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From the President

Elizabeth Leslie Bagley
Agnes Scott College, ebagley@agnesscott.edu

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From the PRESIDENT

Fueled by a Sublime donut (the semi-official pastry of the GLA Executive Board – you too may partake if you volunteer for an office!), I sit down to write my third column. My campus is in its summer tempo; graduates have left for bright futures around the globe. Four Agnes Scott College students were selected this year to receive U.S. Fulbright Fellowships and will be teaching abroad. Somewhat out of the ordinary for a women's college – two new alumnae are joining the Air Force. All were library users, so we take a little extra joy in their paths.

The COMO Steering Committee has been busy. We're about 100 days from the 2012 conference in Macon. The conference has a new branding logo. Thanks to Tessa Minchew's hard work and creativity, the website is up and populated: <http://www.georgiacomo.org>. Two trolleys have been booked for a looping route between the conference hotel and downtown restaurants on both nights of COMO. Poster and program proposals are in. A GALILEO pre-conference is in

the works. Speakers are contemplating pithy remarks. Menus are being mapped out, and wine will return as an option at the Authors' Reception.

The Awards Committee hopes to bestow the inaugural GLA Team Award. It's gratifying to see a new award created that honors multiple individuals for excelling in the past year by offering innovative programming or services, performing or acting on assessment activities, undertaking a successful outreach or promotion effort, or providing outstanding support to a Georgia library. Any group of two or more people, working in a Georgia library (or enrolled in an MLIS program and affiliated with a Georgia library), of whom all are current GLA members, is eligible. Kudos to the Awards Committee for proposing the new award and getting it approved.

In late April, it was my pleasure to bring greetings from GLA to the volunteer judges at the Georgia Student Media Festival. GLA helps sponsor this annual

event. Many members were present to boost selected creative projects from the around the state onward to national and international competition. This year there were 1,000+ student projects and camaraderie with over 150 judges! If you'd like to volunteer next year, watch this site: <http://www.gsmf.us>. Congratulations to Dr. Gordon Baker and his committee colleagues!

In times of budget cuts and austerity measures, it is heartening to learn of new library spaces taking shape or debuting. At a recent ARCHE Library Council meeting, it was delightful to tour the spectacular [UGA Special Collections Libraries](#) in the Russell Building, and to hear about how many public library additions or renovations are planned for Atlanta-Fulton County.

Well, I should wrap up and get back to mentoring History Senior Seminar students. We have a fun project underway in which "personal librarians" assist rising seniors with research over the summer

before they undertake lengthy papers in the fall. Together, we are learning where the best archives might be for their topics, ordering relevant books

that they turn up in literature reviews, and tracking down useful primary sources. Makes me feel like a student again!

Elizabeth Bagley

President 2012

Georgia Library Association

ebagley@agnesscott.edu