

— THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA —



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA
LIBRARIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011



Message from the Dean

Fiscal year 2010/2011 was one of collaboration, experimentation, and continued commitment to excellence in the University Libraries. Thanks to dedicated staff, partners from across campus, and increased support from the University and donors, the Libraries built on its momentum gained in past years and further expanded resources and services to meet the needs and expectations of an ever-increasing number of students and faculty, many with learning and research interests new to the Libraries and the Capstone.

By proactively working with the campus faculty, we were able to expand our print and digital collections, increased our instructional programs to campus, and developed a state-of-the-art lab in Gorgas Library to advance teaching, learning, and research priorities relating to Digital Humanities.

To serve an ever-greater number of patrons on site, we placed academic software, which had previously been available only in college and departmental computer labs, on the Libraries' public workstations.

One of our proudest accomplishments was improving our annual ranking in the Association of Research Libraries: 56th out of 115 U.S. and Canadian university libraries qualifying for ARL membership.

The Libraries has made rapid progress during the past year. This progress was possible only with the teamwork of exceptionally motivated library faculty and staff, a shared vision with the university at large, and cutting-edge technology.

Looking forward, we are planning a future 50,000 square-foot expansion to Gorgas Library to meet the ever-greater demands on the facilities and services. The University Board of Trustees approved the University's plans to both renovate and expand the library. Stage one submittal was approved at the September 2011 board meeting and we will be working with the University to request approval to advance to the next stage.

{ Our goals remain constant: to advance the University's academic, research, scholarship and service priorities, and to continue to promote growth and national prominence in these areas. }

The support and dedicated efforts of many have allowed the University Libraries to prosper and serve the Capstone in myriad ways – both traditional and cutting edge – and for such expressions of confidence in what we do we are most grateful.

Louis A. Pitschmann



Dean of Libraries

collaboration

experimentation

commitment

excellence



First-class universities need strong libraries

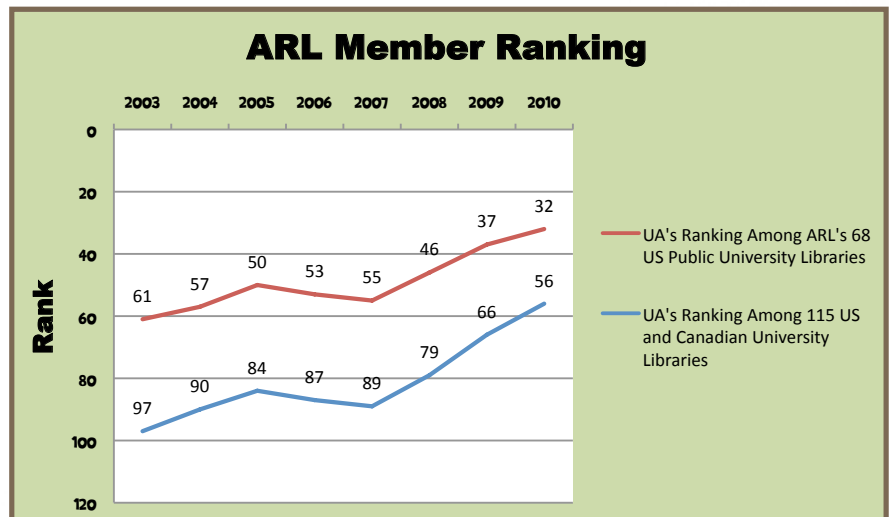
“This recognition of our libraries reflects our commitment to providing the best academic and research materials for our students and our faculty,” said Dr. Judy Bonner, UA executive vice president and provost. “We are proud of the tremendous effort Dean (Louis A.) Pitschmann and all our librarians have made to improve the quality of our libraries.”

to power teaching and research, much as large steamships need big engines. As recent rankings show, The University of Alabama Libraries are growing in quality and support and are prepared to power academic pursuits at the Capstone in the 21st century.

Statistics compiled by the Association of Research Libraries show that University Libraries has risen in the rankings in several key areas, including investment and in overall criteria. Since 2003, UA Libraries has moved from 97th to 56th among membership criteria for the ARL's member libraries, which include the top 115 private- and public-university libraries in the United States and Canada.

As for investment in libraries, UA has risen in the ARL rankings from 92nd to 76th overall and to 41st among U.S. public universities. In the Southern University Group, the ranking has risen from 18th to 15th.

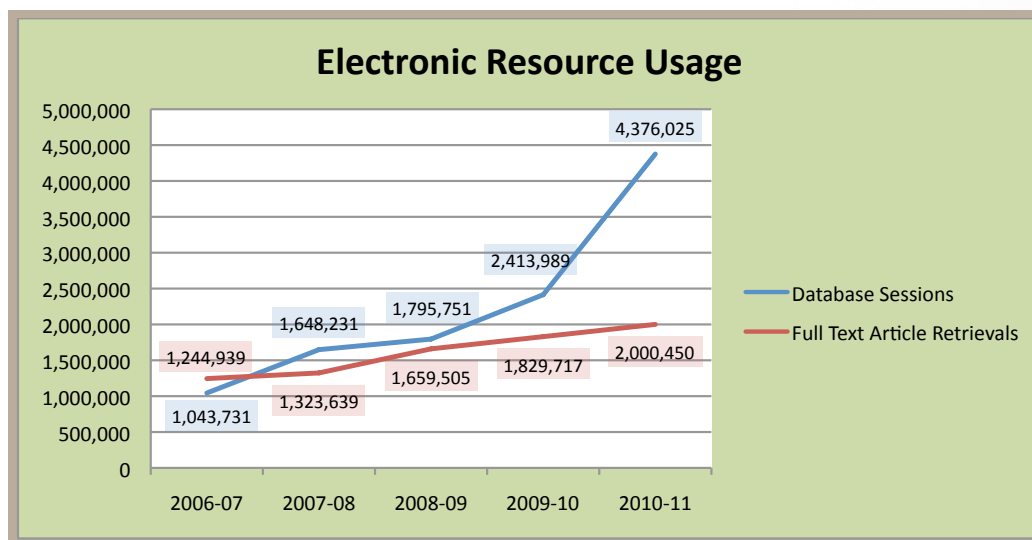
Among the 68 U.S. public universities, UA Libraries has risen from 61st to 32nd since 2003. Among the 23 ARL members in the Southern University Group, including the University of Florida, University of North Carolina and University of Georgia – UA's ranking has risen from 21st to 12th.



Over the past five years research libraries have noted a continued decrease in the use of print collections and increased reliance on electronic resources.

This trend can be seen here at the University of Alabama with database session rising 319%, and full-text article retrievals rising 61%, over the past five years. This trend illustrates the growing availability of resources in electronic format and the integration of these resources into e-learning courses and their use for research. The University of Alabama Libraries has migrated most current journal subscriptions to electronic formats so the content is available to faculty and students 24/7. Over the past 3 years the Libraries has begun to shift print books to electronic format in several disciplines, particularly in the sciences and nursing. The Libraries also added a number of new databases with current and historical data available in full text, as well as full text back files for many scholarly journals and newspapers.

Electronic Resource Usage					
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Enrollment	23,878	25,580	27,052	28,807	30,232
Database Sessions	1,043,731	1,648,231	1,795,751	2,413,989	4,376,025
Sessions Per Student	44	64	66	84	145
Full Text Article Retrievals	1,244,939	1,323,639	1,659,505	1,829,717	2,000,450
Article Retrievals per Student	52	52	61	64	66



Library Usage - Fiscal Years 2003-2011									
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Visits:	911,322	1,038,332	1,183,234	1,212,487	1,324,014	1,498,685	1,573,582	1,597,786	1,539,418
Student Enrollment:	19,633	20,333	20,969	21,835	23,878	25,580	27,052	28,807	30,232
Visits per Student:	46.42	51.07	56.43	55.53	55.45	58.59	58.17	55.47	50.92

Digital Humanities Center

Through a generous Capital Campaign gift and support from John McGowan, UA vice provost and chief information officer, the Libraries opened a state-of-the-art Digital Humanities Center in December 2010.

For several years the Libraries has investigated the possibility of offering an exploratory hi-tech environment to engage faculty and graduate students in using technology in their research areas. Current and near-term future needs for digital humanities research projects were identified through a several month collaborative planning process with faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Center has already made a mark according to two professors in the English and history departments.

“The Digital Humanities Center has only been up and running for a couple months and already it has substantially advanced my digital humanities research agenda. The Center itself provides essential software needed to code my project and a space specifically conceived for collaborative work where my graduate research assistant and I can visualize together the project’s design,” explained Jennifer Drouin, assistant professor, Department of English.

“The creation of the DHC has been an essential support to my teaching, research, and college service this past year...I have been looking for like-minded colleagues and for institutional support for digital research in the humanities and am pleased to have found it in the DHC,” stated David Michelson, assistant professor, Department of History.



David Michelson
Assistant Professor
Department of History

Services

Academic Software on Public Computers - University Libraries began offering access to specialized software needed by students beyond Internet browsers and office productivity suites several years ago in limited locations (e.g., Sanford Media Center). This past fiscal year the Libraries have expanded those offerings substantially in Gorgas, McLure, and Rodgers Libraries. Most recently we collaborated with various computer lab staff and faculty on campus to determine which software would most assist students in completing their research and assignments. These additions to the Libraries' public computers were immediately welcomed by students since the Libraries are open significantly more hours than campus computer labs.

First Generation Students – University Libraries worked with the assistant dean of students to coordinate the University Libraries' participation in the First Generation Student and Parent Orientation program. A special brochure highlighting library services was created for the group.

Get on Board Day – University Libraries participated in the University's Annual Get On Board Day. Librarians answered questions and handed out brochures explaining library services.



Instruction Sessions – The University Libraries presented instruction to 11,070 students during academic year 2010-2011. This reflects a 14% increase in the number of students served in academic year 2009-2010. Most instruction is delivered in the first two months of each semester when students are preparing to conduct

research in the library and learning how to use resources. Sessions are delivered in person and via electronic media using Skype, e-learning and other technology. A variety of online tutorials are also available for students.

iPads for Roving Librarians – Librarians, aided by wireless technology and mobile devices, are leaving the reference desk and taking the library and its resources with them. Gorgas Information Services librarians are piloting the use of iPads to bring research assistance to students at their point of need, whether it is within the library or elsewhere on campus. The iPads are loaded with reference and productivity apps, including the UA app, to enhance the service and the students' experiences. Librarians have also used iPads to engage students in events such as Bama Bound and Nsoro workshops.

Mobile App for UA Libraries – University Libraries worked alongside campus representatives to implement a searchable version of library catalog resources in the University's BlackBoard Mobile application suite. The mobile app also includes a campus directory, course listing, map, and other useful features for students and faculty. The library mobile search feature is available in the Apple iOS and Google Android versions of the BlackBoard Mobile app and incorporates Google Maps functionality to direct users to the appropriate library locations for their items.

RapidILL – University Libraries implemented RapidILL as part of an initiative funded by the SEC Provosts. RapidILL is an automated borrowing and lending service for journal articles, returning material often in a matter of minutes but no longer than 24 hours. This service provides articles from journals that we do not subscribe to in any format. Between October 1, 2010 and September 30, 2011 the University of Alabama borrowed 4,233 items and lent 7,619 items.



Contemporary, Proactive Outreach to Endure Students' Understanding of the Libraries' Role and Services

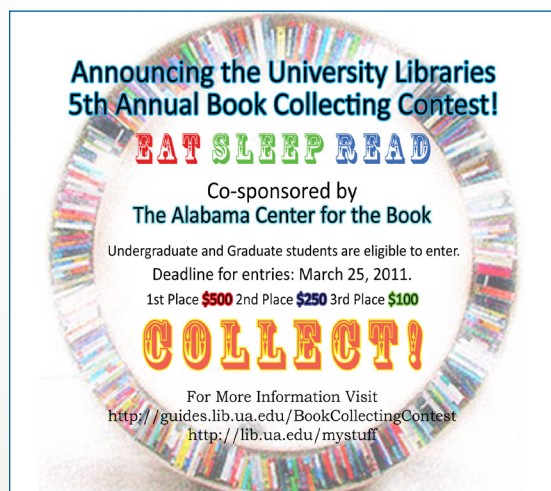
The University Libraries Undergraduate Research Prize in Humanities & Social Sciences 2011 was awarded to an undergraduate participating in the Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity Conference, April 11, 2011. Undergraduate students at any class level completing a research project in Humanities or Social Science and entered their research in the Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity Conference were encouraged to enter. The contest was co-sponsored by the Alabama Center for the Book.

Super Searcher, co-sponsored by Creative Campus, was a contest designed to help students showcase their research skills and discover how library resources can supplement existing search practices. The contest was held Friday, March 25th, 2011 and was open to all UA students.

The contest used eLearning to deliver a 30-minute assessment of participant's ability to answer difficult research questions. Points were awarded for correct answers, with some offering higher points due to difficulty. Points were subtracted for incorrect answers. Students registered online in the weeks preceding the contest, up to the day of the contest, with 80 students participating. A question and answer period, along with refreshments in 205 Gorgas helped reinforce the learning experience.

Josh Sahib, Helga Visscher and Karen Croneis wrote the Library Innovation Grant that funded the project. Melissa Fortson of Gorgas Library and Claire Veach, a SLIS graduate assistant helped carry out the event.

The 5th Annual Book Collecting Contest continued to attract undergraduate and graduate students with a passion for books. The contest, co-sponsored by the Alabama Center for the Book, encourages reading and the promotion of book collecting.



Entries were judged in two categories: undergraduate and graduate. Robert Riter, instructor for UA's School of Library and Information Studies, was the guest speaker at the awards reception April 13, 2011.

Undergraduate winners were: Wesley Vaughn, junior, majoring in Public Relations and Political Science, first place; Edward Mostoller, junior, majoring in Political Science, second place; and Margaret Brandl, senior majoring in English, third place.

Graduate winners were: Timothy Winkler, candidate for the MFA in Book Arts, first place; Sara Parkel, candidate for the MFA in Book Arts, second place; Sonja Rossow, candidate for the MFA in Book Arts, third place; Lindsey Smith, political science graduate student, honorable mention; and Alexander Parks, education graduate student, honorable mention.



The One Millionth Visitor,

since August 1, 2010,
to the University Libraries

was celebrated

March 23, 2011.

Chris Dominey, a
philosophy major from
Daphne, Alabama, was
the one millionth visitor.

Since 2002, visits to
University Libraries are up

77%,

an increase that greatly
exceeds the increase
in enrollment.



Grant from National Archives Paves the Way for Low-Cost Digitization of Cultural Heritage Materials

A grant funded project demonstrating a model of low-cost digitization and web delivery of manuscript materials was completed in 2011. Funded by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), the project digitized a large and nationally important manuscript collection related to the emancipation of slaves: the Septimus D. Cabaniss Papers.

This digitization grant extended for 14 months, ended February 2011, and has provided online access to an estimated 46,663 images for less than \$1.50 per page: http://acumen.lib.ua.edu/u0003_0000252.

The model is designed to enable institutions to mass-digitize manuscript collections at a minimal cost, leveraging the extensive series descriptions already available in the collection finding aid to provide search and retrieval. Digitized content for the collection is linked from the finding aid, providing online access to 31.8 linear feet of valuable archival material that otherwise would never be web-available. Software and workflows developed to support the process are made freely available from the grant website: <http://www.lib.ua.edu/libraries/hoole/cabaniss>.

The Septimus D. Cabaniss Collection (1815-1889) was selected as exemplary of the legal difficulties encountered in efforts to emancipate slaves in the Deep South. Of particular interest are the materials related to the estate of Samuel Townsend, a heavily litigated estate where practically all associated materials were used as evidence in the courts.

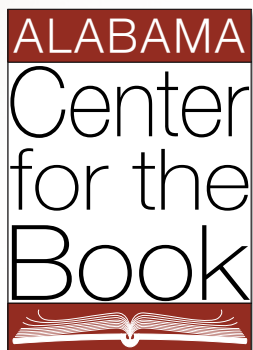
The Cabaniss papers are a rich resource for cultural, historical, sociological, psychological, legal and political science researchers of this time period. These papers were previously processed under another NHPRC grant, NAR06GRANT-048 “Bringing Alabama’s African American History to Light.”

46,663



Jodi L. DeRidder
Principal Investigator of the Grant
Head of Digital Services
W. S. Hoole Special Collections Library

Statewide Outreach Programs and Regional Collaborations



ALABAMA CENTER FOR THE BOOK MOVES TO UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

In 2010, the Alabama Center for the Book moved to the University of Alabama Libraries from the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities at Auburn University. The Center is one of 50 state affiliates of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and assists in carrying out the mission of the national Center, sponsors programs that highlight the state's literary heritage and calls attention to the importance of books, reading, literacy and libraries.

Supporting the University's outreach mission and service to the citizens of the state, the Alabama Center for the Book, housed in Gorgas Library, sponsored two statewide programs in 2010 - 2011: a Book Arts Workshop and Letters About Literature contest.

THE BOOK ARTS WORKSHOP

The Book Art's Workshop held last November in Gorgas Library brought together over 65 book artists, educators, administrators and librarians from across the state to discuss the art and craft of making books by hand.

Participants discussed topics ranging from teaching book arts, exhibitions and other visibility opportunities, to community outreach.

The workshop was co-sponsored by the School of Library & Information Studies and the College of Communication & Information Sciences.

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE (LAL)



LAL is a national reading promotion program of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, presented in partnership with Target and affiliate state centers for the book.

Students from across the country were challenged last fall to write a letter to their favorite author – past or present – to explain how the author's work had changed them or their view of the world.

Over 400 students from across Alabama, up from last year's total of 113, entered the contest. State winners were selected by judges from the UA Department of English at three levels: level one – grades 4-6, level two – grades 7-8 and level three – grades 9-12. Winners were announced and awarded state prizes at the Alabama Book Festival, April 16, 2011, in Montgomery.

State winners advanced to the national level competing with other state winners from across the United States. Alabama level two winner advanced to the top 11 entries in the level two national competition.

National winners received a \$500 Target Gift Card, plus each secured a \$10,000 LAL Reading Promotion Grant in his/her name for a community or school library.

Just under 70,000 letters were received in this year's competition.



ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES (ASERL) COLLABORATION

University Libraries is participating in two ASERL collaborative efforts. In 2010, the Deans/Directors of ASERL libraries approved a program to streamline and standardize procedures related to Federal Depository Library Programs across the Southeast. Part of this initiative establishes Centers of Excellence across the region where libraries will become responsible for federal agencies and become the comprehensive collection for that agency. Libraries are also working together on streamlining workflow for the disposition of government documents.

ASERL Deans/Directors have also approved a program for Cooperative Journal Retention. This program will allow libraries to share collection responsibilities and costs for the long term retention of print back files of journals.



Research libraries

are defined by their collections



The A.S. Williams III Family

Comprising more than

20,000 books

13,000 photographs

3,000 volumes of

Southern fiction and extensive one-of-a-kind documentation of political movements, economic developments and social life and customs.

A.S. WILLIAMS III AMERICANA COLLECTION

The University of Alabama Libraries acquired in June 2010, one of the most extensive collections of Americana and Southern history in private hands: the A. S. Williams III Americana Collection.

Comprising more than 20,000 books and 13,000 photographs, as well as some 3,000 volumes of Southern fiction and extensive one-of-a-kind documentation of political movements, economic developments and social life and customs, the collection is housed on the third floor of Amelia Gayle Gorgas Library and opened to the public in November 2010.

“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 University received the collection at a presentation ceremony attended by Mr. Williams, his family members, and UA President Dr. Robert E. Witt. President Witt addressed the large gathering and thanked Williams for his extraordinary collection.



Students examining rare materials in the
A.S. Williams III Reading Room

Collections

DR. JOHN CROWLEY COLLECTION

Professor John Crowley, a leading scholar in nineteenth-century American literature, continued to add to his collection and donated over 1000 books to University Libraries. Poetry, Southern fiction literature, mystery and humor were among the topics. This addition contained a significant number of books either signed or inscribed by the author. Dr. Crowley's books are housed in the Hoole Special Collections Library.

WADE HALL COLLECTION OF SOUTHERN HISTORY AND CULTURE



Wade Hall Sheet Music

of Southern history and American culture in word, picture, and song. Dr. Hall's 2010 donation included eight one-cubic foot boxes of cookbooks,

275 books, and a rare first edition of *Columbia's Legacy* by George Washington. The collection is housed in the Hoole Special Collections Library.



Wade Hall Southern Literature

A continuing gift of Union Springs, Alabama native Dr. Wade Hall, the collection is a sweeping portrayal

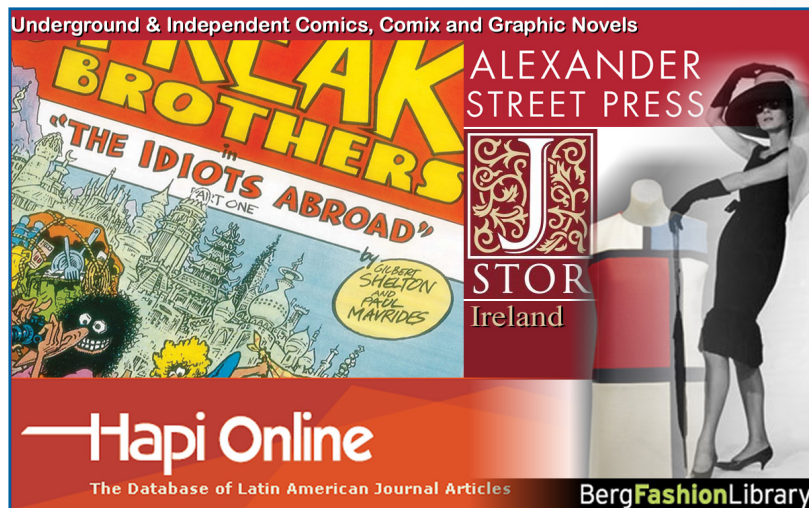
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

The University Libraries continues to expand the digital collections to provide resources which enhance and strengthen scholarship as well as support basic information needs for our students and faculty.

Sixteen new electronic resources were added to the collections in the past year. These resources cover a broad range of subjects and add to an already rich collection of digital assets. They include full text resources, images and data that will be used to enhance teaching and research. The descriptions below highlight a few of the additions over the past year.

- The *Berg Fashion Library* provides a unique resource that serves not only the fashion and textiles students, but also students in anthropology, cultural studies, art history and sociology. The resource includes images as well as e-books and reference sources.
- The newest addition to JSTOR, the digital archive of historical journals, is the *JSTOR Ireland* collection. When the collection is complete, it will contain more than 75 full text interdisciplinary journals from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. In addition, this collection will include 200 monographs and 2,500 manuscript pages which will complement the journal collection and significantly enhance the Libraries' collections on Irish history and culture.

- *SimplyMap* allows the researcher to create and compile complex data using maps and graphs. It includes demographic and business data which can be combined and saved to a personal workspace for easy access. Maps can be exported for use in reports and other documents.
- *HAPI, The Hispanic American Periodical Index*, includes links for over 60,000 full text articles in key social sciences journals relating to Latin American Studies. It also contains thousands of bibliographic citations for additional articles. Indexing extends back to 1970 and provides an in-depth resource for scholars who are studying the region.
- Alexander Street Press's *Underground & Independent Comics, Comix, and Graphic Novels* is the most recent addition to our digital resources and the first scholarly resource for comic art and graphic novels. Comic art provides not only a view of a unique art form but also a perspective on society and issues from a non-traditional point of view. This resource is used by students in history, American Studies and other disciplines who study cultural and political issues.
- *Rock's Backpages* provides access to fifty years of music journalism from some of the best writers about rock. The archive includes titles such as Rolling Stone, Creem, and Melody Maker.
- *Mergent Digital Manuals* is an online database that allows you to access a vast archive of corporate and industry related documents. It contains more than 180,000 documents covering over 100 countries and industries using an easy to navigate and reliable system.
- *Springer E-books*. We have added to our growing collection of e-book packages with content in Biomedical & Life Sciences, Chemistry & Materials Science, Engineering and Physics & Astronomy. In addition, as part of a state-wide package we will gain access to e-books in Behavioral Science and Business and Economics. These full text e-books are integrated with the content of our Springer e-Journals therefore making access easier for faculty and students.



Access to these resources is available to UA faculty and students 24/7 from any computer on or off campus.

Awards

University Libraries was ranked 27th nationally in terms of the number of substantive published papers of research & professional practice in the leading journals for subject specialist librarians 2000-2010. The award was given at the 102nd Annual Convention of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) in Philadelphia by the Biomedical and Life Sciences Division of SLA in conjunction with the Academic Division of SLA & the College & University Business Libraries Section of the Business & Finance Division of SLA.

Karen Chapman, business reference librarian and assistant head, Bruno Library, was recognized as a quarterly recipient of the University's Vergil Parks McKinley Sr. Employee Award. The award recognizes enterprising employees who, by actions or ideas, contribute to UA's mission of teaching, research and service. The award was presented at the Spring 2011 Faculty-Staff Meeting.

Jody L. DeRidder, head, Digital Services, was the Principal Investigator of a grant from The National Historical Publications and Records Commission for the W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library to digitize the Septimus D. Cabaniss papers and to demonstrate a proposed low-cost model of mass digitization and web delivery.

Presentations and Publications



Barrett, Marcia. "Cataloging for Special Collections: Collection Level Cataloging." Online Audiovisual Catalogers Biennial Conference. Macon, GA. October 2010.

Barrett, Marcia, Jain Fletcher, Robert L. Maxwell, and Ann Myers. "Final Report of the Task Group on BIBCO Standard Record for Rare Books"/ Task Group on BIBCO Standard Record Requirements for Rare Books (BSR/RB). BIBCO Standard Record approved by Library of Congress Program for Cooperative Cataloging (July 16, 2010): <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/pcc/bibco/BSRRB-Final-Report.pdf>.

Barrett, Marcia, Jim Alberts, Cyrus Ford, Steve Henry, Michi Hoban, and Jay Weitz. "Guide to Cataloging SlotMusic Based on AACR2 Chapters 6 and 9," Created by the SlotMusic Cataloging Joint Task Force: Online Audiovisual Catalogers (OLAC), Cataloging Policy Committee (CAPC), Music Library Association (MLA), Subcommittee on Descriptive Cataloging (SDC). 2010. http://www.olacinc.org/drupal/capc_files/SlotMusic.pdf.

Battles, Jason J., Valerie Glenn and Lindley C. Shedd. "Rethinking the Library Game: Creating an Alternate Reality with Social Media ." Library & Information Technology Association (LITA) 2010 National Forum. Atlanta, GA. October 2010.

Brothers, Paul. "International Labour Organization (ILO.org)." *Journal of Business & Finance Librarianship*, 15(2), pp. 124-130.

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DeRidder, Jody. "Digital Library Development from the Bottom Up, or: Organization, Clarity, and Sanity: Digitization for the Future On a Shoestring." Computers in Libraries 2010 Conference. Arlington, VA. April 2010.

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- Fortson, Melissa. "The Disability Experience in a Post-2.0 World: Implications for Libraries." Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies Virtual Convergence. January 2011.
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- Grogg, Jill. "Finding Our Way: Negotiation, Ebooks, and Academic Libraries." *The Electronic Book in the Library Field: Current Status and Perspective*, Auditorio del Museo Universitario de Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM). Mexico City, Mexico. October 2010.
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