

Member News & Notes

Spring 2019

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Auburn University</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Shali Zhang became the new Dean of Auburn University Libraries in February of 2019. She was previously dean of libraries at the University of Montana. • Auburn University became the first Adobe Creative Cloud campus in the Southeastern Conference in the 2018-19 school year. The Auburn University Libraries' Media and Digital Resource Lab is offering classes in employing this powerful creative tool for both students and faculty. • Auburn University is in its second year of the Military REACH Project, a cooperative effort between the AU Libraries, the AU College of Human Sciences and the Departments of Agriculture and Defense that supports military families and family readiness by translating academic research and other resources into practical applications. The Auburn University Libraries have been providing high-level information technology support and subject matter expertise. • The Library of Architecture, Design and Construction hosted an Art + Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon event. Created six years ago to improve Wikipedia's coverage of women in the fields of design, architecture, and art, 2019 marks Auburn's second year participating in this global event. • Archivist Tommy Brown published his book, "Deep in the Piney Woods: Southern Alabama from Statehood to the Civil War, 1800-1865," by Alabama Press. • Auburn's annual Tiger Giving Day brought in enough funds to purchase treadmill and stationary bike desks for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. |
| <p>Clemson University</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are moving all bound journals and serials from the fifth and sixth floor of Cooper Library into our offsite Annex to create more student study space on campus. • We have introduced new interior building improvements across our branch locations: the Education Media Center, Gunnin Architecture Library, and Cooper Library. • Yang Wu, our Open Educational Resources Librarian, was selected for a certificate program in Open Educational Resources Librarianship. |
| <p>Duke University</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN) will relocate to Duke (from its long-term home at UNC) as of July 1, 2019. • The Lilly Library Renovation and Expansion is now an official university capital project, and is our top priority for fundraising. We are aiming to begin the work in summer of 2020 and complete the renovation 18-24 months later. |
| <p>East Carolina University</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We're excited to host the NEH Traveling Exhibit "For All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights" along with exhibits featuring materials from our collections and community programming, Sept. 1-Oct. 20. • We're also happy to welcome ECU Interim Chancellor Dan Gerlach. We've started campus conversations about reasons for exiting Big Deals and changes in the journal publishing environment. |
| <p>Florida International University</p> | <p>New hires! New Digital Humanities Librarian begins on 5/13. Looking forward to new Head of Information & Research Services starting in July. Searches open for OER Librarian and Assoc Dean for Tech Services.</p> |
| <p>Florida State University</p> | <p>Our campus undertook an exploration of big data needs for health sciences research. The Libraries were represented in the discussions and have emerged as a key partner. We are partnering with our new CIO on strategies going forward, including identifying staffing and technology needs.</p> |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Johns Hopkins University | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We combined our Information Desk with our Access Services Desk this winter. It is working just fine. • We are working on creating a self-service hold shelf and a textbook reserves program. • Our PASS (Public Access Submission System) is in its first full operational year. This is a system for faculty to easily submit their manuscript to institutional or funder repositories (such as NIH). • Implemented AEON. |
| Louisiana State University | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Hires: conservator, copyright/licensing, 4 African American librarians, oral history • Nearly unanimous Faculty Senate vote in favor of slashing Elsevier spend, announcement soon • Progress on facilities |
| Mississippi State University | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the final stages of a renovation the Libraries' Digital Media Center. The renovation includes building a TV Production Studio through a partnership with our Dept of Communication, a One-button Studio and a classroom studio. The Digital Media Center also includes a Virtual Reality Studio, MakerSpace and a multimedia lab. • The Libraries received a grant from CLIR to digitize the Citizens' Council Radio Forum. The grant in the amount of \$25,000 provided funding to digitize a significant portion of the collection. The audio recordings are accompanied by transcripts, provided by MSU doctoral graduate and Millsaps College Associate Professor of History Stephanie Rolph, who transcribed the Forum recordings as part of her dissertation and donated them to MSU Special Collections upon completion of her research. Rolph also published a book on the Citizens' Council last year titled "Resisting Equality: The Citizens' Council, 1954-1989" (LSU Press). The recordings span 1957-1966 and cover a variety of topics, including the Supreme Court, education, the Civil Rights and Voting Rights acts, and communism. The collection can be accessed at http://lib.msstate.edu/digitalcollections/citizenscouncil/ |
| Tulane University | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are engaged in strategic planning that will engage stakeholders across campus through the end of the year. • We have gained approval in theory for a new offsite storage facility. It will be some time before we can identify an appropriate parcel of land and begin planning and construction, but this is positive news. Our current facility is at capacity and cannot be expanded. • Our CLIR-funded project to digitize Spanish-language radio serials, produced by Cuban exiles in Miami in the 1960s, was featured on NPR recently. More here: https://www.npr.org/2019/05/18/719276682/massive-digitization-effort-is-the-latest-plot-twist-for-cuban-radio-soap-operas |
| UNC Charlotte | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Niner Commons Institutional Repository on the Islandora platform will officially launch on July 1, 2019. • We will also launch a new Friends of the Library group on July 1, 2019 to replace our Community Borrowers' program to include alumni for free for one year and all donors who give a gift of \$49 or more, will launch on July 1, 2019. Under this program, a study room can be renovated for a donation of \$12,500 over the course of five years. We have 3 donors in this program. |
| University of Alabama | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have entered into a beta-development partnership with EBSCO and OLE for the FOLIO Library Services Platform community last year. Over the past year we have developed requirements, prioritized features, tested software, reviewed procedures and workflows, extracted and imported data, prepared for integrations with various external systems, and began development of an assessment module. • Renovations of our main Gorgas Library are underway. During this phase, restrooms and elevators will be remodeled/upgraded, as well as the events center and the coffee shop. We are also in the process of building an addition to our offsite storage facility with completion anticipated for the fall. A renovation of the Bass Business Library is scheduled to begin this fall. |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UA Libraries is also the recipient of a two-year NEH grant (2018-2020) for \$324,000 to digitize Alabama’s historic newspapers on microfilm for the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). The library will contribute 100,000 pages from different newspapers which will be available through the Library of Congress’s Chronicling America website, https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/ |
| University of Florida | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early in 2018, the Libraries were approached by BiblioLabs to test the concept of using digital theses and dissertations to create print-on-demand files for sale by Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other online retailers. This concept was shared with the Graduate School and with the Graduate Student Council. Focus groups were held to present the concept to graduate students and obtain their feedback. The concept was well received, so in September 2018 the Libraries signed an agreement with BiblioLabs. Work began with the Libraries sending outreach emails to alumni authors (mostly of works from the Retrospective Digitization Project, as they had the most complete metadata and contact information). The emails explained the new service and invited authors to include their work by opting in. Since late 2018, the Libraries have emailed 5,249 authors. As of May 2019, 571 authors have opted in to the program. The sales price is fixed, regardless of the number of pages or the presence of color and other illustrations. The author will receive a 20% royalty on revenue after expenses. We are the first library to offer this service to its alumni, but I expect that many other university libraries will find this to be a good way to maintain a relationship with alumni from their graduate programs. Additional information is included in your registration packet. On May 21st, the University of Florida and the University of Georgia submitted to the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) a “Notice of Intent” to create a Shared Regional Depository Library. Both libraries are active participants in the ASERL Collaborative Federal Depository Program. As such, each institution has established Centers of Excellence for portions of its federal documents collection and meets the ASERL guidelines for managing these collections. Among these Centers of Excellence, Georgia has committed to the acquisition, cataloging and preservation of federal maps regardless of the issuing agency and Florida has committed to the acquisition, cataloging and preservation of Congressional hearings. We intend to utilize these two collections as the initial areas for consolidation. We believe that we can improve service to our patrons, and access to these collections, by allowing each library to establish a more comprehensive collection and greater staff expertise in these specialized areas. This will establish Florida and Georgia as a Shared Regional Depository Library and allow us to gain experience before expanding our collaboration into other federal document collections. GPO has recently replied, indicating support for the concept. |
| University of Georgia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I'm curious how others are talking about the role of Libraries in making college more affordable. This includes promoting OER, but also aspects like leveraging course e-reserves, device checkout, archives-centered instruction, paid experiential learning, and other efforts. Given the quantifiable return on investment for students, is anyone thinking about this as a strategic area for private fundraising? We have proposed to GPO a partnership with University of Florida for a shared Regional FDLP depository (see Judy's update above). UGA has a second phase of our Main Library renovation underway. First phase created the Ed and Robin Benson Collaboration Cafe. This second phase adds 29 study rooms to improve our quiet study space. |
| University of Louisville | The Libraries have initiated a renovation of Ekstrom Library's 3rd floor after relocating 400,000 items from that floor into newly expanded onsite high-density storage. The renovation will transform the floor into user spaces including a reading room, individual study areas, and a graduate student commons. |
| University of Miami | The new Gallery at the Kislak Center (http://kislakcenter.miami.edu) was dedicated May 2nd. It features the inaugural exhibit “Open New Worlds: A Journey through the Kislak Collection.” A new endowed library faculty chair – the Jay I. Kislak Chair – was announced. The endowment is funded by the Kislak Family Foundation. |

| | |
|---|---|
| University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University Libraries launched a campus-wide effort to build understanding about the crisis in scholarly publishing and support for renegotiating contracts. Librarians have held town halls and published a new website: sustainablescholarship.unc.edu. The University's Faculty Council passed a "Resolution on Containing the Costs of Published Research," supporting access, affordability, and transparency, as well as the University Libraries' decision to no longer sign non-disclosure agreements. A statement by University Librarian Elaine Westbrooks about the University of California's Elsevier cancellation led to coverage in the Chronicle and Inside Higher Ed. • A "Collections as Data – Part to Whole" grant will allow librarians at UNC-Chapel Hill to undertake the project "On the Books: Jim Crow and the Algorithms of Resistance." Using optical character recognition and machine learning, the team will build a text corpus of N.C. laws from the end of the Civil War through the 1960s and will then compile a listing of the state's Jim/Jane Crow laws. Additional products will be a website for educators and researchers, a white paper describing methodologies, a code repository and presentations. • A team from the Health Sciences Library presented in May at the Medical Library Association about the use of AI and machine learning algorithms to refine and improve search. The session—the first of its kind—laid out a roadmap for using automation to change the way health sciences librarians approach large and complex searches. • The University Libraries will be one of five institutions to host a CLIR Postdoctoral Fellow in Data Curation for African American Collections. The fellow will work to increase the visibility, discoverability, access and use of materials relevant to African-American studies, including the potential use of these materials as data. • A \$252,500 grant from the Watson-Brown Foundation is underwriting a new graduate fellowship pilot program. The grant will allow approximately 60 visiting doctoral students and candidates over 3 years to conduct research in Southern studies at the Wilson Special Collections Library. Grants include both pre-dissertation prospectus awards and dissertation research awards. • The Triangle Research Libraries Network (trln.org) has departed from the space it occupied for many years at Carolina's Wilson Library and has moved instead down the road to Duke University. |
| University of South Carolina | <p>The University of South Carolina Libraries has announced the acquisition of the Gary Lee Watson Collection of Comics and Graphic Novel Literature with an exhibit, "Four Color Fantasies," set to open on August 29, 2019. The Collection, consisting of approximately 180,000 items, is a treasure trove of popular culture material including comics from the Platinum Age through the Modern Age, related periodicals, pulps, books, and realia. Highlights include key issues such as the first appearances of Spiderman, the Fantastic 4, X-Men, Justice League, Showcase 4, Luke Cage, and Deadpool as well as significant runs of romance, western, horror, crime,, war, and funny animal comics.</p> |
| University of Virginia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The biggest news is that the state has funded the Alderman renovation projects (https://www.library.virginia.edu/renovation/). We will begin construction in May of 2020. • We had completed the hiring of our leadership team in December 2018, but Dennis Clark, AUL for Research, Learning and Spaces, recently accepted the Dean position at University of Arkansas. |
| Wake Forest University | <p>ZSR Library launched a new strategic plan this spring; details can be found at: https://zsr.wfu.edu/about/administration/strategic-planning/</p> |