



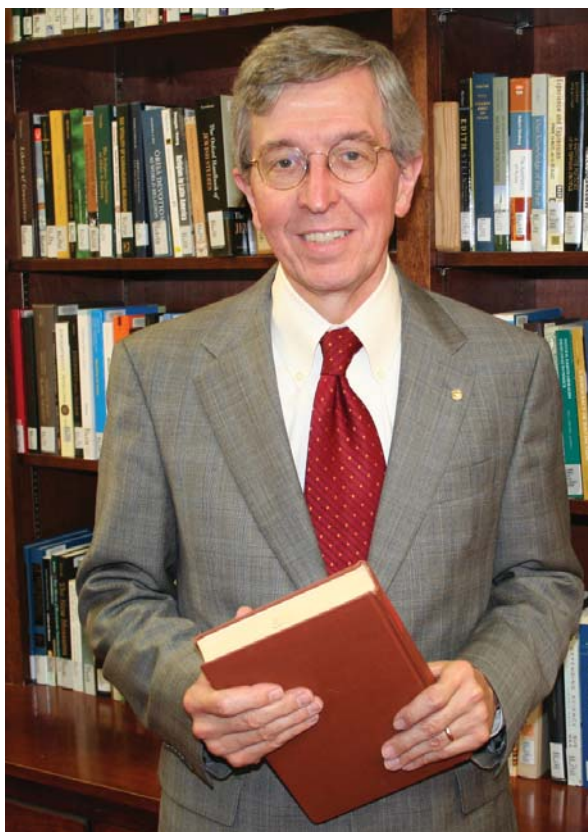
LIBRARY HORIZONS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA LIBRARIES

FALL 2008, VOL. 22, NO. 1

FINAL YEAR OF LIBRARIES' CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As dean of the University Libraries, I would like to thank the hundreds of donors who have chosen to support the Libraries during the current capital campaign. Since it began on January 1, 2002, the Libraries have received two gifts exceeding \$1 million, several gifts in excess of \$100,000, and hundreds of gifts ranging from \$50 to \$75,000, as well as many gifts of exceptional books and unique research materials.



DR. LOUIS A. PITSCHMANN, DEAN OF LIBRARIES

July 1, 2008 marked the beginning of the final year in the capital campaign, *Our Students Our Future*, as well as the final year for the \$5.5 million campaign for the University Libraries. If we reach our goal, it will be the first time the Libraries will meet a campus-wide campaign goal and will also reflect a significant increase in giving to the Libraries. Thanks to generous support from alumni, friends, faculty, and staff, the Libraries have less than \$1 million to raise to reach this goal.

Some might question why the need for support for the Libraries has increased. Enrollment at the University is growing rapidly, and more students mean an increased demand for library resources and space. Last year there were 1,496,861 on-site visits to the Libraries, an increase of 20% over the previous year, an increase that exceeded the increase in enrollment. Further, students are asking for extended library hours; there is even a call for 24-hour library access.

Reaching our \$5.5 million goal will be an important milestone for the Libraries. It will permit us to be more responsive to students' needs, and it will also demonstrate UA alumni's strong support for the Libraries and their willingness to invest in the Libraries' future. A growing number of alumni recognize that the role libraries have traditionally played in an academic setting has changed dramatically in the past decade. The UA Libraries today provide a sophisticated environment filled with "edgy" technology in group-friendly spaces. Here learning and creativity take place in a constantly evolving interplay of print collections, digital texts, and the latest software applications acquired to meet the needs of the

21st-century user. Reaching our campaign goal will assure that the Libraries will continue to offer our students resources and services commensurate with the University's growing reputation for quality.

Among our priorities is greater access to materials in the W. S. Hoole Special Collections Library where students and faculty find some of the most important documents, photographs, and artifacts relating to the history, life, and culture of Alabama, the South, and our nation. We are a key player in national efforts to digitize and make available on the World Wide Web the unique holdings in special collections across the country. With appropriate funding, the treasures so carefully gathered by the likes of Dr. William S. Hoole and Professor Joyce Lamont will be linked virtually with similar collections across the South and around the world. This effort will afford countless research opportunities and move the Libraries' important special collections to new levels of prominence.

If you would like to make a gift or pledge at any level to the University Libraries, please contact my staff at 205-348-7561. My staff and I can also assist you if you are considering donating personal papers or family documents such as diaries, letters, scrapbooks, or photographs.

A gift to the Libraries supports every student!

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA LIBRARIES



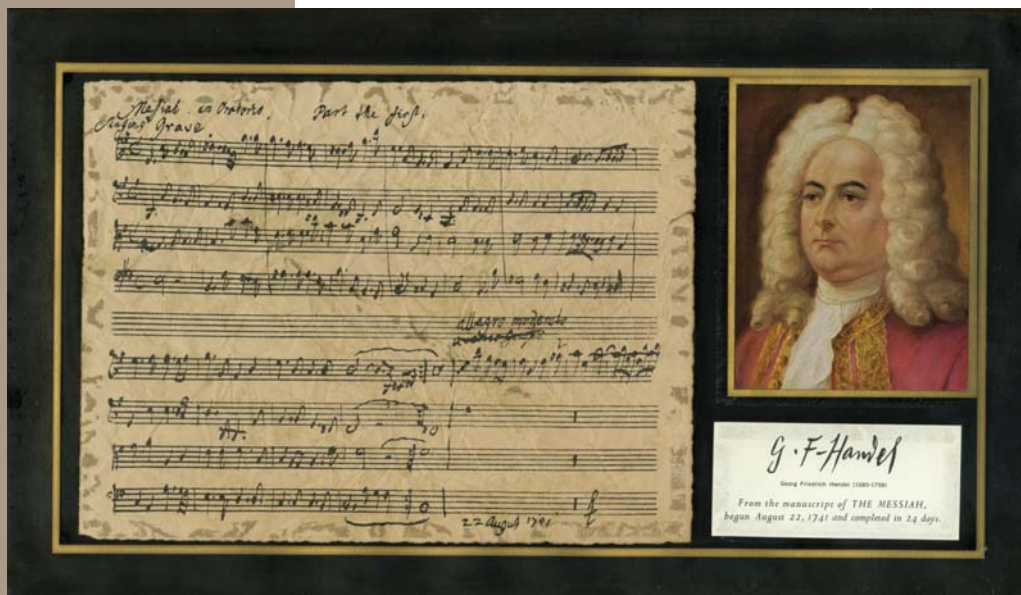
GARDINER GIVES COLLECTION TO MUSIC LIBRARY

With a gift of 16 opera videos in May of this year, Dr. Billingsley J. Gardiner realized his goal of providing the University Libraries with a collection of recordings of performances of almost every known opera. The collection, comprised of more than 450 DVDs and VHS tapes, has within it many obscure operas sure to delight even the most knowledgeable music aficionado. As one might imagine, the collection is experiencing heavy use as students and faculty discover this expansive collection.

Dr. Gardiner began handing over his carefully gathered collection of video recordings in early 2007 and has continued to add to it as he finds items not already in the collection and, the donor notes, “as friends return borrowed items.” Dr. Gardiner recently shared the following thoughts on his gift to the Libraries, “By giving this collection I hope to encourage and inspire other alumni to donate their collections and share their resources with the library. I consider the library to be the nerve center and the heart of our University.”

After just a few moments with Dr. Gardiner it is evident that music is one of the things in life he cherishes most. It was a difficult decision to turn over his beloved collection, but he was committed to doing so, especially after learning that the music library had few opera videos in the circulating collection. Dr. Gardiner is quick to tell you that it was his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Gardiner, who instilled in him a deep appreciation for music and art. “I am eternally grateful to my parents for this gift and have given my collection to the Libraries to honor their memory and in some way continue their tradition of sharing the love of music with others,” he said.

Along with the collection of operas, Dr. Gardiner donated hundreds of other items including books, recordings of musicals, framed manuscript pages, manuscript facsimiles, and paintings.



FORMER LIBRARIES FACULTY MEMBER ESTABLISHES ENDOWMENT

Ann Tibbits Power, Professor Emerita of the University of Alabama Libraries, has contributed almost \$77,000 to the University Libraries in support of the poetry collection and in memory of her grandparents. The Mary Louise Tibbits Berg Bequest, in memory of her grandmother, is an outright gift to be used to purchase poetry resources to enhance the current poetry collection.

Earnings from the John Dennis Tibbits Library Endowment, established in memory of Professor Power's grandfather, are to be used for the purchase of books, serials, databases, and other resources on poetry and poetics, with an emphasis on modern and contemporary poetry. The selections will support the writing of poetry and The Program in Creative Writing or its future equivalent at the University. Earnings may also be used for library facilities and/or facility enhancements to encourage use of the collection. Acquisitions funded by the endowment will be distinguished with bookplates reading, “Poetry and Poetics – The John Dennis Tibbits Endowment,” and will be catalogued to create a virtual collection.

John Dennis Tibbits, a man of literary descent, was a native of New London, Connecticut, and son to John A. Tibbits, a Civil War veteran, lawyer, publisher of the *New London Day*, and Consul in Bradford, England. After living in England as

Endowment, continued on next page



Endowment, continued on from previous page

a teen, John Dennis Tibbits moved to New York City to earn his fortune, and there he married Maria Anna Libera Fiorillo (Mary Louise Tibbits Berg), an Italian immigrant, with whom he had four children, John L., Dorothy, Kathryn, and Edward.

Mr. and Mrs. Tibbits' granddaughter, Ann Tibbits Power, daughter of John L. Tibbits, is an alumna of The University of Alabama and professor emerita of the University Libraries. She received library science and educational specialist degrees from The University of Alabama. During her tenure at UA Libraries, she completed a master of fine arts in creative writing with an emphasis on poetry. Grateful for her challenging position with the libraries and her rewarding studies in The Program in Creative Writing, Professor Power wishes through this endowment to support poetry and poetics in the University Libraries at The University of Alabama in perpetuity.



A-DAY FANS CONTRIBUTE TO LIBRARY FUNDRAISER

On April 12, A-Day game fans contributed more than \$20,000 in support of UA Libraries collections, programs, and services. Spearheading the effort was Terry Saban, with the cooperation of UA Athletic Director Mal Moore.

Over 100 volunteers gathered at all 40 gates of Bryant-Denny Stadium four hours prior to the game to participate in the fundraiser which continued until the game started. Wearing bright green T-shirts that proclaimed "Academics & Athletics Support UA

Libraries," volunteers included students, faculty, staff, and friends of the Libraries.

According to Dean Louis Pitschmann, "Equally important was that the volunteers also raised the Libraries' visibility across the state. Not only were the fans reminded that the Libraries serve everyone, but television coverage of our fundraiser made even more people aware of the role the Libraries play and our need for their support." Mrs. Saban and her husband, Alabama head coach Nick Saban, are strong supporters of libraries and library services, as this effort demonstrates.



TERRY SABAN AND LIBRARIAN PAUL BROTHERS





EBSCO SUPPORTS DIGITAL PROJECTS

Thanks to a gift from EBSCO Industries, Inc., UA Libraries' digital collections have grown significantly in the past year, making a broad range of unique and rare materials available to the world. These include photographs, lithographs, letters and diaries, rare books, Alabama business records, sheet music, regional Native American materials, and rare ephemera as well as University of Alabama materials such as university photographs, archival holdings, and volumes of *The University of Alabama yearbook*, the *Corolla*. View the collections at <http://www.lib.ua.edu/digital/>.



Notable materials include over 300 glass plate negative slides from University of Alabama alumnus **Eugene Allen Smith**, longtime UA professor and former Alabama state geologist. This collection includes historic images of campus as well as pictures of the flora and aquaculture of Alabama for which, in some cases, no other photographic record exists.

The **Daphne Cunningham diaries** give a unique glimpse into coed campus life in the nineteen-teens at The University of Alabama. Ms. Cunningham's diaries have been used extensively by UA History professor Dr. Lisa Lindquist Dorr, who presented some findings at the Hoole Library in spring 2007 and is using them in her writing and teaching.

The **Sydnia Keene Smith Antebellum Architecture** materials feature photographs of buildings in Tuscaloosa, many of which no longer exist. Some of these images are the only known images of a particular structure.

The **Emphasis** materials feature digitized speeches, as well as print material, from the ground-breaking lecture series held at The University of Alabama from 1967 through 1971. Among the most significant items is a speech given by Senator Robert F. Kennedy in March of 1968.



The **University of Alabama Encyclopedia** is a growing collection of historic UA photographs and other materials—resources that are a source of University pride, an aid to recruiting, and are valuable to University research. Shown at left is Gorgas Library, now Carmichael Hall, as it appeared in 1925.



From the rare books collection, nearly fifty **pamphlets printed during the French Revolution** have been digitized. These ephemeral items offer researchers a unique opportunity to use materials that were never intended or expected to survive, as they have, for over 200 years. Some items written by the most important figures in the French Revolution, including Maximilien Robespierre and Louis de Saint-Juste, are of great international historical significance.

Digitization of the rare atlas *Voyages dans l'Amérique Septentrionale* (Voyages in North America) is now complete. Published in Paris in 1826, the atlas records the observations made in 1796 by French general and engineer Georges Henri Victor Collot while he travelled on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers on a spying mission for the French government.

Additionally, the Libraries have digitized portions of our rare research materials on the Choctaw Indians, including a 19th century manuscript **French/Choctaw dictionary** and other materials that reflect the history, legends, and language of the Choctaw.



www.lib.ua.edu/digital



LIBRARIES WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Mark Siciliano Bruno Reference Librarian



Mark Siciliano joined the Libraries faculty as Business Reference Librarian on August 4th. According to Lee Pike, Head of the Angelo Bruno Business Library, "Mark brings to Bruno Library several years of experience in the area of financial research, financial

information services and training. He has worked in corporate and professional settings, including Thomson Financial, FactSet Research Systems, and the Bobst Library at New York University."

In addition to his professional experience, Mr. Siciliano has substantial knowledge of programming and computer applications, particularly in the areas of graphic and Web design and digital content management. He holds degrees in Economics from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and Information Science from Syracuse University. His responsibilities at Bruno include providing all types of business reference and information services, course-specific instruction including Web tutorials, campus and external outreach, individual and group consultation and research assistance, and support of business reference interests campus-wide.

Lindley Shedd Media Services Coordinator



Lindley Shedd joined the Libraries faculty as Media Services Coordinator on August 1, 2008. She holds degrees in History from the University of Arkansas and in Information Science from Indiana University. As manager of the Sanford Media Lab in Gorgas Library, she will

provide equipment, software and consulting services to students creating media for instructional purposes, including classroom assignments.

Ms. Shedd has extensive technical skills and is experienced in web development, metadata, and use of multimedia software packages. At the University of Arkansas she was project coordinator for the Diane Blair Oral History Project for preservation and publication of Diane Blair's 123 interviews with the staff of the 1992 William J. Clinton presidential campaign. Her work with the Indiana University Digital Library Program included managing operations of a digitization lab, performing quality control on digitized materials and performing basic hardware, software, and networking trouble-shooting. Her training and experience in visualization of historical research data will be a valuable asset to faculty and students alike.



NEW FACULTY CONTINUED

Jody DeRidder Head, Digital Services



Jody DeRidder joined the Libraries staff as Head of Digital Services on July 1, 2008. She holds an undergraduate degree in Human Services and graduate degrees in Computer Science and Information Science, all from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

The Head of Digital Services reports to the Associate Dean for Library Technology and works closely with Curators of the Department of Archives and Southern History and Life and the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. Although the Office of Library Technology provides technology development, implementation, and management in support of digital initiatives, the Head of Digital Services plays a major role in coordinating, directing, strengthening, and expanding the Libraries' digitization program. Ms. DeRidder's background in human services and in computer and information science complements the skills of existing Libraries staff and makes her an ideal choice for this highly collaborative position.

Ms. DeRidder was employed at the University of Tennessee Libraries Digital Library Center as an information technology administrator and prior to that as a programmer for the UTK Office of Research and Information Technology. Her research interests center around access issues with regard to digital libraries. Her professional contributions include papers and presentations on institutional repositories, creating metadata (search terms) for digital objects, and enhancing web search capabilities for local digital collections.

In the abstract to a recent article, "Googlizing a Digital Library" (*The Code4Lib Journal*, March 24, 2008. <http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/43>. Accessed 30 July 2008), she notes, "Digital libraries...are normally part of the Deep Web, inaccessible to general web crawlers and hence to generalized search engines such as Google. Yet the primary goals of digital libraries include enhancing accessibility, expanding one's audience to the general public, and promoting the library. Leveraging the capabilities of popular search engines is a potentially powerful and low-cost method of meeting these goals."

Restoration, continued on page 7

Significant Restoration in McLure Education Library





LIBRARY LEADERSHIP BOARD HONORS WRIGHT AND LACHER-FELDMAN



ELEANOR STREIT, LIBRARY LEADERSHIP BOARD

ANN L. WRIGHT

JESSICA LACHER-FELDMAN

For the past several years the Library Leadership Board has recognized one faculty member and one staff member for their exceptional work in support of the mission of University Libraries. Candidates for the award are nominated by their peers and selected by a committee of the Library Leadership Board. Honored in 2008 are Ann L. Wright, Accounting Specialist in the Business Office, and Jessica Lacher-Feldman, Curator of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at W. S. Hoole Special Collections Library. In addition to being recognized by their peers for exceptional library service, each recipient of the award receives a framed certificate and a cash award made possible through annual gifts from Library Leadership Board members.

Significant Restoration in McLure Education Library

Restoration, continued from page 6



With the help of funding from the University and the Libraries, planned renovation and restoration of the McLure Education Library building took a major step forward over the summer with repair of the book stacks areas on all floors of the library. Problems with roof leaks and seepage through building walls were corrected during 2006-2007 when the roof was repaired and the exterior walls were pointed and sealed. This paved the way for a complete overhaul of interior walls which had been damaged by moisture. In order to complete the process in time for fall term, books from McLure stacks were relocated into the Library Annex while interior walls were cleaned, re-plastered, and painted.



This phase of refurbishing the library complements work done in other public areas of the library that included creation of Learning Commons areas with group study pods, establishing a computer lab with 25 workstations, installing a curriculum evaluation station for curriculum-related software housed in the Curriculum Materials Center, and creating garden study space around the building. Even before the stacks project was complete, McLure Library experienced an increase in library visits over the previous year. Helga Visscher, Head of McLure Library, observed that “the study pods on the main floor are the most popular. Everyone admires the style, and people enjoy using these computer stations alone, or in pairs.”



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