Until recently the rankings for libraries, especially research libraries, were heavily dependent upon the amount of money available to purchase books and other library resources. Today’s libraries have such a strong focus on service that the achievement of excellence is not as dependent on funding for collections. Auburn University Libraries is an example of a library that enjoys a reputation for excellent service. Although we rank well into the last quartile of the libraries in the Association of Research Libraries in terms of funding for materials (109 out of 114), we consistently rank close to the top in terms of quality of service. The librarians and staff continue to amaze me with their creativity, their energy and their dedication to librarianship. The Libraries rank number 73 out of 114 libraries in the ARL for the number of classes taught each year. The instruction librarians have set a goal of providing a formal information literacy session for each student at Auburn at least three times before he or she graduates. Working with the academic faculty the librarians give the students the tools they will need to discover and assess information for their courses, throughout their college career and as they become lifelong learners and succeed in their chosen professions. In yet another survey the students rank the services of the Libraries in the top 20 in the nation year after year.

Qualities that money can’t buy are found in abundance in the Libraries - creativity, common sense and a can-do spirit. A recent facilities change left the Draughon Library with little niches scattered throughout the building. As so often happens at Auburn, a group came together and turned this problem into an opportunity. They have turned the spaces into small exhibition areas designed to inform the users of the library about our services and critical issues relating to information and books. An exhibit on banned books has recently been mounted in these spaces. The exhibit has earned praise across the campus and at least two professors are redesigning their courses for the semester to take advantage of the information presented in the exhibit. But there are so many additional examples. Some such as Tailgating@ the Library, Up All Night, the Sesquicentennial Lectures, and the Digital Resources Lab you may know about. Others, such as the re-engineering of work processes in Systems, Acquisitions, Cataloging and Document Delivery to deliver information to the users faster and at the least possible cost, may be less familiar. A comprehensive list could fill this newsletter and it grows longer each day. We will continue to tell you about these activities.

All of this energy and commitment to service depends on intangibles. Like the health, happiness, friends and family that money cannot buy in our personal lives money could not buy the quality of the staff and their dedication to the Auburn community I see at work every day. However, there is only so much we can accomplish with hard work, dedication, and creativity. It also takes funding to build a great library.

Building and maintaining the collections is one area of critical importance to the Libraries that continues to be very dependent on funding. Many people outside the library believe library costs should be decreasing because “everything is free on the Internet.” Unfortunately, this is far from true. The content from just one online journal publisher of critical scientific information costs over $1 million per year in subscription fees. Far from free! And these resources become more expensive each year through annual price increases. If this wasn’t enough of a financial challenge, new digital materials become available every day. They facilitate new forms of scholarship and transform the nature of existing research and teaching. If Auburn is to attract and retain the best students and the faculty we need to teach those students we must have access to these information resources. They are heavily used across the campus. In just one year they are accessed over 5 million times.

Many of the information resources needed by the Auburn University community are not yet digitized and may never be available in electronic formats. We still purchase 15,000 books and 10,000 paper journals each year. In addition, we invest in Auburn’s future by acquiring and preserving rare books and manuscripts relating to this region and the research mission of the University. If we do not purchase and care for these materials a part of our cultural heritage could disappear forever.
We do all we can to keep the costs of library materials down. Each electronic resource, each book, each journal subscription, each resource is carefully selected in consultation with the faculty and students who will use them. Once we decide to make a purchase we negotiate hard for the best possible price and work with our peers in the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries, in the Southeastern Library Network and across the nation and the world to contain costs. We are working actively to find new ways to provide information that may reduce the dependence libraries and scholars currently have on commercial publishers. We have taken leadership roles in developing some of the technology that may make significant change possible in the future. In the meantime, Auburn depends on us to make sure the information needed today is available to allow the faculty to conduct their research, the students to prepare for their classes and the graduates to have the information literacy skills necessary to compete in the marketplace.

Every day I am amazed by the creativity and dedication of the faculty and staff in the Auburn University Libraries. They continue to impress me with their ideas, their willingness to work hard and make changes to respond to the information needs of the Auburn community. They are committed to ensuring that each dollar spent by the Libraries is spent wisely and is dedicated to furthering the education of the students and research of the faculty. We need your support to make sure we have the funds necessary to purchase the resources and implement the most critical projects in the Libraries. The University administration has been generous in its support of the Libraries and our donors have shown their commitment to our mission through their gifts. We will be working even harder to let you know what we are doing to respond to the changing information environment and to make sure the Auburn community understands the value of investing in information resources.

In 1948 Carolyn Lowery of Jacksonville became Alabama’s first Maid of Cotton in a contest sponsored by the Cotton Manufacturers Association and the Birmingham Post. This program owed its origins to James Mills, editor of the newspaper, and Hugh Comer, president of Avondale Mills. Alabama’s version became part of a larger contest sponsored by the National Cotton Council. Shortly after the inception of the state program, J.D. Hays, president of the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, became chairman of the state’s Cotton Promotion Committee. The Farm Bureau later assumed management and sponsorship of the program in Alabama.

Karen Tice, a faculty member at the University of Kentucky who’s preparing a critical study of such contests, recently visited the Auburn campus, commented favorably on the exhibit, and plans a return trip to examine the relevant records housed in Special Collections & Archives.

The Draughon Library houses an amazing arrangement of digital equipment to help students and faculty with academic projects. Located on the first floor, behind the OIT Help Desk, the DRL offers state of the art software and equipment not found in any single location on campus. If you can think of any project requiring high end computers and equipment, the folks in the DRL can help you get it done. For nearly three years, the DRL has provided software and equipment on both PC and Macintosh platforms that the campus community has used to create all sorts of digital content. From large format posters for conferences and class presentations to professional quality video and audio projects, the DRL can help from concept to final product.

The DRL has several different types of scanning equipment, from large format that handles thirty six inch media to a slide scanner that will batch scan slides or even film negatives. Many stations are set up with regular and medium format flatbed scanners. There is an automatic document feed scanner to scan stacks of paper to PDF, and a transparency adapter to capture odd size negative film and transparencies. Character recognition software (OCR) is available to scan documents into MS Word ready for editing.

Color printing includes two large format DesignJets that print on thirty six inch paper, an Epson Stylus that prints on seventeen inch roll paper, and a color LaserJet. Patrons are welcome to bring their own special paper for use in the printers provided it is a compatible media. Printing is limited to academic projects that require color output. Personal printing or black and white document printing cannot be done in the DRL but can be done using the OIT printers.

Maids of Cotton

Joyce Hickes

Donna Marie Smith, Maid of Cotton finalist, 1947

Special Collections & Archives, located on the ground floor of the Draughon Library, recently mounted a display on the Alabama Maid of Cotton contest. The exhibit employs material housed in Special Collections, including records of the Alabama Cotton Manufacturers Association, the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, as well as the papers of the late Mamie Hardy, who in 1953 was Dale County Maid of Cotton.
located throughout the library. Large volume print jobs may be considered after consultation with DRL staff but generally are referred to a printing service such as CopyCat.

The software provided in the DRL includes technical applications such as AutoCAD, ArcGIS, ERDAS Imagine, Solid Edge, and MATLAB. Design applications include Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Acrobat, QuarkXPress, Dreamweaver, Fireworks and Flash. For professional audio and video there is Adobe Premiere Pro, Final Cut Pro, DVD Studio Pro, Adobe After Effects, and Adobe Audition. These are just the major packages offered in the DRL. There are many other tools such as the Microsoft Office Suite, Nero CD/DVD burning software, CorelDraw, Apple iLife, and QuickTime.

The DRL has a PC and a Macintosh workstation each specially equipped and dedicated to video and audio editing. These stations are set up to capture audio from a stereo system, microphone, and keyboard, as well as video from a VCR, DVD, TV or camcorder. Audio and video captures can then be edited using high end software such as Adobe Premiere Pro, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Audition and DVD Studio Pro. There are several options in this area. There is a library of royalty free audio clips, video clips, and animated backgrounds to be used in projects. Using the keyboard, Finale software can turn your keystrokes into notation. The same software can convert scanned notation to actual audio files. It is recommended that you reserve time for these stations since audio and video editing can be a time consuming process.

All stations in the DRL are capable of burning CDs and DVDs. They will also accommodate personal storage devices such as external hard drives, flash drives, smart cards, zip disks, and, yes, even floppy disks. Although somewhat limited, files can also be transferred via email, OIT’s H drive or ftp.

The DRL also offers digital cameras, camcorders and tripods on a four day checkout for class projects.

Finally, there are a few strictly enforced rules for using the DRL:

- Users must have a valid OIT user account to access the machines.
- Priority goes to users with legitimate course/academic projects.
- Users cannot install personal software on the machines without DRL staff permission.
- Users may not use the printing resources for personal printing, scanned text printing, general web page printing, term papers or other such black and white document printing.
- Student organizations can no longer use the DRL printers for organizational materials.
- The audio/video editing machines should not be used to convert large personal collections to digital format. For example, LP records to CD or VHS to DVD.

If you would like to check us out, just come on in or call and we will be happy to set up a quick tour for you or your class. With very few exceptions, our doors are open as long as the Library is open: Monday – Thursday 7:45 am – 2:00 am, Friday 7:45 am - 9 pm, Saturday 9:00 am – 9:00 pm, and Sunday 1:00 pm – 2:00 am. See the Library website for holiday and special hours. Find out more at our website www.lib.auburn.edu/drl, call us at 844-7398 or email drl@auburn.edu.

**SPECIAL EVENTS IN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

_Dwayne Cox_

On October 27, 2006, Special Collections & Archives hosted a symposium on the life and work William Bartram, who between 1773 and 1777 traveled extensively in what’s now the southeastern United States. The Auburn University Libraries, the Center for Arts and Humanities of the College of Liberal Arts, the Bartram Trail Conference, the Alabama Humanities Foundation, the Department of English, and the Department of History jointly sponsored the event. Dr. Kathryn H. Braund, Professor of History at Auburn University and a well-known authority on Bartram, was instrumental in organizing the symposium, which featured several distinguished speakers. Through a generous donor, the University Libraries recently acquired a first edition (1791) of Bartram’s *Travels*.

On December 7, 2006, Mrs. Nell Richardson delivered the final installment in Auburn University’s Sesquicentennial Lecture Series. Mrs. Richardson discussed the history of the Auburn University president’s home and the lives and achievements of its various occupants. The lecture was followed by a reception at the president’s home. All of the sesquicentennial lectures have been video-taped by the libraries. The recordings are available for circulation and can be viewed on the web at http://digilib.auburn.edu/150th/. A few copies of the booklet describing the lectures are still available in Special Collections on the ground floor of the Draughon Library. The series was sponsored by the University Libraries, the Center for Arts and Humanities Arts, AU Outreach, and the Sesquicentennial Committee.

During the Spring Semester, 2007, Special Collections & Archives hosted another lecture series, this one entitled “Discover Auburn.” Again, the Center for Arts and Humanities co-sponsored. In two instances, both involving discussions of recently published books, the University Bookstore also co-sponsored the events. The first in the series, January 18, 2007, featured Jack Simms, retired head of
the Department of Journalism, who presented a slide program that related the history of Auburn University in photographs. The second, February 28, 2007, featured Rosephanye Dunn-Powell of the Department of Music, who discussed her research regarding African-American spirituals. The third, March 20, 2007, at 3 PM, featured Ruth Crocker of the Department of History, who discussed her recent biography of Mrs. Russell Sage. Copies of Dr. Crocker’s book were available for purchase and autograph.

Finally on January 31, Special Collections hosted a lecture, at which Leah Rawls Atkins, founding director of the Center for Arts and Humanities, discussed her recent history of the Alabama Power Company. Copies of Dr. Atkins book were available for purchase and autograph.

**AU LIBRARIES MAKE DIGITAL COLLECTION SOFTWARE AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENTS**

*Aaron Trehub*

The Auburn University Libraries use the CONTENTdm software package to manage most of the libraries’ digital collections. CONTENTdm is a client-server software solution: that is, it provides a desktop client for creating digital records and uploading them to the central CONTENTdm server computer, which is based at the RBD Library. CONTENTdm comes with 50 copies of the client software; the AU Libraries have about 30 copies of the client left. The AUL Systems Department would be happy to distribute these copies—and provide basic training on getting started—to departments that are interested in using the software to create and manage their own digital collections. Among other things, CONTENTdm can be used to create customized collections of digitized materials (e.g. photographs or slides) for instructional purposes. Please contact Beth Nicol in the AUL Systems Department at 844-1731 or nicollb@auburn.edu for more information.

**A DAY IN THE LIFE**

*Robert Yerkey*

Every day, the 106 full-time employees of AU Libraries are busy making sure that our patron needs are met. Here’s a short list of what we typically do on each of the 332 days per year we’re open:

- 4,976 patrons walk into our Libraries.
- 6,706 web page visits are received.
- 8,851 virtual visits are made to the libraries catalog.
- 34 students are instructed on how to access information.
- 701 items are checked out or renewed.
- 314 reference questions are answered.
- 39 items are lent to other libraries for their patrons.
- 28 items are borrowed from other libraries for our patrons.
- 45 new books are received.
- 56 new serials are received.
- 452 new items are cataloged.
- 189 items are prepared for binding.
- 4,981 searches are made in electronic databases licensed by AU Libraries.
- 15,753 full text electronic journal articles are accessed.
- 5,815 items digitized by AU Libraries are accessed.
- 34 patrons use the 8 Macs and 11 Dell XPS graphics computers in the Digital Resource Lab for an average of 1 hour each.

**Up All Night**

*Susan Hinds*

Fall Semester finals featured a new service: Up All Night. The event proved an overnight sensation, highly popular with library users. Between December 7th and December 12th the Draughon Library doors swung open nearly 37,000 times. Cosponsoring the “Up All Night” event with Auburn University Libraries, the Student Government Association provided two study breaks each night, including one at 3 a.m. in the Library’s Newspaper Room. An additional study break was sponsored on December 7 by the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Stacks Café, located on the ground floor of Draughon Library, kept extended hours, and left a carafe of coffee on the Circulation Desk after they closed. Student reaction to the extended hours was extremely positive. Activity levels remained fairly steady into the early morning hours.

At 3:00 a.m. on Friday, December 8, things were popping... partly because of the study break. Several students mentioned how much they appreciated having access to the laptops and keyed study rooms during that time. On Saturday, December 9, at 2 a.m., one staff reported that “it was calmer but still very busy.” “Up All Night” was a collaborative event. In addition to Auburn University Libraries and the SGA, others involved included the Academic Support unit of the Office of Undergraduate Studies, Auxiliary Services, Building Services and Dining Services. The library staff appreciates the efforts of everyone involved. Up all Night was a resounding success, a new service that will be helpful to everyone during the hectic finals period.
Baker's Cotton Series

The December, 2007, issue of *Print Quarterly* published an article by Lynn Williams, Special Collections and Art Librarian: "The Cotton Series of Lamar Baker." Lamar Baker was an artist from Atlanta who created symbolic compositions representing the problems of cotton agriculture and the textile industry in lithographs and aquatints in the late 1930s and early 1940s, when he was a student at the Art Students League in New York. The Columbus Museum has a complete set of the series, which is reproduced in the article.

American Women's Diaries

Segment II: Southern Women

Cecilia Schmitz

This is a 34 reel microfilm set containing the manuscript diaries of thirty-two women who lived in the South from the early 1800's, when the region was still regarded as frontier territory, continuing through the Civil War, and well into the era of Reconstruction. Most of the diarists were educated women belonging to the middle and upper classes. The set consists of three types of diaries--life diaries, travel diaries, and diaries of situation are included. Life diaries were usually begun in childhood and are continued throughout life. A woman would create a travel diary specifically to record an eventful trip such as one to China, a long and arduous journey in the nineteenth century. Finally, the collection contains situational diaries which were kept for a specific period of time to record an event involving great inner turmoil or external chaos, such as an epidemic or the Civil War. This collection contains descriptions of family life; education; employment; plantation and town life; religious life; politics; war; travel; society; social life; and the all too prevalent illness and death. There is also information about slave-life, home remedies, and recipes. All of these descriptions were given from women whose identities were often masked by those of their fathers, husbands, and sons, as was often the case in nineteenth century America.

ARL Statistics

Glenn Anderson

Like the other 113 members of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), Auburn University reports a variety of statistical totals to ARL each year. The result of these reports is a series of annual publications that describe the collections, expenditures, staffing, and service activities of the ARL libraries.

In 2005, for example, Auburn reported that we held 2,918,859 volumes; that total ranked 71st among ARL libraries. Libraries with similar holdings include University of Tennessee, Nebraska, Florida State, and MIT. Auburn reported that librarians and staff answered 103,844 reference questions during the year; that ranked 37th among ARL libraries. Libraries with similar reference activity levels include University of Georgia; University of California, Berkeley; Colorado State; and Cornell. Auburn reported total expenditures for library materials of $5,261,396; that total ranked 109th among ARL libraries. Libraries with similar expenditures for library materials include Georgia Tech, Massachusetts, SUNY at Albany, and Guelph.

In addition to the categories used in the examples above, Auburn reports statistics for fifty additional categories in the main ARL survey. A supplementary survey includes twenty additional categories related to electronic materials and expenditures. Taken as a whole, these statistics provide evidence of relative strengths and weaknesses in Auburn's Library, enable us to identify peer groups, and give us a broad statistical view of Auburn's ranking among the elite libraries of North America.

A few statistical tidbits include the following: Auburn's highest ranking was in the category of serials received but not purchased—there we ranked 12th. (This reflects the number of government document serials that we process). Auburn's lowest ranking was in the number of librarians and staff we have—there we ranked 111th. Among ARL universities, Auburn ranked 69th in total number of teaching faculty, 86th in Ph.D.s awarded, and 94th in number of graduate students.

This and other comparative data can be viewed at http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/arl/index.html

Libraries Acquire Whitfield Papers

Dwayne Cox

The Auburn University Libraries recently acquired hundreds of letters dating from the 1820s and documenting the life of the family that built Gaineswood, an ante-bellum Greek Revival mansion in Marengo County, Alabama. The family patriarch, Nathan Bryan Whitfield (1799-1868), migrated to Alabama from North Carolina in search of more fertile land for cotton cultivation. He built an empire of cotton, land, and slaves, with Gaineswood as evidence of his success. Among other things, the papers document the family's migration to Alabama, operation of their estate, and the education of Whitfield's children. Bryan Whitfield, III, of Dahlonega, Georgia, generously donated the family papers to Auburn University.
Margaret L. Freeman is a Ph.D. candidate in American Studies at the College of William and Mary. In January 2007, she visited the AU Libraries as part of research for her dissertation, tentatively titled “To Seek the Good, the True, and the Beautiful: Sororities, Social Spaces, and Southern Womanhood, 1920-1965,” which looks at spaces of preparation for southern “ladyhood” among college age women and examines the importance of such teachings during this era in the American South. Margaret utilized materials in Special Collections and Archives during her trip, including the records of the Dean of Women, Vice President of Student Affairs, and the Panhellenic Council.

In addition to Ms. Freeman, the AU Libraries recently hosted Gabe Rosenberg, a doctoral candidate in American history at Brown University, who's writing his dissertation on 4-H as a national youth movement during the period between World War I and World War II. Gabe carefully examined records of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System for use in his study. He has examined archival collections at other land grant universities, as well as records of the US Department of Agriculture at the National Archives, as a part of his research.

Amia Baker is the new business librarian at Auburn University Libraries beginning in January 2007. She comes to us from Vanderbilt University’s Walker Management Library, where she was a librarian for three years and served as the Reference and Collection Development Coordinator. Amia received both her master's degree in library and information science and bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Alabama. She is an active member of BRASS, the Business Reference and Services Section of the American Library Association. Her current research interests involve a study of the various technologies employed by business librarians to communicate with library users. Over the coming months, Amia will be working to develop close ties with the students and faculty to help support teaching and research in the College of Business. Please contact her (844-8268 and alb0004@auburn.edu) if you would like to request instruction in business research skills for your class, suggest a resource for purchase by the library, or assistance in locating business information.

The Auburn University Digital Library (AUDL) currently consists of 26 digital collections. These include the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service Photographs, Auburn University Photographs, Glomerata, and Caroline Dean Wildflower collections. Since my last report on these collections in the Fall 2005 issue of this newsletter, the AUDL has added hundreds of digitized items to the Eddie Rickenbacker Collection and the Auburn University Board of Trustees Minutes Collection. New digital collections are in the works for Auburn alumni and World War II memoirist Eugene B. Sledge and for the AU Libraries' holdings of historical maps. We also intend to resume work on digitizing volumes of the Glomerata from the 1930s onwards. You can visit the AUDL and view its publicly accessible collections at http://diglib.auburn.edu/.

Suzy Westenkirchner received her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from Eastern Michigan University and her MLS from University of South Florida. Prior to librarianship she worked as a Graphic Designer for design firms in both Ohio and Michigan. Suzy is involved with several ALA committees, including Instruction, Mentoring and New Members Round Table. She plans on continuing her education at Auburn in Curriculum & Instruction with an emphasis in Educational Technology. Her current research interests include decreasing library anxiety for users and legibility and intuitive nature of instructional media and accessibility concerns. During the next semester, Suzy will work attentively with faculty, staff and students to support their research and instruction needs. If you need to order materials, schedule instruction courses, or help in locating education information, please do not hesitate to contact her at 844-2817 or e-mail her at suzywest@auburn.edu.

The What's New listserv is a convenient way to keep up with all of the new developments at the University Libraries. Normally updated every two weeks, the Listserv alerts the subscriber to recent additions to the libraries' collections such as new or upgraded databases, important reference book sets, new services offered to library patrons, and other library-related announcements.
Recent What’s New alerts have informed subscribers of the addition of databases such as Early American Imprints, Series I, Evans; The New York Times 1857-2003 and The New York Times 1980-; International Civil Engineering Abstracts; and such important print reference sources as Colonialism: An International, Social, Cultural, and Political Encyclopedia. Recent alerts have also informed subscribers about library-related announcements such as guest speakers for the Auburn University Sesquicentennial Lecture Series, services being offered such as the new self-service checkout machines and the “Up All Night” 24-hour library schedule offered during final exams.

Subscribing to the “What’s New” listserv is easy. Simply send an e-mail message to majordomo@auburn.edu and type “subscribe Whatsnew-L” (without quotation marks). To unsubscribe, send an e-mail message to majordomo@auburn.edu and type “unsubscribe Whatsnew-L” (without quotation marks). Make sure you have turned off your signature block before subscribing! The What’s New Listserv also alerts subscribers to information posted on the “What’s New” link (http://www.lib.auburn.edu/whatsnew/) located in the lower right hand center area of the Auburn University Libraries homepage (http://www.lib.auburn.edu/).

WAITING OUT THE WARNING
Carole Covington

“The building we begin today is neither a repository of bound volumes nor a storehouse of knowledge. It is instead a receiving and sheltering edifice…”

—AU President Ralph Brown Draughon on December 21, 1960, at the groundbreaking for the building named in his honor.

Date: November 15, 2006

1:05 PM: A tornado warning has been issued for Lee County until 2 PM. Please proceed to designated shelter areas. Library staff will direct you to these areas. Do not leave the building.” This announcement, about as welcome as the ghastly shriek of the fire alarm and met with the same groan, creates the usual, unusual scene in Draughon Library on this late autumn afternoon.

1:08 PM: The AU Libraries staff, faculty, and patrons, known for their ability to work together, demonstrate this quality as they troop into the first floor hallway between Cataloging and Acquisitions to wait out the tornado warning hovering over Auburn.

1:15 PM: The sounds in the hallway are dominated by outbursts of laughter over a basso continuo of chatty conversation. Behind both sounds is an unmistakable mingling of excitement and bravado. “We need to have computers, outlets, and dessert in the designated area” … “Catering would be nice” … “How about some space heaters or those silver space blankets?” … “Can’t we have a movie?” … “Someone needs to go to Foy to get cookies” … “We’re trying to decide what to do—read books or watch Vicki knit” … “It was crowded under the table” … “You mean we can go home at 2 o’clock?” … “Wake me when it’s over…”

1:30 PM: The service of AU Libraries to its patrons remains undiminished in the face of rain, wind, and possible golf-ball-size hail. Dean MacEwan appears in the throng, cheering the students with a message from the university administration that, although classes continue, no student will be penalized for lateness caused by the weather.

1:40 PM: The sense of security settling over the hallway invites napping (in one case, a deep slumber). People now in deep conversation are surprised to find how much they have in common with the strangers seated on the floor next to them.

1:45 PM: The sound of conversation subsides, the laughter becomes muted, boredom beckons, but the Genie of Good Cheer remains master of the hall.

2:00 PM: The spell is broken. Everyone back to the books, the laptops, the desks. Until the next warning.

BANNED BOOKS
Susan Hinds

On February 11, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson said, “Books and ideas are the most effective weapons against intolerance and ignorance.” Every day books are being challenged, banned, burned or censored somewhere in the world. Those who strive to ban books act with what they consider to be the highest motives -- protecting everyone from what they perceive as injustice and evil. They also believe they are safeguarding the values and ideals that the entire world should embrace. The result, however, is always and ever the denial of another’s right to read. The Ralph Brown Draughon Library is showcasing a few of the books that have been banned, challenged or burned. We invite you to drop by and take a look at the eight exhibits.
In 2006, Auburn University celebrated the 150th anniversary of the state legislature’s incorporation of the East Alabama Male College, AU’s earliest predecessor. The festivities included a Sesquicentennial Lecture Series sponsored by the Sesquicentennial Committee, the Center for Arts and Humanities of the College of Liberal Arts, AU Outreach, and the Auburn University Libraries. Videotapes of the lectures are now available online at http://diglib.auburn.edu/150th/.

The Systems Department of the Auburn University Libraries recorded the lectures and prepared the website. In addition to videotapes of each lecture, the site features a narrative history of Auburn University and historic photographs from the Special Collections & Archives Department of the AU Libraries.

Topics of the lectures, organized by Dwayne Cox, Ralph Foster, and Jay Lamar, included Auburn during the Civil War era, the origins of Auburn as a land grant university, women at AU, the rivalry between Auburn and Alabama, the impact of veterans who returned to school under the G.I. Bill, the desegregation of the university, intercollegiate athletics, photographic documentation of the campus, outreach at Auburn, agriculture and cooperative extension, and the president’s home and AU first ladies.
$60 for Contemporary African Literature and the Politics of Gender
This first extensive account of African literature from a feminist perspective outlines the features of an emerging female tradition in African fiction. A chapter is dedicated to each of the works of four women writers: Grace Ogot, Flora Nwapa, Buchi Emecheta, and Mariama Ba.

$75 for The Archaeologist's Fieldwork Companion
This is the only current one-volume collection of the practical information and material needed by archaeologists doing fieldwork.

$75 for The Cambridge Companion to the Gospels
This three-section volume contains essays in a range of theological disciplines. The first section considers the appropriate ways of reading the gospels. The second, central section covers the contents of the gospels. The third section looks at the impact of the gospels in society across history and up to the present day.

$75 for The Cambridge Companion to the Qur'an
Comprising fourteen chapters, each devoted to a topic of central importance, this book is rich in historical, linguistic and literary detail, while also reflecting the influence of other disciplines. The Cambridge Companion to the Qur'an provides a fascinating entrance to a text that has shaped the lives of millions for centuries.

$75 for The Encyclopedia of the Harlem Literary Renaissance
The volume has more than 800 entries, most including a short bibliography of further reading. The entries do not cover writers and their works exclusively. Many of the most interesting entries are for educational institutions and African American newspapers and magazines, such as The Crisis, edited by W. E. B. DuBois.

$95 for The Encyclopedia of British Women's Writing, 1900-1950
This unique reference work is a comprehensive and wide-ranging resource, which includes information on many previously neglected British women writers and topics. An integral timeline provides a framework for the entries, and a thorough, annotated bibliography of relevant critical material is an invaluable point of reference.

$175 for The Cambridge Mozart Encyclopedia
This work gives comprehensive coverage of Mozart's life and works and of the people, places and compositional contexts that directly affected him.

$200 for The Edinburgh Companion to Ancient Greece and Rome
This companion is a gateway to the fascinating worlds of ancient Greece and Rome. Wide-ranging in its approach, it demonstrates the multifaceted nature of classical civilization and enables readers to gain guidance in drawing together the perspectives and methods of different disciplines.

$225 for The Encyclopedia of New Religious Movements
This work is a major addition to the reference literature for students and researchers of the field in religious studies and the social sciences. In addition to the coverage of particular movements, there are also entries on topics, themes, key thinkers, and key ideas.

$350 for Medieval Islamic Civilization
This two-volume reference contains over 700 alphabetically arranged entries, providing an exhaustive and vivid portrait of Islamic civilization including the many scientific, artistic, and religious developments as well as aspects of daily life and culture.

$425 for The Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Ethics
This reference considers both the professional ethics of science and technology, and the ethical and political issues raised by science and technology in an increasingly complex and global society.

$475 for The Encyclopedia of the Documentary Film
Discusses individual films and filmmakers and examines the documentary filmmaking traditions within regions or within historical periods in places such as Iran, Brazil, Portugal, and Japan. It also explores themes, issues, and representations in documentary film and describes styles, techniques, and technical issues such as animation, computer imaging, editing techniques, IMAX, music, and spoken commentary.

$500 for Biographical Rosters of Florida's Confederate and Union Soldiers
This biographical record of the Confederate and Union soldiers who served in Florida units during the Civil War is the result of intensive research of service records, diaries, family and local histories, descendants' letters, and wartime newspapers.

$995 for The Greenwood Library of War Reporting
This eight-volume set includes coverage of all major wars as well as smaller, post-Vietnam conflicts. The set offers more than 2,500 primary documents: mainly newspaper and magazine articles and radio and television transcripts.

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