


LIBRARY HORIZONS

A Newsletter of the University of Alabama Libraries

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“What About Books?” She Asked

A faculty member recently asked me about The University of Alabama’s commitment to developing print collections. She sought assurance that campus libraries would continue to collect scholarly monographs and other book-format publications at levels sufficient to support current and future teaching and research needs. The bookman in me rose to the occasion as I replied that books remain a high priority not only at this university but also in research libraries generally. To underscore my point, I referred to the 28,000 books we purchased for our collections last year. I probably should have included a reference to the nearly 3.7 million monographs purchased by North American research libraries in the year 2000. Now, that’s commitment.

I would like to think that my answers eased her concerns, but as I reflect on that exchange I feel I missed an opportunity to expand the conversation by asking her opinion on publishing trends. Scholars continue to produce more book-length research than any single library could hope to acquire, process, and store. Even the Library of Congress does not acquire, or at least not retain, a copy of every book published in the United States, and only a small percentage of the scholarly output from abroad reaches its doors. Further, and more central to the professor’s concerns, I should have pointed out the ongoing decrease in the number of copies per title that publishers are printing. It is not at all uncommon for many university presses, for example, to print 500 or fewer copies of a first edition.

I also should have asked the professor about her perception of the role of scholarly monographs in classroom settings and for research. How are they used? By whom? How fre-

quently are they cited? I regret not telling her that faculty members in a humanities department whose doctoral program is consistently ranked among the top five in the country once encouraged me to buy fewer books rather than cancel journal subscriptions if the collection budget proved insufficient to cover all formats. I wish, too, that I had told her about my own research in progress to study the frequency of monographs cited in scholarly journal articles. She might have been surprised to learn that preliminary findings indicate that monographs are far less frequently cited than article-length research found in journals, conference proceedings, and *Festschriften*.

Debating the role of the monograph in schol-

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arly communication with a nationally recognized scholar in her field may not have been in anyone's best interest. Instead, I simply should have stressed that University Libraries will continue to acquire books to the extent that the budget permits and to the extent that demand requires. We will not allow electronic resources to erode UA's annual acquisition of books the way that journal prices have repeatedly reduced the number of monographs purchased at other universities over the past 12 to 15 years. The Libraries' commitment to maintaining strong print-based collections with continued emphasis on the acquisition of books is not waning. What is changing, however, is the acceptance of digital formats in teaching, research, and scholarly publishing. It will be publishers and readers who ultimately decide whether print or digital formats best meet their needs. Tenure and promotion criteria will also influence the number of scholarly monographs produced each year as more universities award promotion and tenure to faculty members who elect to render their scholarship in multi-media and three-dimensional digital formats that permit users to better understand and apply their findings. Until then, bibliophiles, like myself, can be assured that the book as we have known it, ink on paper and bound at the left margin, will continue to flourish and research libraries will acquire, catalog, and house them for the indefinite future.

Louis A. Pitschmann, dean of libraries

Important Women's Studies Database Added

University Libraries has acquired an important new database to provide students and scholars with newly available electronic resources in the humanities and social sciences. *North American Women's Letters and Diaries, Colonial—1950* is an extensive collection of published and unpublished

women's diaries and correspondence. Drawn from more than 1,000 sources, including journal articles, pamphlets, newsletters, monographs, and conference proceedings, *North American Women's Letters and Diaries* is one of the most comprehensive collections of women's diaries and letters ever assembled.

The current release covers writings by 442 women living during the seventeenth century through 1949. The collection is scheduled for completion in summer 2002, at which time it will include approximately 150,000 pages of primary material by more than 1,500 women. Included are writings by women who are both well known and unknown, of various age groups and ethnicities, and from all geographical regions. The diaries and letters provide a detailed record of the conditions under which women worked, what they ate, what they read, their religious views, their personal relationships, and their reactions to specific historical events.

Deep and broad indexing using Standardized General Markup Language (SGML) provides exceptional searching capabilities. In addition to being searchable by subject, event, place, person, and chronology, the text can be searched by specific criteria including age at marriage, occupation, marital or maternal status when writing, and place of birth or death. *North American Women's Letters and Diaries* is available through the **Databases** link on the Libraries' Web page, www.lib.ua.edu.

Patricia Henderson, collection management coordinator

Unique Citation Indexes Now Online

University Libraries has added access to *ISI Web of Science*, a resource that electronically integrates three premiere citation indexes, *Science Citation Index Expanded*, *Social Science Citation Index*, and *Arts & Humanities Citation Index*. With coverage beginning in 1992,

the databases can be searched singly or in combination. Together they index more than 8,500 authoritative, high-impact journals cover-to-cover, providing users with complete bibliographic data, full-length author abstracts, and cited references from the world's most influential research, including articles, government reports, patents, novels, poems, paintings, and musical compositions.

ISI Web of Science offers unique searching capabilities and features. In addition to the author, title, subject and authors' institutional affiliation access, *ISI Web of Science* provides cited reference searching. This unique search of article bibliographies allows users to navigate backward in time to discover the research that influenced an author's work and forward in time to discover the impact a work has had on later research. Each individual entry has a link to **Related Records**, which allows the user to locate articles that have cited references in common, and **Key Words Plus**, a list of all subject keywords which apply to that record. These keywords can be used to further narrow subsequent searches. Searchers using EndNote 5.0 will be able to establish a connection to *ISI Web of Science* from within EndNote, thus enabling them to search remotely and import records directly into their EndNote database.

ISI Web of Science is available through the **Databases** link on the Libraries' Web page, www.lib.ua.edu.

Patricia Henderson, collection management coordinator

KUDZU: New ILL Program Covers the Southeast

University Libraries is a member of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) and a participant in *KUDZU*, ASERL's shared catalog system. Currently the system uses OCLC SiteSearch software to provide cat-

alog information about collections at sixteen ASERL member libraries and the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago. Launched in January 2001, the project includes expedited delivery of requested interlibrary loan materials, common policies for system usage, and shared expenditures for software and technical staffing. Each participant agrees to process interlibrary loan requests within forty-eight hours of receipt.

The present ASERL participants in *KUDZU* are:

Auburn University
Clemson University
East Carolina University
Mississippi State University
Tulane University
University of Alabama
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
University of Memphis
University of Mississippi
University of South Carolina
University of Tennessee - Knoxville
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Wake Forest University

KUDZU can be accessed from the catalog page of the Libraries' Web site. It allows simultaneous searching of user-designated catalogs. The results indicate which libraries own the item and whether it is available. The user may place an ILL request directly from a selected record by clicking on the ILL button. This system is designed for book requests only. Currently, the form does not allow users to type in enough bibliographic information for article requests. ILL article requests may be submitted through the Libraries' electronic request form.

The University Libraries began participating in *KUDZU* in February 2001 and our *KUDZU*-



initiated requests have increased from 28 per month in the beginning to a monthly high of 478 requests. This ranks the Libraries third out of the sixteen participating libraries in patron usage.

KUDZU is just one of the cooperative programs in which University Libraries participates to enhance patron access to information. Future projects of ASERL include virtual reference, cooperative storage, information literacy and AmericanSouth.org. The AmericanSouth.org project, supported by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, seeks to create an online portal of databases focusing on the culture of post-Civil War southern history and culture. Its scheduled completion date is July 2003.

Angela Wright, interlibrary loan librarian

Faculty Profile: Angela Jenkins Wright, Interlibrary Loan Librarian

Angela Jenkins Wright, interlibrary loan librarian for The University of Alabama Libraries, brings a variety of experience to the position. A graduate of Mount Holyoke College in political science, she received her M.L.S. degree from the University of Maryland. She worked at The University of Alabama as interlibrary loan librarian from 1988 to 1991. After working as a corporate librarian and human resources specialist in the Birmingham area for several years, she returned to the position of interlibrary loan librarian in 1996.

Wright has continually worked to improve library service in the interlibrary loan department (ILL). Under her leadership, electronic resources have greatly increased. Patron-initiated interlibrary loan, a process that allows library users to fill out request forms from the Libraries' Web site and send them electronically to ILL, was begun in December 2000. During the year 2001, University Libraries

began participating in the Association of South-eastern Research Libraries project named *KUDZU*, an interlibrary loan option which promises speedy response time for requests made through that system. ILL went through changes in personnel and required a great deal of staff development and training to handle the new way of doing things. Wright worked on streamlining the workflow in the department and continued with the development of the ILL Web page.

Wright is active statewide through the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL). In 2000-01, she chaired the Resource Sharing Committee of NAAL, working with the affiliates program. The program brings four-year institutions that do not generally offer graduate programs into the consortium by pairing these institutions with a NAAL participant. UA is paired with Stillman College.

Angela Wright has helped University Libraries' in whatever situation she finds herself. In addition to her technical expertise and professional contributions, she is helping administratively. When the Libraries' personnel officer accepted a position in UA Human Resources, Angela agreed to serve part-time in that capacity.

Helga Visscher, reference librarian, McLure Education Library



Angela Wright, interlibrary loan librarian.

Electronic Reserve Pilot a Success

An electronic reserve pilot project is underway in the Amelia Gayle Gorgas Library. A total of 17 professors have submitted over 200 print reserve articles which have been scanned and made available electronically. Professors from fields such as music, history, library science, and social work are participating in the project and report that their students like being able to access these articles from remote locations. Plans are underway to have electronic reserve available in all University Libraries beginning in fall semester 2002.

*Janice Simpson, head, Circulation
Department*

Harper Lee Attends Hoole Library Reception

On Friday, January 25, the William Stanley Hoole Special Collections Library hosted a reception honoring the winners of the *To Kill a Mockingbird* High School Essay Competition. Last fall the University Honors Program, in conjunction with the Alabama State Department of Education, organized the contest to commemorate *To Kill a Mockingbird* author Harper Lee's induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor. Students were asked to submit essays discussing changes in the South since the 1930s, the time setting for the book.

The winners, one from each participating high school, and grand prize winner Katherine Garner from Coffee High School in Florence had lunch with President and Mrs. Andrew Sorensen at the president's mansion before attending an awards ceremony. Immediately following the awards ceremony, the students, their parents, and their teachers convened at the Hoole Library for the reception. Ms. Lee also attended the reception at the Hoole Library, graciously signing books, posing for

photographs, and talking to the high school students, members of local and regional media, and University students, staff, and faculty.

A native of Monroeville, Alabama, Nelle Harper Lee is an alumna of the University. A student here from 1945-50, Ms. Lee received an undergraduate degree from the University and attended The University of Alabama School of Law. While a student she edited the *Rammer Jammer*, the University's humor magazine, and contributed the column "Caustic Comment" for *The Crimson White*. Lee later moved to New York City where she worked on the book for several years. Published in 1960, *To Kill a Mockingbird* earned immediate popular and critical success, winning the Pulitzer Prize for literature in 1961.

Those attending the reception viewed an exhibit of Hoole Library materials honoring Ms. Lee and her work. Prepared by Hoole Library public and outreach services coordinator Jessica Lacher-Feldman, the exhibit displayed copies of the *Rammer Jammer* edited by Lee and editions of the *Corolla* featuring Lee, as well as numerous editions of *To Kill a Mockingbird* from the Alabama Collection and Wade Hall Collection of Southern History and Culture.



Shown at reception in Hoole Library are (left to right): Harper Lee and Jessica Lacher-Feldman.

The Alabama Collection is the world's most extensive collection of Alabamiana and contains books about Alabama, by Alabamians, and published in Alabama. The Wade Hall Collection, a gift of Union Springs, Alabama native Dr. Wade Hall, includes books, journals, photographs, sheet music, sound recordings, and other materials relating to the South, particularly Alabama. The exhibit also featured a lithograph by artist Wendell Minor. Donated to Hoole Library by President Andrew Sorensen, the work was originally designed for the cover of the 1987 Warner paperback edition of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Donnelly Lancaster, archival access coordinator, William Stanley Hoole Special Collections Library

Library Graduate Assistant Program: A Win/Win Situation

University Libraries has long had support from the School of Library and Information Studies graduate students, who served as teaching assistants in the bibliographic instruction pro-



Shown seated are (left to right): Constance Grant and Mark Cole. Standing (left to right): Luisa Reyes, Clint Coopersmith, Jeannette Lessels, and advisor Helga Visscher.

gram. Beginning in fall term 2001, the program was expanded and now includes graduate assistantships in a variety of areas within University Libraries. This program offers an excellent opportunity for students to gain practical experience in a dynamic library setting, and the support they provide benefits library users and staff alike.

For example, Jennifer Ellis has been working this semester in the William Stanley Hoole Special Collections Library. Her M.F.A. and previous experience with exhibits has been of benefit to outreach efforts. She has worked with Jessica Lacher-Feldman, public services outreach coordinator for special collections, on the Lafcadio Hearn and kimono exhibits for the Sakura festival as well as the African American heritage exhibit. Sarah Roy, who works with Patricia Henderson, collection manager, has helped compile data that will be used for collection analysis. She has also worked on identifying African American titles for possible addition to the collection.

Constance Grant has worked with Mary Alexander, serials unit head, and Patricia Ratkovich, acting monographs unit head, in the catalog department. Ms. Grant has assisted with original cataloging of videorecordings as well as UA theses and dissertations. Also, she has added records for state government agency Web sites to the Libraries' Catalog. Another graduate assistant, Michelle Emanuel, is working on her library degree after earning a Ph.D. in French. She has worked in the catalog department with Marcia Barrett, database services unit head, on projects such as adding links to records in the Libraries' Catalog and processing database reports.

Also making significant contributions are Mark Cole, Clint Coopersmith, Sheri Helt, and Luisa Kay Reyes working with Brett Spencer in Gorgas Information Services and Jeannette Lessels working with Helga Visscher in McLure Education Library. Twice a year, librarians are invited to submit proposals for projects that could benefit from a graduate assistant.

Helga Visscher, reference librarian, McLure Education Library.

National Academy Press Titles Available Electronically

University Libraries is pleased to provide members of the University community with electronic access to many of the titles from the National Academy Press. The National Academy Press (NAP), including Joseph Henry Press, publishes "reports issued by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the Institute of Medicine, and the National Research Council, all operating under a charter granted by the Congress of the United States." While full-text electronic access to many of the titles has been available through the University's subscription to *netLibrary*, profiled in the spring 2001 issue of *Library Horizons*, an even greater number of titles is now available through the Libraries' Catalog.

NAP provides free, fully searchable versions of select publications, accessible from anywhere at anytime from their Web site. A recent catalog department project involved adding links from University Libraries' catalog record to the table of contents page for each NAP title in the collection that is not available through *netLibrary*. These links lead the patron directly from the catalog to full text, without the need to search in another catalog or database.

With the completion of this project, many NAP titles are now available to the University community both in print format and through the Libraries' Catalog in full-text electronic version. Additional NAP titles may be accessed electronically through the e-books section of the Libraries' Web page.

*Michelle Emanuel, graduate assistant,
Catalog Department*

Library Leadership Board Member Receives Alumni Award

Ralph P. Loveless, charter member of the Library Leadership Board, has been given the

2002 Distinguished Alumni Award. This award is based on loyalty and service to the University and to the National Alumni Association as well as character, professional achievement, and service to community, state and nation.

Mr. Loveless received his undergraduate degree and law degree from the University. For many years he has served the National Alumni Association in a variety of ways including national president, district vice president, chapter officer and board of directors. A practicing attorney in Mobile, Mr. Loveless is a member of the Alabama and American Bar Associations. He has served as director of the Alabama Law School Foundation, is a member of the Denny Society, and is a faithful fan of the Crimson Tide.

We congratulate Mr. Loveless for his distinguished service to the University.

Margaret Wilson, major gifts officer

Ballard Named Web Services Coordinator

Cheryl Ballard was named Web services coordinator of University Libraries in December 2001. As the Libraries' first Web services coordinator, Ballard is responsible for the development and management of University Libraries' Web presence. She will provide vision and leadership in the delivery and enhancement of services provided through the Web. Ballard is a member of the Scholarly Communications Team, along with Patricia Henderson, collection management coordinator, and Barbara Dahlbach, electronic resources coordinator.

After receiving the M.L.S. from The University of Alabama, Ballard worked as a business reference librarian in the Angelo Bruno Business Library for six years. She holds a B.A. in secondary education with a concentration in mathematics from UA.

Angela Wright, interlibrary loan librarian

New Faculty Welcomed



Donnelly Lancaster

Donnelly Lancaster was appointed in December 2001 as the archival access coordinator in the William Stanley Hoole Special Collections Library. Ms. Lancaster holds a B.A. in history and an M.A. in history with an archival concen-

tration from Auburn University. For the previous three years she worked as an archivist at The University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Jennifer McClure was appointed as a reference librarian/information consultant in the Amelia



Jennifer McClure

Gayle Gorgas Library in December 2001. Ms. McClure holds an A.M.L.S. from the University of Michigan. She also holds an A.B. in English and American literature from Harvard University, an M.A. in American history from the University of Michigan and an M.A. in American studies from Yale University.

Angela Wright, interlibrary loan librarian

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Editor-in-Chief
of Library PublicationsPat Henderson
EditorMarcia Barrett
Associate EditorMary Alice Fields

Editorial Board

Cheryl Ballard, Helga Visscher, Margaret Wilson

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
University Libraries
Box 870266
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35487-0266