

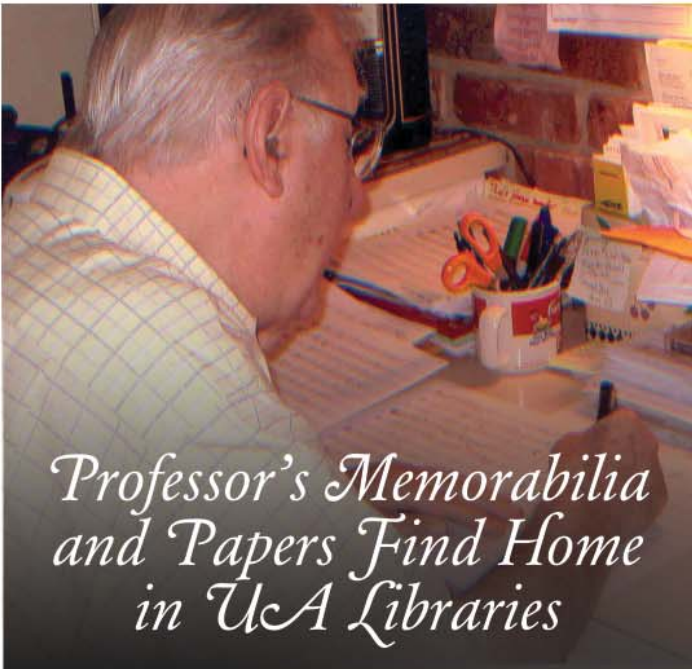


LIBRARY HORIZONS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA LIBRARIES



SPRING 2008, VOL. 21, NO. 2



Professor's Memorabilia and Papers Find Home in UA Libraries

UA Libraries has been named the repository for the papers and memorabilia of Harald Röhlig, retired professor of music at Huntingdon College.

Röhlig's career as a musician began in Germany in the 1930s and continues today in Montgomery, Alabama, where he has lived and worked for over 50 years. His collection will include music manuscripts and copies of published works as well as letters, books, recordings, and artifacts gleaned over a long and productive lifetime. According to Louis A. Pitschmann, dean of University Libraries, these materials "will not only be important additions to our collections but also prized resources for researchers and students."

Of special interest in this collection are personal recordings Röhlig has made through the years. Donations to date total over 700 hours of reel-to-reel tapes and video and audiocassettes. These materials are unique and will be a major resource for research in areas such as organ performance; selection of church music appropriate to the liturgical year; hymn accompaniments using different settings for each verse, depending on the text; modulation;

improvisation; and use of instruments in worship services. In addition, because the tapes cover a span of approximately 50 years, they will provide an invaluable picture of the evolution of a performer's style.

Harald Ernst Hermann Röhlig was born in Aurich, Germany, in 1926,

the son of Johannes and Lydia Kolbe Röhlig. His father was a Methodist minister. His mother, an accomplished musician, was his first music teacher. He grew up during a time when music was very much a part of daily life.

"If people came over for dinner, they always brought their musical instruments with them," he said.



Dwight L. Eddins

"After the meal they played wonderful chamber music or maybe a Bach cantata. My mother was a trained musician with a beautiful soprano voice, and my father, although not primarily a musician, also had a good voice and loved to sing. Music was always a part of my life and ultimately, during the worst times, has been a saving grace."

Recognized early on for his prodigious musical talent, Röhlig was enrolled in the youth divisions of conservatories in

Osnabrück and Bremen. It was

in these settings that he

came in contact

with giants

of the music

world such

as conductor

Bruno Walter;

pianist Walter

Giesecking; and

Albert Schweitzer,

the renowned mu-

sician, theologian,

and physician.

However, it was

his first encounter

with the music of

Continued on page 5



*The late Ingeborg Lieverz Röhlig
with Harald Röhlig*

FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND COLLEAGUES HONOR PROFESSOR DWIGHT EDDINS WITH LIBRARY ENDOWMENT

When searching for an appropriate way to honor Dr. Dwight L. Eddins, UA professor of English, on the occasion of his retirement, family, friends, and colleagues turned to the honoree himself for advice. Eddins, who retired last May after 41 years of teaching, expressed a fervent wish that this

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UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES ARE INVITING AND RELEVANT DESTINATIONS OF CHOICE

A library is only as good as its ability to anticipate users' needs and its ability to meet those needs as they arise. Students continue to need traditional library resources and services: print collections, reference assistance, and study space. But just as they want their residence halls to offer contemporary amenities and a high level of comfort, they expect their libraries to provide an inviting environment that encourages the extended periods of study and research necessary to ensure success in higher education today. In response to these expectations, the University Libraries continue to build upon the improvements of recent years that resulted in more than 1.3 million visits last year from students and faculty, a number higher than in any previous year.

We believe first impressions matter. What a person sees upon entering a university facility shapes expectations and defines attitudes about what can be accomplished within that space. For that reason, the second-floor Gorgas lobby will undergo refurbishing over the summer to honor major donors and to create a more welcoming "first impression" for those entering from the Quad. Similarly, furnishings in the very popular coffee shop on the first floor will be upgraded, and works by established Alabama artists will be hung to create an ambiance that will inspire creativity and intellectual pursuit.

With additional support from the University and from donors, other projects are under development to ensure that the Libraries remain inviting and relevant destinations of choice.

- The learning commons initiatives in Gorgas and McLure libraries introduced last summer will soon see final touches added thanks to a donor's recent generosity.
- Rodgers Library will complete a project to convert former office space into an attractive group-study facility.
- With funding from the Office for Academic Affairs, Gorgas Library will partner with campus Testing Services to create a new state-of-the-art computer lab that will be shared equally by the Libraries and Testing Services. When it is not scheduled

for testing or instructional purposes, it will remain open for students to work independently or collaboratively all hours Gorgas Library is open.

- Donor support is also making it possible for the Libraries to launch a pilot project with colleagues in the Office of Information Technology to create space for faculty members to receive one-on-one training in the use of courseware applications provided by OIT and research databases applications provided by the Libraries.
- University support will allow the completion of major renovations in McLure Education Library, providing staff, faculty, and students with improvements in keeping with the recent renovations and new priorities in the College of Education.

As these examples illustrate, the University Libraries remain committed to supporting and advancing the University's larger goals of making the Capstone a student-centered research university and the university of choice for Alabama.

In this issue of *Library Horizons* you will find other examples of the Libraries' commitment to excellence and to advancing the University's goals. You will also note when reviewing our list of donors that what the Libraries have accomplished would not have been possible without the generosity of many. We greatly appreciate the support the University and donors are providing, and we invite you to visit the University Libraries so that you may see first-hand the Libraries' role in ensuring quality education at the Capstone.



LOUIS A. PITSCHMANN, PhD
Dean, University Libraries





LIBRARIES' ANCIENT COIN COLLECTION RECEIVES ITS FIRST DONATION

The University Libraries has received a generous gift from R. Timothy and Sandra Russell of Foley to support its new Ancient Coin Collection. Russell made the initial donation after hearing of the Libraries' goal of building a significant collection of ancient and medieval coins to support various academic programs in the humanities. He has long had an appreciation for the sociohistorical value of coinage.

The inspiration for the collection came from James Mixson, professor of history, and Kirk Summers, professor of classics. The two proposed their idea to Dean Louis A. Pitschmann last year, arguing that the University Libraries is better suited to house the collection than a museum because students are more used to engaging and handling materials in a library setting. Mixson and Summers advised on the initial purchases and also described the collection at the fall meeting of the Library Leadership Board on November 2, 2007. The

response was positive and enthusiastic all around.

The University Libraries is committed to acquiring coins of the utmost quality, style, and historical value. The collection will be available to faculty members as a teaching tool for their classes. The coins are most likely to enhance instruction in courses on ancient and medieval history, mythology, and religion, but a variety of creative uses are possible as well, from the study of the artisanship of the specific types to their metallic composition and economic or geographic significance.

Unlike American coins, whose types remain static over long periods of time, ancient coins, especially Roman ones, changed from year to year and mint to mint. They invariably reflected

immediate social and religious concerns, served as a tool of propaganda for an up-and-coming politician, or told of some momentous historical event. Sometimes they provide us with our only surviving image of some statue or temple. Such is the case with one of the Libraries' first acquisitions to its collection. The coin, produced at Rome and dating to 82 BC, depicts in fine detail an otherwise unrepresented statue of the satyr Marsyas. The image itself is rife with historical significance.

The Ancient Coin Collection places The University of Alabama on the same footing as



(L-R) James Mixson, Clark Center, and Kirk Summers

all the major research universities in the United States where antiquities have been gathered and studied for decades. Now the students at The University of Alabama will be able to encounter the nuances of history firsthand in the library.

The Russells made this special gift in honor of the excellent UA faculty members and instructors who made their student years at the Capstone so special.

KIRK SUMMERS, PhD
Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Classics



DISTANCE-EDUCATION TUTORIALS HELP BRING THE LIBRARY TO USERS' FINGERTIPS

The University of Alabama's distance programs are targeted at busy working professionals who are unable to attend traditional classes because of work or family responsibilities. The University of Alabama has over 5,000 students enrolled in online distance programs through the College of Continuing Studies according to UA's 2006-07 *Factbook*, which contains the latest figures available. The Libraries provide distance learners with resources and services equivalent to those provided to on-campus users.

Maryellen Allen, the distance-learning librarian for the Libraries, is responsible for providing services and promoting library resources to off-campus users

using new technologies and legacy tools to meet the needs of

this growing population. Part of these efforts involves the creation and distribution of Web-based interactive online tutorials that educate users about the many services and tools at their disposal. During the Fall Semester 2007, Allen worked with the second set of Institute of Museum and Library Services Fellows on several online tutorial projects targeted at the Libraries' distance-learning population.

Rachel Estes, Makiba Foster, and David Nolan offered their knowledge and creativity in the completion of four online tutorials to assist distance users with navigating the Libraries' electronic reserves system, using the new federated search tool known as

ExtremeSearch, using online article databases, and troubleshooting remote access problems with the Libraries' many online resources. Using the Macromedia Captivate software to plan, design, and implement online interactive flash-based tutorials, the fellows produced a series of learning tools that guide distance learners to the Libraries' resources and services they need to be successful researchers.

Allen said her time working with the IMLS fellows was rewarding and uplifting. Designing online instruction with newer technologies can often prove frustrating, but Estes,

The University of Alabama has over 5,000 students enrolled in online distance programs through the College of Continuing Studies.

Foster, and Nolan maintained positive attitudes and a level of tenacity that was admirable, she said.

Allen said she and the fellows gained valuable new insights through their shared experience. The fellows learned about the special needs of distance-library users and the unique process of designing library instruction for an online population, while Allen gained admiration for the next generation of professional librarians.

To view the online tutorials available for distance users of the Libraries, visit lib.ua.edu/distanceed/help.htm.

MARYELLEN ALLEN
Distance-Learning Librarian

JANET LEE-SMELTZER NAMED HEAD OF CATALOGING AND METADATA SERVICES

Janet Lee-Smeltzer has been appointed head of cataloging and metadata services. She began her duties January 2. She

holds a master's degree in library science from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; a master's degree in education from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale; and a bachelor's degree in library science from Fu Jen Catholic University in Taipei, Taiwan.



Lee-Smeltzer was awarded the Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Acquisitions and Technical Services in an Academic Research Library by the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services. She also participated in the Association of Research Libraries Leadership and Career Development Program.

Prior to coming to UA, Lee-Smeltzer was head of bibliographic and metadata services at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She held positions at the University of Houston, Colorado State University, and Oregon State University. She has published on cataloging issues and presented at the national level. She is vice chair and chair-elect of the Council of Regional Groups for ALCTS and chair of the Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award Committee for Library Information and Technology Association.

MILDRED L. JACKSON, PhD
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR COLLECTIONS



Eddins continued from page 1

collective goodwill be channeled toward a project that would advance the quality of the University and support his desire to see the University become home to distinctive and important research collections.

Thus, the Professor Dwight L. Eddins Southern Literature and Culture Endowment Fund was established through the University Libraries. The endowment will permit the Libraries, in particular the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, to acquire correspondence and other papers of

Southern writers from all periods and those publications or documents that represent the unique qualities that have defined Southern culture from the 19th century to the present. Collections of Alabama materials will be a special emphasis.

Members of the ad hoc committee formed to establish the endowment are Roger Sayers, Judy Bonner, Ralph Smith II, Hoke Perkins, Charlie Wilson, Dianne Baker, and Alexander Sartwell.

Expressing appreciation on being honored, Eddins said, "Virginia Woolf once

compared a library to a great mind. I'd like to make sure that great mind has an impressive store of Southern memories."

Eddins was a Rhodes Scholar in 1961, the first for UA in 30 years. He is the only UA Rhodes Scholar to return to make a career at UA and has played a crucial role in the election of four more UA Rhodes Scholars. Despite his retirement, Eddins remains a familiar face on campus.

CHERYL ALTEMARA
Major Gifts Officer

Memorabilia continued from page 1

Johann Sebastian Bach that set him on the road that he has followed ever since. When he was six years old, his mother took him to a Good Friday church service where the Bach *St. Matthew Passion* was performed. Rohlig said the experience, which he remembers vividly, was profoundly moving to him and that he knew from that day forward that this was his world.

In the early days of the Hitler regime, which began in 1933 in Germany, musicians who joined the Hitler Youth or the National Socialist Party were given a certain amount of support for continuing their work. The Röhlig family suffered severe consequences from their attempts to keep young Harald out of the Hitler Youth but finally agreed that in order for them to stay alive and for him to continue his education, he had to join. His father, a supporter of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Confessing Church, was arrested several times and was finally sent to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp for his resistance efforts.

Rohlig said he values the musical education he continued to receive

until he was conscripted into the air force in 1942 but described the military training he went through as a planned process of desensitization in order to create a person who could kill. The many cruel and horrific experiences continued throughout the war and the period from 1945 to 1948 when he was a prisoner of war in France.

Music and creativity can bring about a kind of redemption or at least a sense of purpose, Rohlig said. "This is true of all creative people. Every good or bad experience you ever have in life

*"This is true of all creative people.
Every good or bad experience you ever
have in life distills into what you create
and gives both new meaning."*

distills into what you create and gives both new meaning."

After World War II, Rohlig returned to Osnabrück Conservatory where he completed diplomates (A-exams) in piano and organ and a doctorate with a specialty in pipe organ design. In 1953 he married a fellow musician, violinist Ingeborg Lieverz, and they immigrated that same year to the United States, settling first in Linden, Alabama, and then moving in 1955 to Montgomery where

he took a teaching position at Huntingdon College and became organist and choirmaster at Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Rohlig retired from Huntingdon after teaching there for 51 years. He continues to compose, to give private organ and piano lessons, and to serve as organist and choirmaster at St. John's Episcopal Church in Montgomery, a position he has held since 1962.

Ingeborg Rohlig died in 1999 after a long illness. In 2005 Rohlig married Jeanette Lynn, whom he first met when she was a student at Huntingdon in the 1960s. They both express great joy that this portion of his legacy will be preserved intact by means of their gift.

For additional information, contact Cheryl Altemara, major gifts officer, at (205) 348-1416 or caltemar@ua.edu.

MARY ALICE FIELDS
Assistant to the Dean



Harald and Jeanette Rohlig



SHIRLEY DOWLING McCRARY SPONSORS THE 1965 EDITION OF THE *COROLLA*

The University Libraries recently received a gift from Shirley Dowling McCrary to fund the digitization of the 1965 *Corolla*.

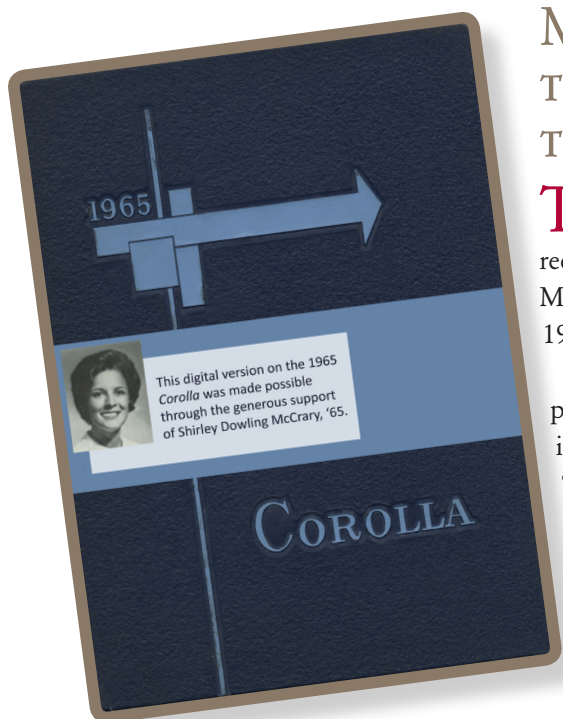
“When I learned of the Libraries’ plans to digitize the *Corollas*, I was very interested in the project,” McCrary said. “I believe UA’s yearbooks represent a highly usable resource for our alumni. It is already one of the Libraries’ most heavily used collections, and I am happy to have the opportunity to assist the Libraries in making it accessible online.”

The Libraries’ project, called the

Corolla Digital Initiative, aims to digitize and make searchable all editions of the *Corolla*, beginning with the first edition in 1893 through the 1993 edition. In the next phase of the project, material relating to people or events found in an edition of the *Corolla* will be digitized and accessible within its pages. As each edition is sponsored and its digitization is completed, it will be placed on the Libraries’ Web site and made freely available for anyone with Internet access.

McCrary graduated from UA in 1965 with a bachelor’s degree in English. She lives in Mooresville, Alabama. She is a member and past chairman of the Library Leadership Board, an advisory board to the dean of Libraries.

CHERYL ALTEMARA
Major Gifts Officer



GIFT OF \$200,000 WILL EXPAND LEARNING COMMONS INITIATIVES IN GORGAS AND McLURE LIBRARIES

The University Libraries recently received a major gift of \$200,000 from donors who wish to remain anonymous at this time. Thanks to their generosity, the learning commons initiatives introduced last summer in Gorgas and McLure Libraries will soon see final touches.

In August 2007, the first phase of the learning commons initiatives was completed in Gorgas. In this phase, several new computers, including 10 Macs, were placed on the third floor for the first time. Since the first day they were installed, and with virtually no publicity, the workstations have been heavily used by students. Additionally, four workstation pods designed to accommodate three computers each were installed in

McLure Library. The pods allow for better space utilization. As a result, McLure received four additional computers.

Thanks to this recent generous gift, work on the second phase of the learning commons initiatives can begin in the coming months. This phase will include acquiring additional computers and pods to enable collaborative projects and installing improved lighting where computers will be placed.

When describing the importance of this gift to the Libraries, Dean of Libraries Louis A. Pitschmann said “the learning commons will be a natural outgrowth of what the Libraries have provided to campus thus far in the Sanford Media Lab (the R&D). It will allow the



Libraries to expand the technology infrastructure in Gorgas Library to a universal open-access-lab environment. High-end workstations will become commonplace throughout the Libraries. This major gift represents a strong vote of confidence in the direction the Libraries are moving and need to continue to move over the next two to three years.”

CHERYL ALTEMARA
Major Gifts Officer



Ask library users about unmet needs and areas that need special attention, and they are quick to respond. Indeed, students and faculty who participated in the University Libraries' 2007 LibQUAL+ survey offered many valuable suggestions for improvements to Rodgers Library for Science and Engineering.

Assessment is viewed as an integral component of managing Rodgers Library, and it is done in concert with strategic planning, special projects, and operational activities. In addition to using formal survey instruments such as LibQUAL+

interact with one another and work collaboratively on solutions for academic problems. The group study rooms create new and exciting pathways to learning, and the students win with stronger performance in the classroom.

Results from the 2007 LibQUAL+ survey also led to a few less dramatic changes. In the comments section of the survey, students expressed a need for quiet study areas and furnishings beyond standard study carrels and tables. In this example, assessment gave our students a chance to express their feelings about core services in the library. We responded by promoting quiet spaces and adding a new kind of seating, tablet desks.

Interestingly, the feedback received by Rodgers Library in the 2007 LibQUAL+ survey was in many ways anticipated. Users told us about some things we already knew about. The feedback provided confirmation of ideas revealed in internal planning meetings and discussions among the staff. Further, the input from students served to focus and refine our thinking.

In a broad sense, assessment is a useful tool for understanding outcomes. Often, outcomes show how our users have benefited from their interaction with the library. And it's rewarding to find out that library objectives are in tune with patron needs.

In Rodgers Library and throughout the University Libraries, assessment is more than a buzzword. It is an important method for identifying meaningful changes, whether large or small, that will take us a step closer to meeting our users' needs and expectations. This in turn leads to an enriched learning and research experience for students and faculty alike.

JOHN H. SANDY

Head, Rodgers Library for Science and Engineering

RODGERS LIBRARY USES ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY MEANINGFUL CHANGES

on a regular basis, assessment is conducted as an ongoing activity by requesting feedback from users in the course of daily operations. The two approaches are seen as complementary ways to find out how well users' needs and expectations are being met.

The findings from assessment activities are helpful for setting priorities and allocating scarce resources. Knowing about specific needs and the sense of urgency among faculty and graduate students is very important when making decisions, whether related to services or collections. For example, following recent assessment, Rodgers Library successfully completed an initiative to add more current electronic journals and bring key archival resources online.

Assessment helped us to identify other needs as well. Students responding to the 2007 LibQUAL+ survey asked for more group study rooms. As a result, a third large group study room opened during the 2008 spring semester. We have found that when our students use group study rooms, they can easily

TOLBERTS CONTINUE SUPPORT OF LIBRARIES' LECTURES

Lakey and Susan Tolbert have pledged \$25,000 to support the University Libraries' Lecture Series through the spring of 2012. The Tolberts' pledge, made last July, will assist the Libraries in providing a variety of outstanding lectures featuring

campus, state, and national authors.

When making their pledge, the Tolberts specifically requested that the Libraries take advantage of opportunities to partner with UA colleges and programs to present lectures that support and enhance current topics of study on campus.

In addition to his work as medical director with Protective Life Company in Birmingham, Dr. Tolbert

is an adjunct professor in the health care management program at UA. Mrs. Tolbert is a district supervisor for the State of Alabama Disability Determination Service in Birmingham. She is also a member of the Library Leadership Board. Dr. Tolbert and the Tolberts' children, Jeremy Elkourie and Melinda Wilson, and their son-in-law, Justin Wilson, are all UA graduates.

CHERYL ALTEMARA, *Major Gifts Officer*



A very special thank-you to the following individuals for their support of the University Libraries during 2007.

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Please accept our most sincere apologies for any errors that may be associated with this list. If errors are found, contact Cheryl Altemara at (205) 348-1416 or caltemar@ua.edu.



I have built my career on finding ways to reach out and grab people's attention to get them excited about special collections. Rare books, manuscripts, photographs, art, artifacts, and maps—all of these things are a part of what makes up a great special collections library.

We reach out in several ways. Through exhibition, lectures, facilitating research, hosting tours, and classroom visits, we bring people in and get them excited about what we have. Through our digital program, we put digital versions of rare and unique materials online for users to access from the comfort of their own homes or offices.

And through other venues, we can get people excited about what we do—one thing at a time. Thus is the impetus for “What’s Cool @ Hoole,” a blog that highlights materials, collections, individual items, events, happenings, and anything that might be deemed cool and timely.

The term *blog* has entered our vocabulary with a fervor in the past couple of years. The term is a portmanteau of *Web log* and is simply a Web site that presents entries in reverse chronological order. “What’s Cool @ Hoole” serves as an excellent venue

for presenting information and enticing users to see exactly what is so cool at Hoole. To visit the site, go to coolathoole.blogspot.com.

The inspiration came to me several years ago in the form of thinking about an ongoing online exhibit that highlights an item from the collection. The University of Glasgow in the United Kingdom began such an endeavor in 1999.

In 2003, I visited the University of Glasgow Special Collections to learn more about how they organized and executed their ongoing online exhibit. Inspired by their success but looking for a more flexible medium to present information, I decided upon the blog format.

It allows the greatest ease and flexibility in giving users the latest in all the things that are happening at the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library.

The blog, in using Web 2.0 technology to promote special collections resources, serves as an efficient and creative way to get the information to our users.

You are encouraged to visit often, forward links to your friends, send in a comment, and sign up for the RSS feed so you don’t miss a single “What’s Cool @ Hoole” entry.

JESSICA LACHER-FELDMAN
*Public and Outreach Services
Coordinator/Associate Professor*

LIBRARY HORIZONS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA LIBRARIES

SPRING 2008, VOL. 21, NO. 2

Library Horizons is an official newsletter of the University Community. Please send comments or suggestions to *Library Horizons*, Box 870266, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0266 or to ymixon@ua.edu.

Library Horizons is published twice during the academic year.

Managing Editor: Cheryl Altemara
Editorial Board: Jessica Lacher-Feldman, Mary Alice Fields, and Maryellen Allen

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