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Library News

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LIBRARY NEWS:

Georgia

University of West Georgia News

Ingram Library and Houser Walker Architecture Receive AIA Georgia Award

AIA Georgia, an association of The American Institute of Architects, awarded a 2013 Georgia AIA Citation Design Award to Houser Walker Architecture of Atlanta and the Ingram Library and Tom Murphy Archives at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton. The award of architectural distinction was presented “in recognition of commitment to the design profession and the pursuit of architectural excellence.” Steven Raike, AIA, served as the Design Awards Jury Chair. Submissions were evaluated on creativity, design excellence, and for innovation beyond the current trends of form and image making. Hank Houser of Houser Walker Architecture served as principal architect on the project. The design and construction team included TVS Design, the Jaeger Company, Sykes Consulting, Minick Engineering, Parrish Construction, and Avient Museum Services, which designed interpretive exhibits highlighting Georgia House Speaker Tom Murphy’s life and political career. Lorene Flanders, Dean of Libraries, and Michael Conley of the university’s AEC Project Services joined Hank Houser and other members of the firm at the awards ceremony, held in Columbus in October.

Commemoration of Georgia House Speaker Tom Murphy’s 90th Birthday

The University of West Georgia’s Irvine Sullivan Ingram Library, and its friends organization, the Penelope Melson Society, commemorated the 90th birthday of the late Thomas Bailey Murphy, former Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, who was born in Bremen, Georgia March 10, 1924. Following Murphy’s death in 2007, the Georgia General Assembly honored him by appropriating \$8 million to renovate Ingram Library and replicate his iconic State Capitol office within the facility. The Murphy Office was dedicated April 19, 2012 in a ceremony attended by every living speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, and former governors Roy Barnes and Sonny Perdue. The Sunday afternoon event drew some 130 members of the Murphy family, Capitol staffers, state representatives, and members of the university community. Speaker Murphy’s Chief Aide, Steve Anthony, Class of 1973 spoke, and Representative Calvin Smyre of Columbus gave a powerful statement concerning Speaker Murphy’s mentorship of him as a newly-elected legislator. Elected in 1974 as the youngest member of the Georgia House, and appointed floor leader by Governor Harris for the 1987 session, Smyre was the first African American leader in the House since Reconstruction. He has served as president of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators since 2006. Smyre attributed his success during his forty year legislative career to Speaker Murphy’s

willingness to place him in positions of learning and leadership.

Ingram Library’s Annie Belle Weaver Special Collections hosted “White Gloves” tours during the afternoon. The event showcased a selection of books, photographs, and archival materials representing the breadth and depth of the collections. Highlights included a 1579 early English printed bible, an 1887 prospectus promoting the mineral and timber riches of Tallapoosa, Georgia, a 1999 memorandum written by then U.S. Congress member Bob Barr pertaining to the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton, and 1917 photograph of the Fourth District A & M football team. The event was organized by the Head of Special Collections, Blynne Olivieri, with assistance from UWG graduate student Brian Crews. Participants in the white gloves event interacted with graduate students who answered questions about the items and tours into the storage areas were given.

On Monday, March 10, ninety visitors enjoyed cupcakes in the Ingram Library lobby in honor of the Speaker’s 90th birthday, beginning an annual tradition to reach students and involve them in exploring why the Murphy Office is replicated on campus, and how Murphy’s leadership changed Georgia and the nation.



Steve Anthony, former Chief of Staff to the late Georgia House Speaker Tom Murphy, Judge Michael Murphy, and Representative Calvin Smyre pose with a portrait of Speaker Murphy by Carrollton, Georgia artist Steve Penley commissioned by Judge Murphy’s daughter Lauren Murphy Ray. The University of West Georgia replicated Speaker Murphy’s State Capitol office in Ingram Library with funding from the Georgia General Assembly honoring Murphy’s decades of service to the state. The portrait was displayed at an event commemorating the late Speaker’s 90th birthday. *Photo courtesy UWG Communications & Marketing*

Mississippi

University of Southern Mississippi Libraries Completes NHPRC Grant Project to Preserve Records Documenting History of South Mississippi’s Timber Industry

A National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) Detailed Processing Project Grant of \$113,198 to the University of Southern Mississippi in 2011-2013 funded archival processing activities for materials highlighting the timber industry of South Mississippi. Three large collections are now available for researchers: “Tung Oil Research and Development,” “Thigpen (S. G., Sr.) Papers” and “Tatum Family Business Records” (totaling approximately 515 cubic feet of materials).

The **Tatum Family Business Records** include the holdings of the Tatum family, prominent land holders, business and community leaders of the Forrest County, Mississippi area. Beginning in 1893 with the first sawmill, the Tatum Lumber Company came to employ hundreds of local residents and spanned approximately 63,000 acres of timber land and railways. W. S. F. Tatum, the patriarch of the family, led Hattiesburg as mayor from 1922-1924 and 1928-1936. During his terms as mayor roads were paved; extensive additions were made to the municipal water and sewer system; a public library, a municipal airport and the Saenger Theater were built; and the movement was started to bring natural gas to Hattiesburg. During the 1960s, land in Lamar County owned by the family and known as the Tatum Salt Dome was used by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission to conduct underground nuclear detonations known as “Project Dribble.” The scope of the Tatum Family Business Records includes a view of Forrest and Lamar County, Mississippi, areas as the land turned from a timber industry waypoint into a vital, industrial city. The collection is comprised of approximately 443 cu. feet of materials from 1881-1991. A complete 494-page finding aid (and related catalog record) is online at http://www.lib.usm.edu/spcol/collections/manuscripts/finding_aids/m316.html and 196 selected digital images can be viewed at <http://digilib.usm.edu/cdm/search/collection/tatum>.

S. G. Thigpen, Sr., of Picayune, Mississippi, was an area entrepreneur, historian, and writer who operated from his hardware store from 1919 until his death in 1981. The collection contains financial records, personal papers, essays, photographs, scrapbooks, sound recordings and newspaper articles of Thigpen’s life and the Pearl River County, Mississippi, area. The collection is comprised of approximately 38 cubic feet of materials from 1899-1996. A complete 75-page finding aid (and related catalog record) is online at http://www.lib.usm.edu/spcol/collections/manuscripts/finding_aids/m446.html and 255 selected digital images can be viewed at <http://digilib.usm.edu/cdm/search/collection/thigpen>.

Tung Oil Research and Development was an effort of many organizations utilizing Mississippi and Argentinian tung oil crops in a variety of methods, most notably in paints and varnishes, from the 1930s to the 1970s. The collection contains a variety of materials from laboratory notes, business records, photographs, and various correspondences from around southern Mississippi. The collection is comprised of approximately 34 cubic feet of

materials from 1930-1974. A complete 137-page finding aid (and related catalog record) is online at http://www.lib.usm.edu/spcol/collections/manuscripts/finding_aids/m447.html and 23 selected digital images can be viewed at <http://digilib.usm.edu/cdm/search/searchterm/tung%20oil/order/nosort>.

For more information, visit the McCain Library & Archives at The University of Southern Mississippi (<http://lib.usm.edu/spcol.html>) or contact Steve Haller, curator of historical manuscripts and archives, at 601.266.4345 or Stephen.Haller@usm.edu.



Men in pine forest, 1923



Joe Mills and Sons Timber, 1951



Lumber shipment, 1923

Mississippi State University Libraries' "Echoes" Honored with MHS Hilliard Oral History Award

On March 8, the MSU Libraries was honored with the Elbert T. Hilliard Oral History Award at the Mississippi Historical Society's annual Awards Brunch in Jackson for the "Echoes of Lloyd-Ricks-Watson" oral history project.

The "Echoes of Lloyd-Ricks-Watson" oral history project contains interviews with former occupants or those with relationships to the Lloyd-Ricks-Watson building and records stories concerning their experiences and the personalities that occupied the building from its original opening in 1929 through its current remodeling and renaming in October 23, 2010.

Ryan Semmes, Interim/Internal Coordinator of the Congressional and Political Research Center, said, "We are very pleased that MHS has honored us with the Hilliard award. This project is unique among oral history projects in that it does not solely seek to document the history of individuals, but also the building itself and its changes. We worked with the faculty, staff, and students, folks who lived in and interacted with the building and each other."

The award honors Elbert R. Hilliard, who served as director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History for thirty-one years, and is awarded to the most outstanding oral history project exemplifying a distinguished collection, high-quality preservation, and proper use of oral history. Frances Coleman, Dean of Libraries, accepted the award during the presentation in Jackson, MS and noted that she was "honored to accept this award on behalf of the Mississippi State University Libraries. These oral histories not only encompass the history of the building and the experiences of the individuals involved, it enhances the history of the University and the state while at the same time providing additional research opportunities for students and researchers." She added "The project was successful due to the excellent work and expertise of many Library faculty and staff."

The "Echoes of Lloyd-Ricks-Watson" project can be viewed and explored online at <http://library.msstate.edu/echoes>.

For more information on Mississippi State University Libraries, please visit <http://library.msstate.edu>.

For information on the Mississippi Historical Society and its awards, please visit <http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/government/mississippi-historical-society/>.

North Carolina

The James B. Hunt Jr. Library Awarded Stanford Prize for Innovation in Research Libraries

Cited for "the creative and bold vision that went into designing an innovative model for a research library as a high-technology research platform," the James B. Hunt Jr. Library at North Carolina State University has been awarded the prestigious 2014 Stanford Prize for Innovation in Research Libraries (SPIRL).

Judged by an international panel of library and academic leaders, SPIRL was established by the Stanford Libraries in 2013 "to single out for community attention and to celebrate functionally significant results of the innovative impulses in research libraries worldwide."

"Our vision was to give NC State a signature library that would help us recruit the very best students and the very best faculty and to serve the community as an inspiring place of excellence and passion and ideas and vision," says Susan K. Nutter, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries at NC State. "We could not be more honored that our vision and hard work have been awarded the Stanford Prize."

NCSU Libraries Now Lending Google Glass for Research Projects

The North Carolina State University Libraries has acquired one of the limited number of available Google Glass and has begun a pilot program to make the wearable computer available to researchers on campus as part of our Technology Lending Service.

The NCSU Libraries always aims to provide the university community with access to the latest technologies that can enable the transformational learning and research at the core of our mission.

Currently the Libraries lends over 200,000 technology items a year, including everything from DSLR cameras and e-readers to digital media equipment, design and modeling tools, and electronic prototyping platforms such as the Arduino and MaKey MaKey inventor kits. Adding the Google Glass helps to ensure that our researchers have access to a key tool that is promising to dramatically change how humans interact with computing resources.



Computer Science graduate student Arpan Chakraborty checks out the Libraries' first Google Glass, for accessibility and augmented reality work in the department's Knowledge Discovery Lab.

Initially, our Google Glass pilot program will be available to selected faculty and graduate students with an urgent research need for the technology. In mid-March the Libraries began accepting requests from other researchers working with augmented reality, innovative computer interfaces, and other key uses of the new tool.

South Carolina

Greenville County Library System News

Sensory Story Time - In the Fall of 2013, the Greenville County Library System broadened its reach with a new monthly story time designed for children with special needs and their families. With the expert advice of various organizations including Greenville Health System's Children's Hospital, the Youth Services department created this modified story time that offers fun and educational activity for children while giving parents time to bond and network.

PERSONNEL NEWS:

Alabama

Mervyn Sterne Library's Stephens to Retire After 40 Years at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (by Jim Bakken)

Jerry W. Stephens, Ph.D., librarian and director of the Mervyn Sterne Library since 1985, has announced his retirement after a 40-year career at UAB, effective May 31.

"Dr. Stephens has been an exemplary leader for our library over a period of time that has seen university libraries undergo significant changes," said Provost Linda Lucas. "I thank him sincerely for his service to our university."

Stephens is only the second librarian UAB has had for its main academic library. He joined the library in 1974 as an accountant when it was a part of the former University College. While holding the title of librarian and director, Stephens also served as assistant vice president for academic affairs and fiscal officer for University College.



"A lot has changed in 40 years, and it has been a great experience to have contributed to the development of UAB," Stephens said. "As an alumnus, I am proud to say that UAB afforded me the opportunity to gain knowledge that changed my world. It has been an honor and a privilege to have worked with every president and with an extraordinary group of faculty and staff from across UAB. It is easy for an organization to be successful when so many talented and dedicated faculty and staff are focused on helping students and faculty succeed in academic careers. During my tenure at Sterne, I have been blessed with a great team, and it has been an honor to have worked with them."

Stephens received his bachelor's degree in accounting and his Master of Business Administration degree from UAB, and has been an Accounting faculty member in the Collat School of Business. He received his Ph.D. in administration in higher education, as well as his Master of Library Science degree, from the University of Alabama.

A national search for the dean of libraries is underway.

The library was named for Birmingham stockbroker and philanthropist Mervyn H. Sterne. He and his wife, Dorah, were significant benefactors of UAB.

Florida

Kelly Robinson Receives the Shirley Olofson Memorial Award

The American Library Association's (ALA) New Members Round Table (NMRT) and the Shirley Olofson Memorial Award Committee announced that **Kelly Robinson**, Reference Librarian at the Universal Orlando Foundation (UOF) Library at the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management, will receive \$1,000 to attend the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV this summer.