



Gorgas and Bruno Libraries Make Changes To Accommodate Students' Needs

Gorgas' First Floor Undergoes Makeover

After months of planning and renovating, the first floor of Gorgas Library opened recently with a brand new state-of-the-art look. Now known as the Gorgas Library Learning Commons, the area has the ability to seat 459 patrons. This total includes 405 seats for study tables and computers and 54 upholstered seats. Before the refurbishment, the seating capacity was 255.

Gone are old stacks of reference books, dark paint and lighting. New paint, carpet, desks, chairs, and lighting have created a bright, clean, contemporary area for students to study. Also included in the project were the addition of floor boxes to accommodate the ever-growing need for electrical and data outlets.

Dr. Mildred L. Jackson, associate dean for collections, said, "The University Libraries recognized the need for additional space for students to study - together and individually - and a demand for more computer work stations."

Shepley Bulfinch, an architectural firm with 135 years' experience in designing libraries, reviewed the first floor and made recommendations on how the space could be

used to provide the optimum level of service to our library users.

They also suggested furnishings that would provide comfortable, efficient, and flexible work spaces that would appeal to students.

Students, faculty, and staff took an active role in selecting the furniture. Hugh Kilpatrick, university architect, and Garnette Hatchett, project manager, worked with Poole and Co. Architects to develop and execute the plan which transformed the space into a more inviting and functional place.

Susanna Johnson, associate director of University of Alabama Furnishings and Design and Kacie Obradovich, interior designer, designed a space that is fresh, modern and appealing to library users of all ages.

"The rise in enrollment, along with the increased use of the library, contributed to the need to renovate the area," stated Dr.

Louis A. Pitschmann, dean of libraries. "Our goal was to create an area where students, faculty and staff could come together to



Bright green chairs and white tables with computers are located in the West Wing.

work, do research and receive assistance from our librarians."

Other changes include a new tutorial area for The Center for Teaching and Learning in the former copy center and an additional study room next to Java City.

See "*Makeover*" on page 3



LIBRARY HORIZONS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE
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Message From the Dean

As the first decade of the 21st century drew to a close, it became evident that students and faculty no longer held traditional views on how research library collections and services should serve them. Rather, they expected libraries—both physical and virtual—to be adaptive to their needs and responsive to changing circumstances in higher education. They now ask that libraries not only provide but also facilitate access to and use of the latest technological advances in software applications, digital collections, and scholarly publications. In other words, they expect their libraries to continue to play a traditional role in stimulating their curiosity and advancing learning but doing so with 21st-century options.

As part of its mission, the University Libraries has not slowed its commitment to providing the Capstone with the “latest and the best.” This issue of *Library Horizons* introduces the just-completed major renovations and improvements to the first floor of Gorgas Library: significantly expanded seating capacity, as well as major additions of high-end computers and state-of-the-art software. Other new services and improved facilities can also be found in the various branch libraries.

Our loyal donors have again and again stepped up, making possible many of the recent improvements. Our staff, too, have distinguished



*Dr. Louis A. Pitschmann,
Dean of Libraries*

themselves in accepting contemporary challenges, and several have been invited to give talks outside the state to demonstrate some of our innovative practices and achievements.

We can all take pride in the quality of the University Libraries today, even as we challenge ourselves to contribute to the growing excellence of our university.

Louis A. Pitschmann, Ph.D.
Dean, University Libraries



Current News and Events

Bruno Business Library's New Laptop Study Area

The Angelo Bruno Business Library now has a special area on the first floor designed specifically to support laptop use. In prime space opening onto the Jones Reference Services Area, two types of seating have been added to accommodate the ever-increasing use of laptop computers in the Bruno Library.

In the corner are three clusters of upholstered lounge-type chairs outfitted with tablet arms giving students a surface for their laptop computer. Extra electrical outlets are available in the floor between each pair of chairs for easy access. The chairs are easily moved, enabling students to arrange the chairs to collaborate or to work independently.

Adjacent to the lounge furnishings are modular-style tables with comfortable high-tech task chairs. The tables, which seat either four or six persons, have numerous electrical outlets above the tabletop. Students can easily plug in their laptops, cell phones, and other electronic devices while they are studying.

The newly designed area was made possible by generous support from the Ann and Angelo Bruno Foundation and from Mrs. Janet Faucett. "The laptop-friendly design is proving extremely popular with our students," stated Lee Pike, head of Bruno Library.

Lee Pike
Head of Angelo Bruno Business Library



New study area provides two types of seating for laptop users in Bruno Library.

"Makeover"

continued from page 1

This centralized locale on campus allows students a convenient place to receive assistance.

The popular coffee shop, Java City, will also be receiving a new look. New tables and chairs are on order and should be arriving soon.

Refurbishments were made possible by generous donations from supporters of the recent Capital Campaign.



Students can relax or study using the reupholstered chairs in Gorgas Lobby. Work tables and chairs can be seen in the background, replacing high stools and computer stations.



New tables and chairs allow students to work in groups or independently.



Angelo Bruno Business Library Hosts North American Conference

An important library conference was held on the campus of The University of Alabama during 2009. The Academic Business Library Directors (ABLD) held its annual conference and business meeting in Tuscaloosa. Programs and events took place at Bryant Conference Center, the Angelo Bruno Business Library, the Culverhouse College of Commerce's Alston Hall, and at North River Yacht Club.

The Academic Business Library Directors is a highly selective membership organization comprising the directors of business libraries at leading business schools in the United States and Canada. The Angelo Bruno Business Library is a charter member of the group, which was organized in the 1980s. The University of Alabama is the only Deep South public university holding membership in ABLD. Membership is limited to fifty institutions.

The top ranked business schools, such as Harvard Business School, Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, Stanford University, and other prestigious private schools form the core of the membership. Leading business schools at a number of respected public universities complete the membership. In addition to The University of Alabama, public universities represented include UCLA,



The Angelo Bruno Business Library was host for the Academic Business Library Directors 2009 annual conference. Business library directors from throughout North America gathered for the prestigious event.

Pennsylvania State University, University of Iowa, University of Wisconsin, and University of Southern California, among others. Examples of Canadian schools in the group are University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, and McGill University.

ABLD provides a forum for directors of academic business libraries in North America to collaborate and to discuss latest developments in business information and library research services, technology, and knowledge management and distribution. Other interests include the opportunity to influence development of new products and services for the academic business library market and to influence relations with corporate vendors

of databases and other electronic resources.

Lead planners for the 2009 conference program at Alabama were: Lee Pike, The University of Alabama; Jan Wallace, University of British Columbia; and Corey Seeman, University of Michigan. Planning support came from fellow ABLD board members: Millicent Gaskell, MIT; Hope Tillman, Babson College; and Kathy Long, Stanford University.

“The 2009 Academic Business Library Directors Conference was a huge success by all accounts,” reports Lee Pike, professor and head of Bruno Business Library. “Most conference attendees had

See “Conference” on page 5



UA Student, Katy Montalto Recording in Sanford Media Resource and Design Center

Graduation is approaching and Katy Montalto is thinking about her future. Her dreams include writing country music songs, working on a country music television show or maybe becoming a country singer and songwriter. We hope the University Libraries had a small role to play in starting her career.

Last fall, Montalto, a senior double-majoring in musical theater and telecommunication and film, entered her self-made video in CMT.com’s fourth Music City Madness competition for unsigned artists. She had used the Sanford Media Resource and Design Center (SMC) for past class projects and knew where to go to make her video. “It was awesome to have it as a resource for something like this as well,” stated Montalto. “Everyone is always so helpful.”

First, Montalto recorded her original song, “Driving On,” in the media center. Next, with camera equipment borrowed from the SMC, Daniel Lincoln shot footage of Montalto in and around Northport. With skills learned in her communication classes, Montalto returned to the SMC to edit her raw footage. Finally, she sent her video to CMT.com and waited.

Several hundred videos were entered in the contest before judges narrowed the competition

to 64. Montalto made the cut. Similar to basketball tournament brackets, contestants were placed in single-elimination brackets with fans voting each week to determine who advanced. Week after week, friends, family, and fans continued to vote moving her up in the competition. When the contest ended, Montalto had made it to the final eight.

The Trussville native gained valuable knowledge in entering her first contest. She said the experience helped build her confidence. Montalto continues to work in local venues and write country songs.

The Sanford Media Center, a multimedia lab for students, is located on the second floor in the



Amelia Gayle Gorgas Library.

Funding for the SMC was provided by a generous gift from Dr. and Mrs. Arthur R. Taylor, Jr. in memory of her grandmother, Lillie Florence Jones Sanford.

“Conference”

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never been to the state of Alabama.” Participants’ responses have been overwhelmingly positive, with many saying that the bar has been set very high for future hosts. The Angelo Bruno Business Library, the University Libraries, the Culverhouse College of Commerce, and The University

of Alabama have left a lasting favorable impression with influential business library leaders from top business schools across North America.

Lee Pike
Head of Angelo Bruno Business Library



News from the Faculty and Staff

Awards, Honors, Recognitions, Presentations, and Publications

AWARDED

Dr. Cynthia F. Miller, Music, Fine & Performing Arts Collections Coordinator, is the recipient of the 2009-10 ASCAPLUS Award in the Concert Music Division.

Lee Pike, Head, Angelo Bruno Business Library, received the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Alabama's School of Library and Information Studies.

Helga Visscher, Head Librarian, McLure Education Library, has been recognized for organizing outstanding participation in the Alabama Virtual Library Back to School Quiz.

HONORED

Dr. Mildred L. Jackson, Associate Dean for Collections, was honored with a Bibliography Fellowship, Modern Language Association, "for distinguished contributions made as a fellow for the MLA International Bibliography, 2006-2009".

Pam Morgan, Reference Librarian, was added to the *Reference Services Section Honor Role* for service to ALA/RUSA/Reference Services Section.

PRESENTATIONS

Jason J. Battles, Head, Web Services, presented "A New Approach to the Library Game." 2009 LYRASIS Alabama Membership Meeting. December 11, 2009. Montevallo, Alabama. He also presented:

- "Creating an Alternate Reality with Social Media." Lightning talk at 2009 LITA National Forum. Salt Lake City, Utah.
- with **Jill Grogg**, Electronic Resources Librarian, and **Michael Pearce**, Catalog Librarian, "Selecting and Implementing a Discovery Interface." Forthcoming pre-conference at Alabama Library Association 2010 Annual Convention. Huntsville, Alabama. April 13, 2010.
- with **Valerie Glenn**, Government Documents Librarian, and **Lindley Shedd**, Media Services Coordinator. "A New Approach to the Library Game: Creating an Alternate Reality with Social Media." Forthcoming poster presentation at the EDUCAUSE Southeast Regional Conference. Atlanta, Georgia. June 3, 2010.

Jody L. DeRidder, Head, Digital Services, will present, "Digital Library Development from the Bottom Up, or: Organization, Clarity, and Sanity: Digitization for the Future on a Shoestring." Presentation at the Computers in

Libraries 2010 Conference, Arlington, VA.

Nancy B. DuPree, Information Resources Librarian, presented "Two Secondary School Libraries of Eighteenth Century England," at the Annual Conference of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Johnson City, Tennessee. February 20, 2010.

Beth Holley, Head of Acquisitions, presented "Vendor Relations in Troubled Times" at the 2010 Convention of the Alabama Library Association in Huntsville.

Rachel Fleming-May, and **Jill E. Grogg**, Electronic Resources Librarian, presented "Finding Their Way: Electronic Resources Librarians' Education, Training, and Community", Electronic Resources and Libraries Conference. Austin, Texas, February 2, 2010.

Dr. Mildred L. Jackson, Associate Dean for Collections, presented to the Acquisitions and Vendors Interest Group at Midwinter ALA about Working with Venders to Change Acquisitions Workflows. She also presented with:

- **Mangala Krishnamurthy**, Reference Librarian, and **Beth Holley**, Head of Acquisitions,



“E-Books on a Roll @ The University of Alabama”, Electronic Resources and Libraries Conference, Austin, Texas. February 3, 2010.

Dr. Cynthia F. Miller, Music, Fine & Performing Arts Collections Coordinator, presented “The Music Librarian as Impresario” at Music Library Association and Alabama Library Association Convention.

Lisa Stevenson, Reference Librarian, will present “Forgotten Treasures: Home Economics Theses from the 30’s and 40’s.” Alabama Library Association, College and University Section, Research Forum, April 2010.

Thomas C. Wilson, Associate Dean for Technology, **Jody L. DeRidder**, Head Digital Services, and Tonio Loewald. “Digital Libraries and Long-term Access for the Rest of Us: The University of Alabama Acumen Experience.” Presentation at the Coalition for Networked Information Spring Task Force Meeting, Baltimore, MD. April 12-13, 2010.

PUBLICATIONS —

Shawn Averkamp, Metadata Librarian, published “Chronicling African American Women at The University of Iowa” *Microfilm and Imaging Review*, 38.4, 2009.

Jody L. DeRidder, Head Digital Services, “From Confusion and Chaos to Clarity and Hope.” Chapter in *Digitization in the*

Real World: Lessons Learned from Small to Medium-Sized Digitization Projects. Kwong Bor Ng and Jason Kucsma, ed. Metropolitan New York Library Council. (Forthcoming 2010).

Nancy DuPree, Information Resources Librarian, published “Ideologically Complex and Saturated with Contradictions: Recent Studies of Education in the Eighteenth Century,” *New Perspectives on the Eighteenth Century*, VII (Spring 2010), pp. 68-72. She also published with:

- Robert DuPree, “Stillman College.” online *Encyclopedia of Alabama*.
- Robert DuPree, “The Denson Revision of *The Sacred Harp*,” online *Encyclopedia of Alabama*.

Jill E. Grogg, Electronic Resources Librarian, “Annual Database Marketplace Survey” with Carol Tenopir and Gayle Baker. *Library Journal*, May 15, 2010. She also published with:

- Beth Ashmore, and **Jeff Weddle**, Assistant Professor SLIS, *Negotiating Digital Content and Services: A Librarian’s Guide* [working title], Medford, NJ: *Information Today*. (Forthcoming 2010).

Beth Holley, Head of Acquisitions, “Navigating Your Way through the E-journal Rapids,” *The Serials Librarian*. (Forthcoming 2010). She also published with:

- **Dr. Mildred L. Jackson**, Associate Dean for Collections,

Robin Champieux, **Janet Lee-Smeltzer**, Head of Cataloging & Metadata Services. “Learning Together: Vendors and Libraries Creating Better Processes to Improve Services.” *Charleston Conference Proceedings 2008*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2009.

Pam Morgan, Reference Librarian, published *Training Paraprofessionals for Reference Service*, 2nd edition. Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2009.

John H. Sandy, Head of Rogers Science and Engineering Library, **Mangala Krishnamurthy**, Reference Librarian, and **Wayne Rau**, Digital Media Specialist, published “An Innovative Approach for Creating a Self-Guided Video Tour in an Academic Library.” *The Southeastern Librarian*, 57, no. 3 (fall, 2009): 29-39.

A. Trehub, and **Thomas C. Wilson**, Associate Dean for Technology. “Keeping It Simple: The Alabama Digital Preservation Network (ADPNet).” *Library Hi Tech*, 28(2). (Forthcoming 2010).



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New seating area in front of the Gorgas Library West Wing fireplace.



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Limited-edition lithographs of Picasso drawings are currently on display in the J. Wray and Joan Billingsley Pearce Grand Foyer in Gorgas Library. Fifteen lithographs were donated to the Department of Art and Art History and the College of Arts and Sciences.

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