My sense of excitement about Auburn University and its Libraries has grown in the time since I made my first visit to campus nearly a year ago. I am delighted to be joining the Auburn University administrative team at a time when Auburn is looking forward to realizing its full potential as a student-centered institution. I look forward to working with my colleagues within and outside of the Libraries, and becoming an active member of the community.

Those who work in the Libraries and the Auburn faculty, staff and students we serve take seriously the Libraries’ role in the education process. Each semester the subject librarians meet nearly 233 classes. I was especially pleased to be contacted during my first days at Auburn by both the undergraduate and the graduate students. They expressed high praise for the Library and its services and recommended some changes.

A group of librarians have been working closely with the graduate students to identify some additional quiet study areas. As soon as the new area is ready it will be announced through the websites maintained by the Graduate Student Association.

On October 3 the Student Government Association passed a resolution requesting that Ralph Brown Draughon stay open 24 hours during the final examination period. Since then a group of students, Library staff, and other partners, including OIT, the Stacks Café and Study Partners, have been working to create a new program in the Libraries called Up All Night. RBD Library opened its doors at 7:45 a.m. on December 8 and stayed open until 2 a.m. on December 13, closing only for 16 hours, 9:00 p.m. Saturday night until 1:00 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Each night at 3 a.m. the students provided a study break of juice and donuts and Stacks Café stayed open the entire time to make sure that there was caffeine to fuel the all night study sessions. Over 34,000 students used the Library during this period.

In an era when the students have over 25,000 electronic journals and 180,000 electronic books available to them anywhere there is Internet access, and a time when they depend heavily on Google to supplement the information provided by the Libraries, why do they come in large numbers? Not just during the finals period but on an average night over 1,100 students and other users enter the building between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. For today’s student libraries are about more than access to information. They’re about enabling the quest for knowledge. *Studies conducted by Columbia Teacher’s College and others indicate that libraries are seen by today’s student as intellectual gathering places. They serve a social function and foster collaborative learning required in so many courses of study in today’s university.*

Come to the RBD Library, the Cary Veterinary Medical Library in Greene Hall or the Library of Architectural Design and Construction on any night during the semester and you will see students streaming in and out of the building to meet with their tutors, work on team projects and work independently in carrels. They come to produce information using the resources of the Digital Resources Laboratory. They come to get assistance for class assignments or learn to use the many complex databases available through the Libraries’ web and they come to attend classes on resources in their subject areas.

I’m proud to have the opportunity to provide leadership for a Library with such a strong tradition of service and dedication to the educational mission of the University. I am looking forward to working with the staff and librarians of the Libraries and with the faculty, staff and students of the University to continue to respond to the information needs of the community.

LIBRARY HOSTS

SESQUICENTENNIAL LECTURES

In 2006 Auburn University celebrates its sesquicentennial. One hundred and fifty years earlier, the state legislature charted the East Alabama Male College, AU’s earliest predecessor. During the sesquicentennial year, the AU Libraries will host a series of lectures on the history of the Auburn University. The Center for Arts and Humanities, AU Outreach, and the Sesquicentennial Committee are co-sponsoring the events.

On February 23, Dr. Ralph Draughon, Jr., will lead off the series with a presentation on Auburn during the Civil War Era. On March 2, Dr. Wayne Flynt, recently retired from the Department of History, will follow with a discussion of the 1872 decision to locate the state’s new land grant college in Auburn.

Later in the spring semester, March 14, Dr. Leah Atkins, former director of the Center for Arts and Humanities, will discuss the history of women at Auburn University. On April 19, Anthony Donaldson, an AU doctoral candidate, will follow with a history of the political rivalry between Auburn University and the University of Alabama. On May 4, Dr. David Alsobrook, who received his Ph.D. degree from Auburn and currently directs the Clinton Presidential Library, will speak on the impact that returning World War II veterans exerted on the university.

The fall portion of the series will begin on September 12, when Dr. Martin Olliff, who received his Ph.D. degree from Auburn, and Harold Franklin, the first African-American student admitted to Auburn, will discuss the desegregation of the university. On October 12, David Housel, former Sports Information Director and former Athletic Director, will speak on the history of athletics at Auburn University. Later that month, October 24, Jack Simms, retired head of the Department of Journalism, will present a slide program documenting the school’s history through photographs. Dr. Flynt will appear again on November 9 to discuss the history of outreach activities at Auburn. Finally, during December, Mrs. Nell Richardson will host her discussion of the presidential residence and Auburn’s first ladies at the president’s home.

With the exception of Mrs. Richardson’s presentation, all the lectures will be held in Special Collections & Archives on the ground floor of the Draughon Library at 4 p.m.

WE ARE NOT ALONE

Over the past months, I’ve spent a day visiting each of the services located in RBD Library. For me the most visible of these library partners is Multicultural Affairs. In February, 2000, the office moved into the RBD Administrative Office Suite and continued to focus on their primary mission of 1) bridging the communications gap between persons of all cultures, and 2) recruitment/retention of persons of minority cultures at Auburn University so as to provide an environment that is reflective of the overall society.” They have new leadership, Vice Provost Overtoun Jenda, and will soon have new offices.

The Honor’s College was founded in 1979 and moved to new quarters on the third floor of RBD Library last spring. The director, Jack Rogers, reports that he and his staff are happy in their new office area and find it convenient for meeting with students and parents. Although they like their lovely and more spacious setting they do miss one aspect of their old office area in the Library. They used to be able to point out the resident halls for honors students from their office windows.

Study Partners, located on the ground floor of RBD, is experiencing change, as well. With leadership from Kathryn Jarvis this is just one of the units that “helps Auburn students successfully achieve their academic goals.” Kathryn and the Assistant Vice Provost for Student Affairs, Nancy McDaniel, shared their ideas and discussed opportunities to work with the Libraries at a recent Library Leadership Group meeting. Since then we’ve been working with them to respond to a request from the students that we stay open for all night study during final exams. We’re looking forward to building and strengthening this partnership to respond to the academic needs of the undergraduate students.

The OIT (Office of Information Technology) Help Desk moved into RBD Library in 2004. The Director, Paula Dale, tells me she was skeptical at first but has been won over by the friendly and dedicated staff of the Libraries. She is especially impressed by our commitment to service and meeting the needs of the students and faculty. The Help Desk staff answers questions phoned in from computer labs located across campus and on a web form. It has been a challenge for the Help Desk staff and the Libraries staff to understand the difference in our service missions.

The Biggio Center is located on the fourth floor of RBD Library. The Director, James Groccia, is eager to work with the Libraries as he reaches out to the faculty to improve the quality of teaching at Auburn. He attended a December meeting of the Library Leadership Group to explore
opportunities to share space, resources and programming. One topic on the agenda was how we can contribute to and participate in the Forum on College Teaching and Learning planned for this February. Glenn Anderson represents the Libraries on the Biggio Center Advisory Board.

Soon the editorial offices for both the Alabama Review, a state history journal, and the Alabama Encyclopedia, a web-based publication, will move to the Draughon Library. Dr. Jeff Jakeman of Auburn’s Department of History edits both publications. Many libraries are working hard to build partnerships with the services on their campuses similar to Study Partners, the Biggio Center, OIT, the Honor’s College, and the Alabama Review and Alabama Encyclopedia. All libraries with a commitment to building and supporting diversity are reaching out to their offices for diversity and multicultural affairs. We have the potential to build the partnerships that our peer institutions are just beginning to work toward. I hope we can reach out to these potential partners as we continue to offer library service that is innovative and responsive to the needs of our students and faculty. I’m looking forward to continuing the conversations started earlier and reaching out beyond the walls of the Library to build additional partnerships.

FIND OUT WHAT’S HAPPENING WITH THE WHAT’S NEW LISTSERV

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.

Recent What’s New alerts have informed subscribers of the addition of databases such as In the First Person (Oral History), News Library, and Tax Expert. Recent alerts have also informed subscribers about Library-related announcements such as the Faculty/Graduate Seminars, guest speakers, exhibits on display in the Special Collections & Archives Department, and meetings of the AU Libraries Book Club.

Subscribing to the “What’s New” listserv is easy. Simply send an e-mail message to majordomo@auburn.edu and type “subscribe Whatnew-L” (without quotation marks). To unsubscribe, send an e-mail message to majordomo@auburn.edu and type “unsubscribe Whatnew-L” (without quotation marks). Make sure you have turned off your signature block before subscribing. The What’s New

BOOSINGER WINS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION AWARD

The Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries (AACRL) presented its 2005 Significant Contribution Award to Marcia L. Boosinger, chair of the Reference Department at Auburn University’s Draughon Library. The award recognizes significant contributions to college and research libraries on the local, state, regional, national, and international levels. Boosinger holds an MLS degree from the University of Alabama.

Boosinger has an active record of participation in professional library organizations and a solid record of publications in the professional library literature. She was a charter member of AACRL and served that organization as a board member, treasurer, and president. She currently serves as the Alabama Chapter Councilor on the Council of the American Library Association and chairs of that organization’s Membership Committee. Her publications have appeared in College and Research Libraries, Southeastern Librarian, and the Journal of Academic Librarianship.

Finally, Boosinger has been active in faculty government. Currently, she serves as the University’s Faculty Athletics Representative and chairs Auburn University’s Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics.

GALLERY TALK

Lynn Williams, Special Collections and Art Librarian, gave a gallery talk January 12 at the Mobile Museum of Art for the opening of an exhibit of watercolor and oil paintings that she curated: The Bayou Painters: South Alabama’s Art Colony (1946-1954), which will be up until March 26. She wrote the text and selected paintings to illustrate a catalog which will be appearing within the next few weeks. The catalog text has been adapted for an article which will be published in the January-February issue of American Art Review along with images of some of the paintings. The art colony began in Mobile but moved to Bayou La Batre and Coden, two small fishing villages west of Mobile, which were devastated by Hurricane Katrina just as they were by hurricanes in 1906 and 1916.
Sleeplessness is not limited to Seattle! Auburn has now joined the "sleepless" ranks. This fall, the Auburn University Student Government Association passed a resolution asking that the AU Libraries remain open twenty-four hours during finals. Dean Bonnie MacEwan was open to the idea and began working on the endeavor. After a meeting with several key staff from around the campus and the Library, the project was off the ground. It was decided that the RBD Library would remain open for four nights during the final exams. This effort soon became known as "Up All Night" and was jointly sponsored by the SGA and Auburn University Libraries. It was made possible in part by a monetary grant from Senator Ted Little's office. Planning for "Up All Night" involved representatives from Student Life, Student Affairs, the Provost Office, Auxiliary Services, Student Government Association as well as the Library.

The RBD Library remained open on the evenings of December 8, 9, 11 and 12. At 3:00 each morning, the SGA sponsored a break and gave away juice, donuts, blue books and scantron sheets. Circulation and Reference services were available in the Library so students could check out laptops and books, use the computers, printers and copiers and ask reference questions. Private security was employed to monitor the building and provided an extra measure of safety for participating students. "Up All Night" was a huge success. Publicity was widespread with both the Library and the SGA providing banners and flyers during the week preceding the event. Finals exam week for Fall 2005 brought close to 35,000 people into the RBD Library. Some students studying during "Up All Night" came to the Library in their robes and slippers, bringing with them their blankets and pillows. "Up All Night" set the standard for years to come. It not only provided a safe place for study, it provided a mechanism for various units on the Auburn campus to work together for the betterment of Auburn students.

To see more pictures of "Up All Night," go to: http://www.lib.auburn.edu/pubs/up_all_night.

LEWIS ON RICKENBACKER

On December 7, 2005, Dr. W. David Lewis, Distinguished University Professor, discussed his recently published biography of American aviator Eddie Rickenbacker in a program co-sponsored by the University Libraries, the Center for Arts and Humanities, and the Bookstore. Copies of the book, published by the Johns Hopkins University Press, were available for sale and autograph by the author.

Dr. Lewis read portions of his book that covered a three week period during World War II when Rickenbacker and others were lost in the shark infested waters of the Pacific Ocean following the crash of the airplane they had occupied. Of course, Rickenbacker is also remembered as America's Ace-of-Aces during World War I, owner of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and founder of Eastern Airlines.

Dr. Lewis' book is based in part on a large collection of Rickenbacker material housed in the Special Collections & Archives Department of the Auburn University Libraries. The Rickenbacker collection includes photographs, diaries, correspondence, corporate records, and scrapbooks. For more information regarding the Rickenbacker collection, search AubieCat under "Rickenbacker, Eddie" as an author.
**Lady Montague's Letters**

Dr. Paula R. Backscheider, Philpott-Stevens Eminent Scholar in the Department of English, recently donated a two-volume, 1784 edition of Lady Montague's Letters to the Auburn University Libraries. These items have been catalogued and added to the Treasure Collection, which is housed in Special Collections & Archives on the ground floor of the Draughon Library. The AU Libraries have electronic access to numerous editions of Lady Montague's Letters, but Dr. Backscheider's gift is by far our earliest print version. Lady Montague lived in eighteenth-century England, but wrote most of her letters from abroad. She filled her works with witty comments on contemporary society. Lady Montague also used her influence to encourage smallpox vaccination.

**Frank Anderson House**

Lynn Williams' article, "An Artistic Blend: Frank and Martha Anderson," appeared in the Fall issue of *Alabama Heritage*. Frank Hartley Anderson came to Birmingham to help plan the city of Fairfield. He remained to work as a city planner (convincing city officials to adopt Linn Park as a civic center) and as an architect, marrying Martha Fannin Fort, an artist who founded the art program at the University of Alabama. When the Great Depression threw him out of work, the two signed up with New Deal art programs and collaborated on his hobby, relief printmaking, and painting two murals: one for the Fairfield Post Office and the other for Lakeview School. In 1935 Frank Anderson founded the Southern Printmakers Society, an organization to bring print exhibits to the South, which lasted until he joined the military in World War II.

**Microfilm Edition of the Millard Fillmore Papers**

Cecilia Schmitz

Millard Fillmore (1800-1874) was a lawyer with a successful practice in Buffalo, New York. He was also a New York Assemblyman; a Congressman; a New York State Comptroller and Vice President under Zachary Taylor. He became the thirteenth President upon the death of Taylor on July 9, 1850. He was also active in the civil and cultural affairs of Buffalo. He was the first chancellor of the University of Buffalo and helped to found the Buffalo General Hospital and the Buffalo Historical Society. He also was involved with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. During the Civil War, he was active in home-front fundraising and relief activities. He died from after suffering a stroke on March 8, 1874.

The 68 reel microfilm collection available in Draughon Library contains Fillmore's personal and professional correspondence and papers as well as government documents from his presidency, including the Millard Fillmore documents in the National Archives. This collection would provide insights into the following topics:

- The Compromise of 1850
- The Amistad Case
- Relations with American Indians
- Territorial Expansion
- The Know-Nothing Party
- The Civil War

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- New York State Politics
- The Whig Party
- Slavery
- The Fugitive Slave Law
**LIBRARIES OFFER ENDNOTE SEMINARS**

On Thursday, March 23, 2006, from 3:30-5:00 p.m., Bob Buchanan, reference librarian, will offer a seminar on “EndNote” in the first floor instruction laboratory of the Draughon Library. This hands-on introduction will cover four ways to create references: manual, direct export from a database, two-step import from a database, and use of EndNote to search public databases such as AubieCat. The seminar also will cover use of EndNote when preparing a research paper. Those who complete the seminar will be equipped to use import filters, output styles, and connection files. The seminar is ideal for those frustrated by the EndNote user manual, those considering the purchase of EndNote, and those who use this product.

**LIBRARIES HOST BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPEAKER**

On February 8, 2006, at 3:00 p.m., Dorothy Walker will deliver a lecture entitled “The Rosenwald School Building Fund: A Benchmark in the History of Black Education” in Special Collections & Archives, located on the ground floor of the Draughon Library. Walker serves as Public Outreach Coordinator for the Alabama Historical Commission. In addition to the lecture, the libraries will host a traveling exhibit regarding the Rosenwald schools.

The schools date to the 1910s, when Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, initiated a building program that resulted in the construction of more than 5,000 training facilities and teachers’ homes. The foundation subsequently contributed more than $4 million toward this end, but the African-American community raised a comparable amount. This program exerted a major force on the lives of countless African-Americans who resided in the rural South.

The lecture and the exhibit are free and open to the public. A reception will follow the lecture.