

Georgia Southern University

## Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

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Henderson Library Newsletters

Newsletters

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Winter 2015

### Henderson News 3.2

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*Save*

**6TH ANNUAL**



**DINNER**

**JULY 10, 2015**

*featuring*

Local Author of

**"Family Favorites"**

**AZURE ROUNDTREE**

*the date*

**ANNUAL DONORS'**

*Reception*

**JANUARY 9**

*featuring*

**LOCAL AUTHORS:**

**DAVID DUDLEY**

**THOMAS THIBEAULT**

**TINA WHITTLE**

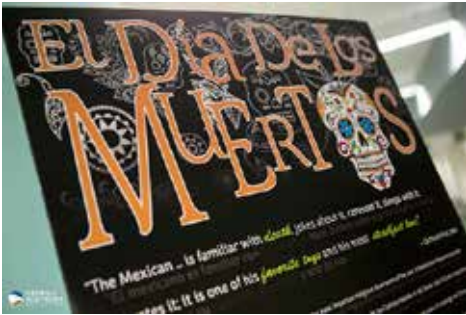
*&*

**SEBHS ADVANCED CHORUS**



## CELEBRATING EL DIA DE LOS MUERTOS AT HENDERSON LIBRARY

by Katrina Jackson, Special Collections Librarian



In Mexico, **Day of the Dead** is the most important religious observance of the year. It blends pre-Hispanic ancestor worship with Roman Catholic practices coinciding with the Catholic holidays of All Saints' and All Souls' days, which fall on November 1st and 2nd. **Day of the Dead** is a homecoming celebration for the souls of loved ones. At midnight on October 31st, the gateway between heaven and earth opens, allowing spirits to reunite with their families. This reunion is a lively celebration intended to keep the spirits happy so

they will provide their families with protection, good luck, and wisdom throughout the year. Home and public altars are decorated with candles, flowers, skeletons, photographs, and religious items. To nourish weary spirits, each altar contains an offering of food and beverage. Sometimes offerings are tailored to reflect a loved one's preferences. On the afternoon of November 2nd, festivities are taken to the cemetery where families clean tombs and reminisce about the deceased.

This past October, Special Collections Librarian Katrina Jackson worked with Assistant Professor Anna Alexander of the History department to educate the campus community about the Mexican celebration, **Día de los Muertos**, or **Day of the Dead**. Students from Dr. Alexander's History of Modern Latin America course created Day of the Dead altars as a means to shed light upon state-supported violence that occurred throughout Latin America during the Cold War. The featured altars included the following individuals: the disappeared of the Argentina Dirty War, students who died in the 1968 Tlatelolco massacre in Mexico City, Mayans killed during the Guatemalan Civil War, victims of the drug trade in Colombia, and the murdered of the Chilean dictatorship. On October 15th, a well-attended public presentation made by the students was given. Each group discussed the history surrounding the massacred groups and the theory behind their altar designs. The presentations were followed by a reception which included **Day of the Dead** themed face painting by students of the Theater and Performance Program and Mexican food provided by El Jalapeno. The altars were on display from October 1st through November 3rd on the first floor of the library, and were accompanied by an exhibit of traditional **Day of the Dead** artifacts on the second floor.





## OPEN ACCESS WEEK

by Ashley Lowery, *Digital Collections Specialist*

Henderson Library celebrated **Open Access Week** (October 20-26) with numerous presentations and webinars. Open Access Week is a global event now entering its eighth year, which promotes Open Access as a new norm in scholarship and research. Open Access is the free, immediate, online access to the results of scholarly research, and the right to use and re-use those results as you need. It has the potential to maximize research investments, increase the exposure and use of published research, facilitate the ability to conduct research across available literature, and enhance the overall advancement of scholarship.

For Open Access Week, Ashley Lowery (Digital Collections Specialist) provided an overview of Georgia Southern's institutional repository, **Digital Commons@Georgia Southern**. As mentioned in previous newsletters, Digital Commons@Georgia Southern is an open access digital collection that includes our University's publications (policies, newsletters, magazines, brochures), faculty and student research/publications/presentations, SelectedWorks faculty profile pages, and peer-reviewed journals/conferences. Digital Commons@Georgia Southern had an incredibly successful first year, hosting 6 peer-reviewed journals, 13 conferences, and 200+ SelectedWorks profiles.

Most recently, Digital Commons launched **Irish Studies South** (The Online Journal of the Southern Chapter of the American Conference for Irish Studies), which published its first issue at the end of August. In less than two months, the two most popular articles have been downloaded over 800 times each! Launching a journal in Digital Commons was the focus of Debra Skinner's (Coordinator of Cataloging and Metadata) presentation during Open Access Week. As stated in her presentation, Digital Commons makes publishing a journal easy with its sophisticated design and automated peer-review process.

Lastly, the library hosted a showing of the webinar "**The Feedback Loop between Open Access & Altmetrics (Plum Analytics: Measuring Research Impact)**." This webinar focused on Plum Analytics, a new system that Georgia Southern University recently acquired that compiles the altmetrics for our faculty's publications and presentations. Plum creates researcher profiles by gathering information from our **SelectedWorks** faculty profiles. Traditionally, faculty are evaluated based on the amount their works are cited in other publications. In addition to citations, Plum provides metrics for usage (abstract views, downloads, clicks), captures (favorites, bookmarks), mentions in blogs/forums/etc., and social media (shares/likes on Facebook, tweets). These altmetrics will provide a larger picture on the influence of our faculty's research.

Information on Open Access Week was provided by <http://www.openaccessweek.org/>. Please visit the site for more information.



## INTERNATIONAL JOURNEYS AT THE LIBRARY

by Ann Hamilton, Associate Dean of Henderson Library



During fall term, the Library began an exciting collaboration with the **Center for International Studies**. We offer a monthly lunch and learn series on international travel and research to students, faculty, staff, and members of the Statesboro community. Faculty members - both current and retired - have been invited to talk about their research and travel in countries throughout the world. The idea originated at an **International Conversation Hour** hosted by the Library. Information Services Librarian LiLi Li suggested an opportunity be offered for faculty and their students to present their experiences and research abroad. Dr. Jacek Lubecki, Director of the Center for International Study and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, was enthusiastic about such an opportunity for collaboration with the Library. Dr. Lubecki, Associate Professor Li, Assistant Professor Paolo Gujilde, Library Collection Development Coordinator, and I formed an ad hoc committee to plan the series. We decided sessions should be offered once a month at a time that coordinates with class schedules and should be short enough not to interfere with subsequent classes. We offer attendance verification to encourage student participation.

September 10 Dr. Steve Engel, Dr. Howard Keeley, and their students presented **Tracing the Origins of the Savannah Irish: Transatlantic Archival Research by Undergraduates**. Professors Engel and Keeley offered an Honors class in



Dr. Steve Engel leads an Honors Class in Ireland.

summer 2014 in which students did research at the Georgia Historical Society, the National Archives of Ireland, the Wexford County Archives, the Wexford Library, and the Waterford County Archives. The students showed a videotape they created as part of the course and responded to a number of questions from the audience. For information about their project, go to <http://tinyurl.com/mjw9x53>. All presentations will be added to Digital Commons@GeorgiaSouthern (<http://library.georgiasouthern.edu/research-sources/digital-commons/>).

October 8 Dr. Lane Van Tassell, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, talked about **A Changing China in a Changing World**. He has conducted extensive research on China, and he recently lived there for a year. He used PowerPoint slides to give a brief overview of recent Chinese history and politics. Questions were so extensive the session lasted much longer than planned.

November 5 Dr. Fred Richter, Emeritus Professor of Literature, presented **Love Works: Adventures in the Dominican Republic**. His slides showed his work on behalf of education and families during several trips to the Dominican Republic.

Remaining presentations will be: January 21 Dr. Svitlana Iarmolenko, Assistant Professor of Human Ecology, talking about Ukraine; February 11 Youssef Salhi, Lecturer in Foreign Languages, talking about Morocco; and March 11 Dr. Ahmet Akturk, Assistant Professor of History, talking about Turkey.

We plan to continue the series during the 2015-2016 academic year. We hope you'll join us for future presentations whenever possible. If you have suggestions for speakers, please contact us. ([library@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:library@georgiasouthern.edu))



## CONSTITUTION DAY 2014

The library co-hosted the 8th annual Constitution Day celebration on September 17th with a series of three events. One focus this year was a joining of town and gown, with Statesboro's Mayor Jan Moore fielding questions from Georgia Southern's SGA President, Azell Francis and members of the audience. The primary topic was student involvement in elections and voting. Other presentations included the Bill of Rights and how the Constitution protects student rights.

We recently had a wonderful lecture by Ms. Orlean. Look for our follow-up details in the next *Henderson News*!



**2014-15  
NORMAN FRIES  
DISTINGUISHED  
LECTURESHIP  
S E R I E S**

*featuring*  
**SUSAN  
ORLEAN**

## INSTANT STUDY ROOMS!

by Ruth Baker, Learning Commons Librarian

During the busiest times of the semester (mid-terms, “term paper season” and near the final exam period), students often tell us that all the study rooms are occupied and ask if there are any more they can use. Conventional study rooms do have computers in them but can’t accommodate more than 2 or 3 people comfortably. Also the seating and furniture is not as flexible as in other parts of the library and the study room whiteboards are smaller and fixed to the walls, allowing less flexibility for student collaboration.

Whiteboards have been mentioned frequently in the last couple of years in library journals and at conferences as an important aid to student learning and collaboration. On a recent visit to Armstrong State University, we also observed rolling whiteboards in their Commons area.

So, in the Spring of 2014, Henderson Library acquired 7 rolling white boards and this relatively low-cost, low-tech solution has become extremely popular! Rolling whiteboards allow students to essentially set up an “instant study rooms” wherever they wish to work within the library. The boards are freely available and students only need to check out the markers and erasers.



We positioned 2 boards on each of the 1st & 2nd floors, and the unquiet side of the 3rd floor. The additional whiteboard resides in the Learning Commons. The whiteboards are sturdy and easily fit on elevators so they can move around from floor to floor as needed. We have observed that they do move around quite a bit-- even into the stack areas on the 3rd floor—another great place to create an instant study/reading room!

In the Learning Commons, they often are moved close to the banquettes or dual computer cubicles on the Carroll Building side of the 2nd floor. Here students can collaborate in small to medium-sized groups but still have access to networked computers. Rolling Whiteboards are commonly seen adjacent to computers on the 1st floor’s open computer lab as well.

It has surprised, and delighted us, that students have taken to the rolling whiteboards the way they have. The major complaint we hear is: there just aren’t enough of them! It just goes to show that not all library innovations have to be high-tech ones.





# Our Thanks!

*As the beginning of the holiday season approaches, many of us are making travel plans and considering gift choices. It is also a time of reflection and to give thanks. All of us at Henderson Library would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the generous donations of supporters like you!*

Regardless of your budget, there are multiple ways in which you can lend your support towards sustaining and growing our collections and services. Please consider continuing to support Henderson Library through any of the following tax-deductible options:

## Existing Special Funds

Gifts of any amount to the following funds are very welcome and meaningful:

Henderson Library Fund	Bede & Carrie Mitchell Library Endowment
Library Book Fund	Friends of the Henderson Library Fund
Veronica Davis Derst Library Endowment	Marvin L. Goss Special Collections Fund
Naomi Davis McElveen Library Art Fund	Patrons with Disabilities Fund

## Mini Endowments for Books and Other Resources

A gift of \$500 will guarantee the purchase one book or other resource each year in perpetuity, with an appropriate book plate and acknowledgment to the donor(s). An informational plate will be added to the book or resource reflecting the name of the donor(s) and, if desired, the name of the person(s) in honor of whom the title was given.

## Adopt a Subscription

Those interested in giving annually may choose to support a library subscription to a scholarly journal or electronic database. This is also a good option for anyone who could create an endowment which would earn sufficient annual interest to support the subscription.

## Friends of the Henderson Library

Gifts of any size are welcome to the Friends of the Henderson Library fund, which supports fund raising activities for the Library and programming of interest to the local community, such as guest lectures, book signing events by authors of note, and exhibits of art and literary achievements drawn from the Library's many collections.

## Special Collections, Preserving the History of South Georgia

Henderson Library's Department of Special Collections is responsible for collecting and preserving documents relating to the history of our region, and monetary gifts to the Special Collections fund greatly facilitate the collection of such materials.

## Donate Books and Other Materials to the Library

The Library welcomes donations of books and other materials that meet our collection development criteria.

For more about individual funds or information on any of these options, call our Administrative Office at 912. 478.5115, email [library@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:library@georgiasouthern.edu) or visit <http://library.georgiasouthern.edu/support/> where you can also donate online.

*Holiday wishes for a safe and peaceful season, perhaps curled up with a good book...*