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Zach's News

May 9, 2011

Georgia Southern University, Zach S. Henderson Library

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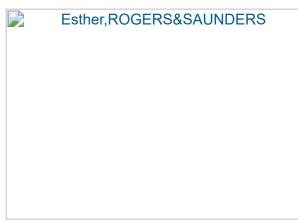
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Papers of Professor R. Frank Saunders, Jr., now available

May 9, 2011



Dr. Saunders and Dr. Rogers

A scion of some of the oldest families of Bulloch County – his great-grandfather was Confederate veteran Zachary Taylor DeLoach – Dr. R. Frank (Richard Frank) Saunders, Jr. (1934-2008) lived most of his life on ancestral farmlands near Portal. This family background undoubtedly spurred an early interest in understanding and tracing the course of local and state history. He attended local schools and earned his first degree here at what was then Georgia Teachers College in 1957. He had become a member of the History Department faculty here by the time he acquired a doctorate from the University of Georgia in 1970, teaching principally Georgia History but also undergraduate courses in world and US history, and such specialties as Colonial History, Historiography and Historic Preservation, until his retirement in 1996. Seven boxes of the 23 which constitute the Saunders collection cover the years of his education and of his own teaching here. But he was also very busy with arranging conferences – such as those at Georgia Southern on the Bicentennial of the American Revolution (1976), the Constitution (1988) and the Bill of Rights (1991) – and later helping with local projects such as the Bulloch County Bicentennial (1996) and the Portal Centennial (2008) – all the while working on research and presentations and publications. The late Dr. George A. Rogers had been Saunders' professor during his years as an undergraduate, and was later his co-author, and always friend and mentor. Their collaboration culminated in the 1984 publication of Swamp Water and Wiregrass: Historical Sketches of Coastal Georgia, mostly dealing with an intensive view of the history of Liberty County, the result of many years of research.

Dr. Saunders and Dr. Rogers were pioneers of Special Collections. Both were aggressive in acquiring the papers of prominent people and organizations of south Georgia and in conducting oral history projects. President Dale Lick was a strong supporter of these efforts, as was the head of the History Department, Dr. Walter J. Fraser, himself heavily involved in collecting and oral histories, especially of Savannah. Other History faculty were also active, as were faculty in other areas, such as Dr. Dan Good of Geography, Dr. Kemp Mabry of Education, and Dr. Delma E. Presley of English.

In 1994, Dr. Saunders received the Governor's Award in the Humanities for his founding and operation of the Georgia History Quiz Bowl from 1982 until that year.



Dr. Saunders with then-Gov. Zell Miller

He continued various research projects after his retirement, several left unfinished. Upon his death, a resolution in his honor was passed by the Georgia Senate:

http://www1.legis.ga.gov/legis/2009_10/fulltext/sr1414.htm

A full file-level inventory of the Saunders papers is now available in Special Collections and will soon be available on EagleScholar.

Check out Dr. Saunders' books, manuscripts, and other related items in our collection here.

Marvin Goss

Head of Special Collections

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Posted in Archive, Government Documents, Resources and Services

Tags: government, special collections

Hot Doc: Facts on the Production of the Congressional Record

May 9, 2011



See the video about the production of the Congressional Record at http://youtu.be/sPC5B-jUTsE. It explains the intricacies performed at GPO, by employees who within hours transform stacks of manuscripts from Congress into the print and Web-ready forms that meet the needs of the information and technology needs of the American public.

On March 17, Public Printer Bill Boarman testified before the Senate appropriations subcommittee on the costs of producing Federal publications, such as the Congressional Record. Subsequently, the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) made a YouTube video on the production of the Congressional Record to illustrate the production process for this important publication.

With origins in the requirement of Article I of the Constitution that "Congress shall keep a journal of its proceedings...and from time to time publish the same," the Congressional Record contains the proceedings and debates of the Senate and House of Representatives. It has been called "a symbol of our democracy through which the people may observe the making of their laws and may hold their lawmakers accountable for their words and deeds."

Throughout its history, GPO has adapted to the various needs of Congress and technology changes to produce the Congressional Record in both online and print formats. Technology changes over the past generation have reduced the cost of this publication significantly, and today the vast majority of the cost to produce it-nearly 70%-is in the creation of the digital file for dissemination online and in print. For those print copies requested by Congress, Federal agencies, and the public, production is on 100% recycled newsprint with vegetable oil-based ink.

Lori Gwinett, MLIS

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