Friends of Henderson Library Newsletter

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Since joining Georgia Southern in January 2010 as its twelfth president, Dr. Brooks A. Keel has initiated discussions regarding strategic visioning with the administration, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the University. These collaborations yielded an updated Strategic Agenda with four themes that will serve as a roadmap for Georgia Southern over the next five years. The four themes are: Promote Academic Excellence; Enhance Student Success; Increase Research and Creativity; and Ensure Fiscal Sustainability. The overlying mission is to maintain and expand Georgia Southern’s objective as a student-centered university which is conveyed in admission recruiting efforts as a “large scale, small feel” environment.

Henderson Library joined this project in early October as part of the strategic planning workshops facilitated by consultants from the firm of Marts and Lundy. The consultants coordinated sessions with all of the colleges at Georgia Southern University, and the outcomes will be the basis for the next University strategic plan and capital campaign. Librarians attended many of the workshops held for the colleges as well as the workshop for the Henderson Library. All of the half-day workshops involved four stages: identifying the University’s and the individual unit’s core values, analyzing the critical issues facing the University/individual unit, setting overarching goals that address the critical issues, and developing specific strategies for achieving the overarching goals.

Over 14 critical issues were identified that are specific to Henderson Library. These include standard inflationary costs of books and other resources; a lack of adequate academic program planning for new degrees within the various colleges; and a disconnect between the rising costs of library resources and enrollment. As new degrees are developed, such as the first ever Ph.D. in Logistics/Supply Chain Management (see http://news.georgiasouthern.edu/pressrelease.php?id=1838) and more recently the change in the existing engineering technology programs to civil, electrical and mechanical engineering degrees (see http://news.georgiasouthern.edu/pressrelease.php?id=2020), there is a strain on existing tight library budgets to ensure that there are adequate resources to support the various accreditation criteria for new or enhanced programs.

The rapid enrollment growth is a positive reflection on Georgia Southern and our commitment to students. For Fall 2010, we have 19,086 full-time and part-time students (2,600 of these are graduate students). Enrollment growth affects the library on two fronts. First, we have more students
Improving Access to Henderson Library’s Collections — In Person & Online
by Jonathan H. Harwell

Recently new shelving was installed within a prominent space on the second floor of Henderson Library to highlight the New Books area. Now located between the Circulation/Services Desk and Zach’s Brews (the Library’s coffee shop), the New Books area includes scholarly titles, Government Documents, and the Browsing Collection. The Browsing Collection contains new books of popular interest, including juvenile books. While the juvenile collection supports Georgia Southern’s literature and education programs, these are popular books for all ages, such as young adult, paranormal works from Stephenie Meyer and the sports fiction works of Mike Lupica.

You can quickly access an online listing of the Browsing Collection within GIL Find, a new interface to the Library’s catalog, via http://tinyurl.com/zachsbrowse. All of our children’s and young adult books are listed at http://tinyurl.com/zachkids.

Academic works within the Browsing Collection usually remain for two weeks before moving to the regular stacks. In addition, our newest Reference Books are also shelved on the second floor in the Reference Collection, on the shelf nearest the main staircase. Reference Books remain in the library building, but materials within Browsing Collection are available for check out. The locations and check out status of all items are noted in the Library’s catalog at http://gilfind.georgiasouthern.edu.

The new GIL Find catalog provides functions similar to Amazon including book cover images and links to free previews in Google Books when available. Via a SHARE link located at the end of each screen, you can share search results or pages from GIL Find via various social networking options like Twitter and Facebook. For example, you can view all of the resources funded by the Friends of Henderson Library via http://gilfind.georgiasouthern.edu/vufind/Search/Home?lookfor=%22Gift+of+the+Friends+of+Henderson+Library%22&SubBut.x=0&SubBut.y=0&SubBut=Find. Using http://tinyurl.com, you can create shorter, durable Web addresses as shown earlier within this article. The TinyURL for the link above is http://tinyurl.com/fohlgifts.

There is also an RSS feed option that allows researchers to receive alerts when new books, ebooks, DVDs and other materials of a specific search criteria (such as an academic subject discipline) are added to the Henderson Library collections.

Henderson Heroes: Spotlight on Employees

Viktorija Pogue (2008*), Learning Commons Assistant in Henderson Library, won a statewide award. See the GALILEO article on page 4 of this newsletter for details.


Five Georgia Southern librarians were presenters during the 22nd 2010 annual Council of Media Organizations conference held in Athens, Georgia from October 13th-15th. These were Bob Fernekes (Information Services Librarian, 2000), Ann Hamilton (Associate Dean of the Library and Associate University Librarian, 1992), Lori Lester (Government Documents Librarian, 2007), Fred Smith (Head of Access Services, 1986), and Lisa Smith (Information Services Librarian, 2006). Lisa Smith also served as secretary to both the Reference Service Interest Group & to the Georgia Library Association’s Academic Library Division.

In July 2010, JoEllen Broome (Information Services Librarian, 1997) and her husband, Dr. John H. Brown (1994) from COBA’s School of Economic Development, presented Progressivism & the Environment at the 79th Anglo-American Conference of Historians on Environments sponsored by the University of London’s Institute for Historical Research.

At the 2010 American Library Association Annual Grassroots Program, Bob Fernekes (Information Services Librarian, 2000) co-presented Creating Value for Your Library User, and on October 25th, he co-presented Using Facebook as a Learning Management Tool at the 2010 Internet Librarian Conference.

Meralyn Smith, part-time Information Services librarian, has enjoyed writing articles for the Statesboro Magazine for the past three years. She reached her 18th anniversary as a part time staffer in the Henderson Library this September.

* indicates the year the individual joined Henderson Library
Recent Friends Events

We hope you enjoy a few photos from various 2010 Friends events including the 1st Annual Farm to Table Dinner in July and from September the 2nd Annual Dean’s Tailgate and the Annual Fall Luncheon featuring Roxie Remley. A Georgia Southern Professor Emerita of Art and Women’s Army Corps (WAC) Captain, Roxie shared some of her World War II experiences from 1942 to 1946 while she served within the United States and London, England.

The Farm to Table Dinner raised more than $1,600 to aid the research of Georgia Southern’s Center for Sustainability by funding the purchase of library resources related to their needs. It also directly supported the farmers who make up the Statesboro Farmers Market by purchasing $900 of ingredients from them for the dinner. The menu and other details from the Farm to Table Dinner at http://library.georgiasouthern.edu/friends/farmtotable/. Many thanks to Ann Scott-Price of Gardens to Go (gardensstogo05@yahoo.com or 912-852-9656) for the beautiful floral arrangements!

Check out all the captioned photos via http://tinyurl.com/FOHLphotos.

Save the date for the 2nd Annual Farm to Table Dinner: Thursday, June 16, 2011!
Georgia Southern Student’s Work Featured as part of 15th Anniversary GALILEO Celebration
by Jessica Minihan

On September 21, 2010, the GALILEO community celebrated its 15th anniversary. GALILEO (Georgia’s Library Learning Online), Georgia’s award-winning virtual library, strives to provide every Georgia citizen with access to thousands of full-text documents through licensed databases and other electronic resources. Launched in 1995, GALILEO was one of the first statewide virtual libraries. Similar resources were launched within the southeast during 1994 (Virginia’s VIVA), 1997 (Mississippi’s MAGNOLIA), 1998 (North Carolina’s NC LIVE, South Carolina’s DISCUS), 1999 (Tennessee Electronic Library), 2000 (Alabama Virtual Library), and 2003 (Florida Electronic Library).

An initiative of the University System of Georgia, access to GALILEO is limited to authorized users via IP address or password. It provides Georgia citizens with access to credible research resources via the convenience of Internet access. GALILEO resources such as research databases, encyclopedias and government publications vary per type of organization – for example K-12 schools compared to universities. Use of GALILEO has grown considerably over the years. In 2009, there were over 60 million searches and approximately 65 million full-text articles that were delivered via GALILEO.

To celebrate the evolution of GALILEO and its impact on the “everyday lives of the schools, libraries, homes, and the people of Georgia,” the GALILEO Scrapbook (http://scrapbook.galileo.usg.edu) was created with prizes for various materials and age categories. Additionally, fans of GALILEO from across Georgia participated online in a Virtual Birthday Celebration on September 21st. The GALILEO Scrapbook includes videos, posters, PowerPoints®, and simple fan quotes. While the contest is complete, you can still share your experiences and thoughts via http://about.galileo.usg.edu/site/contest/.

Viktorija Pogue, a student assistant within the Grube Learning Commons of Henderson Library, designed a poster (pictured left) which was the winner for the adult age group. She won gift cards from American Express and Barnes & Noble valued at $25 each. A native of Columbus, Viktorija joined the Library in 2008 and graduates in December with a degree in Studio Art.

As she approached her design, Viktorija choose the blues from the current GALILEO logo for her color palette. She then reflected on her use of GALILEO since grade school. She wanted to project the evolution of the interface and content of GALILEO, and her design reflects the fluidity and ongoing growth of GALILEO.

Viktorija’s supervisor, Kendria Lee, encouraged all of the student assistants to consider entering the GALILEO anniversary contests. Kendria and Dr. Sonya Shepherd, Learning Commons Director and Associate Head of the Information Services Department, surprised Viktorija with the news of her award. Dr. Shepherd presented Viktorija with a hand-held paper fan that featured Viktorija’s design which was distributed to all attendees of the statewide GOLD/GALILEO Conference. The fans were also distributed by Georgia libraries as part of the GALILEO anniversary celebration.

The Henderson Library is immensely proud of Viktorija for this honor!

2011 Renewals
Renewal letters for 2011 will be mailed soon. We appreciate your support and hope that as you consider your charitable donations, you will remain a member of the Friends of Henderson Library family. Renew online @ http://tinyurl.com/joinfohl.
Becoming a Friend of the Henderson Library carries privileges and pride of support; becoming a Lifetime Member, carries an added perk.

Recently, the Friends Council commissioned Tami Henry, a Georgia Southern senior from Vidalia, GA, to create handmade books for Lifetime Members of the Friends of Henderson Library.

Using handmade papers, Tami hand binds a small, unique creation which holds blank pages for writing or drawing. Each book is different, just as each Lifetime Member contributes a distinctive legacy to the Henderson Library.

Tami completes the requirements for her BFA degree with a photography concentration in December. Working at Christopher’s Restaurant as a service-shift manager in addition to a full school schedule, she turns heads when she enters a room. On a leash beside her is Pansie, a full blooded black lab who she is training as a future guide dog. The organization Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, Inc. contacted Tami a week after she expressed interest in becoming a “puppy walker.” Tami and Pansie were placed together for the year it takes to train her.

Tami utilizes Coptic stitching (also known as chain or link-stitching) and additional decorative stitches with wax thread for the binding.

Coptic stitching is one of the earliest bookbinding methods and was developed during the early second century. Each book contains unlined cotton pulp paper sewn together and is covered with handmade papers. Tami includes a colophon within each work that provides details on the materials, the date of the book, and her signature. If you wish to commission a work from Tami, contact her via tami.r.henry@gmail.com.

Retiring in 2010 after beginning in Acquisitions and then moving to Access Services, Peggy Miley kept the copiers, microfilm machines, CD/video machines and other technical hardware humming in the Henderson Library for over 16 years.

With a ready smile and a quick laugh, Peggy is most proud of her work establishing the electronic reserves for Access Services. She was instrumental in establishing a recycling program for toner cartridges and cell phones which benefits the Library monetarily and an Art from Trash annual event which encourages students and the community to make creations from items that would normally be tossed.

Missing the excellent staff and students of the Henderson has been the most difficult part of retiring. But, just to show she still cares, she recently came back to spend several hours training her replacement. Of course, anyone who knows Peggy will agree that there is NO replacement for her presence.

When Wilbur Polite retired in June after 17 years of service in the Henderson Library, he thought he was ready for retirement. But, he was back on the job with reduced hours less than 2 months later. Finding retirement afforded him too much time, he chuckles when asked how long he thinks he will continue to work, “I don’t know. I guess as long as I can.” In addition to his work, Wilbur volunteers at his church, spends more time with his wife and keeps up with his seven children.

Wilbur joined Henderson as a security guard on the night shift in 1984 making sure no students exited the library with books that were not checked out. Gradually his supervisor added more interesting tasks – ensuring students used the correct computers (at the time some were designated for email and others for academic purposes); rebooting servers; and managing the Library’s mail and van operation.

Eventually Wilbur became a Library Assistant for the day shift in charge of book recalls and the GIL Express program, a system of receiving and loaning books from other Georgia libraries.

Those who work with Wilbur know he is a patient and caring person, always with a twinkle in his eye and a smile on his face. Thankfully, his presence continues to grace the Henderson Library.
to serve, yet the library’s budget has not accommodated adding sufficient employment positions. Since 1999 our enrollment has grown by more than 4,000, and we have been able to add only one new librarian position. Also due to a hiring freeze implemented since 2008 across Georgia Southern, replacement hires for vacancies are delayed by two months. Based on the latest data (2008) from the National Center for Education Statistics, the average total staff per 1,000 FTE students for our peer libraries (see http://www.georgiasouthern.edu/president/index.php?link=peers) was 6.28 compared to the 4.02 we have at Henderson Library.

Second, the library industry sets pricing tiers based on the equivalent of full-time enrolled students. This includes full-time and part-time students, calculated in terms of full-time equivalent (FTE) status. As enrollment increases each year, the prices of all electronic resources steadily climb. As shared in the first issue of the Friends’ newsletter, compared to the same NCES data, Henderson Library is funded less than half of that per FTE student of our peer institutions.

Multiple goals and strategies to address the above issues were targeted over practical timelines. By FY12, one goal is to hire a distance learning librarian and a support staff member. Goals for FY13 include increasing the number of library faculty and staff to reach the median student-to-library-personnel ratio of peer institutions; adding one information services librarian to expand the hours of the Grube Learning Commons desk to 4am; and increasing the library endowment to $1 million. For FY12, 13 and 14, the goal is to close the library funding gap by 33% each year.

The next steps in the planning process will involve the Library, the colleges, and all other campus units synthesizing their work into a cohesive University-wide plan. President Keel hopes this will be completed by the end of the spring semester of 2011.