News - Georgia Tech

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Georgia Tech Library

Recent Leadership Appointments

Two associate deans were recently appointed at the Georgia Institute of Technology Library. Both Bruce Henson and Jeff Carrico served as interim associate deans since 2011 and were officially appointed to these positions. In addition, a new director of business operations, Vanessa Payne, was hired and assumed her position on June 1, 2012.

As associate dean for research and learning services, Henson is responsible for reference and information services, library and Clough Commons service points, faculty engagement, the multi-media center, archives, and the Architecture Library.

Carrico now serves as associate dean for scholarly communication and access where he oversees collection development, information delivery, information technology, collection development, acquisitions, cataloging, scholarly communication and digital curation services.

Payne oversees business/finance, facilities, human resources, security, and, shipping and receiving.

Library Implements QuickSearch BETA

The library recently introduced QuickSearch BETA, a single-search discovery system that provides users with quick and easy access to millions of physical and e-resources.

QuickSearch BETA uses the familiar EBSCOhost platform to perform a combined search of the full Georgia Tech Library catalog holdings (including all formats), open access resources including the SMARTech institutional repository local collections, and a central index of electronic resources, including most of the subscription databases, journal collections, ebooks, and conference proceedings. This allows a user to perform a single search and obtain results from resources that would previously have required searching several different systems on a variety of platforms.

QuickSearch BETA does not replace targeted searching in subject-specific databases, but it is an especially helpful tool for exploring new topics or interdisciplinary research. The library’s goal with this new service is to provide students, faculty and staff with high-quality research results while simultaneously saving them valuable time and effort.

Try QuickSearch BETA today and click the “Feedback” button in the top right-hand corner of the interface or send a message to tellus@library.gatech.edu to provide feedback.

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“Open Notebook Science: Transparency in Research” - Georgia Tech Celebrates Open Access Week 2012

Calls to “Set the Default to Open Access” will be heard around the world during the 6th Annual
Open Access Week, October 22 through 28, 2012. This global event will promote Open Access as a new norm in scholarship and research. Georgia Tech has participated since 2009.

This year, Jean-Claude Bradley, associate professor of chemistry and e-learning coordinator for the College of Arts and Sciences at Drexel University, will join the Georgia Tech campus to explore Open Notebook Science (ONS) on Tuesday, October 23, 2012, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Klaus Advanced Computing Building, Room 1116.

The presentation will outline strategies for collecting, processing, and disseminating chemical information as Open Data. Examples involving melting point and solubility datasets and models will be discussed. Bradley will show how Open Notebook Science can be used to maintain full provenance information between the original lab notebook pages and associated raw data up to the point of use. Specifically, the use of web services will be detailed, allowing for data access and querying through a browser interface or Google Spreadsheets using Google App Scripts. A question and answer period, and an open discussion on the potential of Open Notebook Science will follow the presentation.

Bradley leads the UsefulChem project, an initiative started in the summer of 2005 to make the scientific process as transparent as possible by publishing all research work in real time to a collection of public blogs, wikis, and other web pages. Bradley coined the term Open Notebook Science to distinguish this approach from other more restricted forms of Open Science. In 2008 he created the Open Notebook Science Solubility Challenge to crowdsourcethe measurement of non-aqueous solubility.

Sponsored by Submeta, Sigma-Aldrich, Nature, and the Royal Society of Chemistry, the ONS Challenge has resulted in the publication of a book combining the results of 12 student award winners from the United States and the United Kingdom. Bradley also teaches undergraduate organic chemistry courses with most content freely available on public blogs, wikis, games, Second Life and audio and video podcasts.

The Oct. 23 event is free, and, in the spirit of the program and weeklong celebration, open to all. For more information on Open Notebook Science: http://usefulchem.wikispaces.com/. For information on Open Access Week @ GT: http://library.gatech.edu/openaccess/.

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See Treasures from the Archives at Homecoming Open House

The Georgia Tech community is invited to take a look into the Institute’s history during the Archives’ Homecoming Open House on Friday, October 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Neely Lobby on the first floor of the library.

Visitors will have the chance to view some of the archives’ most prized collections, from John Heisman’s 1908 contract and the inaugural 1911 issue of the Technique to Rat Caps donned by early Georgia Tech freshmen and Yellow Jacket model airplanes flown during football game halftimes in the 1940s.

The rare books on display will echo the passions of Tech students through the years. Anyone who has memorized Newton’s laws of motion in Physics 2211 might be curious to see the first three editions of Newton’s Principia (1687, 1713, 1726). Architecture aficionados can study the engravings of early bridges in Schramm’s Historischer Schauplatz (1735). And world travelers will delight in the hand-colored pages of Blaeu’s Atlas maior (1664).

The archivists will be on hand to relate behind-the-scenes stories about the collections and
share their favorite treasures, including scrapbooks from a 1912 graduate that convey all the personal detail and wonder waiting to be found in primary records.

Visit the Archives’ Digital Portal to get into the Georgia Tech history spirit: https://history.library.gatech.edu.

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For the latest news and events at the Library, visit http://weblog.library.gatech.edu/news/.