Welcome to Auburn! To the returning faculty and students welcome back and to those of you new to the University welcome! We hope to see you in the Libraries often.

We’ve been here over the summer helping the students and faculty who stayed for summer school or focused on their research. We took advantage of the time to explore some of the ideas you raised last year and investigate some new services. We’ve assessed the past year and are ready to start the new academic year with some of the changes you’ve requested and have some new ideas to share with you.

The library is a busy place. With over a million visitors each year the RE3D Library, the Library of Architecture, Design and Construction and the Cary Veterinary Medical Library buzz with activity year round. But there is a decided jump in activity on the first day of the fall term as students and faculty stream into the Libraries to get their academic year off to a good start. The rise in energy will continue nearly nonstop until the last final exam in December. We know the library is an important part of an undergraduate’s academic success. As partners with the faculty the librarians offer instruction in information literacy in all subject areas and provide one-on-one assistance late into the night. Study Partners and the Honors College are located in RE3D providing us an opportunity to work closely with them and with the Undergraduate Studies Program to better serve the students. Let us know how we can help you and your students with their library and information needs.

Last year we heard that the students wanted longer hours during final exam periods so we partnered with SGA and Study Partners to create Up All Night to provide access to RBD Library 24 hours a day and a 3:00 a.m. study break during finals. This year we will continue Up All Night and work with Study Partners and SGA to implement a program to provide all students, especially those new to Auburn, with an opportunity to get to know the Libraries early in their academic career. On September 1 we held an open house, Tailgating @ the Library, to provide a relaxed and distinctly Auburn opportunity for students to learn about our services.

We’ve heard the students’ call for more specialized technology and information resource access and support, more food and drink services and different study areas. We’ll be working toward more changes and improvements this year.

We are working hard to listen to all our users. Over the past few years we’ve heard many of the faculty tell us they would like to be able to track their interlibrary loan requests better and access the history of past requests. We know that even with the nearly 3 million volumes we own and the thousands of books and articles we license and make available on our website the faculty must depend on the interlibrary loan web that connects libraries all over the world. Auburn is an important part of that web and we loan over 12,000 volumes a year to other libraries in the United States! But more important we were able to connect our users with 10,359 items shared by other libraries. In the past, our ability to share our collections quickly and efficiently depended upon a computer system called Voyager ILL. Pambanisha King and the staff in Document Delivery have been working hard to find a new system to meet your request for better tracking and histories. The new service called OCLC
ILLiad will answer many of the concerns you’ve raised over the past few years and serve you better. Along with the implementation of ILLiad the document delivery web pages have been completely redesigned and simplified.

The Libraries play a critical role in the achievement of tenure and promotion for many faculty. We want to celebrate this achievement with you. On September 28 the Provost and the Libraries will host a reception for all faculty members tenured or promoted in 2006. Last spring each of the faculty to be honored received a letter inviting them to select a book that will carry a bookplate commemorating the achievement and serve as a permanent recognition. We asked for a statement describing why the book is important to the faculty members. The statements will be displayed during the reception along with the books and will be available on the Libraries’ website. We look forward to celebrating this achievement with the honored faculty and their families.

We want to keep listening and learning. Over the summer we began a planning process and we will invite you to talk to us and help us with our planning in a variety of ways. Once we have a new strategic plan we’ll make it available to you for comment and input.

We’re glad you are back and look forward to seeing you in the Libraries and talking to you about your information needs. Visit us in RBD, Greene Hall and Dudley or click on http://www.lib.auburn.edu/ and visit us virtually from anywhere you happen to be.

**Bartram’s Travels Donated to Libraries**

An anonymous benefactor recently donated a rare first edition of William Bartram’s *Travels* to Auburn University. Bonnie MacEwan, Dean of Libraries, commented that this “highly-prized volume constitutes a magnificent addition to Auburn University’s rare book holdings.”

Between 1773 and 1777, William Bartram traveled extensively in what’s now the southeastern United States, including Alabama. In 1791 James & Johnson of Philadelphia printed the first edition of his *Travels*. The full title provides an indication of its wide-ranging contents: *Travels through North & South Carolina, Georgia, East & West Florida, the Cherokee Country, the Extensive Territories of the Muscogules, or Creek Confederacy, and the Country of the Chactaws; Containing an Account of the Soil and Natural Production of These Regions, Together with Observations on the Manners of the Indians*. The frontispiece of Bartram’s *Travels* is depicted at right.

On October 27, 2006, the Special Collections & Archives Department in the Ralph Brown Draughon Library will host a conference regarding the life and work of William Bartram sponsored by the Center for Arts and Humanities, the Alabama Humanities Foundation, the Bartram Trail Conference, the Auburn University Libraries, the Department of History, and the Department of English. Kathryn H. Braund, Professor of History at Auburn University and a well-known authority on Bartram’s life and work, has been instrumental in the organization of the conference. The 1791 edition of Bartram’s *Travels* will be displayed at the conference.

**Jolley Donates Rare Books to Libraries**

Dr. Kelly D. Jolley, Alumni Associate Professor and Chair in the Department of Philosophy at Auburn University, recently donated nine rare books to the Auburn University Libraries. Jolley presented these items in memory of Dr. James Haden, whom he studied with as an undergraduate at the College of Wooster.

A 1718 edition of Sir Isaac Newton’s *Opticks* constitutes the most noteworthy item in the Jolley collection. Scholars consider the Englishman Newton one of the great scientists of history. In *Opticks* Newton presented his experiments and deductions on a variety of subjects, including the transmission of heat, the cause of gravity, and chemical actions.

The Jolley collection also contains a 1633 edition of Galileo’s *Sidereus nuncius* or *Starry Messenger*. In this volume, the Italian astronomer described his eight-power telescope, his discovery of Jupiter’s moons, and his support of the Copernican theory that the earth and other
The seventeenth-century Dutch scientist Jan Swammerdam’s *Hisforia insectorum* or *History of Insects* described the anatomy and life cycles of flies, butterflies, beetles, and other members of the class **Insecta**. It helped lay the groundwork for the modern classification system. As indicated by the scorpion at left, Swammerdam included what today’s scientists classify as arachnids. The Jolley collection includes a 1758 edition of *Hisforia insectorum*.

Bonnie MacEwan, Dean of Libraries at Auburn University, called Dr. Jolley’s gift “a wonderful contribution to Auburn University’s growing collection of rare books and manuscripts.” According to Dean MacEwan, “these are the types of items that give our library a personality distinct from all others.”

**Library Adds Major Databases**

Glenn Anderson

Beginning in Fall Semester 2006, faculty and students will have access to two major online databases: the *New York Times* from 1851 thru 2006 and Evans Early American Imprints, 1639-1800. Access to both databases will be available to Auburn faculty, students, and staff by going to http://www.lib.auburn.edu, then clicking on “Articles and Databases.”

While the Library now holds microfilm reels of the *New York Times* from 1851, these reels are rapidly deteriorating. The *New York Times Online*, which includes *New York Times* articles with accompanying photos, charts and graphs and advertisements in PDF format, will provide online access to the digitized content of older and current *New York Times* newspapers. Auburn students and scholars will be able to access the *New York Times* from anywhere and at any time. Copyright restrictions do not allow access in PDF format for the most recent three years.

Evans Early American Imprints, 1639-1800, is the definitive source for researching 17th and 18th century America. Historians, American studies and literature scholars, students, and anyone interested in the political history or the history of printing in the Americas will find this collection an essential tool for research with primary sources. The 2.3 million pages of content are crucial to researchers and scholars, but the opportunity to approach scholarship with the power of digital searching may be even more compelling. As a professor at Duke noted regarding Evans Digital:

“More than convenience is at issue here. The Evans Digital inspires ideas. Without even trying, I find myself getting deliciously lost in the Evans Digital site in the same way that one can become lost in the stacks of a library.... Those who criticize technological change do so out of a conviction that technology changes how we think. They are correct in that assumption, which is one reason I’m thrilled by the Evans Digital.... It will facilitate new areas of research that could not have been accomplished in a lifetime spent only in the library or bent over a microform reader.”

Like the *New York Times Online*, the Evans Early American Imprints will be available, via the Library home page, www.lib.auburn.edu, at any time and from anywhere.

**Accuracy of Cited References**

Bob Buchanan

“Accuracy of Cited References: The Role of Citation Databases” by Physical Sciences librarian Bob Buchanan was published in the July 2006 issue of *College and Research Libraries* (Vol. 67, pages 292-303). The nature and extent of data entry errors in *Science Citation Index Expanded* (SCIE) and *SciFinder Scholar* (SFS) were characterized by analysis of over 5,400 citations in 204 cited article lists from three core chemistry journals. This study addressed two research questions, neither of which had been studied before. The first question asked how prevalent are data entry errors in the citation databases SCIE and SFS? Overall, the average percent for data entry errors was 3.5% in SCIE and 1.7% in SFS.
The largest, and most variable, type of data entry error came from omission of citations from cited article lists. SCIE omitted an average of 2.7%, while SFS omitted an average of 0.5%. The second question asked how often do these databases correct citation errors made by authors? Similar to previous studies, it was found that 9% of citations contained errors due to author mistakes. This study found that SCIE corrected nearly one-half (46%) of author errors and SFS corrected about one-sixth (16%).

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**Librarians Win Spelling Bee**

Dwayne Cox

On Friday, July 21, 2006, three members of the Auburn University Libraries faculty took top honors at the third annual Corporate Spelling Bee, an event held to raise money for the Lee County Literacy Coalition. Henry McCurley, Paula Sullenger, and Glenn Anderson, dubbed the Book Worms by contest organizers, defeated sixteen other teams in front of a crowd at Opelika High School.

The event raised approximately $7,000 for the Literacy Coalition, a non-profit, United Way agency. The Coalition provides free, one-on-one tutoring in reading, mathematics, and preparation for the GED examination at after-school programs in Auburn and Opelika. The East Alabama Chapter of the Public Relations Council of Alabama sponsors the Corporate Spelling Bee.

Organizers of the event selected words from the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee word list. Those spelled correctly by the Book Worms included “firkin,” a unit of measure equal to one quarter of a barrel; “phaeton,” a light, four-wheel carriage with two seats facing forward; “eisegesis,” an interpretation of scripture that expresses one’s own ideas, rather than the meaning of the text; and “eloge,” a flattering funeral oration.

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**Find Out What's Happening with the What's New Listserv**

Tim Dodge

There's an easy way to keep up with all of the new developments at the University Libraries: the What's New listserv. Normally updated every two weeks, the Listserv alerts the subscriber to recent additions to the libraries' collections, such as new databases, reference sets, new services offered to library patrons, and other library-related announcements.

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Recent What's New alerts have informed subscribers of the addition of databases such as Literary Reference Center and Journal Citation Reports, and such important print reference sources such as the Millennium Edition (2006) of Historical Statistics of the United States. Recent alerts have also informed subscribers about library-related announcements such as guest speakers for the Auburn University Sesquicentennial Lecture Series, Faculty/Graduate Seminars being offered, and services such as the implementation of the ILLiad interlibrary loan service.

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 center of the Auburn University Libraries' homepage (http://www.lib.auburn.edu/).

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**Fall Library Open House**

**Tailgate @ The Library**

Nancy Nur

On Friday, September 1, Auburn University Libraries held it’s fall Open House from 11:00am – 2:00pm. The theme of the event was “Tailgate @ the Library”.

The goal of the Open House was to help students feel comfortable in the RBD Library. Many students familiar with the smaller libraries in their home high schools find large research libraries such as Auburn’s main library intimidating at first. The open house was an opportunity for them to begin to learn of the many services and resources the libraries offer and meet many of the libraries’ staff members. Most importantly, students had the opportunity to overcome any anxiety they may have had about using the library and approaching the library staff.

All AU students were invited to attend this informal, yet informative and entertaining event. As students entered the building, they received ‘tickets’ inviting them to visit various tailgate tents stationed throughout the library. For instance, on the ground floor, students were asked to stop at Special Collections & Archives and Study Partners. On the first floor, they enjoyed hotdogs and drinks as well as learning about the libraries’ Digital Resource Lab. On the second floor, reference staff greeted the attendees and talked about the kinds of homework and research...
assistance that they could provide. On the third floor, over 430 students participated in a survey. On the fourth floor, the quiet study floor, students bounced in a tiger moonwalk and rolled the RBD version of ‘Library Corner’.

Aubie and the AU Cheerleaders were on hand as the 2005 AU Marching Band CD played over the intercom system. As students left the tailgate, they turned in their tickets and were eligible for one of over 50 prizes donated by area merchants. The grand prize – a Coach Tuberville autographed football.

The day was a success, and over 1640 students attended the three hour event. Students commented that they felt that this was a fun and unique way to learn about the library, and thought it captured well the Auburn spirit.

**Sesquicentennial Lectures**

This fall the Sesquicentennial Lecture Series that began in February, 2006, will continue. All the lectures will be held at 4 PM in Special Collections & Archives on the ground floor of the Draughon Library. The lectures commemorate the 1856 incorporation of the East Alabama Male College, the earliest predecessor of Auburn University.

The fall portion of the series began on September 12, with Harold A. Franklin and Martin T. Olliff discussing the 1964 desegregation of Auburn University. On October 12, David House will discuss the history of intercollegiate athletics at Auburn; on October 24, Jack Simms will present a slide-based program depicting the history of Auburn University’s outreach efforts in the state of Alabama. All are welcome.

The Jefferson Collection is comprised mostly of books and other published materials. This collection is fully analyzed and can be accessed by doing a title search for Jefferson Collection. Items of interest include the maps and illustrations which can be found in various books as well as the notes written by Jefferson in the margins. Jefferson, like many other bibliophiles, then and now, liked to write in his books, as the item below indicates.

Jefferson corresponded with many of the political and military leaders of the American Revolution and early federal period and his letters encompass the founding and growth of the United States. Besides official and personal correspondence, the collection also contains legal documents, drawings, contracts, accounts, deeds, maps, patents, grants, and surveys.

AUBURN FACULTY AWARDS CEREMONY

Glenn Anderson

Auburn University faculty member receives the letter announcing that he or she has been awarded tenure or promotion. Individual and local celebrations of this success are many and varied, but no University-wide ceremony celebrates this personal milestone at Auburn.

A new initiative from Provost John Heilman and University Libraries Dean Bonnie MacEwan seeks to redress this situation. Each newly tenured or promoted faculty member will be asked to identify a book that is special to them. The Auburn Libraries will print a bookplate to commemorate the faculty member's achievement and add these bookplates to the books faculty choose. A copy of the bookplate will be presented to each faculty member. Newly tenured or promoted faculty will also be asked to join in a celebration with Provost Heilman and members of the Auburn administration, the Libraries, colleges, and departments. This celebration will be highlighted by a display of the selected books and the statements from faculty describing the importance of the selected book to them.

The first Faculty Awards Ceremony will be held on September 28th at 4pm in the Newspaper Reading Room on the first floor of the Ralph Brown Draughon Library. Faculty who received tenure or promotion in 2006, any family members and friends they wish to bring, and department heads and deans will be invited.

Examples of other universities that have campus-wide ceremonies to honor newly tenured or promoted faculty include the University of Illinois and Penn State University. Both have noted extensive and enthusiastic participation from eligible faculty. Among the books chosen by faculty at Auburn as having special meaning to them are The Bible, The Good Earth, The Engineer in 2020 and The Little Engine that Could.

Dwayne Cox
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