News - Georgia State University

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Digital Mapping Project Utilizing Georgia State, Emory University Library Resources Receives Knight Foundation Grant

Georgia State (GSU) and Emory Universities’ ATLMaps collaborative digital mapping project was one of fourteen projects to win the 2016 Knight News Challenge on Libraries.

Sponsored by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the 2016 Knight News Challenge served as an open call for ideas focused on advancing libraries to better serve individuals and communities in the twenty-first century. More than 600 ideas were submitted for consideration.

As winners of the challenge, project leads Brennan Collins (Center for Instructional Effectiveness, Georgia State University) and Megan Slemons (Geographic Information Systems Librarian, Emory Center for Digital Scholarship) were awarded a $35,000 grant from the Knight Foundation to continue their work on ATLMaps. The project combines archival maps, geospatial data visualization, and user-contributed multimedia location pinpoints to promote investigation into any number of issues about Atlanta. It incorporates many digitized resources from both Emory and Georgia State University Libraries, including materials from the Georgia State University Library’s Planning Atlanta, MARTA, and Works Progress Administration of Georgia Atlanta Maps collections.

Georgia State University’s portion of the award will be used to fund Student Innovation Fellowships. Student fellows will add content to the project and enhance the ATLMaps website’s search and customization capabilities.

Librarian Mandy Swygart-Hobaugh Featured in ACRL Publication on Data Services

Dr. and Associate Professor Mandy Swygart-Hobaugh has recently been published in the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) book Databrarianship: The Academic Data Librarian in Theory and Practice.

The chapter, titled “Qualitative Research and Data Support: The Jan Brady of Social Sciences Data Services?,” gives an overview of the context of qualitative data and the resulting support needs of qualitative researchers at various stages of the research data lifecycle. The current state of qualitative data support services in social sciences...
librarianship is then explored by reporting on: (1) an analysis of social sciences data librarian job postings, (2) a survey of social sciences librarians, and (3) an examination of online research guides describing qualitative data support services presently offered by social sciences librarians. Finally, this chapter concludes with recommendations for how social sciences librarians might embark on the expansion of their qualitative data support services.

Swygart-Hobaugh serves the library as the sociology, gerontology and data services librarian at the GSU Library Atlanta Campus, working closely with the Sociology department and the Gerontology Institute. She also provides training on NVivo qualitative analysis software.

Library Signage Designated Best Advocacy Print Materials in PR Xchange Awards

Georgia State University Library received a 2016 PR Xchange Award in the category of Advocacy materials -print, $10,000,000–$15,000,000 budget category, for a series of signs used to convey the food and drink policy at library’s Atlanta Campus.

Sponsored by the Library Leadership Administration and Management Association’s (LAMA) Public Relations and Marketing Section and overseen by the PR XChange Committee, the awards “recognize the very best public relations materials produced by libraries in the past year.” Winners in all categories had the opportunity to display their work at the 2016 American Library Association Conference in Orlando, Florida, and were recognized during a ceremony at the conference on June 26, 2016.

An article about the campaign featuring photos of all three signs is available on the Ad/Lib: Library Advertising, Marketing & Branding blog.