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Augusta University
Black History Month at Reese Library

How did Black History Month at Reese Library, Augusta University turn from library displays and passive programming quietly in the background into a Culmination Reception that put a spotlight on the library’s displays, inspiring speeches, and a party of catered refreshments, which the library typically cannot afford?

It all began in December 2018 when the Academic Diversity and Inclusion Alignment Committee chair gave a challenge to each member: highlight diversity and inclusion in some way the following year. The committee is composed of faculty and staff from a range of departments and colleges across Augusta University with two members representing the libraries. The committee advises one of the vice presidents on priorities and initiatives for addressing diversity and inclusion opportunities within the academic programs, recruitment policies, curricular and co-curricular activities, service and outreach, scholarly efforts, and faculty development.

For years, Reese Library has carefully curated a book display for Black History Month. In 2018, the library introduced passive programming by having a Black history jigsaw puzzle near the display. For the challenge, the library suggested a display and expansion of the passive programming with a different puzzle, coloring, and activity sheets on a Black history theme. The committee suggested incorporating students’ wants into the library’s annual Black History Month Display.

In early January 2019, the library placed tear-off sheets on easels in high traffic areas of the library. On each easel the library wrote: “What would you like to see in our library’s Black History Month displays? Share with us: book or movie titles, people, places, subjects, or themes.” Students suggested specific titles and topics, “local black history,” “a speech by Dr. Seretha Williams” (a professor from the English and Foreign Languages department), and “free food.” After two weeks of response collection, the library shared the responses with the committee.

The director of multicultural student engagement offered to collaborate with us by hosting a reception to highlight the displays, and from there the Reese Library Black History Month Displays and Reception were born. Reese Library partnered with the Office of Multicultural Student Engagement for event planning assistance with the speakers, refreshments, and advertising. For the request on local black history, the library invited Corey Rogers, a historian from the Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History as a guest speaker, and the library secured Dr. Seretha Williams for the keynote. The event was open to the public.
and advertised around campus through flyers as well as digital and social media. Event attendance exceeded expectations, chair count, and floor space!

The library display cases on the first and second floors were filled with headshots of notable African American authors and artists and prints of their paintings as well as biographies, films, and books about various African American cultures in the United States, the African diaspora, and Caribbean history.

To learn more about this event and other programs at Reese Library, visit the library website at https://www.augusta.edu/library/reese/.
Twin Lakes Library System
Hancock Branch

The newly opened Hancock Branch, part of the Twin Lakes Library System (TLLS), is located in the heart of downtown Milledgeville, Georgia.

A collaborative project between the City of Milledgeville, TLLS, and architecture firm Arcollab, this branch is housed in an historic building on Milledgeville’s main street. Originally a car dealership built in 1919, the building has lived many lives, most recently as city offices and storage. In restoring the envelope and layout of the building, attention was paid to preserving historic details while implementing a program that meets the needs of a modern library. The original trusses, pressed-tin ceilings, millwork, and terracotta tiles were uncovered and restored to their former glory. An outdoor mural was added to replicate a car advertising mural from the 1940s and 50s. As a recent winner of the Georgia Downtown Association’s 2019 Award of Excellence for Best Public Improvement Project, the Hancock Branch is a unique example of an adaptive reuse project for public libraries in Georgia. At 7,328 square feet of overall space, the building adds another gem to downtown Milledgeville.

The building serves many functions for the library, including housing a business incubator (funded by the Community Foundation of Central Georgia and the James S. and John L. Knight Foundation), a makerspace, a teen space for afterschool programs, a host site for film screenings and Summer Reading Club events, administrative offices, and a community performance space. The services and programs in this branch allow the library system to attract new patrons and expand its impact in the community, adding value to local residents’ tax dollars.

Founded in 1939, the Twin Lakes Library System serves the residents of Milledgeville and Baldwin County. With three branches and almost 100,000 visits in 2019, it continues to be a vital part of the local community. A recent winner of two Knight Cities Challenge grants for civic engagement projects, an IMLS-funded grant for testing innovative rural broadband technologies, and serving as a pilot site for testing student digital cards and a library-driven ebook platform, TLLS excels at delivering innovative and engaged service to its patrons.

For more information about the Twin Lakes Library System, visit the website at www.tllsga.org/ or the Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/twinlakeslibrarysystem/.
University of Georgia
Law Library Fest

Fall 2019, the Alexander Campbell King Law Library at the University of Georgia (UGA) turned library orientation for incoming students into a fest and opened the event up to the entire law school community. The idea for the Fest was a collaborative one, with ideas from other library orientation programs, UGA’s staff resource fair, conferences like CALIcon, and even an AALL poster session contributing to the final event design and deployment.

After many years of being a regular part of the School of Law’s first year student orientation (during which one or a few librarians stood in front of a group of more than 100 students at a time for roughly an hour), the library went through a transitional period last fall and was removed as a required part of the schedule. As a result, the fall 2018 library orientation was a hybrid program that included heavy marketing of an optional in person event, paired with an online video tour (housed in a LibGuide). Participation was good, especially considering this was the library’s very first event of this kind. The event, which lasted from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., burdened librarians and staff alike, due to its optional requirement on the part of incoming students and uncertainty about attendance.

With a new student affairs team settled in at the School of Law, they reconfigured and expanded orientation for incoming students, and a library component was once again made a requirement. Elements from the hybrid fall 2018 model such as timing, location, and design were kept. The flow of students coming and going from the library was much smoother too, thanks to a blocked schedule of four sets of approximately fifty individuals each hour. This made for easier scheduling on the library’s behalf. With required attendance, even though promotion was less necessary, the library still wanted to encourage students to embrace the experience. The library incorporated door prizes and gamified participation with stamp cards.

Students received a stamp card that doubled as a flier in their law school orientation packet, along with password cards to the library’s three top databases. For students who forgot to bring cards with them, the library provided extras at the entrance on the day of the event. The card contained six spots to get a stamp or sticker, and visiting one of each of the six library stations resulted in a stamp or sticker.
The stations included:

- **Circulation**: At this table located in front of the circulation desk, access services staff and student workers shared examples of other items for checkout, gave demos of course reserves in the library online catalog, and distributed library branded coasters and ink pens.

- **Reference**: This station, operated by law librarians, used the actual reference desk to display information about the library’s legal research and legal technology course offerings, examples of print and online study aids, free mini copies of the constitution, and library bookmarks with hours and reference desk contact information.

- **I.T. Services**: For this table, members of the School of Law Information Technology Services team shared information about what their own Help Desk in the law library assists with. They also had signs and gave information about UGA’s Enterprise Information Technology Services (EITS), WEPA (the printing system) and Microsoft Office software available to students. Plus, there was a basket of free law library branded flash drives to giveaway.

- **Library Tours**: Throughout the event, a rotating cast of six librarians and staff members gave approximately 10-minute guided tours of the law library. The tour highlighted important sections of the library, identified where bathrooms and water fountains are located, and answered any questions students had about the library, including the building and the collection.

- **Stress Busters**: For this station, a table operated by volunteer librarians displayed a variety of stress relief resources that are normally available during exams each semester. These resources included a giant touchscreen word search, puzzles, coloring materials, and print resources. Students could take a free tiny animal figurine “study buddy” to start their law school studying journey with.

- **Other Resources**: This final table was not operated by librarians or staff, but was merely a location for all other information about UGA and Athens resources. It included publications, pamphlet, and brochures about local news, Athens, the UGA offices of well-being, the LGBTQ resource center, and the health center. At this station students chose a sticker for their cards.

The library also invited its three top database vendors, Westlaw, Lexis Advance, and Bloomberg Law, to set up tables and contribute to the overall carnival feel of the event. They provided additional items to give away such as water bottles, tote bags, and even donut holes and candy. Vendors also contributed gift cards to the door prize baskets.
The library received several positive comments, and the library tour participation rate went from 37 students in fall 2018 to a whopping 169 students this fall! The library collected 150 completed stamped cards, and awarded 9 lucky participants with door prize packages. For the drawing, the library captured a video of two librarians randomly selecting cards from the card submission box and announcing the winners, which was later shared on social media. The library is hopeful that next fall a similar orientation schedule and format will retain the event style from the past two years, as well as the required blocks from this fall.
I am looking forward to serving as the Georgia Library Association (GLA) president in 2020 and continuing the strong year of growth under my predecessor Jennifer Lautzenheiser. I spent the last year learning all the things the GLA president does, and while I still have a lot to learn, Jennifer helped me prepare for the year ahead.

Last year Jennifer and the Executive Board worked on two major initiatives. First, GLA transitioned to a new administrative services company, Impact Visual Services. Thanks to Jennifer, Eli Arnold, Mack Freeman, and Ashley Dupuy for serving on the task force. Following the selection of Impact, the board selected Wild Apricot to handle the membership database. A lot of time and effort has gone into the transition. If you have not yet logged into the site and updated your membership profile, please do so. Just click on “Forgot Password” to set up your account.

Second, a Conference Planning Task Force led by Mack Freeman and Kimberly Boyd presented the board with a plan to restructure the way GLA partners with other organizations on the annual conference. The board accepted the task force plan, and the new structure will be implemented in phases over the next few years. The board affirmed the goals of the annual conference:

- Adding value to association membership
- Generating revenue for the association
- Promoting libraries and related professions
- Providing a forum for discussing issues relevant to the profession
- Providing professional growth opportunities
- Providing a space for GLA’s constituent parts to meet and work on behalf of the association

One initiative the board will be working on this year is a process for incorporating or affiliating with other library groups in Georgia. Several groups have expressed interest in associating with GLA, and we are eager to develop a good method of working with other library groups to strengthen our memberships.

The board will also be working early this year to select a site for annual conferences for the next two years. We will be issuing a request for proposals soon.

The annual Midwinter Planning Meeting was on January 10, 2020 in Macon, Georgia. The meeting was a great success, and we had a wonderful turnout with a large number of first-time attendees complementing our loyal regulars. Every division and committee met, and several new chairs held their first meetings, and our newest interest group, the Gender and Sexuality Diversities Interest Group, met for the first time. We held a GLA 101 session in the morning, where attendees heard about the GLA organization, social media channels, interest groups, and how to get and be involved in GLA. During the day, the different groups made plans and brainstormed events for the year and possibilities for programs for the annual conference.

This year’s annual conference theme is Everyone In! This theme reflects our desire to encourage new and existing members to...
become engaged with GLA, either through presenting at the conference or working behind the scenes. It also reflects the important roles libraries play promoting participation in the 2020 census, the election year, and the work we all do in our communities. It also recognizes our colleagues in the Southeastern Library Association, who will be joining our conference this year!

The Georgia Library Association is an all-volunteer organization and relies on its members to keep it active. If you have ideas and suggestions, please reach out to me or any board member. If you don’t belong to a division or interest group, you can join by logging into your profile on the website. Reach out to the chair with your ideas! GLA is YOU!

Laura Burtle
President, Georgia Library Association 2020
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This summer I excitedly tackled a task I’d been looking forward to for nearly a year: unboxing our books. My new husband and I had moved into our first house the previous summer but had been unable to unpack dozens of boxes of books due to a lack of shelves. I did keep out a small collection of current reads and well-loved friends to tide me over—*The Lord of the Rings* and Jane Austen’s complete works (*Persuasion* is my favorite) were easy choices. My husband’s The Heir to the Empire trilogy, more commonly called the Thrawn trilogy by Star Wars fans, was a temporary addition that I still haven’t finished (sorry, honey). I made do with those, and a handful of others, while we started setting up our first home.

A major project in setting up the house included my husband building me several sets of magnificent bookshelves. (As an aside, I recommend that all book lovers consider marrying woodworkers—it’s a natural match.) He completed the first set of shelves in our newly dubbed “upstairs library” in early July, and we decided that it was time for me to get to work. In the meantime, we’d agreed that I could sort, catalog, and weed most of the collection however I wanted, in exchange for a promise not to weed or sort the Star Wars books. In the span of a week, I single-handedly unpacked 40 boxes of books, scanning them into my LibraryThing account and roughly sorting genres as I went. Most of the books were new to me, as I was combining not only my library with my husband’s, but also many books from his father. Hundreds of titles passed through my hands, from popular fiction and recent publications to treasured hand-me-downs from our families, such as his grandfather’s copy of *The Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, 31st edition, and my great-grandmother’s self-published autobiography. Some genres come almost exclusively from one person (unsurprisingly, I’m responsible for all the romance novels and my husband for all the Star Wars books), but most are a mix of original owners.

As I found duplicates, I tried to set them aside to consider for later weeding. Many of these were in the science fiction part of the collection, as both my father-in-law and I have a fondness for Asimov, Clarke, Heinlein, and their contemporaries. Others were the typical story of re-purchasing titles due to wear or simple forgetfulness. Some were easy to discard later, but I knew even as I set aside the duplicate copies of *The Silmarillion* and *The Hobbit*, they would all be staying. Some duplicates were kept for logical reasons, such as simplified versions of classic works for children, but most of these decisions were made for purely sentimental reasons. (There’s a reason I’m not responsible for weeding in my professional life!)

Perhaps the most exciting thing about setting up my own personal library was the freedom to define categories as I chose. I ended up settling on an unusual array of collections, separating...
science fiction from fantasy, and Star Wars from both (my husband might have a “type” when it comes to reading). We also created a collection of “old books,” roughly those published before 1940, mostly to justify putting them out-of-reach of visiting children. Beyond these, however, we have reasonably common categories such as general fiction, foreign language (mostly French and all mine aside from *The Klingon Hamlet*), mystery and thriller, children’s, romance, comics and manga, young adult, and non-fiction. I shifted some books back and forth between genres a few times before settling on a home. For example, we briefly considered pulling out Asimov as a separate collection but decided against it when we realized we only have around 60 of his more than 500 works. With collections sorted out I could start deciding which would go where, based on size.

By this time, my husband had also completed the shelves in our “main floor library,” and I determined that the large mystery and thriller collection would fit there (a decision I’m now second-guessing as my father-in-law continues to deliver titles). The upstairs library has foreign language, romance, and general fiction, but is primarily dedicated to fantasy, Star Wars, and science fiction. All the bookshelves are very full, though I tried my best to leave room for future growth. It’s been several months now, and I foresee moving several collections (I know weeding would also be prudent, but it’s quite unlikely). Some collections are completely unshelved for now; we have plans to build more shelves in the basement, but as my husband must first build walls there, those will be a long time coming.

While I await future shelving, I decided to go ahead and sort the non-fiction, which I am determined to have in Dewey Decimal order. (Since we have libraries on all three floors of our house, as well as an online catalog, I figure there’s no point in stopping short.) This was a point of discussion with my husband, but he eventually gave in when I promised not to put labels on the spines of books. Instead, I plan to print individual bookmarks on acid-free paper (yes, I’m aware I’m being “extra” about this). We have books in all the major DDC sections, somewhat surprisingly, but the majority are in the 900’s (biography, history, and travel—mostly my father-in-law) and 700’s (knitting—mostly me). I’m currently in the process of doing some clean-up work in the catalog while I wait on more shelves. In the meantime, the nonfiction books are piled on the floor in our home office, with sticky notes denoting Dewey sections.

My library is a work-in-progress and always will be. The current titles (numbering 2,907) reflect the reading habits and interests of three different people and include many works I will never read (e.g., all 150 books in The Destroyer series). Having organized everything as I see fit, however, makes the entire collection mine in a way no other library could ever be. The curious can peruse my catalog at https://www.librarything.com/catalog/RogueElf.

Amy Gratz Barker is Instructional Design Librarian at Kennesaw State University.
In spring 2019, I started an internship in the Special Collections department in Ingram Library at the University of West Georgia (UWG). I worked with Dr. Michael Camp and learned the basics of archival processing while working with two collections of documents donated by Congressman Mac Collins (R-GA, 1993–2005). When I started the internship, I had already worked for more than a year in the Circulation department at Ingram. The internship was, for me, a bit of professional cross-training, as well as a requirement for the post-baccalaureate Certificate in Museum Studies offered by the Public History program within UWG’s History department.

I started working with miscellaneous documents and artifacts that were transferred by Congressman Collins when he left office, and later moved back in time to process documents from his final term in office. The first set of documents and photographs I worked with were part of a larger series of Collins’s Washington, DC office files. Then I processed, from beginning to end, a complete series of awards and certificates. Finally, I processed a series of invitations received during the 108th Congress, 2003–2005.

My initial mental image of archiving was wrong in two major ways. I should add that I know from experience that initial impressions of academic disciplines are nearly always wrong. Students think that learning criminology, for example, will be like watching Law & Order or CSI; they expect that studying psychology will primarily be about the hunt for serial killers. My own mistaken images of archiving probably come from television as well, and notably, from social media. The two images I had in mind were, first, of the sort of dusty backrooms of file cabinets that our heroes break into to find the villain’s personnel file, and second, of viral video montages of people in white gloves painstakingly restoring badly-preserved Renaissance oil paintings before showing off a dramatic before-and-after reveal of the repaired and revarnished art. Unsurprisingly, both these mental images missed the mark.

First, I quickly learned that archives are primarily for people rather than being for the materials they house. The purpose of an archive is not simply to store old documents, it is to provide access to those documents to people who want to see them. While I was working at my internship, I saw professors and graduate students gathering data for their research, a radio journalist preparing for a series of broadcasts about the university’s history, community members looking up genealogical records and examples of their ancestors’ appearances in the local news of the day, and even undergraduate students wanting to view primary documents as part of a class project. It was not just that I was wrong in thinking that
the archive was un-used; I was wrong in thinking that its purpose was anything other than to be used. The archive, I learned, was not for preservation-for-preservation’s-sake, it was for people to be able to access the materials that were being preserved.

Second, I learned that the vast majority of documents in the archives were far from being delicate and unique in the manner of 500-year-old oil paintings. Many of the documents I was working with were not even 15 years old yet, and most of them were far more ordinary than I had imagined. As archivists have realized at least since the 1980s, contemporary collections consist in large part of very routine documents that have essentially no intrinsic value as objects; they are only valuable for the historical information they contain (Ham, 1984). I saw office manuals, Republican Party conference schedules, countless scheduling emails, and all sorts of payment and reimbursement vouchers, all printed on ordinary white office paper, exactly the same kind we use for our own routine office business upstairs in the Circulation department.

My supervisor, Dr. Michael Camp, started introducing me to the internship by giving me a tour of the facilities. He also assigned me some reading about what he considered to be the most important issues in archiving today, and explained his perspective. Special Collections at the University of West Georgia includes faculty offices, a reading room for people to view documents, the main archive, and a special “off-site” storage facility in another campus building across the street. Special Collections also controls a temporary exhibition space and a permanent display of objects from the office of Georgia Representative and Speaker of the Georgia House Tom Murphy. The main archive inside Ingram Library houses the majority of the processed papers, while the off-site facility houses the rare books and almost all unprocessed papers. Our first trip off-site was to retrieve the first batch of papers for me to process; we returned a couple more times during the semester for the same purpose.

My reading started with Mark A. Greene and Dennis Meissner’s (2005) “More Progress, Less Process,” which Michael said he considered to be the most important article currently guiding archival practice. Michael also showed me how documents were organized within the archive. Collections contain series (and occasionally sub-series); series are made up of folders. Folders in turn are housed in numbered boxes, which are housed on numbered shelves. I think one of my biggest surprises, early on, was realizing that there is no complete inventory of every item in every folder. That is simply not how archival records are kept. Michael also showed me the finding aids that act as the archive’s catalog. I saw how scope and content notes described the collection, and how container lists tracked the folders in each box. Michael explained that he views archiving as an art, rather than a science. There are some norms, precedents, and traditions to follow, but both the final organization of a collection, and especially the specific steps taken to arrive at it, are necessarily particular to the individual archivist.

I began processing by simply viewing already-processed papers from Collins’s DC office files.
processed a handful of miscellaneous folders holding constituent letters, invitations, and research Collins’s staff conducted to help inform his legislative decisions. Once I had a handle on the basics, Michael moved me on to my first real project, processing a portion of the office files related to Collins’s participation in the Congressional Art Caucus’s annual art show. Each year, Collins’s staff helped organize an art competition among Georgia high school students living in his district, a viewing and reception for the competition winners in Georgia, and then transportation to Washington DC for the winners to participate in “An Artistic Discovery,” the Art Caucus’s annual show. Collins’s staff had already created a separate folder for each year, and following current best practices, I simply refoldered these into acid-free folders (Greene & Meissner, 2005). Collins’s staff had also produced a pair of photo albums that spanned multiple years. For these, I really did wear gloves, to avoid getting fingerprints on the photographs, as I disassembled the albums and put each year’s images into their own folders. Seeing how badly the album pages under the photographs had degraded, even just since the 1990s, really drove home to me how important it is that archival storage be acid-free.

After completing my work on the art shows, Michael gave me an entire archival series to complete from start to finish. We pulled all the boxes that contained awards and certificates Collins had received over the years, and I was given responsibility for unboxing all the objects, organizing them, disassembling bulky picture frames when possible, then reboxing the artifacts in an order of my choosing, and writing scope and content notes and container lists for the eventual finding aid. Even the awards were more ordinary than I originally expected. Collins had dozens of wooden plaques celebrating him as “taxpayer hero” or a “small business champion,” given to him again and again by the same few organizations over the years. There were surprises as well. We found a signed, numbered art print from American outsider artist Rev. Howard Finster. We also found an original copy of a newspaper political cartoon. It appeared to have been given to Collins as a gift by the cartoonist, although I was never sure why, since the content of the cartoon didn’t seem to have anything to do with him. But those two stand out in my mind because they were unusual. As I’m sure most archivists and most historians already know, most of what we collect is usual. The few
extraordinary items stand out because most items are ordinary.

The tail end of the Miscellany collection, the collection of all the things Collins’s staff boxed up when he left the House in 2005, held a few more surprises. I found a couple of oversized binders with photocopies of press clippings. For over a decade, it had been someone’s job to find every time Collins showed up in a newspaper and to make a photocopy, and all those copies ended up boxed with his awards. I also found an incredibly curious letter. It was unsigned, but purported to be from Fidel Castro, and was addressed to a Democratic Congressperson, explaining why he, Castro, was declining to attend the 1999 World Trade Organization meetings in Seattle, Washington. According to the envelope I found it in, it had been mailed to Collins by the Swiss ambassador to Uruguay, but there was no other accompanying information. I imagine there must be a really fascinating story behind that letter, and the circuitous path it took to land on Collins’s desk, but I have no idea what that story might be. I have no idea if the letter itself is genuine, or if its supposed provenance is authentic, but even as a possible forgery or hoax, it seems fascinating.

My final archival project was to process all the invitations Collins received during his final term in office, the 108th Congress from 2003 to 2005. These were perhaps the most ordinary documents I worked with all semester. Collins accepted invitations to attend mandatory GOP conference meetings and members’ only briefings about the Iraq War. He rejected invitations to events held in Georgia while he was in DC, or vice versa; he rejected events that posed scheduling conflicts because they were at the same time as other events. A close historical reading might uncover other patterns in his acceptance and refusal of his various invitations, but as Michael pointed out to me, interpreting the artifacts is a job for historians. Our job as archivists was to make the documents available so that historians could actually access them.

While processing the invitations, I really struggled with Greene and Meissner’s directive to engage in “less process” (Greene & Meissner, 2005) to avoid paying too much attention to the individual items in each folder, and to avoid repeated re-handling of the same folders and items. Partly, I struggled because I was still learning. I didn’t want to remove staples gratuitously, for example, but each time I went back through a folder, I felt like I saw another batch that needed to be removed. Initially I only pulled a certain style of staple that was already causing rust damage. Then I pulled excess staples from documents where Collins’s staff had used a half-dozen staples to hold together a dozen pages. Finally, I also removed staples from instances where a heavy cardstock invitation was affixed to an ordinary page of office paper, because I realized that the ordinary paper couldn’t really support the weight of the pairing without damage, and I wanted to prevent that damage as much as possible. As a second example, I also took several tries to put all the papers in their folders staple-side up, successfully alternating folders with wide corners on the right and left. It’s a simple technique to maximize how many
folders fit in a box, but it still took me about half
the semester to apply it consistently.

But the other challenge of trying not to over-
process the invitations came because of the
same problems Steven Gentry (2014) wrote
about in his attempts to apply Greene and
Meissner’s ideas to a collection of a college
president’s office papers. In addition to needing
to pull staples for the
purpose of document
preservation, I also
needed to find and
photocopy every sticky
note Collins’s staff stuck
on one of his invites. The
sticky notes all needed to
be removed, for the same
reason I had to
disassemble the photo
albums, to prevent
degradation over time.
(And as an aside, let me
add that Congressional
staff members, or
Collins’s staff at least, are
very fond of re-
positionable sticky
notes!) But finding all
those notes in the first
place required item-level
attention to detail, and
photocopying and
removing them required
me to go back again
through folders I had
already processed, while
item-level attention and
multiple pass-throughs
are both practices that Greene and Meissner
disourage.

There was also a need to help protect the
privacy of Collins’s constituents and his staff
members, as well as a need to avoid retaining
historically worthless records like Collins paying
his office phone bill every month, or purchasing
bottled water, printer ink, and copier toner. I
found a few instances of people’s Social
Security Numbers (SSNs) written on documents.
Some I caught the very first time through,
because there were several SSNs on the same
page, or because they were displayed fairly
prominently. But some I didn’t notice until my
second or third pass through the same folder,
because the SSNs were jotted down as a
handwritten note that I hadn’t looked closely
enough at the first time. Item-level attention and
multiple pass-throughs were the only thing that
let me save those people’s privacy. As for
the billing records, I
mostly passed those on
to Michael, so he could
evaluate what part of
them, if any, needed to
be retained for the sake
of any future historians
interested in
Congressman Collins.

As I said, I struggled with
Greene and Meissner’s
advice, because I wanted
to follow it, but I also
wanted to do my
internship work correctly.
And in one sense, doing
my work correctly meant
following their advice so
that I was not wasting
Michael’s time or my
own. But in another sense
trying to follow their
advice conflicted with
doing all the tasks my work required. I talked to
Michael a few times about managing this
conflict. He encouraged me to focus more on
the quality of my work than on my speed, to be
sure I was doing things correctly, keeping
appropriate records to add to the scope and
content notes, and making accurate container
lists of my boxes. And together, Michael, his
graduate assistant, and I worked fast enough to
finish processing one partially-completed collection and to process a second from start to finish, all in one semester.

My internship taught me the basics of archival processing, enough that I could now probably take a small collection, process it, organize it, file it away, and write an appropriate finding aid to provide researchers access to it. My internship also gave me a glimpse into the larger responsibilities Michael and the other archivists undertake. I saw Michael scheduling oral history interviews, corresponding with potential donors—not financial donors, but rather donors of documents and artifacts—and I saw him bring in newly acquired collections that his solicitations had secured. I helped Michael install an exhibition of archival materials about immigration, and attended a reception for the opening of the exhibit, Borders Real and Imagined: Georgia Immigration Politics in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries, Thomas B. Murphy Reading Room, Ingram Library, UWG, January 24 to May 10, 2019, curated by W. Michael Camp with Lalah Manly and Anne Hunter. I saw the other archivists supervising their own interns, student workers, and volunteers. And I saw all the work that goes into helping people access the archive—pulling boxes, finding folders, answering questions. Special collections is a different world than circulation, where I've been until now, and I appreciated the opportunity to participate in that world.

To search the finding aids for the Mac Collins papers, 108th Congress, see [http://uwg.galileo.usg.edu/uwg/view?docId=ead/POL-0002-08-ead.xml](http://uwg.galileo.usg.edu/uwg/view?docId=ead/POL-0002-08-ead.xml), and for the Mac Collins papers, Miscellany, see [http://uwg.galileo.usg.edu/uwg/view?docId=ead/POL-0022-07-ead.xml](http://uwg.galileo.usg.edu/uwg/view?docId=ead/POL-0022-07-ead.xml).

Anne Kristen Hunter is Library Paraprofessional I at University of West Georgia

References


Call for Papers!

Academic Library Division of the Georgia Library Association
Georgia Chapter of ACRL
Georgia Libraries Conference with SELA
October 7–9, 2020
Macon, Georgia

The Academic Library Division (ALD) of the Georgia Library Association/Georgia Chapter of ACRL invites Georgia librarians and library science students to submit research papers pertaining to academic libraries for presentation at the 2020 Georgia Libraries Conference (GLC), this year held jointly with SELA. Criteria for selection include purpose, content, organization, scholarship and references. Papers should include research on developments in academic libraries that present challenging opportunities for libraries and librarianship throughout the state, region, or nation. Papers should be approximately 2000–6000 words.

The Georgia Library Quarterly (GLQ) may invite selected authors to submit their papers for possible publication in GLQ.

GLA may award complimentary GLC conference registration and a cash prize for the paper selected as the top entry. Complimentary conference registration may also be awarded to the runner-up entry. The two top papers will be presented at the Georgia Libraries Conference in Macon, Georgia. If no papers are submitted or papers are not deemed scholarly, then ALD reserves the right to not present any awards for the year.

DISCLAIMER: Papers may have multiple authors, but only one author may be awarded complimentary registration, and the cash prize will be shared amongst all authors of the top selected paper.

Notice of Intention:
Submit via email a notice of intent and a brief abstract. Send emails with the subject line “ALD Research Papers” to Linh Uong (linh.uong@ung.edu). Your notice of intent should contain your name, address, phone number, email address, a tentative title, and a brief (200 word) abstract by April 3, 2020.

Optional Pre-Submission Peer Review
If you would like your paper reviewed by scholarly writing experts prior to your final submission, please email it to Linh Uong (linh.uong@ung.edu) by June 1, 2020.

Paper Submission:
The final paper (approximately 2000–6000 words) must be submitted by July 17, 2020. Use the APA (American Psychological Association) as the style guide for the submission.

Notification of Results: August 14, 2020

Send Notice of Intention and Final Paper to:
Linh Uong
Research Papers Committee Chair
linh.uong@ung.edu
Georgia Library Association Membership Committee

Membership Campaign

The Georgia Library Association (GLA) Membership Committee is pleased to announce the Georgia Library Association's (GLA) first Membership Campaign, which will take place during National Library Week, April 19–25, 2020.

The Membership Committee encourages all GLA members to celebrate National Library Week, April 19–25, 2020, by participating in the GLA’s Membership Campaign. Tell someone (or two) about the benefits of GLA membership and invite them to join.

During National Library Week, the online membership form will include a space for the person you recruit to enter your name. You will earn a chance to win $$! First place wins $50, second place $30, and third place $20!

Visit https://gla.georgialibraries.org/membership/ to learn more.

Thank you for your participation and support!

Membership Case

Do you love GLA and want to tell others about the benefits of GLA Membership? Are you hosting a GLA event, a continuing education program, or other library related event? Request the GLA Membership Case today!

The GLA Membership case can be shipped to public libraries and universities via the Georgia Public Library Service and University System of Georgia statewide courier. To request the GLA Membership Case, visit the GLA Membership Committee page and click on Request GLA Marketing Items or contact Janice Shipp, GLA vice-president membership committee chair, by phone at 912.358.4339 or email janicemshipp@gmail.com.
Celebrate NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK
APRIL 19-25, 2020

Celebrate by participating in the Georgia Library Association’s (GLA) Membership Campaign by inviting someone (or two) to join GLA and earn a chance to win $$!

The online membership form will have a space for the person you recruit to enter your name. First place wins $50, second place $30, and third place $20! Visit gla.georgialibraries.org/membership today to learn more and sign up!
Georgia Library Association
New Members Round Table

New Members Round Table Division (NMRT) 2019 Year-End Review

As 2020 begins, it is time to recap and reflect upon the work of the 2019 New Members Round Table (NMRT) and its subgroups, the Atlanta Emerging Librarians (AEL) and the Coastal Georgia Library Collaborative (CGLC).

The New Members Round Table is a division of the Georgia Library Association (GLA). This division strives to support new GLA members and new librarians, create mentorship opportunities, facilitate professional growth, offer avenues for collaboration between new and veteran library workers, and promote involvement and a sense of responsibility for the development of the library profession. The New Members Round Table is open to Georgia Library Association members who have served in the profession or state for fewer than five years, are currently enrolled in library school, or have an interest in working with newcomers to the profession. The 2019 NMRT officers consisted of a chair, Holly Hampton; vice-chair/chair elect, Autumn Johnson; secretary, Mary Block; and programming coordinator, Brittani Sterling.

The New Members Round Table also consists of two affiliated sub-groups: the Atlanta Emerging Librarians and the Coastal Georgia Library Collaborative. These sub-groups host meetups in various areas of the state to provide opportunities for MLIS students, new graduates, new and experienced librarians, and those interested in the library profession to attend networking events and professional development presentations.

Meetups

In order to fulfill the objective of providing members of the library profession with a common meeting ground for connecting with one another and the Georgia library community as a whole, NMRT has continued to support its subgroups, AEL and CGLC as they held a number of amazing events in 2019.

In 2019, the AEL Planning Committee consisted of Sarah Rodgers, Michelle Lee, Beth Smedley, Justin Ellis, and Marcie Helms. The AEL Planning Committee successfully planned and held a number of events in the Atlanta area in 2019. AEL held their annual Mingle with the Admins event in January to kick off the year. They then proceeded to host a Meet and Greet, a tour of the Crosland Tower Library at the Georgia Institute of Technology, an Oglethorpe University Museum of Art Tour, a meetup in the park, and a Sip ‘N Serve. The AEL Planning Committee also planned their annual Mingle with the Admins event for 2020 and worked on transitioning their duties to the 2020 AEL co-chairs.
In 2019, the CGLC Planning Committee consisted of Nikki Cannon-Rech, Jennifer Taylor-Pack, Sarah Zeigler, and Autumn Johnson. CGLC held a number of amazing events for those in the Savannah area in 2019. They kicked off the year with a meet up at the Gullah Geechee Exhibit in Hinesville. Throughout the remainder of the year, they held two mix and mingles and a collaborative event with the Society of Georgia Archivists. They also worked on transitioning their duties to the 2020 CGLC co-chairs.

**Georgia Libraries Conference Buddy Program**

In 2019, NMRT continued to offer the Georgia Libraries Conference (GLC) Buddy Program, first implemented by NMRT in 2017. This program provides an opportunity for new(ish) GLA members and conference-goers to meet experienced Georgia Libraries Conference attendees in an effort to share experiences, gain valuable real-world knowledge, and enhance the conference experience. This program has been specifically for mentorship related to the conference itself. This is so that those who are not familiar with the Georgia Libraries Conference have an opportunity to learn how best to navigate the conference and learn what some of the traditions and best networking opportunities are during the conference, just to name a few of the many takeaways of this program. Buddies (the mentee and mentor) are encouraged to meet and mingle at their own pace in a variety of ways, including attending a session together, grabbing a bite to eat at the NMRT & Interest Group Meeting and Social, walking the vendor floor, or going for a lunch or coffee break. The buddies are connected prior to the conference and are welcome to begin getting to know each other and plan their time together prior to the conference date.

In order to recruit the buddies, NMRT put out a call and asked interested parties to complete a Google Form. NMRT asked a number of questions to help match the buddies such as what day(s) they plan to attend the conference, what type of library they work for, what superpower they would most like to have, and what they hope to gain from the NMRT GLC Buddy Program. When matched, the buddies were contacted via email and made aware of their “matching qualities” to help them start up a conversation and get to know each other before they met at the conference. NMRT had 12 participants this year: 6 mentees and 6 mentors, and NMRT hopes to see this number grow as this program continues to evolve and improve.

**NMRT Georgia Libraries Conference Scholarship**

Every year, NMRT provides a scholarship for at least one presenter covering the cost of a full-conference registration to attend the Georgia Libraries Conference. In order to do this, NMRT puts out a call for presentation proposals with a due date of approximately one month before the GLA GLC presentation proposal due date. NMRT typically looks for presentations that contribute to the conference experience for
new GLA members or new librarians. In 2019, the guidelines for this presentation included providing a 45-minute session, with 10 minutes for questions and answers, focusing on a topic that would be of benefit to new and prospective librarians or new attendees of the Georgia Libraries Conference, encouraging members to further their knowledge of the library profession and/or the Georgia Library Association. NMRT received a number of superb submissions, and in the end, the NMRT officers selected two presentations to put a scholarship toward: “Hiring Managers Tell All! What Job Seekers Really Want to Know,” presented by Mary Ann Cullen, Ashley Dupuy, and Elizabeth Dill and “More than Just Updating Your Nametag: Transitioning from Library Staff to Faculty,” presented by Rosemary Humphrey, LaTiffany Davis, Michelle Lee, Natalie Logue, Chris Morris, and Emily Williams.

By attending “Hiring Managers Tell All! What Job Seekers Really Want to Know,” attendees had the opportunity to learn valuable tips and tricks to improve their job hunting process as hiring managers from public and academic libraries spoke to what they look for in applicants as well as what they prefer not to see. Attendees were provided with helpful information and handouts that they could immediately apply to their applications, resumes/CVs, interview, and the overall application and interview process. They also spoke to what an applicant should look for during the interview from the employer to help them determine if the organization is the right fit for them. The presentation left attendees with a wealth of information regarding how to move forward as they apply and interview for various positions in the library profession.

Attendees of “More than Just Updating Your Nametag: Transitioning from Library Staff to Faculty,” had the opportunity to hear the diverse experiences of the panel as they reflected on their transition from staff to faculty, and in some cases, moving from a position of a peer to a supervisor. The panel presenters provided helpful advice for those who are currently experiencing or will experience this transition, and provided some insight for those who have watched others experience this as well. The session was reassuring and valuable for many who have been or who plan to be obtaining an MLIS or moving into a supervisory role.

In addition to sponsoring both presentations that NMRT selected to receive scholarships, NMRT also chose to sponsor an additional presentation: “Membership as a Game Changer in Your Professional Career,” presented by Lamonica Sanford and Shaundra Walker. Attendees learned how involvement in state, regional, national, and international professional library associations can have a positive impact on their career no matter the level. The presenters provided an overview of a
number of professional associations, including the Georgia Library Association, the committees within the associations, and the benefits associated with being a member. This presentation was very insightful for those who are looking to get the most out of their membership from any library association they may be a part of.

NMRT would like to thank all of the 2019 sponsored presenters for providing such valuable content to the Georgia Libraries Conference and New Members Round Table members!

**NMRT & Interest Group Meeting & Social**

NMRT worked with the 2019 Interest Group Council to host a meeting and networking event on the Thursday night of the Georgia Libraries Conference at the Ocmulgee Brewpub in Macon, Georgia. Any and all conference goers were invited to this event, and about 47 people were in attendance. They spent the evening networking, socializing, learning about NMRT and the Interest Group Council, playing games, and enjoying the catered food. At this event, the Interest Group chairs elected the 2020 Interest Group Council vice chair/chair elect, the NMRT chair announced the 2020 NMRT officers, and many of the NMRT Conference Buddies used this as an opportunity to get to know one another. It was an eventful night and NMRT looks forward to hosting this meet-up again next year.

**2020 NMRT Officers**

As 2020 begins, the 2019 NMRT officers hand over their responsibilities to those elected to serve as the NMRT officers in 2020. NMRT would like to take a moment to welcome and congratulate the incoming 2020 NMRT officers:

Chair: Autumn Johnson, Georgia Southern University
Vice-Chair, Chair Elect: Sarah Rodgers, Oglethorpe University
Secretary: Kelly Williams, Gwinnett County Public Library

The 2019 NMRT officers would like to say thank you for allowing them to serve as your NMRT officers for 2019. NMRT hopes you enjoyed all that NMRT and the subgroups, AEL and CGLC, had to offer and look forward to your continued participation and support in 2020!

**For More Information...**

If you are interested in learning more about NMRT, please visit the NMRT webpage ([https://gla.georgialibraries.org/divisions/new-members-round-table/](https://gla.georgialibraries.org/divisions/new-members-round-table/)) and join the NMRT Division by checking the box next to New Members Round Table on your GLA profile page.
https://gla.georgialibraries.org/ so you can receive NMRT emails.

If you are interested in learning more about the Atlanta Emerging Librarians or the Coastal Georgia Library Collaborative, please visit their website and follow them on social media:

AEL Website: https://gla.georgialibraries.org/divisions/new-members-round-table/atlanta-emerging-librarians/

AEL Facebook: AtlantaEmergingLibrarians
AEL Twitter & Instagram: @ATLEmergingLib

CGLC Website: https://gla.georgialibraries.org/divisions/new-members-round-table/coastal-georgia-library-collaborative/

CGLC Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram: @GLACoastal
CGLC Blog: https://glacoastal.wordpress.com/
Georgia Library Association Professional and Continuing Education Interest Group (PACE)

It’s your library—all grown up. On December 6, 2019, the third Adult Programming Palooza welcomed over 70 participants hailing from Savannah to the Tennessee border. With the goal of sharing information about adult programming and learning from one another, this event—sponsored by PACE (Professional and Continuing Education Interest Group) and Georgia Library Association (GLA)—was created and organized by Angela Glowcheski of Sequoyah Regional Library System and Tracy Walker of Forsyth County Public Library.

Gathering in Columbus at the Columbus Public Library, attendees began the day with “Speed-Date-a-Program.” Highlighting successfully executed programs from across the state, nine presenters shared the ins and outs of their programs, as well as answered questions from attendees during timed segments. Presenters gave participants one-sheets detailing their programs and how they can be recreated in other libraries.

The afternoon segments began with a short presentation from Christopher Evans of the Georgia Public Library Service (GPLS), providing information to help libraries prepare for the 2020 Census. This was followed by an Introduction to Entrepreneurship Learning Initiative (ELI) presented by Duncan Smith, founder of NoveList and EBSCO Information Services Chief Strategist for Public Libraries. Attendees learned how the Entrepreneurship Learning Initiative can be used in conjunction with programming. The afternoon came to a close with a marketing session led by Jeanne Peloquin, marketing coordinator for Middle Georgia Regional Library. Attendees got to hear great marketing tips and tricks to help promote library programs and services.

Thanks to the generosity of GLA and GPLS, there was no cost to attend Adult Programming Palooza. Oscar
Gittemeier, vice president of membership for GLA, spoke about the benefits of joining the organization and provided information to attendees throughout the day. GPLS provided all attendees with lunch. The host library provided a great learning space and refreshments throughout the day.

It was an exuberant program filled with ideas, learning, and camaraderie. Attendance for the event reached maximum capacity shortly after registration opened. Due to the number of people on the waiting list and many requests, the program will be held again in 2020.
Augusta-Richmond County Public Library System
Wallace Branch Library

Augusta Golden Blocks Project Makes its Way to the Wallace Branch Library

If you have ever found yourself venturing into the Laney-Walker District in Augusta, Georgia, you will notice an array of history spread out across the neighborhood. Historical landmarks include the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Lucy Craft Laney Museum, and the Augusta-Richmond County Public Library System’s very own Wallace Branch Library.

The Wallace Branch Library’s sole purpose was to serve the black community in the South Augusta area during the 1950s. If you take a trip down to the library today, you will run across a new piece of history called Map of the Golden Blocks. The tile installation piece, created by ceramic artist Ashley Gray, can be found on the sidewall of the Wallace Branch Library (Harrison Lane). Gray’s vision depicts the people and places that created the Laney-Walker district.

“I thought it would be great to have a map of the neighborhood, maps can be really beautiful,” Gray said. “Some of these old buildings are here, some of these old buildings aren’t. If you wanted to know what or where they are, you would be able to find them right here on the map.”

Map of the Golden Blocks shows historic landmarks such as schools, homes, businesses, and churches of significance located in the Laney-Walker District. It also acknowledges black members of the community who dedicated their lives to providing opportunities for blacks living in Augusta during the Jim Crow Era.

The area known as the Golden Blocks was the core of Augusta’s black business community. Redlining policies prevented citizens from obtaining bank mortgages within certain areas of Augusta that were predominantly black. In the Laney-Walker and Bethlehem neighborhoods, black-owned banks, insurance companies, theaters, and other businesses worked to counterbalance this discrimination. These neighborhoods ultimately thrived, and citizens represented in the installation made a difference during this trying time in Augusta’s history.

“This is history on the wall,” said Gray. “It brings history out into the neighborhood; it catches people’s eye; it helps them remember.” Now when you walk by the Wallace Branch, not only will it remind you of the library’s past, but it will incorporate the vivid history of the area surrounding the Laney-Walker community. The Golden Blocks Project is sponsored by the Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History and...
the Greater Augusta Arts Council. The project aims to create new public art that connects people with the historical and cultural significance of these areas.

This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Greater Augusta Arts Council, as well as funding from the City of Augusta Housing & Community Development. The digital walking tour is supported in part by the Georgia Humanities Council and the Emory Center for Digital Scholarship.

For more information see:

https://opentour.emory.edu/georgia-humanities/augusta-s-golden-blocks

https://lucycraftlaneymuseum.com/

https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/#loc=12/32.813/-83.658&city=macon-ga&text=intro
Three new collections featuring historical resources related to the Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian educators, and their role in Georgia history are now available through the Digital Library of Georgia (DLG).

Housed at Columbia Theological Seminary, the resources are freely available online thanks, in part, to the DLG’s competitive digitization grant program, a funding opportunity intended to broaden DLG partner participation in statewide historic digitization projects.

The three digital collections are:

- Joseph R. Wilson papers, from the late 1800s, including the sermons of Presbyterian minister and educator Joseph Ruggles Wilson dating 1858 to 1893. View at [dlg.usg.edu/collection/gcl_wilson](http://dlg.usg.edu/collection/gcl_wilson). Wilson served as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Augusta, Georgia, and at First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, North Carolina. He also taught at Columbia Theological Seminary and Southwestern Presbyterian University and was the father of President Woodrow Wilson.

- John Newton Waddel papers, 1821–1881, including manuscripts and print material belonging to John Newton Waddel (1812–1895) and Moses Waddel (1770–1840). The father and son were Presbyterian ministers and educators in Georgia and Mississippi. View at [dlg.usg.edu/collection/gcl_waddel](http://dlg.usg.edu/collection/gcl_waddel). Moses Waddel served as the fifth president of the University of Georgia. John Newton Waddel served as president of Presbyterian Synodical College in LaGrange, Tennessee, and as chancellor of the University of Mississippi.

- Presbyterian Church in the United States. Presbytery of Hopewell minutes, 1797–1866, the official minutes of the Presbytery of Hopewell, the first Presbytery in the state of Georgia. View at [dlg.usg.edu/collection/gcl_hopewell](http://dlg.usg.edu/collection/gcl_hopewell). The Hopewell minutes provide descriptions of early missionary efforts among Native Americans, deliberations about slavery, and other collective decisions that offer perspectives from the state of Georgia between the Revolutionary War through the Civil War. Special thanks to the Northeast Georgia Presbytery for permitting the digitization of these records.

Erskine Clarke, professor emeritus of US religious history at Columbia Theological Seminary, described the research significance of these three collections:

The Wilson sermons will have interest for anyone wishing to probe the religious life of Woodrow Wilson. In addition, they will provide insight into the theological assumptions and rhetorical and homiletical strategies of an influential nineteenth-century Georgia pastor.

Presbytery minutes are rich resources for cultural and religious history, and the years of the Hopewell minutes (1797–1866) will be of great interest to
historians working in that period of Georgia history.

The links with the University of Georgia presidents are astonishing. The Waddel papers are even more exciting...To have these important documents available online will be a great gift to those who in the future explore the history of Georgia.

Confederate Naval Ledger Now Freely Available Online

A Civil War-era ledger belonging to James H. Warner, commander and superintendent of the Confederate States Naval Iron Works (sometimes referred to as the Columbus Iron Works) is now available through the Digital Library of Georgia at dlgu.edu/collection/ncwnm_jhwl.

James H. Warner received a commission in the United States Navy in 1851 as a third assistant engineer. He became a chief engineer in 1856. Warner later served the Confederacy, where he received his assignment in Columbus, Georgia in 1862. As a naval engineer, he consulted for a number of projects throughout the South and was instrumental in the construction of the CSS *Jackson*, built in Columbus.

The Confederate States Naval Iron Works operated from 1862–1865. The ledger also includes entries as late as 1866 as Warner worked with the United States Navy in turning over naval equipment to the United States government. Records surviving the Civil War that document the Confederate Navy are limited. This ledger provides information about Columbus, Georgia, ironclad construction, steam engines, and the daily operation and industrial reach of the Confederate States Naval Iron Works.

Robert Holcombe, former director and historian of the Confederate Naval Museum described the significance of the ledger:

Not only has this ledger been a great resource for those studying steam engines, ship construction, etc. from the Civil War period, it is largely an untapped resource for those studying Columbus and the Chattahoochee River Valley. Making this ledger known and available for a wider audience will benefit Columbus, as well as making this important source more readily accessible for Civil War naval research.

The National Civil War Naval Museum houses the largest surviving Confederate warship, the CSS *Jackson*, as well as the wreckage of the CSS *Chattahoochee*, and the largest collection of Civil War Naval-related flags on display in the country. Their timeline exhibit shows naval events and features many of the museum’s most rare artifacts, such as the uniform coat of Captain Catesby Jones and Admiral Farragut’s two-star hat insignia. The museum hosts a range of events throughout the year with an emphasis on museum theatre and historic character interpretation. Additionally, there are living history events, tours, cannon firings, weapons demonstrations, local history projects, and more. Visit portcolumbus.org/

Georgia Civil War and Reconstruction Newspapers Now Freely Available Online

As part of a $27,405 grant from the R. J. Taylor, Jr. Foundation, the Digital Library of Georgia has digitized over 100,000 pages of Georgia newspaper titles published from 1861 to 1877 from microfilm held by the Georgia Newspaper Project (libs.uga.edu/gnp/).

The project creates full-text searchable versions of the newspapers and presents them online for free in its Georgia Historic Newspapers database at gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu in accordance with technical guidelines developed by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress for the National Digital Newspaper Program (see loc.gov/ndnp/).
The Georgia Historic Newspapers database will utilize the Library of Congress's open-source tool, Chronicling America, for the online delivery of the full-text newspapers. Users will be able to search the database for geographic, corporate, family, and personal names.

Vivian Price Saffold, chairman of the R. J. Taylor, Jr. Advisory Committee, stated:

Since 1971 genealogy researchers have depended on publications funded by grants from the R. J. Taylor, Jr. Foundation. The Foundation has funded the printing of thousands of books in traditional format. More recently the addition of digital projects, such as the Digital Library of Georgia’s newspaper project, has made possible free online access to tens of thousands of Georgia newspaper pages that previously were difficult to research. The DLG project is a great example of the kind of grant request the Foundation is proud to fund. Georgia newspapers are a valuable resource. On the technical side, the online newspaper images are sharp and clear, and the functionality of the indexing is excellent.

One hundred eighty-eight Civil War and Reconstruction-era titles have been digitized from the following Georgia cities:


Papers of interest include:

Christian Index (1867–1878): Baptist newspaper published in Atlanta after the Civil War that claims the distinction of being the oldest continuously published religious newspaper in the United States.

Atlanta/Augusta Daily Register (1864): Civil War refugee newspaper that fled approaching Union forces in Knoxville and published in Atlanta, and later Augusta, during Sherman’s March to the Sea.


Lucy Cobb Institute Messenger (1876): School newspaper covering events at the Lucy Cobb Institute.
Institute, a young women’s secondary school in Athens.

*Pacificator* (1864–1865): Georgia’s first Catholic newspaper published in Augusta during the Civil War. The paper advocated for an end to the fighting in the later years of the conflict.

*Southern Cultivator* (1867–1870): Agricultural newspaper established in Augusta in 1843 and published in Athens after the Civil War.

Newspaper title highlights from Georgia regions include:

**East Georgia:**
- Augusta *Weekly Chronicle and Sentinel* (1861–1881)
- Jefferson/Louisville *News and Farmer* (1871–1923)
- *Washington Gazette* (1866–1885)

**Metro Atlanta:**
- *Atlanta Daily New Era* (1866–1871)
- *Conyers Rockdale Register* (1876–1877)
- *Marietta Field and Fireside* (1877–1879)

**Middle Georgia:**
- Forsyth *Monroe Advertiser* (1873–1888)
- Macon *Georgia/Daily Journal and Messenger* (1862–1869)
- *Hawkinsville Dispatch* (1867–1877)

**North Georgia:**
- Athens *Georgia Collegian* (1870–1872)
- Calhoun *Weekly/Saturday Times* (1870–1877)
- *Cartersville Express* (1867–1879)

**South Georgia:**
- *Dawson Journal* (1866–1882)
- Savannah *Daily Herald* (1866–1867)
- Thomasville *Southern Enterprise* (1867–1876)

**West Georgia:**
- Carroll *County Times* (1872–1880)
- Columbus *Daily/Weekly Sun* (1861–1873)
- *Thomaston Herald* (1870–1878)

Selected Images:

*Banner of the South*, October 15, 1870, page 1: [https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lccn/sn85034229/1870-10-15/ed-1/seq-1/](https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lccn/sn85034229/1870-10-15/ed-1/seq-1/)

*Burke’s weekly for boys and girls*, July 30, 1870, page 1: [https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lccn/sn01211919/1870-07-30/ed-1/seq-1/](https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lccn/sn01211919/1870-07-30/ed-1/seq-1/)

*Southern Cultivator*, April 1, 1867, page 1: [https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lccn/sn83002253/1867-04-01/ed-1/seq-1/](https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/lccn/sn83002253/1867-04-01/ed-1/seq-1/)
DLG Awards Four Competitive Digitization Service Grants to Georgia Cultural Heritage Institutions Across the State

Four institutions are recipients of the sixth set of service grants awarded in a program intended to broaden partner participation in the DLG. The DLG solicited proposals for historic digitization projects in a statewide call, and applicants submitted proposals for projects with a cost of up to $7,500. The projects will be administered by DLG staff who will perform digitization and descriptive services on textual (not including newspapers), graphic, and audio-visual materials. This subgranting program was presented the 2018 Award for Excellence in Archival Program Development by a State Institution by the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council (GHRAC).

The recipients and their projects include:

Chipley Historical Center of Pine Mountain (Pine Mountain, Georgia)

- Digitization of the record book of the Sardis Church of Christ, dated 1828–1915. The Sardis Church of Christ was associated with the Primitive Baptist Church in Harris County, Georgia.

Kennesaw State University Archives (Kennesaw, Georgia)

- Digitization of drawings created and produced by the architectural firm Gregson and Ellis and its predecessor, Gregson and Associates. These materials include a selection of architectural drawings of facilities that provided public medical and mental health care in various counties in the State of Georgia, from the late 1940s to the early 1960s.

Peachtree City Library (Peachtree City, Georgia)

- Digitization of materials documenting the conceptual beginnings and history of Peachtree City, Georgia, one of the country’s most successful post-World War II "new towns."

Walter J. Brown Media Archives and Peabody Awards Collection (Athens, Georgia)

- Description of 250 episodes of the Parade of Quartets, the longest continuous-running gospel program on television in the United States, which has aired on WJBF in Augusta, Georgia since 1953, and has featured African American gospel groups.
Preference in the selection process was given to proposals from institutions that had not yet collaborated with the DLG. Chipley Historical Center of Pine Mountain and the Peachtree City Library are both new partners for the DLG. Sheila McAlister, director of the Digital Library of Georgia noted:

This newest set of subgrant awards represents the rich cultural diversity of the state. The projects document early Primitive Baptist life; the interplay between architecture and public health; the development of planned communities; and religious musical heritage. We’re happy to add two new partners.
Kennesaw State University Library System

Congrats!

Congratulations to Dr. Linda Marie Golian-Lui, who has received the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award (2019) for over 20 years and 36 publication listings in their reference materials. Dr. Golian-Lui is the current associate dean and leader of Engagement and Assessment Services at the Kennesaw State University (KSU) Library System.

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work!

When a librarian collaborates with researchers and faculty, extraordinary things happen. The team of the Kennesaw State University (KSU) Bagwell College of Education, including the librarian, has established the Interactive Research Methods Lab (IRML). According to the Bagwell College of Education dean, Dr. Reed, “It is the creation of something absolutely spectacular.”

The lab is already a valuable asset for undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and researchers and generates methodologically sound research designs. With the installation of the functional furniture, technology, and the incorporation of the lab into the Learning Management System, curriculum, and instruction, the IRML will stimulate the further development of research at KSU, which became an R2 university last year.

Dr. Olga Koz, the graduate education librarian, has worked on the development of the IRML’s virtual space, which includes a 360-degree virtual tour, augmented reality technology, and replicates the experience that students have in the physical lab. As a co-instructor and a consultant in many research projects, methods courses, capstone, and dissertation seminars, she was a valuable partner in selecting resources, designing instructional aids, and building the website using the Springshare platform.

“The IRML is one of, if not the first, lab in the US to provide users with personalized instruction and practical experience in the process and strategies involved in generating research designs using multimedia and augmented reality contents,” Dr. Jorrín-Abellán, the
founder of the lab, said. “We will continue to improve and enhance the user experience in the lab.”

This project highlights the changing role that an academic librarian can play in supporting research and scholarly communication. In addition to focusing on issues related to the dissemination and preservation of scholarship, Dr. Koz switched her attention to sometimes “forgotten parts of scholarly communication,” such as the creation of research or development of a researcher or a scholar-practitioner.

The IRML is built based on the principles of open science and education, so anybody, including librarians, is welcome to use it virtually to develop their research project. The creators made a conscious effort to include open access resources. For more information see the Interactive Research Methods Lab website at: https://libguides.kennesaw.edu/IRML/.

Library Reorganization

As of July 2019, the Kennesaw State University Library System underwent a reorganization to become a more effective organization and to better meet the needs of an R2 institution. To do this, two new positions were created: department chair of public services and department chair of library resources. Under these two new departments, the KSU Library System will grow into an efficient organization that will be better able to tend to student, faculty, and staff needs.

Folklorist and author William Ferris is the former chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Along with Judy Peiser, he co-founded the Center for Southern Folklore in Memphis, Tennessee; he was the founding director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi and is the co-editor of The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture. Ferris grew up on a farm in rural Mississippi surrounded by African American culture.

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, Ferris spent much of his time touring Mississippi, documenting stories and collecting recordings, photographs, and film from a wide range of African Americans as they talked about the musical traditions that shaped the state. After many years, Ferris has selected a cross-section of the stories, photographs, and recordings he collected and published them in Give My Poor Heart Ease: Voices of the Mississippi Blues.

The book is broken down into sections that each relate to a place, with a brief introduction to that place and why Ferris decided to collect there. He includes interviews relating firsthand, dramatic, and engaging narratives about African American life and blues music across the state of Mississippi.

The book includes stories from musical legends such as B. B. King and Willie Dixon but more importantly covers artists whose names one may never have come across. Through the eloquent recollections of some of the lesser known artists, the reader is introduced to the rich history of the Mississippi blues. Artist Louis Dotson recounts growing up in a rural community and working in a box factory and sawmill. He also talks about some of his instruments, including the bottle, the harmonica, and the one-sstrand.

Beyond documenting stories from musicians, Ferris also includes several chapters about his travels, including a trip he took to a prison camp to collect work chants, a visit to a church to explore sacred tradition, and a wonderful visit to a radio station. In one section, Ferris covers the tradition of the house party, where musicians and the audience participate in a “call and response” exchange.

Ferris also includes lyrics, transcripts of conservations, and—in this version of the publication—a CD of many of the actual interviews and songs included in the book. Give My Poor Heart Ease is an entertaining and educational read and collects some very important stories that cannot be found anywhere else. Highly recommended for
libraries that have music collections, Southern history collections, or collections on collecting folk culture.

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Portrait of an American Businessman: One Generation from Cotton Field to Boardroom by Carl Ware with Sibley Fleming (Mercer University Press, 2019: ISBN 9780881467154, $26.00)

Portrait of an American Businessman is Carl Ware’s account of his life’s journey to the position of highest-ranking African American executive at the Coca-Cola Company, his role in that company’s disinvestment from apartheid South Africa, and his international corporate leadership in the following years. The book is also a much broader discussion of background political events in the United States, Georgia, and abroad. Nearly a quarter of the book is dedicated to Ware’s early years, including stories about his grandparents, parents, siblings, and his own childhood growing up in Georgia under oppressive Jim Crow laws. Through very specific anecdotes, Ware tells a transgenerational story that emphasizes hard work and perseverance, a strong family that builds upon each generation’s successes, an unwavering belief in God, and a life of humility and gratitude. By his own admission, however, the most difficult part of his journey was the writing of this book, which began in 2003, sixteen years prior to its publication.

Ware tells of his early days—when he and siblings worked beside their sharecropping parents—through his time as a community activist, politician, businessman, board member, and, ultimately, philanthropist. Portrait of an American Businessman is a detailed account of Ware’s life and the events and circumstances that shaped his thinking, commitments, education, and life path. These formative circumstances include the Detroit race riots, police brutality, racism, the 1967 film Malcolm X: Struggle for Freedom, and the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. These events caused him to struggle with his need to “assert a degree of militancy” while balancing his need to continue his education and professional development. Ware’s educational path, combined with these life-shaping events, allowed him to bring not only acute business skills but also a commitment to equal rights to his work with the Coca-Cola Company.

The Coca-Cola Company’s disinvestment in apartheid South Africa is the heart of this book, and the details of how that actually came about are fascinating. Carl Ware was instrumental in planning and executing Coca-Cola’s South African disinvestment strategy and in helping the company fulfill its commitment to black South Africa and black economic inclusion.
Coca-Cola's plan after the fall of apartheid included building black business infrastructure, such as bottlers and distributors. Ware was involved in every level of the plan. For readers who were coming of age during the end years of South Africa’s apartheid regime and were familiar with the names of the main South African players, this book fills enormous gaps concerning their roles. Ware describes the nuts and bolts of the dismantling of some of the world’s most insidious race laws, enshrined in a country with a minority white population and government. Ware provides an alternate—and often insider—narrative of some of these historical events.

Beyond his work in South Africa, Ware has a lifetime of accomplishments that are detailed in Portrait, including using his clout as chair of the Coca-Cola Foundation to make a grant that enabled Clark College and Atlanta University to consolidate. This consolidation created a financially strong Clark Atlanta University, whose calling is primarily service to African Americans. Ware made another important accomplishment in his role as chair of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber was able to convince Governor Sonny Perdue that if Atlanta wanted to build an international image and attract business, the official state of Georgia flag, which still had the Confederate battle emblem on it, had to go. Perdue commissioned a redesign of the flag to what is now the current state flag.

Portrait of an American Businessman is a highly detailed memoir in which the reader is privy to virtually every nuance of Ware’s myriad business and philanthropic dealings. It illustrates what Ware calls a fundamental truth: “No matter where you come from, you can make a difference in your time on this earth.”
When Fiction and Philosophy Meet: A Conversation with Flannery O’Connor and Simone Weil by E. Jane Doering and Ruthann Knechel Johansen (Mercer University Press, 2019: ISBN 9780881466966, $35.00)

E. Jane Doering and Ruthann Knechel Johansen of the University of Notre Dame have combined their expertise on Simone Weil and Flannery O’Connor to write a book that examines the intersection between these two writers. Doering, director emerita of the Teachers as Scholars Program, has written on the French philosopher Simone Weil. Johansen, professor emerita in Notre Dame’s Program of Liberal Studies, has written on the American fiction writer Flannery O’Connor, who was born — and spent most of her life — in Georgia. While Weil and O’Connor never met, they shared a concern about the secular direction of their own societies and felt a duty to demonstrate the reality of good and evil through their works. Having read Weil’s philosophy, O’Connor wrote fiction that reflects those responses to modern spiritual concerns.

The first chapter of this book examines the context of the writers’ intellectual and spiritual formation, which Weil developed during the time between the two world wars. O’Connor came of age as an Irish Catholic in the Protestant South on the eve of the civil rights movement. The second chapter describes their mentors, their central concerns, and how they express these concerns. The final four main chapters highlight individual concepts through Weil’s philosophy and O’Connor’s fiction.

Doering and Johansen detail Weil’s rational argument that, with God and God’s grace, the moral breakdown of modern life can be resolved through understanding and surrendering to divine love, regardless of whether that love is shown through joy or suffering. The authors connect Weil’s argument to O’Connor’s fiction, which is steeped in the violence and realism that she saw in her secular society.

One example of this connection is found in O’Connor’s most anthologized short story, “A Good Man Is Hard to Find.” The authors link Weil’s concept of grace, which is available only when there is a void open to fill, with O’Connor’s narrative. In the story, the grandmother uses her religion as a shield when confronted with The Misfit. It is only when she accepts her religious doubt while on the brink of death and reaches out to The Misfit that she opens a space for grace to fill. The Misfit confirms this with his final words over her dead body: “She
would have been a good woman if it had been somebody there to shoot her every minute of her life.”

Doering and Johansen fill this book with scholarly details about both writers, sometimes to the detriment of the narrative. The density of the details can detract from the themes connecting the philosophy of Weil with the narratives of O’Connor. In addition, readers may have trouble following the connections, as each theme is written with two sections, one for each woman, rather than one section with the philosophical and fictional responses intermingled.

This book will be most useful for the reader who has a thorough grounding in the works of Weil, O’Connor, or both. Readers may also appreciate the background and influences of both women in addition to the religious influences in their philosophy and fictional narratives.

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