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Thomas B. Murphy Reading Room and State Capitol Office Replication Dedicated

A capacity crowd filled the University of West Georgia Campus Center ballroom April 19, 2012, to honor the late Thomas Bailey Murphy, 1924-2007. When he left office, Murphy had served continuously as speaker of a state house of representatives for longer than any other individual in the nation’s history. His iconic state capitol office was replicated on the ground floor of Ingram Library as part of an $8 million facility renovation funded in his honor.

Some 700 attendees from the campus and from across the state, including every living speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, gathered for the afternoon program. Former governors Sonny Perdue and Roy Barnes joined Georgia House Speaker David Ralston and Representative Calvin Smyre in remembering Speaker Murphy. Hon. Michael L. Murphy, chief judge of the Tallapoosa Circuit of Georgia, spoke on behalf of the Murphy family. Steve Anthony, class of 1973, who served as chief aide to Speaker Murphy from 1981-1995, introduced the platform speakers. Dr. Beheruz Sethna, dean of University Libraries; Lorene Flanders; and Carrollton Mayor, Wayne Garner, welcomed the attendees.

His office in Atlanta was the center of the tempest for many years...he would grin that someone figured out a way to re-create it here in Carrollton, and to utilize his office of “knickknacks,” as it has been lovingly referred to most recently, so that it might become the centerpiece for a Center for Civic Engagement.

Judge Michael Murphy

And now, seeing his office recreated as it is here, I feel he will walk in at any time, chewing a cigar, and slap me on the back and say, “Son, what can I do for you?”

Hon. Roy Barnes

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Ingram Library’s Information Literacy Fellows

Anne Barnhart, head of instructional services at the University of West Georgia, successfully proposed the addition of two library faculty positions designated as Information Literacy Fellows, and the positions were funded by the Provost’s office. Stacey L. Snyder and Andrew J. Walsh accepted the positions for 2012-2013. Ms. Snyder completed the master’s in library and information science at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in 2012. She received the BS in Business Administration from Drake University in Management & Marketing, with a concentration in Women’s Studies. Mr. Walsh completed the master’s in library and information science and a graduate certificate in special collections at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in 2012. He received a BA in Spanish from Grinnell College. In addition to teaching sections of LIBR 1101, Snyder and Walsh will tailor instruction sessions for classes at faculty request, provide reference assistance in person and online with QuestionPoint, and provide research assistance through the GoPRO appointment system.