director," said Ms. Smith. "I feel fortunate to be able to work with such a capable group of people who are totally committed to public service. I look forward to working with all the libraries and communities we serve."

While living in Pascagoula as a child, Ms. Smith received her first library card at the Pascagoula Public Library. She previously served as director of the Pickens County Cooperative Library System in Carrollton, Alabama. She is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and was awarded her Master of Library Service degree at the University of Alabama.

For more information about the Jackson-George Regional Library System, visit online at www.jgrls.org.



Sheeji Kathuria has been named the Assistant Professor (Social Science Reference Librarian) at Mississippi State University's Mitchell Memorial Library.

Ms. Kathuria earned a master's degree in library and information science at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Georgia.

She was a reference and instruction librarian at the University of Alabama in Huntsville's M. Louis Salmon Library and previously served as a reference librarian at Georgia Perimeter College in Alpharetta, Ga.