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SELA/General News, Library News, and Personnel News

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SELA/GENERAL NEWS:

SELA Member, Wanda Brown, has been elected President of the American Library Association. <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/brown-wins-2019-2020-ala-presidency/> Wanda is Director of the C.G. O'Kelly Library at Winston-Salem State University and serves as the SELA North Carolina state representative.

LIBRARY NEWS

Georgia

Kennesaw State University

On March 22 and 23, Kennesaw State University Graduate Library Team hosted over one hundred participants from universities all over the country for the Transforming Libraries Graduate Students Conference. This two-day national conference included formal presentations from visiting and KSU speakers, informal pop-up sessions, and plenty of time between sessions for networking and casual conversations. The original brainchild of librarian, Elisabeth Shields, the conference materialized with great success after over a year of planning and teamwork from the entire Graduate Library team.



Chapter contributors

Sharing the title of our conference, the book, *Transforming Libraries for Graduate Students* brought together the ideas of fifty contributors and organized into thirty-four chapter submissions. The Graduate Library's Crystal Renfro and Cheryl Stiles worked closely with ACRL for the publication.

North Carolina

NCSU Libraries

NCSU Libraries Wins Library of the Future Award *Workshop Series Recognized by ALA and Information Today*

The NCSU Libraries has received the 2018 American Library Association (ALA) Information Today / [Library of the Future Award](#) in recognition of its innovative “Emerging Digital Information Skills Workshops.”

Part of a larger expansion of offerings at the Libraries, the workshops address an unmet need for instruction around emerging technical skills including data science, visualization, virtual reality, digital media production, fabrication, and the research enterprise. Participants from over 80 campus units have attended the workshops thus far.

“This award is truly about teamwork, reflecting the amazing and innovative workshop programming being done by so many across the NCSU Libraries,” says Jennifer Garrett, the NCSU Libraries Head of Digital Research Education & Training. “By focusing on emerging digital information skills instruction, we have been able to reach thousands of students, faculty, and staff, spanning the colleges and departments of our campus community and confirming our place as NC State's competitive advantage.”

The workshops serve as an entry point for users to connect with library spaces, technologies, and services for ongoing utilization. To extend its reach beyond campus, the Libraries openly licenses a substantial portion of workshop materials and shares them with the wider library community for reuse and adaptation.

“We developed this programming with the goals of bolstering student success, supporting career readiness, and incubating creative pedagogy,” Garrett wrote in her workshop proposal.

Garrett created and submitted the award application with the Libraries’ Data & Visualization Librarian Alison Blaine, Libraries Fellow Hannah Rainey, and Interim Department Head of Research Engagement Mira Waller.

The Libraries will be honored at an awards ceremony during the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans in June.

South Carolina

Greenville Public Library

Laptop Lending Kiosk One of Many Features at Greenville County Library System’s New Five Forks Branch

The Greenville County Library System’s new Five Forks Branch opened on the County’s densely populated southeast side and is the largest branch in the GCLS

system. At approximately 28,000 square feet, this branch is over twice the size of the ten other existing branches in the library system, offering many new features for patrons.

One of those is the first laptop lending kiosk in the Greenville system. The kiosk contains 12 laptop units for patron check-out while in the building. When the laptop is returned, the kiosk automatically recharges and installs software updates on each unit. The laptop lending kiosk was purchased with a generous gift from the Friends of the Greenville County Library System.

Other features of the new branch include:

- Quiet reading room
- Variety of public meeting spaces accommodating a range of activities from small group study to public programs for up to 200 attendees
- Large children’s area with centers for active learning and a secured outside “Play Porch”
- Separate teen area
- Two Drive-up windows: one for materials return with immediate check-in and optional receipt and one for pick-up of materials on hold.

PERSONNEL NEWS:

Alabama

Auburn University

Bonnie MacEwan, Dean of Libraries at Auburn University Libraries (AUL), has retired after 13 years at AUL and 36 years in the library profession. MacEwan was instrumental in the development and transformation of the Auburn libraries into a one-stop destination for users to research, study and get academic assistance across a wide variety of departments. She guided AUL through renovations of the Library of Architecture Design and Construction and, most recently, the challenging expansion of the university’s main library by 69,000 square feet over a 20-month period. MacEwan earned her BA from Whittier College in 1972 and her MALS from the University of Colorado in 1978 and prior to her arrival at Auburn, was assistant dean for collections at Penn State University for a decade before being promoted to the scholarly communication position designed to explore new technology-driven publishing ventures in collaboration with the Penn State University Press; art, archaeology and music librarian at the University of Missouri, Columbia; and Humanities Librarian at Central Missouri State University. MacEwan has served as a member of many boards and committees, including being a member of the Association of Research Libraries Board; elected to the Association of Southeast Research Libraries Board three times as President, member-at-large and secretary/treasurer; member of the Network of Alabama Academics Libraries Board and serving a term as president; chair of the Collection Management and Development Section of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services Division of the American Library

Association. She served on several national editorial, library, and publishing advisory boards, including the boards for Wiley/Blackwell, Elsevier, ProQuest and EBSCO. She has served terms on the editorial committees of Library Acquisitions Practice and Theory, Library Resources, and Technical Services, Portico. MacEwan's publications focus on the development and academic use of electronic information in libraries.



Georgia

Kennesaw State University

Paula Adams is the new Director of the Reference and Instruction Unit at Kennesaw State University. Previously, she was the Head of User Services at Columbus State University in Georgia.



Jackie Watkins is in the newly created position, Electronic Resources Collection Development Librarian. She was a library assistant at Georgia State University. While working on her undergraduate degree at KSU, Jackie had been a library student assistant.



There were several retirements at KSU this spring. **Yongli Ma** was a librarian with Southern Polytechnic State University (SPSU) before the consolidation with KSU. In total, she has served 24 years in many capacities over the years including positions of Acquisitions Librarian, Associate Director for Technical Services, and Head of Access Services.



Retirees Rita Spisak, Yongli Ma, Elisabeth Shields

Elisabeth Shields has served as the Graduate Librarian for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences since 2011. Prior to coming to KSU, she worked at GA Tech's Enterprise Innovation Institute for 10 years. She is the driving force behind our national conference, Transforming Libraries for Graduate Students, a conference that attracts attendees from all the country.

Rita Spisak has thirty-three years of service with the KSU Libraries. She has worked in the Serials, Access Services, Reference, and Instruction units. Her positions ranged from library associate, librarian, and interim director of two departments.

North Carolina

UNC Greensboro

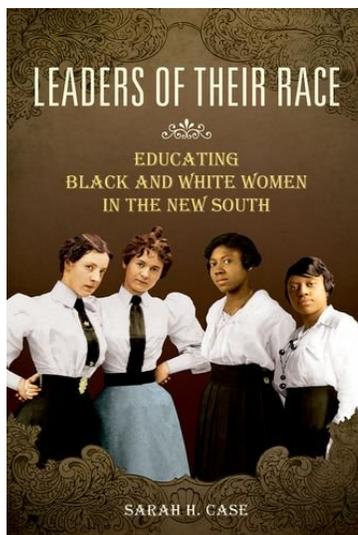
University Libraries has welcomed **Rachel Sanders** as the new First-Year Instruction and Social Sciences Librarian in Research, Outreach and Instruction. Sanders earned her bachelor of art's degree in History from UNC Greensboro and a master's degree in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Her primary responsibilities include working with Communication Studies' students and being the liaison to Social Work and Community/Therapeutic Recreation departments. Sanders' professional interests include information literacy instruction, researching library anxiety among students, educational technologies, first-year experiences and furthering professional networks among academic librarians.

BOOK REVIEWS

Leaders of Their Race: Educating Black and White Women in the New South. Sarah H. Case. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2017. ISBN 978-0-2520-8279-5 (pbk.). 238 p. \$28.00.



Post-civil war, two women's academies in Georgia opened their doors; one for whites only, the other catering to black women in the New South. Both schools sought to instill in their pupils decorum, feminine refinements and respectability, while at the same time preparing them to take on roles as leaders in their communities through intellectual and social engagement. In *Leaders of Their Race*, Sarah Case thoughtfully compares and contrasts the Lucy Cobb Institute of Athens, Georgia which aimed to create a new model of femininity for southern white women, with Spelman Seminary of Atlanta which educated black women to lead by example through modesty, moral character, and industriousness.

The author, a faculty member in the History Department at the University of California, Santa Barbara, provides a reflective comparison of these two schools during the years 1880 to 1925. As the roles of women transformed during the post-civil war era, each school believed that their graduates should represent the best of their race and the most effective way to prepare them was to create high expectations for their students. Requiring that their pupils be virtuous, modest and well educated, both schools hoped to make their graduates beyond reproach as they entered

society and served as models in their communities. The first two chapters of this four chapter study are devoted to the Lucy Cobb Institute (now defunct), its history, curriculum, and famous alumnae and the last two to Spelman Seminary, still in existence as a college.

The Lucy Cobb Institute, founded in 1859 by T.R.R. Cobb and named after his niece Lucy, sought to combine the attributes of traditional girls finishing schools - manners and feminine graces - with the necessity of preparing young women for participation in the public sphere, including employment. The founder's niece, Mildred Rutherford, instructor, principal and later president, was formative in developing the values and philosophy of the school: piety, propriety, and academic achievement. Anti-suffragist and later a leader of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, she was a prominent public speaker and author of her day, but continued to advocate for traditional roles for women. "Lucies" for the most part conformed to expectations at school, but taking cues from their independent administrators and faculty, many went on to further their education or have active careers. The Institute closed in 1931, primarily due to a drop in enrollment, lack of endowment and emerging competition from the University of Georgia.

Sophia Packard and Harriet Giles, two northern missionaries, founded Spelman Seminary in 1881 to address the education of freedwomen and their daughters. They believed in the value of industrial education in conjunction with academic studies as a means to instill self-discipline and promote the dignity of work. Besides basic chores, students learned home economics skills and eventually, the school was able to add professional programs: printing, nursing, missionary training and teaching. Wishing to become a true women's college like Vassar, the administrators expanded their academic course offerings in order to offer a genuine liberal arts education and the first two college degrees were awarded in 1901. The Seminary was fortunate to have substantial financial assistance from John D. Rockefeller, and this support, along with a proper endowment, allowed it to withstand the financial travails that affected similar schools.

Sarah Case provides a compelling examination of how these two women's schools, though founded on different visions and skewed by race and class, were remarkably similar in the values they espoused. Grooming their students to be well-educated, modest and respectable, they hoped to prepare their young graduates to contribute to a new society in the South and epitomize the highest womanly virtues. Extensively researched with notes, photographs, and a comprehensive bibliography, this volume in the series *Women, Gender and Sexuality in American History* is recommended for academic libraries, particularly those with education or women's studies programs.

Melanie J. Dunn
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga