



## UA Libraries Acquires Extensive Collection of American Historical Documents, Photos and Books

The University of Alabama Libraries has acquired one of the most extensive collections of Americana and Southern history in private hands: the A. S. Williams III Americana Collection with an emphasis on the history and culture of the South.

For more than 40 years, Williams, a Eufaula native and UA alumnus, collected rare Americana, primarily books, manuscripts and photographs relating to the history of the United States.

“Much of the content of the Williams Collection is unique and hence not available at other libraries or through online sources,” said Dr. George C. Rable, Charles Summersell chair in Southern history at UA. “The Williams Collection will support a vast array of research projects based on manuscript, print and visual materials.”

Valued at more than \$12 million, the collection was formally accepted in June at a presentation ceremony attended by Williams, his family members, and UA President Dr. Robert E. Witt. President Witt addressed the large gathering and thanked Williams for his extraordinary collection and generosity.

“The Williams Collection builds on existing strengths and brings our



*(l to r) Dr. Robert E. Witt, president of The University of Alabama, Mr. A.S. Williams III and Dr. Louis A. Pitschmann, dean of University Libraries, after the presentation ceremony in the Pearce Foyer of the Gorgas Library.*

special collections, particularly those pertaining to the South and the history of photography, to a new level of excellence and national prominence,” said Dr. Louis A. Pitschmann, dean of libraries. “We are honored that Mr. Williams has agreed to entrust us with his remarkable collection.”

The collection represents a lifetime of avid collecting by Williams, former executive vice president and treasurer of Protective Life Corp. A trip to Williamsburg, Va., in the early 1960s sparked his passion for collecting.

Starting with his Presidential Collection, Williams acquired books written by and about the presidents, as well as books they signed or inscribed. He eventually expanded this collection by acquiring one or more documents written or signed by every former president.

He later broadened his scope to include material related to the history of Alabama and the South in general. The collection contains unpublished

See “*Collection*” on page 9



## LIBRARY HORIZONS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA LIBRARIES

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## Message From the Dean

It's a new day at the University of Alabama! A record enrollment of over 30,000, a national football championship, continued unprecedented improvements in the campus infrastructure and facilities, and record donations to the University Libraries. There is a distinct feeling of excitement and vitality in the air.

Ongoing improvements in the University Libraries have led to the Libraries' highest rankings to date in a broad range of assessment indices tracked by the Association of Research Libraries. For example, the UA Libraries now rank 66<sup>th</sup> out of 114 university libraries qualifying for ARL membership and 37<sup>th</sup> among 68 public university libraries in the ARL. These rankings compare to 97<sup>th</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup>, respectively, in 2003.

While the ARL assesses quality using a broad range of quantitative measures, such as expenditures, volumes added, and number of subscriptions, the true measure of a research library's quality and return on investment is its value to students and faculty. Our online services and resources continue to experience increased use, and our facilities are consistently at capacity, with all available seats taken at several points during the day. Faculty members and students alike continue to report that ongoing improvements to our facilities and the vastly expanded print and digital collections and computer-assisted learning and research support have markedly



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

enhanced their ability to advance and achieve their academic goals.

Today, the University Libraries' collections provide more digital access to scholarly books and journals than was ever possible in the "print-only" era. We would need to nearly double current library space if our digital content were paper based occupying literally miles of shelves. Likewise, the productivity software and e-learning tools that the Libraries' computers offer students ensure that all students have equal opportunities to explore and learn and compete locally, nationally, and globally.

These technology-driven advances notwithstanding, one of the most significant developments in the University Libraries in recent years

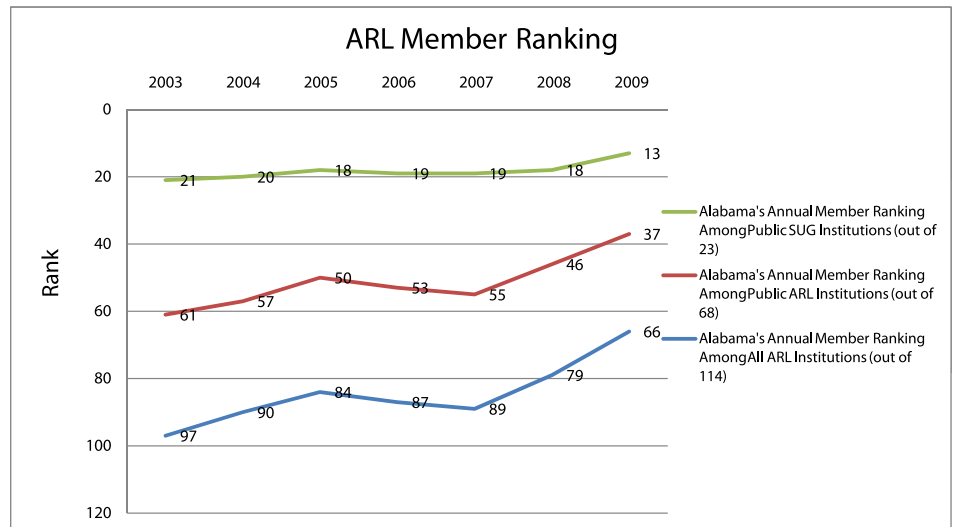
*See "Message" on page 4*



# UA Libraries Improves National Rankings

According to annual rankings released by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), The University of Alabama Libraries, under the leadership of Dean Louis Pitschmann, has improved its national ranking over the past seven years, moving from 97<sup>th</sup> to 66<sup>th</sup> out of 114 university libraries in the U.S. and Canada. This success has also translated to the Libraries' ranking among publicly-funded university libraries in the U.S. and the Southern University Group Libraries (SUG).

ARL Membership Ranking						
Alabama's Annual Member Ranking Among All ARL Institutions (out of 114)						
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
97	90	84	87	89	79	66
Alabama's Annual Member Ranking Among Public ARL Institutions (out of 68)						
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
61	57	50	53	55	46	37
Alabama's Annual Member Ranking Among Public SUG Institutions (out of 23)						
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
21	20	18	19	19	18	13



University students from across campus gathered in Gorgas 205 last April to participate in the third annual Media Night hosted by the Lillie Florence Jones Sanford Media Resource and Design Center. Student



creators representing many departments, majors and programs presented their personal work of video, audio and digital art.

UA student, Jessie Weaver, entered her image House on Ash Tree Lane.

The SMC provides UA students with a leading-edge facility for digital media production and was funded through a generous gift from Dr. and Mrs. Arthur R. Taylor Jr. of Demopolis in honor of Mrs. Taylor's grandmother, Lillie Florence Jones Sanford.



International students visit with Dr. Cynthia Miller, music, fine & performing arts collections coordinator, at last year's Friday Coffee Hour. UA Libraries co-sponsors the coffee each fall during International Education Week. IEW is celebrated world-wide during the third week of November.



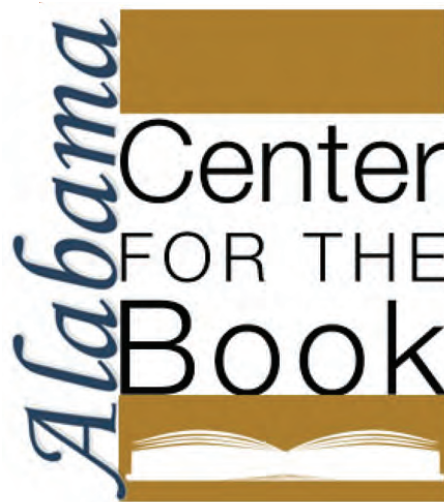
## Current News and Events

# Alabama Center for the Book Moves to University of Alabama Libraries

The Alabama Center for the Book ([www.alabamacenterforthe-book@lib.ua.edu](http://www.alabamacenterforthe-book@lib.ua.edu)) has a new home, moving to the University of Alabama Libraries from the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities at Auburn University.

“The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress looks forward to continued support for its affiliate center in Alabama in its new location,” said John Y. Cole, director of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. “Jay Lamar at Auburn has done an extraordinary job as director of the center. We look forward to working with new director Louis Pitschmann.”

Pitschmann praised the programs begun by Lamar and her staff: “Over the past decade Jay and her colleagues at Auburn established a strong center with a number of important and successful outreach services to the state. We will continue to promote the Letters About Literature essay contest and will seek partners to continue other programs for which the center has become known. Our goal is to promote the national Center for the Book’s programs to advance literacy and reading as well as promote appreciation of regional writers.”



The Center for the Book ([www.loc.gov/cfbook/](http://www.loc.gov/cfbook/)) was established by Congress in 1977 “to use the resources and prestige of the Library of Congress to promote books, reading, literacy and libraries.”

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Excerpts from a news release by Guy Lamolinara, The Center for the Book at the Library of Congress

### “Message”

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is the acquisition of the A. S. Williams III Americana Collection. Comprised of some 20,000 books, pamphlets, and maps as well as nearly an equal number of unpublished historical photographs, diaries, letters, documents, and business and financial records from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century to the late 1940s, the Williams Collection catapults to national prominence the Libraries’ existing collections of rare and one-of-a-kind teaching and research materials.

The progress the University Libraries continues to make would, of course, not be possible without the strong support of the University and that of the Libraries’ growing number of donors. Nor would our progress in service quality and national rankings have been achieved without the commitment of the Libraries’ staff to develop and implement the various improvements outlined in this issue of *Library Horizons*. Perhaps most notable among these are the multi-media support the Sanford Media Center provides and the new search interface, Scout, which are described in the following pages. I encourage everyone reading this issue of *LH* to visit the Libraries and experience first-hand the exciting new services and resources that we have initiated in an effort to contribute to the University’s overall growth and commitment to excellence.



# Celebrating the Centennial of Alabama's Own William Bradford Huie

On November 13, 2010, the celebrated Alabama author, world-renowned journalist and screenwriter and UA graduate (class of 1930), William Bradford Huie would have been 100 years old. Though he passed away in 1986, his vast body of work lives on, as does his pioneering style of journalism. In his lifetime, Huie wrote twenty-three books, selling over 30 million copies, as well as numerous articles for leading magazines, including the article in *Look* magazine (January, 1956) on the Emmett Till murder in Mississippi that is considered by many as a starting point for the modern Civil Rights Movement. Huie also served as editor and owner of H.L. Mencken's *American*

*Mercury*, and was a pioneering news television panelist on the 1950s CBS program, the *Longines Chronoscope*.

In honor of Huie, and because of a recent gift of rare materials, published items, and personal effects from his widow, Martha, the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library will present an exhibit on Huie that allows visitors to better understand the scope and breadth of his work. From a career that started when he was a student at The University of Alabama in the late 1920s, through his death in 1986, Huie seemed to have his finger on the pulse of America, and an ability to get to the heart of a story, seeking out the truth. Among the numerous treasures in the collection is Huie's special travel typewriter that he used in the 1940s as an officer and aide to Vice Admiral Moreel, and chronicler of the Seebees, during World War II, and as a war correspondent in the Pacific theater, at Iwo Jima and Hawaii.

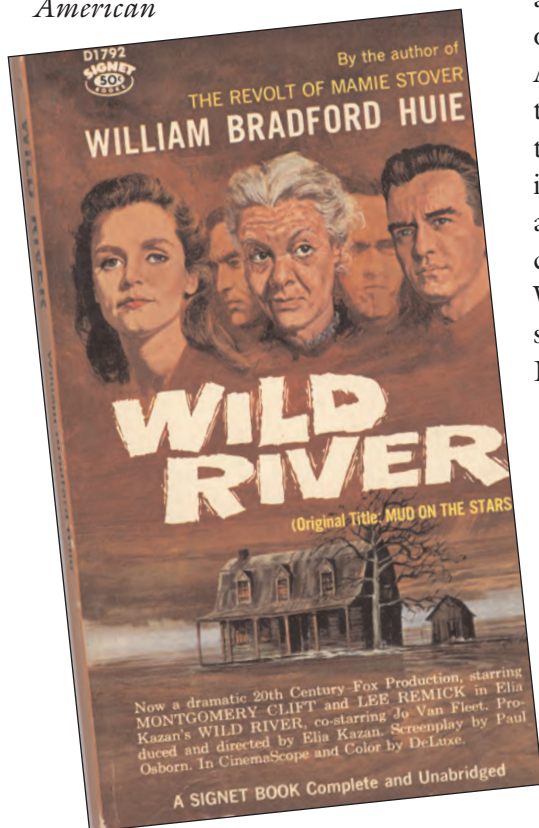
The exhibit opening, along with a talk will take place on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library. The guest speakers for this event are Martha Huie, along with celebrated author, University of Alabama graduate, and mentee of Huie, Wayne Greenhaw.



The excitement and interest in Huie has spread from Hoole to other parts of campus and the community. The following day, November 10, there will be a screening of *Wild River* (1960), the Elia Kazan film starring Montgomery Clift, which is based in part on Huie's semi-autobiographical novel, *Mud on the Stars*. The film also borrows from another Alabama author/UA graduate's work, *Dunbar's Cove* by Borden Deal. Dr. Don Noble will speak before the film.

In addition, other events are being planned around campus, including the performance of a play on Huie written by UA faculty member, Billy Field, and a high school outreach program coordinated by

See *"Celebrating"* on page 10





# Book Collecting Inspires UA Students

When the UA Libraries held its first book collecting contest in 2006, some wondered whether enthusiasm for book collecting would endure in future years. Wouldn't proliferation of digital media cause students to forget about or dismiss the wonder and beauty of books?

That so many students entered the University Libraries 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Collecting Contest suggests a different outcome. Indeed, UA students still love books and many are aspiring book collectors, ready to engage in collecting over the long run. Our students still understand the unique and special way that books bring meaning to all aspects of culture and society. And, as with book collectors everywhere, they appreciate books as objects of art.

On April 14, 2010, six contest winners were formally recognized in a special reception in Gorgas Library, when Dr. Mildred Jackson, associate dean for collections, announced with much anticipation the names of the contest winners.

Contest winners were selected in graduate and undergraduate categories and received cash prizes along with a one-year membership in the Rotunda Library Society.

The 2010 winners and their collections are:

- ◆ Laura Abson, College of Arts and Sciences, first place, under-



*Undergraduate winners Laura Abson and April Snider; guest A. S. "Steve" Williams; and graduate winners Rachel Watts, Lauren Faulkenberry and Robert LoMascolo.*

- graduate category. "Fantasy for All Ages," (Harry Potter books)
- ◆ Edward Mostoller, College of Arts and Sciences, second place, undergraduate category. "What Have We Been Doing?" (books on the Middle East).
- ◆ April Snider, College of Communication and Information Sciences, third place, undergraduate category. "My Friend the Comic Book," (includes comics with female heroes)
- ◆ Robert LoMascolo, School of Library and Information Studies, first place, graduate category. "Books designed by Bruce Rogers."
- ◆ Rachel Watts, College of Arts and Sciences, second place, graduate category. "On the Road" (book covers of Jack

Kerouac's book).

- ◆ Lauren Faulkenberry, School of Library and Information Studies, third place, graduate category. "Everything I Learned about Love" (stories by Southern writers)

Adding special flavor to the 2010 book collecting contest, A.S. Williams III, one of Alabama's most serious book collectors, gave a very interesting talk at the reception telling of his experiences during a lifetime of book collecting.

The 2010 book collecting contest was jointly sponsored by the University Libraries and the Alabama Center for the Book.

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John H. Sandy, head, Rodgers Library for Science and Engineering



University Libraries sponsored the first annual Libraries Video Contest during spring semester. “The purpose of the video competition was to promote library resources and services while encouraging students to create collaborative teams and show the library from the student perspective,” stated Lindley Shedd, media services coordinator, Lillie Florence Jones Sanford Media Resource and Design Center and chair of the contest. “Teams were given a set of requirements including time limits, required locations and a product free of copyright material.”

Nine teams entered the competition. A panel of judges selected four videos as finalists. The four finalists’ videos were uploaded to the library website for public vote. More than 1800 votes were cast to determine final rankings.

All participants who completed a video were given t-shirts designed for the competition. Prizes

included camcorders, tripods, iPod Nanos and iPod Shuffles.

The winners were:

**First Place:**

*Video title:* Good Research vs. Bad Research

*Team Leader:* Josh Sahib, College of Communication and Information Sciences, Master of Library and Information Studies

*Team Members:*

- Jana Motes, College of Communication and Information Sciences, Telecommunication and Film
- Sydney Prather, New College, Cultural Understanding through Visual and Textual Media

**Second Place:**

*Video title:* Final Cut Doh

*Team Leader:* Adam Roper, Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration, Criminal Justice and Accounting

*Team Members:*

- John Michael Simpson, New College, Interdisciplinary Studies
- Walker Donaldson, College of Arts & Sciences, Political Science/History

**Third Place:**

*Video title:* Spy Boy Spy: Library Mission Impossible

*Team Leader:* Alex Jones, Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration, Marketing

*Team Members:*

- Dustin Hawkins, Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration, Marketing

**Fourth Place:**

*Video title:* The Canterlibrary Tales

*Team Leader:* Cedrick Alexander, College of Communication and Information Sciences, Journalism

*Team Members:*

- Mitch DeAnda, College of Arts & Sciences, Political Science
- Jarvis Halsey, College of Arts & Sciences, Music Administration

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Lindley C. Shedd, media services coordinator, Sanford Media Center



## Scout - New Name of Libraries Search Interface

*Scout* was the winning entry sent in by Holly Miller, undergraduate, in the DiscoverySearch Naming Contest held online by the University Libraries. Over 85% of voters selected Miller’s entry as the new name for the Libraries search interface. Miller selected the name Scout as a tribute to the 50th anniversary of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Harper Lee’s unforgettable character. The name also implies to “seek and find”.

Katelyn Fowler, undergraduate, placed second with her entry *Crimson Search* and Laura Griecius-West, graduate student, finished third with *OASIS*.

Tom Wilson, associate dean of library technology, and Jason Battles, head, web services department, presented the winner with an iPod Touch while the second



L to R: Jason Battles, Holly Miller, and Tom Wilson

and third place entrants received monetary prizes.

Seventy-two unique entries were submitted. The University Libraries Public Interface Working Group along with Wilson, Dr.

Mildred Jackson, associate dean for collections, and Dr. Louis A. Pitschmann, dean of Libraries, selected three names from those entries for the public vote. Over 400 votes were cast for the finalists.

## Story Time at McLure Education Library

Area children and their parents were entertained during Family Weekend Story Time at McLure Education Library in September. Education and Library & Information Studies students as well as library faculty members read stories and entertained the children with craft projects. Dr. Mildred Jackson, professional story teller and associate dean for collections, is pictured during her presentation. Story Time is part of UA’s annual Family Weekend.





## “Collection” continued from page 1

letters, diaries and documents written by Alabamians from the 1820s forward. These letters describe political and historical events as well as daily life.

“For those of us who study Southern discourse, the manuscripts in this collection will be of tremendous value for both research and teaching,” said Dr. Catherine Evans Davies, professor of linguistics and chair of UA’s department of English.

“The Williams Collection is a treasure trove of material that will lend itself to new research initiatives for our faculty and students, and will make our special collections library a destination of choice for many researchers from other institutions,” stated Dr. Michael Picone, UA professor of French and linguistics.

Wartime history includes all aspects of the Civil War. The collection is especially strong in military manuals, histories and travel accounts, textbooks and novels.

In addition to presidential and historical documents, the collection also includes Indian land grants; unpublished archival collections of 19<sup>th</sup>-century business records; some 3,000 works of Southern fiction from the earliest examples to contemporary authors; and several literary archives. The collection is rich in first editions, signed copies, limited editions, association copies and rare books and manuscripts.



Photographs by Robin McDonald

The photography portion of the collection has more than 12,000 photographs from the South and Alabama ranging from the late 1850s to the mid-1930s. Civil War photographs, perhaps one of the finest archives and research collections of its kind, titled “The Southern Photographer, 1860-1910” are features of this collection. The work of Southern photographers is represented by approximately 4,000 images from 2,500 different studios.

Smaller sub-collections include early Southern maps; the African-American experience in the South, represented by photographs, books and pamphlets; and materials relating to the financial history of the United States from pre-Revolutionary times to the founding of the Bank of the United States.

The Williams Collection comprises more than 20,000 books and 12,000 photographs. The collection is housed



Photographs by Robin McDonald

on the third floor of Amelia Gayle Gorgas Library and opens to the public November 9, 2010. To read more about the collection, visit [www.lib.ua.edu/williamscollection](http://www.lib.ua.edu/williamscollection).

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Richard LeComte, communications specialist,  
media relations, University of Alabama



Photographs by Robin McDonald

*Example of a rare wallpaper binding*



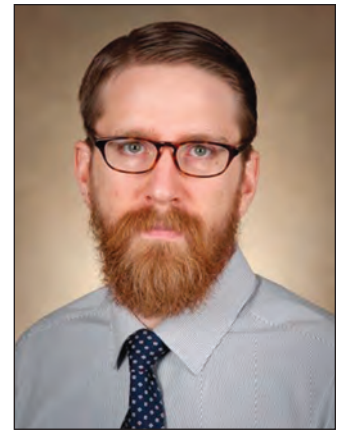
## News from the Faculty and Staff

### Welcome New Faculty

**Melissa Fortson** was appointed research & instructional services librarian, Gorgas Library on August 9, 2010. Fortson received her BA in English from Sewanee: The University of the South and her Master of Library & Information Studies from The University of Alabama. Prior to returning to her home state of Alabama to attend graduate school, Fortson worked at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, coordinating an information and referral program serving people with disabilities and their families. She also worked as a Braille and talking book librarian and in instructional technology.



**Kevin Walker** was appointed user engagement and assessment specialist, Gorgas Library on September 13, 2010. Walker received his BA in English Literature and Master of Library & Information Studies from the University of Alabama and is currently working on a Ph.D. in Public Policy & Administration at Auburn University. He worked the last six years at Alabama State University before joining UA Libraries. He is moderator-elect of Alabama Library Association's (ALLA) Collection Development and Management Round Table and a member of the ALLA Handbook Committee and the Alabama Political Science Association's Committee on Student Involvement.



**Josh Sahib** was appointed research and instructional services librarian, Gorgas Library on August 2, 2010. Sahib holds three degrees, BS in Management Information Systems, MA in American Studies and a Master of Library & Information Studies all from the University of Alabama. He recently worked in the Faculty Resource Center at the University as an eLearning support specialist and was the team leader of the winning video in the Libraries-sponsored Video Contest last spring in the graduate division.



### *"Celebrating"*

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Field. Both of these events are November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Several teaching faculty across campus are also working on a series of four open discussions and group readings based on Huie's writings, which will take place in Spring 2011. This will include participants from History, Journalism, New College, American Studies, Telecommunication and Film and other areas on campus. A blog, website, and Facebook page have all been created to help document and disperse information about this exciting collaboration. Visit the blog at <http://wbhuicat100.blogspot.com/>

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Jessica Lacher-Feldman, curator of rare books and special collections

*In Memory of Lisa Powell Stevenson  
Reference Librarian, Gorgas Library*



## William Fair Worford, Recipient of Henderson Endowed Scholarship

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The Patricia S. Henderson Endowed Scholarship was recently awarded to William Fair Worford, library assistant I, Library Annex Services. Worford has been working in university libraries since 2001, first as a student at the University of Montevallo where he completed his history degree in 2003.

He joined the University of Alabama Libraries in 2005 as a full-time employee in the cataloging department and enrolled in the School of Library and Information Studies in fall 2008 as a part-time student. Worford has completed

24 hours of the 36 credit hours needed to qualify for graduation and has maintained a 4.0 GPA.

In his scholarship application Worford stated “While researching for a class I found that the basic parameters of librarianship have not changed: it is the platforms upon which those parameters are presented that continue to change and challenge the profession.”

He went on to say, “These changes serve as an appealing challenge for future librarians. This is what makes academic librarianship an enticing career for me.”



*William Fair Worford*

## Dr. Nancy DuPree and Pamela Steward Receive Library Faculty and Staff Awards

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Dr. Nancy DuPree and Pamela Steward have been named recipients of the 2010 Library Leadership Faculty and Staff Awards. Eleanor Streit, program chair of the University of Alabama Library Leadership Board, announced the winners at the March Library Forum meeting.

Dr. DuPree\*, information services librarian, began her career with University Libraries in Gorgas Library, Interlibrary Loan Department, in 1982. She moved to McLure Education Library in 1983 as a staff member and moved to her current position in May, 2003. Her job involves outreach to faculty in the College of Education, determining the needs for purchasing materials.

Steward, accounting assistant in the Business Office, has been with the libraries for 23 years. Her responsibilities include coordination of travel arrangements, accounting and procurement support for equipment and supplies, budget reports and day-to-day processing of transactions and reporting for 83 different funds.

Each recipient received a framed certificate and honorarium at the University of Alabama Library Leadership Board Luncheon in May.



*L to R: Dean Louis Pitschmann, Dr. Nancy DuPree, Pamela Steward, and Eleanor Streit*

*\*Dr. DuPree was recently named interim curator of the A. S. Williams III Americana Collection.*



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