From the Dean
Bonnie MacEwan

Challenges Abound

In fulfilling Auburn University Libraries’ goal of being the best possible library for both student and faculty users, we have faced many challenges. As we go forward, the challenges are no less numerous or daunting but offer just as many opportunities to improve our services to the university community.

Our greatest challenge continues to be the ever-growing demands on our collections budget. The move to more digital resources makes a vast and rapidly expanding body of knowledge readily available to scholars, but the cost of these digital resources has grown to dwarf our physical volume acquisitions. Faculty member Dr. Stewart Schneller talks more about about the importance of these resources inside.

With the current rate of materials cost increases, we are seeing our purchasing power erode by approximately 6 percent annually. This has necessitated some hard choices and may require more hard choices in the future.

Know that we are working very hard to make any cuts in content purchases the least detrimental to our users and the reputation of Auburn that we can.

Toward the aim of making as few material cuts as possible, we are committing more time and resources to expanding our development efforts. Leah O’Gwynn has joined AUL as its head of development and will soon be rolling out a new campaign designed to improve giving to the library. You’ll learn more about that inside this issue.

To further improve the library’s standing as the most complete study place for students, we continue to expand our partnerships with other organizations on campus. Over the summer, the Office of Information Technology opened a computer repair facility on the third floor of RBD Library. Now users can not only get help with software and connection issues, but also get a seriously ailing computer repaired by trained professionals.

AUL has also been working with the Department of Public Safety and Security to continue the RBD Library’s role as a shelter during severe weather events.

We continue to improve our physical facilities with a project to expand quiet student study areas on the fourth floor and a year-long major renovation of the Library of Architecture, Design and Construction in Duncan Hall.

There have been changes in RBD this summer too. The library auditorium has been transformed into a new internet café with great places to settle in with a computer. Digital signage has been added to better communicate library services, events and classes.

It is said one of the great curses is, “May you live in interesting times.” The times are interesting for Auburn University Libraries, but we continue to strive to make our three libraries the best they possibly can be.

Finally, I would like to mark the passing of one of Auburn University Libraries’ most respected faculty members, Glenn Anderson. Glenn worked for AUL for more than 30 years, most recently as the assistant dean of collections development. In this capacity he not only helped Auburn increase its holdings but also used his contacts and business savvy to negotiate package deals for all Alabama university libraries, allowing the quality of all university libraries to improve.

Glenn loved and nurtured the library’s collection. His dedication and experience will be sorely missed. The entire AUL staff will be doing all we can to ensure the future of the collection he built.
In our continuing efforts to make the libraries of Auburn University the most responsive to patron needs that we can, last spring all faculty members received a survey from the University Library Committee and Auburn University Libraries designed to gauge several aspects of faculty use of information and library resources and services.

In all, 250 faculty members took the time to provide the committee and AUL with valuable information and insights into what types of resources they use most often, how difficult they view the research process, and how they stay in touch and current with information in their fields.

Respondents provided feedback about which library services are important to their scholarly work, what aspects of their endeavors those services best support, and what they will need most from the libraries to be successful in their work in the future. Additionally they listed the libraries’ greatest strength as well as the one thing they would change about the libraries if they could. Lastly, participants rated e-journal coverage AUL provides and weighed in on the possibility of an orientation to the libraries’ resource and services for new and existing faculty.

We learned much from the survey results that can be put to good use to improve faculty access to and satisfaction with library resources and services. While 65 percent of the respondents rated their impression of the coverage of e-journals through the libraries as either outstanding or very good, the most frequent response to what faculty would change about the libraries if they could was to add electronic journal and database subscriptions. That response goes hand in hand with another for a desired change that would increase the libraries’ materials budget. Similarly, e-access to journals and databases was the most frequent response to what faculty will need from the libraries to be successful in their future scholarly work.

Other changes faculty members desire include access to more e-books and improved library facilities and layout. New e-books subscription plans and proposed additional quiet study areas will address some of those concerns.

As a result of survey responses regarding an orientation to the libraries for both new and current faculty, the University Library Committee has set as a potential project for the coming year the development of multi-faceted orientation packages for new faculty as well as updates and reorientation for existing faculty.

While overall satisfaction is high, with 88 percent of survey respondents either strongly agreeing or agreeing that they are generally satisfied with library services, there is much more information to be gleaned from a further analysis of the resulting data and the open-ended survey responses so that Auburn University Libraries can continue to provide the essential support for the ongoing work of the Auburn University faculty.

Several new services and initiatives geared to help users navigate the library physical space and find assistance with their advising and school supply needs are debuting in the Ralph Brown Draughon Library this fall.

Working with the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the SGA and academic advisors from across campus, we will be hosting the new Tiger Advisor@the Library, a service designed to assist students with a wide variety of general advising questions. Open from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and located near the Learning Commons on the 2nd floor of the RBD Library, the service is intended to supplement rather than replace academic advising in the colleges and schools. Tiger Advisor staff will assist students in locating the proper resources necessary to answer questions related to their academic progress, provide guidance on university policies and procedures and provide training and assistance in negotiating the Tigeri Registration system, the DegreeWorks online degree audit system, the Auburn Bulletin, and the Student Policy eHandbook. The goal of the service is to help students learn how to find the information they need through existing online resources or direct students to the proper campus office that can address their concern or need. TigerAdvisor@the Library is scheduled to open by the end of September. We are happy to partner with the Office of Undergraduate Studies in their efforts to improve advising.

The Auburn University Bookstore will open a satellite in the space previously occupied by the CopyCat operation near the information desk and the Mell Street entrance on the second floor of the library, also by the end of September. The operation will focus on providing copying services and school supplies to library users. While color copying and payment for copies via credit and debit card will continue inside the satellite location, copiers on the ground, first and second floors of the library and in the Library of Architecture, Design and Construction and the Cary Veterinary Medical Library will be equipped with coin boxes. Copying charges will continue to be 10 cents for black and white copies and 50 cents for color copies. A wide variety of school and office supplies will be available in the outpost and the supply vending machine in the Learning Commons will also be maintained by bookstore staff. Hours of operation will closely mirror those of the other auxiliary services housed in the library.

In addition, we are putting the final touches on a comprehensive wayfinding system that will combine a standardized signage appearance with the flexibility of changeable message inserts to enable us to provide accurate and current directional and informational signs to guide users to their destinations in the RBD Library. Digital building directories, floor directories in elevators and in the central staircase, more visible directional signs to partner services, and prominent room numbers and emergency signage are features of the system. Implementation will begin this semester and continue throughout this academic year. Digital signage to inform patrons of upcoming events and library services is also part of the initiative.

Plan to give us your feedback on library resources and facilities by posting your thoughts on our new “Ralph Wants to Know” bulletin board just past the information desk on the second floor of the library inside the Mell Street entrance. Given the Ralph moniker in reference to library namesake and former university president Ralph Brown Draughon, the inaugural question will be, “What items would you like the AU Bookstore at the library to carry?” The question will change regularly and we hope to gain timely input on what you need and want from the libraries as we continue to provide the best possible service to all our users.
The past year was a year of consolidation in Systems and Technical Services, with the departments absorbing changes that have taken place in the past two years while embarking on some new initiatives.

First, infrastructure. In 2010-2011 the Electronic Resources & Serials (ERSS) and Monographic Services departments moved into a refurbished, consolidated work space on the first floor of RBD Library. In 2011-2012 it was the turn of the Document Delivery/Interlibrary Loan Department, which moved its operations temporarily to the Systems Department while its office suite underwent a major renovation at the end of 2011 and beginning of 2012. The new layout makes better use of the department’s space and has better work flow for staff and students. The renovation of the Document Delivery/Interlibrary Loan work area marked the end of the radical reorganization of the Systems and Technical Services departments that began in 2009-2010. This physical and administrative reorganization permitted the expansion of the Media & Digital Resource Lab and its merger with the Maps and Documents Department (see the feature article on the MDRL elsewhere in this newsletter). It also made possible the installation of the Study Commons in the southeastern quadrant of the first floor of RBD Library.

Motivated by fundamental changes in cataloging practice across the library profession, faculty members from the Systems and Technical Services departments took the lead in creating a library-wide Resource Description Committee in early 2012. The committee’s fundamental charge is to “create policies and procedures for cataloging and describing the libraries’ resources.” The committee expects to spend a lot of time in the coming year discussing the implementation at Auburn of RDA, or Resource Description and Access - a new set of rules for cataloging library materials. In the meantime, the Technical Services departments have contracted with a vendor to carry out a thorough cleaning and updating of the libraries’ 2.4 million bibliographic records.

Discovery - the ongoing effort to make locally held and remote materials (licensed databases, for example) easily accessible through a single search interface - is a much-discussed topic in academic librarianship. At Auburn, the Systems Department and other departments spent much of 2011-2012 refining the VuFind discovery layer, which has been the libraries’ default search interface since late 2010. At the direction of Dean MacEwan, the libraries also formed a committee to explore and evaluate commercial Web-scale discovery products that provide consolidated access to millions of journal articles, newspaper articles, conference papers, and other items in specialized scholarly databases. The report reflected the almost unanimous consensus of the library faculty, which is that none of the three discovery products currently provides enough added value to justify the ongoing expense of buying and maintaining one.

However, the committee did recommend revisiting the discovery market in a year or two.

The Auburn University Digital Library (AUDL) rolled out a new collection consisting of Civil War diaries and letters in March 2012, with an accompanying lecture by Linda Thornton of the Special Collections and Archives Department. This and other digital collections can be found through the AUDL website at http://diglib.auburn.edu/. More digital collections are on deck, including collections of architectural watercolors from the 1930s and 1940s, a collection of DesignAlabama newsletters, a complete run of The Plainsman newspaper, and maps from the Auburn University Treasure Room. Elsewhere, the Systems Department is continuing to work with Professor Jonathan Armbruster of the Biological Sciences Department on an NSF grant to create a world database of minnow types. We expect that the database will be unveiled in the coming academic year. The department is also working with library faculty and professors from the colleges of Liberal Arts and Engineering on building an open-access repository of research papers and other scholarship at Auburn. Tentatively dubbed AUrora, the repository will make research by Auburn faculty members more accessible to the citizens of Alabama and to the general public. Finally, in February 2012 the Systems Department joined a Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA) working group on Research Data Management (RDM) - a hot topic at research universities.

AUL continued to play a leading role in digital preservation and other areas of academic librarianship at the state, national, and even international levels. Thanks to a revamped membership policy and fee schedule, the Alabama Digital Preservation Network (ADPNet) – he first statewide digital preservation network in the U.S. – was able to add two new members in 2011-2012: the Birmingham Public Library and the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, for a total of nine institutional members. Systems department faculty gave presentations on ADPNet and on AlabamaMosaic, the statewide digital repository, at conferences in Alabama and in Washington, D.C. in 2011-2012. Elsewhere, members of the Systems and Technical Services departments gave presentations on other library initiatives at the Ex Libris Users of North America (ELUNA) conference in Salt Lake City in May 2012 and at the Florida State University Libraries Innovation Conference in Panama City Beach in August 2012. AUL also continued to be represented on the international scene. As we mentioned in last year’s newsletter, AUL helped to organize an international conference on digital preservation in Tallinn, Estonia, in May 2011. The edited volume of papers and proceedings from that conference has just been published by the Atlanta-based Educupia Institute and is available for free at http://www.educopia.org/publications. I gave presentations on libraries in the digital age and on distributed digital preservation networks at the National Library of Albania in Tirana in September 2011 and at the IFLA World Congress in Helsinki, Finland, in August 2012.

In short, the Systems and Technical Services departments had a productive year in 2011-2012. The departments are well positioned to continue existing initiatives and take on new ones in 2012-2013.
Auburn University Libraries Establishes Old Main Society

Auburn University Libraries is pleased to announce the creation of its own giving society. The Old Main Society derives its name from the famous Main Building on the campus of what was the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama. In the early morning hours of June 24, 1887, the Main Building caught fire, destroying the landmark structure. Prior to its total destruction, local men rushed into the building and ascended the stairs to the second floor - the location of the A&M college’s library. To save the volumes, the men bundled the books in their arms and threw them out the window onto the lawn below. Local Auburn women were waiting below to move the precious books farther from danger.

The Old Main Society will consist of three levels: $500, $1,000, and $2,500. Members at each level will receive an electronic book plate and the opportunity to reserve a parking spot prior to home football games. The $500 level will be reserved for recent graduates (those who have graduated since 2003) and any former and current library student worker. In addition, members at the highest level of giving will be invited to attend special events with the dean.

“We’re excited to establish the Old Main Society at Auburn University Libraries” says Development Officer Leah O’Gwynn. “It gives our supporters an opportunity to be a part of a group that cares about the future of the university’s intellectual center. We’re especially proud to be able to offer the opportunity for young alumni and former student workers to be involved in supporting the libraries.”

For more information on the Old Main Society, please contact Leah O’Gwynn at lco0005@auburn.edu or (334) 844-7853. More information about the Old Main Society is coming soon.

Aubie Asks @ the Libraries is Featured Site on PRIMO

In May of 2012 the Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online (PRIMO) site selected Auburn University Libraries’ “Aubie Asks @ the Libraries” series of videos as their site of the month.

Part of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), PRIMO promotes and shares peer-reviewed instructional materials created by librarians to teach people about discovering, accessing and evaluating information in networked environments. AUL’s selection as a site of the month reflects highly on the quality of work being done by the faculty of the libraries.

Conceived of, designed and implemented by reference librarian Toni Carter and graduate student Joseph Wanders, “Aubie Asks @ the Libraries” has become an integral part of library instruction at Auburn.

“We use the ‘Aubie Asks’ videos in library instruction sessions to introduce or reinforce concepts,” said Carter. “My colleagues and I have often used videos during our library instruction sessions, so I felt that creating our own set of videos would allow us to achieve our patron learning outcomes while at the same time offering a more personalized touch for Auburn students. We have also found several of the videos equally instructive for faculty members.”

Topics covered in the videos include finding full text, reading citations, and identifying scholarly articles. The “Aubie Asks @ the Libraries” series of videos can be found at www.lib.auburn.edu/aubieasks/.

RBD Library Adds Digital Signage

Library users returning to campus were in for a surprise at the Ralph Brown Draughon Library. Over the summer a new digital signage system was installed to better inform library users of the various study services available from the library and its many partners. The signage will also let users know about upcoming events in the library.

“We’re very proud of this new system for letting users know about all the services we have to assist them in making their study time more productive,” said Bonnie MacEwan, dean of Auburn University Libraries. “The response has been so overwhelmingly positive, we will expand the system in the near future to include some wayfinding functions.”

In addition to its primary mission of informing users about library events and services, the system is linked to the university emergency alert system and can be taken over remotely to display messages such as severe weather warnings.
Timothy Dodge Receives 2012 AACRL Significant Contribution Award

Timothy Dodge, history and political science reference librarian at Auburn University Libraries, has been awarded the 2012 Sue O. Medina Award for Significant Contribution from the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries (AACRL). The annual award honors library and information professionals and graduate students who work or reside in Alabama and have made a significant contribution in the area of college and research libraries on the local, state, regional, national or international level.

Dodge was selected to receive the award for the more than two decades of service he has offered to library organizations, both in the state of Alabama and nationally. Dodge was twice the president of AACRL, president of the Alabama Library Association, and currently holds two offices in the Southeastern Library Association.

“We’re very proud that Tim has won this very prestigious award,” said Bonnie MacEwan, dean of Auburn University Libraries. “All Alabama libraries are better off for Tim’s contributions and it is terrific to see his hard work recognized with this award from AACRL.”

Dodge is the fourth member of Auburn University Libraries’ staff to have won the Sue O. Medina Award and the third in a row. Glenn Anderson, associate dean for collections development (Emeritus), won the award in 2011; Aaron Trehub, assistant dean for technology and technical services, won in 2010; and Marcia Boosinger, associate dean for public services, won the award in 2004.
Many students and faculty own their own laptop computers. The addition of over a thousand new library power outlets in the last three years attest to the level of computer ownership and how many users study, research and write papers with them at the library. But when the project is bigger and some extra computing power is needed with expensive, cutting-edge software, scanning and printing resources, users head for the Media and Digital Resource Lab (MDRL) at the Ralph Brown Draughon Library.

The only facility of its kind on campus open to users of every study discipline, the MDRL offers high-end Windows and Macintosh computers loaded with powerful applications like AutoCAD for design, Adobe’s Creative Suite for publishing, and Solid Edge for 3-D modeling. Interfaced with these computers are scanners up to 42” wide to bring the physical world into the computer and printers capable of printing images up to 42” wide to take the user’s digital work and bring it out of the computer.

In addition, the MDRL offers a full audio editing suite, video-editing software on all computers, along with video-recording devices for checkout so users can work on movie and music projects.

Expert help on any computer project is always available and the majority of these services are free for faculty and students to use. And people are using the MDRL in ever increasing numbers. In November 2011, 6,809 people used the MDRL’s resources. This is a significant increase from the 808 that used the facility the first November it was open in 2005.

The MDRL grew out of a user need and an idea to fill that need.

Chris Mixon, head of the MDRL, joined the library as a map cataloger in Special Collections back in 2000. At that time, the maps section of Special Collections had a computer that ran ArcGIS mapping software with a large-format printer. People used the computer/printer combination for its intended use but also often requested to use it for other class projects as well. The ArcGIS station was not heavily used, so Mixon saw no reason not to let them use it for other projects.

When the maps function was moved from Special Collections to Government Documents, Mixon and his ArcGIS station went with it. Government Documents had two computers with scanners for their work. Again, people wanted to use the workstations for other projects. And now with a vastly more useful combination of computer, large-format printer and scanner, requests quickly grew.

In 2002, Mixon began thinking about a dedicated facility that would allow the library to start officially offering the computer services that it had been offering only on an ad hoc basis.

With backing from Auburn University Libraries administration, Mixon and a team of AUL systems and building experts made a trip to visit the University of Tennessee Knoxville’s digital resource center called “The Studio.” They came back with a treasure trove of ideas about how to plan for Auburn’s own digital center and make it a reality.
Keeps Growing to Serve Students

Over the next two years the MDRL committee planned, obtained funding, identified needed space within the library, and worked to set up Auburn’s MDRL. The 1,488 square-foot facility soft opened in 2004 and had its official grand opening in 2005. It contained eight Windows PCs and eight Macintosh computers along with scanning, printing and editing hardware and the most-demanded software for student projects.

The user response was immediate.

The response was so great that plans to expand the facility started in 2006. The new MDRL that opened in 2008 had 5,306 square feet for student and faculty use.

It didn’t stop there. In 2011 the MDRL expanded again and merged with Maps, Microforms and Media. The facility now covers 9,759 square feet and houses 20 Windows PCs, 18 desk Macintoshes and 18 Macintosh laptops along with small-, medium- and large-format printers and scanners. Eight full-time staffers and 12 student workers keep it all running and answer questions.

At its new size, users generally don’t have too much trouble finding workspace in the MDRL - except at finals time when all space in RBD Library is at a premium. And if a user wants to check to see if a workstation is available before coming over, the answer is as close as the library website.

As for the future of the MDRL, Auburn University Libraries is committed to do what is necessary to offer what has become an essential service in students’ academic success.
Renovations Proceeding at LADC

When Kasia Leousis joined Auburn University Libraries as head of the Library of Architecture, Design and Construction in fall 2011, she found that one of her first major projects was to bring the outdated LADC into the 21st century with a renovation to respond to the changing study needs of the students and faculty of the college. Now close to a year into the project, renovations are under way and expected to be completed in time for the start of the spring semester.

The first step was a fall 2011 proposal to Facilities for the types and extent of renovations. The scope of renovations ultimately called for all new carpeting, paint, furniture and a completely redesigned circulation desk and office area. The total investment in the renovation is expected to be more than $350,000.

In February of 2012 the proposal was approved, with Auburn University Libraries contributing half the required money and Facilities funding the other half. The approval of the proposal and a budget opened up the opportunity to solicit ideas and input from some of Auburn’s most aesthetically savvy library patrons - the students and faculty of the College of Architecture, Design and Construction.

The efforts to narrow choices and set priorities for the renovation began in April 2012 as Leousis and associate professor Christopher Arnold, industrial design, co-led a design charrette - a collaborative meeting where CADC students were invited to share their ideas for the way the LADC would be used in the future and what design decisions would best facilitate that use. Through drawings, designs and ideas gathered at the charrette, it was determined that differentiated seating was desirable and that the LADC would serve student study needs best by separating the two floors into different working philosophies: collaborative group work on the ground floor and individual, quiet study on the upper floor.

With ideas from the charrette fresh in their minds, Leousis and other AUL staff made site visits to other architecture and design libraries. The visits
to Clemson in South Carolina and Georgia Tech proved invaluable, confirming some design choices and giving insights on why others might not be workable.

Back home at Auburn, the Interior Architecture thesis course, led by professors Robert Sproull and Kevin Moore, turned the LADC renovation into an excellent lab learning exercise, with their students consulting on numerous aspects of the renovation, including carpet, paint, fabrics, furniture and layout. All done with the same standard of care that would be expected of them in a real-world client situation.

With planning for paint, carpeting and shelving finalized, phase one of the project began during the summer 2012 semester. This phase tackled the second floor of the library, necessitating the removal of more than 35,000 books and all the furniture from the floor and relocating them to a tightly-packed first floor.

The limited number of students staying through the summer semester and LADC staff worked around the tight quarters, but when fall semester approached and the work was just approaching completion, a call went out for all the help that could be mustered to return the LADC to a usable condition for the mass of returning students that would soon inundate the campus. AUL staff, from the person on the circulation desk to the dean, worked the final week before classes began to get the LADC ready, with the last books returned to their proper shelves less than 24 hours before classes began.

As fall semester 2012 began, CADC students had the chance to make final opinions known through a display board featuring furniture styles and fabric choices that were under consideration. By the middle of September, the final decisions on furniture for the entire library were made and orders placed.

During the fall/spring intersession period, phase two of the renovation will begin with the ground floor getting its new carpet and paint, construction of the new circulation and office areas undertaken, and the new furniture installed in the library, giving CADC students and faculty a newly renovated library.

For more information on the LADC renovation project, visit their blog (www.lib.auburn.edu/ladc/news/), Facebook (www.facebook.com/auburnladc) and Flickr (www.flickr.com/photos/aulibraries/collections/72157629912153069) pages.
Auburn Libraries Achievements


Alabi, Jaena; Jenda, Claudine; Leousis, Kasia; and Whaley, Pambaniasha - presentation, Mentoring at Play: Exploring the Creative Side of Mentor-Mentee Relationships, Florida State University/ Panhandle Library Access Network Innovation Conference, Panama City Beach, FL, August 16, 2012.

Bellanger, Clint; Weisbrod, Elizabeth; Goslin, Jeremy - presentation, Using a Click Tracker to Record Electronic Resource Usage, ELUNA 2012, Salt Lake City, Utah.


Buchanan, Bob - article, Beyond the chemistry web. SciTech News 66(2), Article 13, 2012

Buchanan, Bob - article, Beyond the chemistry web. SciTech News 65(4), Article 12, 2012


Carter, Toni; Noe, Nancy; and Rumble, Juliet - presentation, AS-Authentic, Active, Assessment: Assessing In-Class Library Instruction Student Work, Alabama Library Instruction Round Table (ALIRT), Alabama Library Association Annual Convention, Hoover, AL, April 2012.

Carter, Toni and Rumble, Juliet - presentation, Cutting the commute: Assess authentically and still arrive on time, LOEX of the West Conference, Burbank, CA, June 2012.


Carter, Toni - poster session, Georgia Conference on Information Literacy, Turning Students into Ethnographers: a Library Discovery Tour, Georgia Southern University, Savannah, GA, September 2011.


Ellero, Nadine; Hom, S., J. Lyman, B. Sullivan, Z. Maclsaac, W. Cohn, J. Harrison, Jr., S. Borowitz - poster presentation, Qualitative Analysis of End-use Challenges Encountered During a Large-scale Outpatient EMR Implementation at an Academic Medical Center, 35th (October 25, 2011) Annual Symposium on Biomedical and Health Informatics. (http://www.amia.org/sites/amia.org/files/AMIA2011-onsite-program.pdf)

Jenda, Claudine and Weisbrod, Elizabeth - digital collection, Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station.


Leousis, Kasia, and Benjamin, Deanna - presentation, Classroom Collaboration: Librarians and Faculty Teach the Art of Research, LOEX Annual Conference, Columbus, OH, May 2012.


Leousis, Kasia and Helbling, Kristine - presentation, Pre-teach and Post-teach: Maximizing Librarian Involvement in Courses, Missouri Library Association Conference, Kansas City, MO. October 2011.


Noe, Nancy - presentation, Information Literacy and ENGL1120 Assessment Results. English Department, Auburn University, Auburn University, November 2011.


Shipman, Todd: Schmidt, Gregory; Bannon, S. - article, Developing a juvenile literature collection in an academic library, in Sara Holder


Trehub, Aaron (Moderator); Andy Grace; Laura Hill; Angelia Riviera; Ric Smith; Claire Wilson - moderated panel, Digital Media, Crowdsourcing, and Web Communities, Intersections and Meeting Grounds: Public History and Community symposium, Auburn University, February 2012.

Trehub, Aaron - presentation, Building a Civil War Virtual Library: The ASERL Digitization Project, Discover Auburn Lecture Series, Auburn University, February 2012.


Trehub, Aaron - presentation, Distributed Digital Preservation Initiatives at Auburn University, SURA IT Committee Meeting, St. Petersburg, Florida, March 2012.


Weisbrod, Elizabeth - presentation, ASERL Documents Disposition Database, Network of Alabama Academic Libraries Retreat, Auburn University, July 2012.

Weisbrod, Elizabeth; Goslin, Jeremy - presentation, Using a Click Tracker to Record Electronic Resource Usage, ELUNA 2012, Salt Lake City, Utah.


New Hires at the Libraries

Auburn University Libraries added four key personnel in the 2011-2012 academic year.

Cate Calhoun comes to Auburn after being head librarian at the Valley branch of Southern Union Community College. Her master of library science is from the University of Missouri. At AUL she is the liason to the UNIV program and is the theatre subject specialist reference and instruction librarian.

Bridget Farrell comes to Auburn from the University of Kentucky where she received her master of library and information science. At AUL she is the subject specialist reference and instruction librarian for business and economics.

Adelia Grabowsky comes to Auburn from the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s Rowland Medical Library. She holds an MLIS from the University of Alabama and recently completed a certificate of advanced study in health sciences librarianship from the University of Pittsburgh. Here at AUL she is the health sciences liaison/reference and instruction librarian.

Kasia Leousis comes to Auburn from the Kranzberg Art & Architecture Library of Washington University. She earned her MSLS degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Here at AUL she is the head of the Library of Architecture, Design and Construction and the subject specialist reference and instruction librarian for architecture, design, construction and art.
Since my first day as director of development for Auburn University Libraries in February, I have been immersed in learning all about the libraries and their many services for Auburn students, faculty and the community. I have been truly amazed at what we do and how well we do it. I see now that libraries at Auburn University are not a luxury, but rather a necessity for the overall success of the university. I am proud to work to support the academic purpose of this wonderful organization in its mission to be the destination of choice for the location, retrieval and sharing of intellectual resources.

In my role, I work to secure private, foundation and corporate support for the libraries. In my travels, I am often asked the same two questions when discussing the need for investment in the libraries. Those questions are “Are libraries still used?” and “Why do students need a library when they can just get what they need electronically?” People are generally shocked by the answers to these questions. Yes, libraries are still used. In fact, last year we had more than 1.5 million people walk through the doors at Ralph Brown Draughon Library. The library has evolved and has become an interactive study space that offers a dynamic area for students to come and study together.

The answer to the second is also surprising. Yes, there is information available electronically, but it is the staff and the generosity of our donors that make these resources available for use by students. These electronic resources are valuable and expensive. Currently, we have almost 2.5 million visitors to the website and digital collection each year. I was also shocked to learn that Auburn University Libraries spends more than 89 percent of its acquisition budget on electronic resources. These resources are vital to the land-grant mission of the university.

In my short tenure here, I realize how vital the support of our alumni, faculty and friends is to the success of Auburn University Libraries and the university as a whole. Without this support we would be unable to continue to grow and provide all of the items, services and technology that make AUL great. I invite each of you to visit and rediscover the library. Let us show you what a dynamic and wonderful place we are.

War Eagle!

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“A library is not a luxury, but one of the necessities of life...”  
Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887)  
US Abolitionist, Clergyman, and Author