DEAN’S WELCOME
by Bede Mitchell, Dean of Georgia Southern University Libraries

A new academic year, a new Georgia Southern University, and a new Georgia Southern libraries system! As a result of the consolidation with the former Armstrong State University, we are now the Georgia Southern University Libraries, with Henderson Library in Statesboro and Lane Library in Savannah serving faculty and students at all three of our campuses: Statesboro, Armstrong, and Liberty in Hinesville. Personnel at both libraries collaborated on an extensive review of all policies, procedures, and services. The goal was to ensure all Georgia Southern University faculty, staff, and students will receive the same excellent library services, regardless of where they are located. Among the many steps we took were:

• Merging all operations and personnel into a centrally administered organization. The proposed organization chart for the new GS Libraries was unanimously endorsed by members of both libraries. All personnel from both libraries were slotted into positions for which they were suited by virtue of their experience and interests.

• Integrating our online library management systems. This extraordinarily complex project was completed in cooperation with the staffs of Georgia Southern University Information Technology Services and the University System of Georgia Executive Director of Library Services. The system is functioning, while data clean-up and tweaking of functionality continues.

• Reconciling policies to ensure equity and consistency of services for all GS faculty and students.

• Designing a new GS Libraries home web page that clearly delineates the existence of the two facilities and provides the service hours, contact information, and locations of each library.

• Renegotiating the licenses for all electronic periodical and database subscriptions to allow access for all GS faculty, students, and staff.

• Adopting a new Georgia Southern University Libraries Mission Statement: “The GS Libraries support Georgia Southern University’s mission by providing access to information, collections, and services designed to meet the scholarly needs of the University and its diverse community. The Libraries advance independent lifelong learning, information literacy, intellectual and creative discovery, and student success. We foster a welcoming and innovative learning environment, both physically and virtually, for research, collaboration, and preservation of resources.”

• Adopting a new set of aspirational goals:

1. Students, faculty and staff will have ready access to the information resources and library services they need regardless of point of access.

2. Library personnel will support the teaching, learning, and scholarship of students, faculty and staff through library outreach activities providing responsive and user-centered services.

3. Students will acquire information literacy proficiency and knowledge in support of academic success and lifelong learning.

4. The libraries will provide space and infrastructure conducive to group and individual study, and the use of physical and digital information resources.

5. Patrons will receive timely, accurate, courteous, and impartial service from all library personnel.

6. The collections, resources, and services of the Georgia Southern University Libraries exist primarily to serve current Georgia Southern faculty, students, and staff. Other individuals are welcome to visit the Libraries and will be eligible for clearly defined levels of service and access.
7. The Georgia Southern University Libraries will exercise thoughtful and deliberate stewardship of all resources in pursuit of these goals.

Here are additional highlights of an extremely busy 2017-2018:

• Adopted new workflows for Acquisitions, Cataloging, & Continuing Resources after consolidating the two libraries’ instances of the online library management system called Alma.

• Conducted a subscription consolidation project for the University Libraries (Lane & Henderson) in order to eliminate duplication of electronic resources and provide equal access for all GS patrons.

• Began conducting subscription reviews with Library faculty and cancelled 3 databases as a result.

• Moved 6,338 government documents volumes to the Automated Retrieval Collection (ARC) so that a total of 41,934 government documents are now in the ARC.

• Released the Armstrong State University Collections in Digital Commons, currently comprised of 1,450 files.

• 727,351 full text articles viewed by library patrons.

• 10,775 streaming audio tracks played from Naxos Music Library.

• 747,279 searches using the Discovery multi-resource search capability.

• 793,561 institutional repository downloads.

• A new policy, the Identification and Treatment of Bed Bugs, was adopted for the Henderson Library.

• Access Services employees attended 201 training session focusing on Change Management and Customer Services.

• The Access Services Department of Henderson Library and the Circulation and Interlibrary Loan Department of Lane Library consolidated policies and procedures for sharing management platforms (the next-generation online library services platform, Alma; the interlibrary loan platform, ILLiad; and Course Reserves).

• The Access Services and the Research Services Departments conducted a library satisfaction survey of faculty and students during spring semester. The respondents were randomly selected as they visited Henderson Library. The survey contained five questions regarding what we may be doing well and where we need to improve. The Library analyzed 258 responses, a 280% participant increase over last year. 98% of the respondents consider the overall quality of our service to be satisfactory. 48% of the respondents gave the Library the highest possible score in the category of overall quality, a 15% increase from the survey conducted FY16/17.

• The Henderson Library Interlibrary Loan Department became a participant in RapidILL, a unique resource sharing system. All member libraries agree to a 24 hour turnaround time (Monday- Friday) for lending request. Henderson Library Interlibrary Loan Department filled a total of 2,031 requests using Rapid. The average turnaround time for the articles was 8.4 hours. The average turnaround time for the five years prior to joining Rapid was 7 business days. Adding Rapid articles filled and standard ILLiad/OCLC articles filled for this fiscal year, there were 7,369 articles requests filled, up 2,100 from last year. Lane Library began using RapidILL this summer.

• Introduction of “Hendy Minute Clinics” for demonstrating library research tips for students.
Introduction of “Research Boot Camps” for students with major research paper assignments.

Updated, reviewed and revised all Subject Guides in preparation for the consolidation of the GS University Libraries.

Created a Makerspace with poster-making capabilities in the Learning Commons of Henderson Library.

Armstrong’s Learning Commons had 221,878 visits and Lane Library had 138,409 visits in FY18. Looking at study room reservations, another indicator of a welcoming environment, the Learning Commons accounted for 8,653 bookings, and Lane Library had 4,165, totaling 12,818.

In preparation for the merger of catalogs between Henderson and Lane Library, Lane technical services librarians updated summary periodical holdings statements for 2,339 journals.

More than 4,000 e-journals were added to the Lane Library catalog as the licenses were renegotiated.

As we move into the era of this new Georgia Southern University and anticipate a new university president, we look forward to participating in the institution-wide strategic planning process that aims to create a blueprint for serving the region educationally, culturally, and economically. A key goal for this year will be the selection of new Dean of the Georgia Southern University Libraries, for I will be retiring on July 1, 2019 after 19 years and 11 months, and after 41½ years in the academic library profession. It has been a privilege to serve Georgia Southern University!

W. Bede Mitchell, Dean of the GS Libraries
Autumn Johnson was recently appointed as the new Special Collections Librarian and assistant professor at Georgia Southern University on August 1. In this role, she is responsible for coordinating instruction, outreach, programming and reference for Special Collections, now nested under the Research Services Department. In addition, she will serve as the library liaison for the departments of History, Art, Theatre and Performance, and the Center for Irish Studies on the Statesboro Campus.

She comes to Georgia Southern after nearly five years as the Information Literacy Librarian at Savannah State University. Autumn was responsible for coordinating, promoting, and assessing the library instruction program. In addition she oversaw the Special Collections department and helped launch their institutional repository, Tiger Scholar Commons. Prior to this, Autumn worked at Augusta University as their Outreach Librarian.

Autumn earned her Master’s of Library and Information Science at University of South Carolina in 2011 and a Bachelors of Arts in History from Georgia Southern University (Armstrong) in 2009. She is currently pursuing a Masters of Arts in History at Georgia Southern University with an anticipated graduation of Spring 2019. Autumn’s research interests include information literacy and social justice issues in archives. She will present research on this topic next month at the Georgia Libraries Conference and the South Carolina Archival Association.

Outside of library land, Autumn is obsessed with container gardening, kayaking the intracoastal waterways, holiday decorating, spoiling pets Marley and Mugs, and binging Anglo-Irish television.
CONSTITUTION DAY 2018
by Lori Gwinett, Government Information Librarian

In celebration of Constitution Day 2018, Henderson Library co-sponsored a poster contest along with the National Association of Women Judges, the Office of Pre-Law Advising, the Departments of Criminology & Criminal Justice and Political Science & International Studies of Georgia Southern’s Statesboro campus on Tuesday, September 18. All posters covered a single amendment to the Constitution, with relevance today and supportive court cases. Students of Dr. Michael Van Wagenen’s public history class took home first, second and third place.

1st Place - $300. Dalton Carver - Eighteenth amendment
2nd Place - $150. Jasmine Webb - Sixth amendment
3rd Place (tie) - $25. Haley Osborne - Eighth amendment
3rd Place (tie) - $25. Garrett McManus - First amendment
Henderson Library’s 9th annual Farm to Table Dinner fundraiser was held at The Belle House on June 14, 2018. Statesboro Main Street Farmers Market manager Relinda Walker (left) was the keynote speaker, with catering by Honey Catering. A good time was had by all!
Thank you for your continued support.

If it is time for you to renew, a tax-deductible contribution to one of the Henderson Library funds sponsors special events & projects that contribute to the communities of Georgia Southern University & Bulloch County. Using the following list, you may earmark your contribution for the area of your choice.

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<td>Marvin Goss Special Collection Fund</td>
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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.