

Library Annual Report

January 1, 2006

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"Library Annual Report" (2006). *Library Annual Reports*. 4.
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Zach S. Henderson Library
2005-06 Annual Report
Section A
A Summary of Major Accomplishments

A considerable amount of work was done in preparation for moving into the new addition and loading the automated retrieval collection (ARC). We finished barcoding and creating item records where necessary. We counted and measured the entire periodicals, reference, and audiovisuals collections, as part of deciding what materials will be placed in open stacks, in the ARC and in the warehouse (the former Winn-Dixie grocery store) during phase two. A task force relied on collection use reports and publication dates to make the decisions. We wrote black dots on the call number labels of the books destined for open stacks in phase two, while books going into the ARC received red dots. All other books are being moved to the warehouse. About 80,000 books and periodicals (1990 to the present) will be in the open stacks, while almost 200,000 items will be in the ARC and about 300,000 volumes will be in the warehouse. We began moving items to the ARC and the warehouse in June, and we anticipate opening the addition to the public in September. The existing building will close for renovations that should be completed by mid-2008. There is not enough room in this report to fully convey how much hard work has gone into preparing for phase two, and library personnel are commended for their dedication. (Physical Environment)

We conducted the LibQUAL+ patron satisfaction survey in spring 2006, three years after we first employed it. We fell short of several rising service expectations held by graduate students and faculty, who also expressed reservations about our collections. In response, we have contracted with a leading library professional development organization, the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), for a day-long patron service workshop during the December intersession. We also leased the Web of Science database, which will provide students and faculty with a much more powerful tool for identifying scholarly resources. Much remains to be done to enhance our monographs and electronic periodical holdings. (Academic Distinction, Student-Centered University)

In order to ensure we get the most benefit from our scarce collection dollars, we regularly examine our subscriptions for duplication. A review committee has been formed to compare full text journal coverage in the ProQuest databases with the full text journal coverage in other databases we receive. Extensive data cleanup was done so a list of titles available only in ProQuest could be sent out to faculty for their assessment of which titles are essential to their programs. We expect to complete the review this year prior to the expiration of the ProQuest lease. Similarly, we initiated several subscription/standing order reviews during the year (accounting, West legal titles, marketing, and print periodical titles included in Project Muse packages), and in some cases we were able to realize modest savings by eliminating duplication. (Academic Distinction)

We undertook a systematic review of our full text journals. The goal is to catalog all full-text journals appearing in our alphabetical list and create links to the titles from the catalog, thus simplifying patron access. To date, approximately 5700 journal titles have been cataloged and linked to the alphabetical list. (Student-Centered University)

When Project Muse changed their subscription packages, we had to determine which was the best option for Georgia Southern and update our catalog: records were created for new titles and holdings records for titles no longer received were revised. Similarly, holdings records in OCLC's international database had to be created or updated. (Student-Centered University)

We began adding missing ISSN numbers to periodical and serial records in Voyager, in anticipation of implementing the SFX link resolver software during FY07. SFX will facilitate patrons linking easily to full text articles from index citations. (Student-Centered University)

As the federal government sends fewer physical documents to depository libraries, we are spending a larger proportion of our time cataloging the increasing number of electronic documents. In addition, working from shelf list cards we are creating records for older titles that have never before been listed in our catalog. For example, bibliographic records for 1,993 public laws were edited and electronic links were added to the catalog. (Student-Centered University)

Information Services Department (ISD) personnel participated in the Foundations of Excellence project and the First-Year Experience Council. ISD librarians also made site visits to the learning commons at the Georgia Tech and Emory University libraries. We hope to expand our tradition of providing both library research and Internet research assistance by implementing a fully integrated learning commons when the library renovations are completed. (Student-Centered University, Physical Environment)

We continued to conduct usability tests on our web page. A usability committee was formulated with ISD librarians. Testing was done using students from Rebecca Ziegler's 1210 class. The results were highlighted in our EBDM report. (Student-Centered University, Technological Advancement)

The ISD librarians fully implemented EagleSource, with the help of our Systems Department. Adapted from East Carolina University's Piratesource, EagleSource provides patrons with a tool to guide them in finding information resources in their selected discipline. (Student-Centered University)

Sonya Shepherd, as our liaison to the College of Graduate Studies, has assisted a steady flow of masters and doctoral students needing help in meeting the new guidelines for submitting their theses and dissertations electronically. Problems with the development of the electronic thesis and dissertation software have prevented us from accessing the database and cataloging more than a dozen theses. (Student-Centered University)

Access Services reduced the wait for processing electronic reserves submissions to two days in all but a few very busy periods. Access Services also coped with an increase in GIL Express: our patron requests jumped from 924 books to 3,310, and requests for our books from other campuses rose from 1,165 to 2,862, increases of 258% and 146% respectively. (Student-Centered University)

Responding to student demand, we used funds raised through our recycling program to buy two digital video cameras and a still camera. (Student-Centered University)

Concerning the goal of decreasing the overdue book rate, we began sending overdue notices by email and participated in the statewide effort to recover all unreturned GIL books. We were successful in getting all but six GIL items returned. Part of this success was due to preventing the students with overdue GIL books from registering. In cooperation with the Registrar, we will also begin blocking the registration of students with overdue Henderson Library books. (Student-Centered University)

Patron access to our holdings continued to be very good. Of the materials requested from North Building storage, 97% were immediately retrieved. In our annual materials availability study, 91% of sought items were found in their proper locations. The median time to retrieve a document from our open stacks was six minutes and thirty seconds. This last figure is worse than last year's, but the results were affected by our preparing for the move to the addition. (Student-Centered University)

Special Collections received a \$1,982 grant from the Georgia Historical Records Project in order to inventory, organize, and store the personal and professional manuscripts in three major collections: Dr. Curtis Hames (died 2005), leader of a famous epidemiological study (1958-1995) in Evans County; Walter W. Harrison (1899-1985), mayor of Millen, state legislator, owner of 3 businesses, editor of the Millen newspaper, as well as a national leader in rural electrification; and Dr. Edward Grant Little (died 1998), Georgia Southern Emeritus Professor of English and Icelandic literature specialist. Meanwhile, the processing of three major manuscript collections was completed: Bo Ginn (1934-2005), U.S. Congressman from the 1st District of Georgia (1973-1982) and unsuccessful candidate for Governor in 1982, a 1956 alumnus of Georgia Teachers College; Culver Kidd (1914-1995), of Milledgeville, Georgia House of Representatives (1947-52, 1957-62) and Georgia Senate (1963-1993; and Peter Zack Geer (1928-1997), lawyer and politician, executive secretary to Governor S. Ernest Vandiver (1959-1961), Lt. Governor of Georgia (1963-1967). (Academic Distinction)

The Systems Department completed several major projects: installing the Iliad software for Interlibrary Loan, modifying East Carolina University's Piratesource so Information Services could launch EagleSource, implementing the new Special Collections web site, and setting up new web servers for e-reserves and electronic journal archives. (Technological Advancement)

We are proud that Ann Hamilton was presented with the Southeastern Library Association's 2006 Rothrock Award. The Rothrock Award was established in 1976 from the will of one of SELA's founders to honor a librarian who has provided exceptional contributions to library development in the Southeast. Ann is the seventeenth person to win the award. Among her many roles, she served as SELA secretary, treasurer, vice-president, and president. She has also been a board member of both the Alabama and Georgia library associations, and was president of GLA. In 2003 she received the Bob Richardson Award for Significant Contributions to the Georgia Library Association.