1-1-2014

Georgia Library Spotlight - Georgia Highlands College Libraries

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GLA SPOTLIGHT

Georgia Highlands College Libraries

Georgia Highlands College (GHC) has undergone substantial changes in recent years, and the libraries have grown and evolved as well. GHC has locations in Rome, Cartersville, Marietta, Douglasville, and Dallas. GHC has libraries at Rome, Cartersville, and Dallas, and GHC has an excellent cooperative arrangement with the Southern Polytechnic (SPSU) Library for the students at the GHC Marietta campus, with a GHC librarian housed at the SPSU library.

The GHC Floyd campus in Rome is the main campus, and its library underwent a major renovation in 2011. It now houses approximately 60,000 print books; 100 periodical subscriptions; two computer labs and an open computer area; a tutorial center; testing center; four group study rooms; and a conference room.

At the Cartersville campus, the library was opened in 2006 as part of a new academic building. The Cartersville Campus Library houses approximately 11,000 books; a computer lab and an open computer area; a tutorial center; four study rooms; and a conference room. It also has a massive stone fireplace.

The library at the GHC Paulding campus in Dallas was opened in March 2013 in a newly-renovated space in the Historic Paulding Courthouse and houses approximately 4,000 books, an open computer area, two study rooms, and a conference room.

Since GHC is a commuter college with multiple physical locations, the libraries make use of electronic resources and services to best meet the needs of the students, faculty, and staff. GHC currently provide access to over 90,000 e-books and 32,000 digital videos. The virtual reference site—http://ask.highlands.edu—allows us to be available to the students, faculty, and staff by live chat, text message, email, Facebook, and even Twitter.

The libraries work closely with faculty to ensure that the collections meet the changing needs of the students. For instance, in 2011, the college became a limited-mission, four-year state college, and now offers its first bachelor's degree (the RN to BSN completion program). Both the print and online collections were enhanced to support this new program.

In 2012, the library applied for and received the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf to help support the college's global initiative. In addition, to ensure that the students have access to the most current technology, the library purchased a 3D printer and a 3D scanner, which will be available not only to students, faculty, and staff but also to members of the community. GHC was fortunate to receive a financial contribution from a local company, Brugg Wire Rope LLC, to help with the purchase of this technology.

GHC libraries are incredibly busy, and the library faculty and staff are the ones who make it all happen! During FY2012-2013, the libraries won the GHC Department of the Year Award. Library faculty and staff answered 9,435 questions and

taught 229 research training classes for 4,959 students. The libraries also circulated 7,275 items, loaned 834 items to other libraries, and received 465 (GIL Express and ILL) items from other libraries.

More information about Georgia Highlands College Libraries can be found at www.highlands.edu/site/library.