Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and productive summer. A quick glance in the direction of RBD Library will confirm that we have been busy getting ready for the next phase of the Mell Classroom Building project.

All summer we’ve been moving books and working with designers. Many of the paper copies of journals and other resources you usually access online are now housed in our Offsite Library Archiving Facility. This facility will be added to the route of our very efficient courier service, so if you need something you can be assured you will receive it quickly.

Over the coming months construction will begin on the classrooms to be located on the third and fourth floors of the library. Don’t miss Marcia Boosinger’s article about the changes we plan for the second floor of RBD. Many thanks to each of you who participated in the study we conducted to plan this project. I know the project may cause some disruption from time to time as the sprinklers are installed, books are moved, and construction progresses, but I can assure you the outcome will be well worth it. In the meantime, if we can help let us know or talk with your subject specialist. You can find their names at this website: http://libguides.auburn.edu/subjectspecialists.

We continue to work hard to be the academic center of Auburn and this continues to go beyond the construction project. Aaron Trehub has agreed to become the Head of Special Collections & Archives, combining the expertise he has as the head of technologies with his passion for archives, especially the long-term preservation of archival materials and digital scholarship. Look for Special Collections to continue its good work and for new programs in digital scholarship and digitization.

In other areas we will be exploring new opportunities in interlibrary loan, data management, and instruction.

If you were promoted or tenured this year, I hope to celebrate with you at the Promotion and Tenure Reception in RBD on September 22 and we hope to see each of you as you settle back into the academic year.
Aaron Trehub Named Head of Special Collections & Archives

Aaron Trehub became the new Head of the Special Collections & Archives Department on March 1, 2016. He succeeded Dwayne Cox, who retired at the end of February after thirty years of service to Auburn. Aaron came to Auburn in 2004 from the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign, where he held the rank of associate professor of library administration. He has served as the Assistant Dean for Technology at the Libraries since 2009, a portfolio he will continue to hold in addition to his new assignment. He is excited by the intersection of technology, archives, and digital scholarship and is especially interested in the application of new technologies to archival processing. Aaron has a B.A. from McGill University, an M.A. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), and an MLS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His recent publications include chapters in “Aligning National Approaches to Digital Preservation” (Educopia Institute 2012; Society of American Archivists Preservation Publication Award Winner 2013) (https://educopia.org/publications/anadp) and “William March and Eugene B. Sledge: Mobilians, Marines, and Writers” in The Alabama Review (January 2013).

Navigating Copyright

by Andrew Wohrley, Reference Librarian

Over the past year a group of faculty and administrators completed a revision of Auburn University’s copyright policy. The old policy was created in 1987, did not anticipate digital media, and was in need of updating to bring it into the 21st century. New policies were written, one for copyright creation and one for copyright use. Remaining constant from the old policy to the revised one was faculty ownership of copyright of their own materials, unless alternative circumstances were agreed upon before the creation of the work, such as items produced as work for hire by the faculty member for the university.

The new policy gives guidance on when instructors may use copyrighted materials. Such materials can be used with permission by the owner, or under the terms of Fair Use, or under an Open Access license. Items in the public domain are always free to use.

Auburn has a copyright homepage with the university policies and some guidance on how to use copyright (https://cws.auburn.edu/OVPR/pm/tt/copyrighthome). The links also include a page with a decision tree which will allow faculty to determine whether or not and how they may correctly use copyrighted materials. An email account (copyrightanswers@auburn.edu) has been set up to handle questions that faculty may have. Andrew Wohrley is now the designated person answering copyright questions for the library. Feel free to contact him at (334) 844-1768 or wohrlaj@auburn.edu with any inquiries.
Auburn University’s scholarly repository, AUrora, showcases research by Auburn University faculty, students, and staff and makes that research accessible to the residents of Alabama and the public at large. Any scholarly output can be submitted to AUrora by members of the university faculty, including those in tenured, tenure-track, clinical, instructor, lecturer, and adjunct positions. The most common types of content submitted to AUrora are pre- or post-prints of journal articles, conference papers or posters, and technical reports or working papers.

To post your work in AUrora, go to http://aurora.auburn.edu, log in with your existing Auburn user name and password, and start a new submission. You’ll be asked to provide information about your submission and upload your file (PDF format preferred), after which your subject librarian or departmental liaison will approve the submission. Once the process is complete, other researchers and the public will have free, open access to your research from a quick Google or Google Scholar search.

Before submitting manuscripts and articles to AUrora, faculty members are encouraged to carefully review their journal’s publishing agreement or check their publisher’s copyright and self-archiving policies in the SHERPA/RoMEO database at www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/. If you have questions about submitting your work to AUrora, please contact Jaena Alabi (jma0019@auburn.edu) or your subject librarian.

Seed Library: A Budding Community Partnership

Auburn University Libraries is now home to the Fall Line Seed Library, a collaboration between Auburn University and Opelika Public Library. Located on the first floor of RBD Library, our seed collection consists primarily of heirloom vegetable, herb, and native plant seeds. Unlike seed banks, which are intended to store seeds for long-term security, the purpose of this library is to share seed varieties with the public and foster a community of seed saving. In the long run the seed library hopes to establish a self-sustaining collection of locally-adapted seeds that support the diversity of our food supply and reflect Alabama’s unique natural heritage. The seed library works much like a book library: members “check out” seeds, then grow the plants, collect seeds, and “return” them at the end of the growing season. The newest additions to our collection are heirloom varieties from the 9th Annual Waverly Tomato Showdown. Visit us next spring for a packet of those prize-winning tomato seeds or pick up seeds for your fall garden today. For more information, or if you would like to become a member, visit their Facebook or contact Patricia Hartman at (334) 844-1740 or ajh0011@auburn.edu.
Many species endemic to the longleaf pine ecosystem of Alabama’s southeastern coastal plain have declined alarmingly over the last 100 years. Though they have received considerable attention from researchers in the recent past, scientists have little historical information on species of concern such as the gopher tortoise, southeastern pocket gopher, and eastern indigo snake. The information does exist, however, in the living memories of retired natural resource professionals and area residents such as hunters and private landowners. These individuals are a largely untapped resource and present an interesting opportunity to apply a historical approach to citizen science. In conjunction with researchers in the School of Forestry and Wildlife and the College of Liberal Arts, AU Libraries is leading an oral history project focusing on historical distributions of and human interactions with wildlife species in this unique region of Alabama. The collection of interviews, photos, and associated information will be preserved in our digital library and used to inform wildlife management efforts for species of concern. We are currently recruiting participants for our study who spent time in the woods of southeastern Alabama before the 1980s. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact Patricia Hartman at (334) 844-1740 or ajh0011@auburn.edu for more information.

Special Collections Acquires Rare Confederate Civil War Battle Diary

by Aaron Trehub, Assistant Dean

Thanks to a generous gift from the Draughon family, the Special Collections & Archives Department was able to bid on and win a rare Confederate Civil War battle diary in an auction conducted at the Swann Gallery in New York City in June 2016. The diary, which consists of thirty-two stitched manuscript pages and measures approximately three by five inches, was the property of Captain John W. West of the 4th Alabama Infantry, Company C/D Consolidated in the Army of Tennessee. It covers the five-month period from September 1864 through February 1865 and contains descriptions of the unit’s movements at the same time as the Atlanta Campaign, the Battle of Franklin, and the closing months of the war. It also contains information on the mood of the army during that period. Intact Civil War diaries are rare, and diaries of Confederate soldiers and officers are especially rare. Special Collections is in the process of digitizing and transcribing Captain West’s diary. When completed, the diary will be added to the Civil War Diaries and Letters collection (http://diglib.auburn.edu/collections/civilwardiaries/) in the Auburn University Digital Library and to AlabamaMosaic (http://alabamamosaic.org/), the digital library of the state of Alabama.
Over the past year in conjunction with construction of the Mell Classroom Building AU Libraries worked with faculty, students, and architects to redesign a portion of the main floor of the Ralph Brown Draughon Library adjacent to the 2nd floor entrance. The libraries engaged faculty, students, and library staff in a work-practice study to capture expert knowledge of their work practices and needs using faculty expectation interviews, speaking with instructors in a variety of disciplines who were at the time teaching or had taught a class that employs active learning approaches to teaching and learning. We also conducted faculty/student/library staff design workshops and student snapshot interviews, and collected student reply cards.

Our objective in this project was to do as many libraries across the country have done in recent years and as Auburn University Libraries have done previously when developing the Learning Commons: identify key faculty expectations and student activities associated with undergraduate classwork and the ways in which this library space must support those activities. That is, we intend that the redesigned space will enable students to continue the work they begin in the classroom, whether completing assignments and studying for exams or, increasingly likely, extending group activities from active-learning classrooms into nearby library spaces. This made it possible for us to develop a list of requirements for the area that was shared with designers and served to ground their work so that the new spaces support the identified work practices. The resulting space pictured here was designed specifically with undergraduate teaching and learning in mind. It includes shared thinking and group spaces, a quiet study room, a presentation practice room, an “Ask Desk” for assistance, printers and scanners, a computer area which will have both Macs and PCs, and an information literacy classroom. The space will also house the first Panera Bread café on campus.

Floor plan of the 2nd floor of RBD Library to be renovated. This space will serve as the main interface area between the new Mell Classroom Building and the existing library structure. Artist renderings below show what some of these spaces will look like when completed.
Over the past several decades research libraries all over the country have realized that some of the resources shelved in the center of campus could be placed in offsite facilities. There are many advantages to these facilities. The temperature and humidity can be kept at a level perfect for books but quite uncomfortable for their readers. The facilities are generally closed to the public, so the danger of theft or vandalism is reduced to nearly zero. Not only are important research materials more secure in these facilities but critically needed space for new resources and user services can be freed in the center of the campus in libraries like RBD.

As these facilities have become ubiquitous, cooperative projects to preserve valuable research materials for
the future have been developed. The AU Libraries participates in such a project called the Scholars Trust. These projects require materials to be stored offsite in a temperature controlled environment and are specifically designed to make sure a paper copy of important research materials remain available to scholars far into the future.

AU Libraries was thrilled to learn that the construction of an Offsite Library Archiving Facility (OLAF) was outlined as a part of the Mell Classroom Building (MCB) planning. OLAF would allow the libraries to meet all the goals outlined above and to provide space for the MCB to be more fully integrated into the library.

Begun in December 2015, the 16,900 square foot building became operational in April 2016 with all the advanced climate control systems needed to protect Auburn’s valuable collections. It holds approximately 36,000 linear feet of shelving. The first volumes were moved in May and we expect to continue moving materials throughout the year.

Over the past year every book has been examined for possible relocation to OLAF or shifted to a new location in order to provide the space for the MCB. If you need a volume that has been relocated to OLAF, just place a request using the courier service or ask for help at the Circulation Desk. If you need help finding a volume that has been moved within RBD Library, we’ll be glad to give you a hand; just ask at the Reference Desk.
Auburn University Libraries Special Collections hold a fascinating and diverse collection of rare materials. From illuminated medieval manuscripts to modern letterpress fine bindings, our collections beautifully reflect humanity’s intellectual, cultural, scientific and artistic heritage. Rather than keep these wonders locked away, Special Collections balances preservation with access to find ways of engaging Auburn students with our treasures. Through careful, supervised, hands-on investigation, classes in Special Collections explore one of the most monumental developments in human history - the printed word.

To understand the history of the book and its impact on mankind, it is necessary for students to go beyond reading assignments and classroom lectures. Students in English, Graphic Design, and Art History enter the rare books laboratory in Special Collections where they freely explore not only the words on the page, but also the paper, bindings, and illustrations of historic books. Hand written marginalia from centuries past tell the stories of past owners. Printed codes at the bottom of pages tell the story of the evolution of the printing business. Illustrations dating back 500 years chart the beautiful transformation of the engraver’s art.

Classes that visit Special Collections produce fascinating and engaging projects related to their experience. Students in an English Novel course that studied out-of-print 19th Century novels went on to create modern edition proposals and a Special Collections exhibit based on their efforts. A freshman student studying a rare 1970s underground newspaper, Praxis, was so intrigued by the publication that she tracked down one of the editors and conducted interviews with him on the story behind its publication. Students regularly discover marginalia and unique information about the books they study.

The effort to enable student access while protecting these wonderful materials for future generations is no small task. Auburn University Libraries is committed to the stewardship of our collections, so all material employed in the rare books laboratory setting is carefully reviewed for condition. The most fragile and valuable materials in our collections, while still available for individual research, are not used in our classroom sessions. Auburn University Libraries is proud of our rare books holdings. We endeavor to continue building our collections and making them available to students, faculty, and researchers worldwide.
Interlibrary Loans by the Numbers

by Pam Whaley, ILL

The AU Libraries’ partnerships with other regional and national research libraries help provide timely access to the research materials that our library does not own and contributed to an overall ILL request fill rate that exceeds 90 percent.

During 2014, the average turnaround time for an interlibrary loan borrowing request was 4.56 days. The average turnaround time fell to 3.65 days during 2015. The advanced features of Rapid ILL provided us with an average article delivery time of 12.7 hours in 2014, which improved to 11.4 hours in 2015.

ASERL & WRLC Libraries Form Scholar’s Trust

Auburn University Libraries, as a member of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL), has joined with the 29 member libraries of ASERL and the nine member libraries of the Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC) to form the Scholars Trust consortium of libraries. The members have pledged to cooperatively retain print journals as a means of preserving access to archival paper copies of journals generally used online. The program is governed by a steering committee consisting of deans of member libraries. Bonnie MacEwan, Dean of Auburn University Libraries, will represent ASERL on the steering committee.

The Scholars Trust represents one of the largest shared print journal repositories in the United States, with a combined title list exceeding 8,000 journals and more than 300,000 volumes. (The current title list in Excel format is available at http://www.aserl.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Title_Records_ST_2016_01_04.xls)

The libraries sign retention agreements to insure long-term access to materials.

To make the shared journals of the Scholars Trust readily available to all member institutions, the agreement provides for an extended reciprocal priority InterlibraryLoan (ILL) service across the group.
Over the past several years, reference librarians Claudine Jenda and Bridget Farrell have worked with Dr. Michelle Worosz’s Rural Sociology classes, providing instruction to help students access and use agricultural and business information sources. In addition to instruction that is presented in formal lectures, labs, and tours, students in Dr. Worosz’s classes engage in a semester-long research project investigating real-world problems such as the impact of climate change on tourism, energy, the fishing industry, and the health and well-being of communities along the Gulf Coast; and food availability across Alabama’s Black Belt. Students research and read information on these topics from a variety of information sources, such as assigned readings, historical agricultural production data, newspapers, scholarly journals, and business information sources, to identify the factors that may cause these problems, to explore the nature and extent of the problems, and to assess how these issues are being portrayed to the public.

Dr. Worosz began inviting librarians to work with her classes shortly after starting at Auburn in 2008, saying, “I discovered most students had never had a methods course in their discipline and didn’t know where science comes from, what it looks like, and how it’s performed.” By partnering with librarians to provide instruction on research methods and information sources for their class project, students learn from first-hand experience that while research can be a complex, iterative, and rigorous process, it can also be rewarding to generate new data and knowledge for understanding the problems affecting communities and the environments in which they live. Students from these classes present their findings at the end of the semester; one class presents their data to subject area specialists whereas the other course conducts a poster session that’s open to all members of the university community.
The Promotion and Tenure Reception at RBD Library hosted by the Office of the Provost honored 60 members of the AU faculty that were promoted and/or earned tenure in 2015. Honorees selected books that inspired them in their lives to add to AU Libraries’ collection, in the hope that they will inspire students in their studies. This year’s reception will be held on Sept. 22.

This is just one example of how librarians can work collaboratively with academic faculty to facilitate the use of the library’s vast information resources and services for students’ studies and research. Students from these classes gain subject knowledge and technical skills; a keen awareness of the physical, environmental, historical, political and social-economic factors that shape their world; and both professional and “soft” skills to ensure career success. As Dr. Worosz reflects “If students are going to leave college with one thing, I’d like them to leave being information literate.”
Programs in RBD Library - Fall 2016

Sept. 13, 3 p.m. - Discover Auburn Series - Thom Gossom, Jr.  
**Book Talk: “A Slice of Life”**

Sept. 20, 3:30 p.m. – Patience Essah Series – Tim Dodge  
**“Rhythm & Blues Goes Calypso: The Incorporation of West Indian Calypso into African American Rhythm and Blues c. 1945-1965”**

Sept. 29, 3 p.m. - Discover Auburn Series – Dr. Todd Steury  
**“Black Bears in Alabama”**

Oct. 18, 3:30 p.m. – Patience Essah Series – Dr. Darren Ray  
**“Dancing with Swords in Kenya”**

Oct. 27, 3 p.m. - Discover Auburn Series – Dr. Emily Friedman  
**Book Talk: “Reading Smell in Eighteenth-Century Fiction”**

Nov. 3, 3 p.m. - Discover Auburn Series – Dr. Derek Ross  
**“The Bibliography of Extremism: The Earth First! Journal and the Ethics of Monkeywrenching”**

Nov. 15, 3:30 p.m. – Patience Essah Series – Jaena Alabi  
**“An Introduction to Racial Microaggressions”**

Nov. 17, 3 p.m. - Discover Auburn Series – Elizabeth Huntley  
**Book Talk: “More Than a Bird”**

*All programs will be held in the Caroline Marshall Draughon auditorium on the ground floor of RBD Library.*