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Zach S. Henderson Library Annual

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This year marked the one hundred year anniversary of Albert Einstein’s groundbreaking theory of general relativity. In 1915, the scientist published his findings on the theory, just ten years after introducing his theory of special relativity.

To commemorate Einstein’s remarkable achievement, as well as to celebrate his birthday on March 14, Henderson Library created an exhibit. The display was featured in the exhibit cases next to Zach’s Brews and ran from Friday, March 13 through the end of the month.

The exhibit displayed an assortment of books both about the scientist himself as well as the theory of general relativity. Einstein himself was an inspiring man who lived an extraordinary life, so we created a timeline of major events, such as his winning the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1921 and his acceptance in 1933 of a position teaching Physics at Princeton University- a place that had become a haven for scientists trying to escape the perils of Nazi Germany. To make the timeline more relevant, we cast each major event in the physicist’s life alongside other major historical events and cultural highlights from the same year.

To accompany and promote the exhibit, we created an online guide that was featured throughout most of March. The guide featured a timeline, quotes, articles about the centennial, and Films on Demand owned by our library, as well as useful information directing library patrons on how to locate a variety of electronic and print resources. The guide is accessible at http://georgiasouthern.libguides.com/content.php?pid=654982 so feel free to have a look!
ZACH S. HENDERSON LIBRARY CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH
by Jocelyn Poole, Head of Information Services

Zach S. Henderson Library celebrated Black History Month with “Georgia Southern University’s Black Hall of Fame,” featuring Georgia Southern former and present students and their notable accomplishments. The exhibit highlighted black history as it pertained to Georgia Southern University and the contributions of African Americans throughout the country.

On February 13, 2015 a reception was held to honor these notable alumni. Ten out of the thirty-four honorees were in attendance including Kim Gusby, Azell Francis, Jemella Coes, Virgil Watkins, LaMeisha Hunter-Kelly, Jeffrey Grant, Francys Johnson, Chris Ford, Minkah Merritt, and Carolyn Milton-Smith. [See a complete list of honorees and their accomplishments, and learn more about Black History Month in our libguide at http://georgiasouthern.libguides.com/bhm15.]

It was a wonderful event with scrumptious Caribbean and African food and over 125 people in attendance. It was a real treat to hear Dr. Carolyn Milton-Smith, one of nine original African American students at Georgia Southern, discuss her experience here during the late 60’s and Dr. Charles Bonds talk about his experience as the first African American Professor.


The honorees were recommended to Jocelyn Poole, Associate Professor and Head of Information Services, by faculty, staff, local residents and Georgia Southern alumni. Many more are surely deserving of the honor. With such a large turnout for a Sunday afternoon and the enthusiasm of all in attendance it has been suggested that this become an official event with the possibility of it being hosted by Alumni Affairs.
A is for Arab: Stereotypes in U.S. Popular Culture

The Jack G. Shaheen Archive at Tamiment Library and Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives at New York University

"Why is it important for the average American to know and care about the Arab stereotype? It is critical because dislike of ‘the stranger’ forewarns that when one ethnic, racial, or religious group is vilified, innocent people suffer.”
—Jack G. Shaheen

The exotic harem maiden. The oil sheikh. The nomadic desert dweller. The enraged terrorist. How have Arabs been portrayed on screen? In comic books and editorial cartoons? In children’s books and romance novels? And how do these representations shape public perceptions and affect people of all races, ethnicities, religions, and nationalities?

In the 1970s, renowned professor, author, and cultural consultant Dr. Jack G. Shaheen asked himself these same questions after identifying dehumanizing representations of Arabs in his children’s books, cartoons, and toys. Deciding that these depictions demanded interrogation, Dr. Shaheen, with the help of his wife, Bernice Shaheen, dedicated his life to collecting and challenging images that maligned Arabs by casting them as the cultural “other.” A is for Arab: Stereotypes in U.S. Popular Culture highlights and contextualizes the anti-Arab stereotypes documented by the Jack G. Shaheen Archive, now housed at New York University’s Tamiment Library and Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives.

Containing nearly 3,000 moving images including motion pictures, cartoons, newsreels, and television programs, as well as editorial cartoons, advertisements, books, magazines, comic books, toys, and games, the Jack G. Shaheen Archive reveals U.S. representations of Arabs from the early-20th century to the present.

The images and texts contained within the archive and displayed in A is for Arab can be difficult to digest, as they dehumanize, homogenize, and vilify diverse peoples and regions of the world. And yet, the materials are invaluable. They document Western perceptions and understandings of the Middle East and its peoples over the course of centuries. They call attention to the ways that stereotypes of Arabs relate to the portrayals of other racialized peoples. They also demonstrate how demands for fair and realistic representations can be met with small yet significant changes. From history to film studies to ethnic studies, the possibilities for new scholarship and academic engagement with the materials in this collection are infinite; as are the opportunities to employ them as educational tools.

Dr. Shaheen analyzes the materials in his collection in several books, including The TV Arab (1984), Guilty: Hollywood’s Verdict on Arabs After 9/11 (2008), and the award-winning Reel Bad Arabs: How Hollywood Vilifies a People (2001, 2009), which was produced as a documentary by the Media Education Foundation. Like A is for Arab, these works identify the

Exhibit and materials provided by the Asian/Pacific/American Institute and the Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies at New York University
origins of these visual caricatures, explain their stubborn persistence and ramifications, and present effective solutions to counter damages wrought by their messages. Most recently, Dr. Shaheen co-hosted Turner Classic Movies’ “Race and Hollywood: Arab Images on Film.” He is currently a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at New York University’s Asian/Pacific/American Institute and Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies.

Images (Top to Bottom, Left to Right): Times, 1979; Gauge Master Arms Anti-Iraq Gun Club Target, 1980; National Lampoon, 1980; The Sheik, 1921; Felix the Cat Shatters the Sheik, 1926; Instant Arab costume, ca. 1980s; Princess Sulhana’s Daughters, 2001; The Return of Tarzan: Fury in the Desert!, 1977; Abbott & Costello in Lost in a Harem, 1944; Giant Cracked Oil Sheik Game, 1980

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT A IS FOR ARAB, THE JACK G. SHAHEEN ARCHIVE, AND MEDIA REPRESENTATIONS OF ARABS, PLEASE VISIT:

The Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU: www.apa.nyu.edu/SHAHEEN

The Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies at NYU: neareaststudies.as.nyu.edu

Tamiment Library and Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives at NYU: dlib.nyu.edu/findingslabs/html/tamwag/shaheenj.html

Reclaiming Identity: Dismantling Arab Stereotypes, an online exhibit curated by the Arab American National Museum: www.arabstereotypes.org


Reel Bad Arabs: How Hollywood Vilifies a People, a documentary produced by the Media Education Foundation: www.reelbadarabs.com

Race & Hollywood: Arab Images on Film, a Turner Classic Movies series co-hosted by Dr. Jack G. Shaheen and Robert Osborne: www.tcm.com/this-month/article/411149%7C0/Race-Hollywood-Arab-Images-on-Film.html

The Yoshio Kishi / Irene Yah Ling Sun Collection, a collection of Yellow Peril artifacts: www.apa.nyu.edu/yellowperil

The Asian/Pacific/American Institute at NYU is raising funds to make the Jack G. Shaheen Archive accessible to the public. To support us in our efforts, please email archives.apa@nyu.edu or visit www.nyu.edu/giving/make.a gift/giving.html?id=70

A is for Arab is a traveling exhibition available for loan. For more information, please contact apa.institute@nyu.edu or visit www.apa.nyu.edu.
Georgia Southern’s First Annual Sustainability Showcase was held in the first floor exhibit space of Henderson Library and featured the 23 campus sustainability projects funded by the Student Sustainability Fee in fiscal year 2015.

In FY2015, The Center for Sustainability (CfS) designated $438,000 in grant funds ranging from $2,400 - $42,000 per project. These funds were allocated to 7 academic departments and 4 additional campus units. Topics ranged from water quality to solar and wind energy potential to waste management to interpretation.

Georgia Southern’s first Green Eagle Awards were presented at the closing reception for the Showcase, held on Earth Day, April 22nd. Recipients of the next round of Sustainability grants have been announced and the CfS and Henderson Library will host the Showcase again next April, in coordination with 2016 No Impact Week events.
On June 30 we say goodbye to long time interlibrary loan librarian and Access Services assistant department head Cynthia Frost. Cynthia has a long list of achievements during her 16 year tenure. Perhaps the one with the biggest impact was the introduction of the ILLiad interlibrary loan software to Georgia Southern. ILLiad has multiple advantages for patrons and the Library. During the transition to the expanded Library in 2008, Cynthia was a key person. She provided leadership in the marking of materials, the moving of materials, and the transferring of materials into ARC storage.

Cynthia has been very active professionally and is well respected in state resource sharing circles. She chaired or served on - Georgia Library Association and other state professional organizations. She has also contributed in the area of service to Georgia Southern, serving on the Faculty Welfare Committee, University Athletic Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee and many others. Cynthia was elected chair of the Faculty Service Committee by her faculty colleagues in 2014. The Faculty Service Committee is responsible for selecting faculty receiving grants for service projects, as well as deciding the winners of the Award of Excellence in Service.

Last year Cynthia and her unit were honored to be recognized as a Rethinking Resource Sharing STAR. This is a program where resource sharing units are asked to complete a survey of policies and practices. It is designed to identify success and efficiency as well as how accommodating the interlibrary loan department is for both its own patrons and other resource sharing units. The Henderson Library received a score of 105 out of a possible 128, making it a three STAR program. Cynthia is quick to point out that the whole Henderson Library shares in this award, since many of the policies and practices assessed are those of the overall organization.

Cynthia will be missed. But she intends to stay in the area, so we can keep up with her. She will be spending some of her time with her daughter, son in law, grandson, and her second grandchild, a daughter due any day.
Your tax-deductible contribution sponsors special events & projects that contribute to the communities of Georgia Southern University & Bulloch County.

The Friends of Henderson Library automatically recognize any financial support to the library as eligible for membership within the Friends. For more information about giving opportunities, please contact library administration (912) 478-5115, or library@georgiasouthern.edu. You can expedite your support by donating online.

Thank you!