

University of Mississippi Libraries
Julia M. Rholes, Dean
2004-2005

Library Mission

The mission of the University of Mississippi Libraries is to support the scholarship, teaching and research programs of the University by employing contemporary knowledge management techniques to develop collections, provide access to information sources regardless of location, and instruct individuals in contemporary bibliographic methodologies. The Libraries direct their services and programs primarily to students, faculty and staff of the academy and secondarily to citizens of the State and other educational institutions.

Collections/Resources –

This year has been marked by a number of new initiatives which represent fairly different approaches to providing services to users. We continue to see a steadily increasing number of full text journals. While in the past, we might have received these electronic (e-journals) in addition to the print version, we are increasingly choosing the electronic version of journals over their print counterpart. We are now being offered print or electronic by the vendors. If we want both versions, we are being asked to pay extra, which we generally cannot afford to do. We are also finding that some of our major databases, such as Expanded Academic Premier, are offering us access to hundreds of full text titles. Management of what is now thousands of electronic journals in addition to our print titles is becoming increasingly challenging. This year, we switched to a different journal management product in order to gain efficiency and more

current information. We are now using a product called Serial Solutions. We are also working hard to link the users easily with these full text journals. We are implementing a product called WebBridge which links references in citation databases to the full version of the journal when we have a subscription. We are also putting increasing emphasis on library instruction as a way to help our users develop skills to effectively use library resources. We have formed an Information Literacy Task Force and have drawn teaching faculty from the Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities to help us determine the best approaches to incorporating more library instruction into the curriculum. Our goal is to teach students lifelong skills rather than just the information needed to complete one assignment.

Another challenge is continuing serials inflation. This has been going on for a number of years, and we again had to cancel a couple hundred thousand dollars worth of serial titles. While this is somewhat offset by increasing coverage of full text titles in some databases, it is still very discouraging. Although we have tried to protect our monograph budget and are greatly indebted to the Provost's Office for her continuing support, we did have to cut back on our approval plans. As a result, we added fewer monographs this year. With our more limited monograph budget, we are clearly missing titles which we should be adding to the collection. We did experiment this year with a small pilot project where we purchased some new monograph titles which researchers had requested through InterLibrary Loan. It is often impossible to borrow the newest material from other libraries which put an embargo on their newest material. Not only does this allow us to meet the needs of the researches, but it is a way of adding

materials to the collection which we are sure users want. We will continue to selectively add titles which fall into this category.

In the area of collections, the most significant addition was the congressional archives collections which were transferred from the Law School to the Library in the summer of 2004. This collection, which is enormous, was housed in a number of locations, including Farley, the Law School basement and the old Wal-Mart storage area. With support from the Provost, we were able to hire an interim archivist, library assistant and student assistants. This work group began working on the materials stored in Farley since that building needed to be emptied for major renovations. They weeded the collection, which consisted chiefly of Eastland papers, with the assistance of the Documents Librarian, re-housed materials and began organizing the collections.

Facilities/Equipment

Early this summer, the Library took possession of one of the old Physical Plant buildings for the purpose of turning it into a storage facility. The building is undergoing major renovation and will have a new HVAC system and over \$500,000 worth of compact shelving installed within a couple of months. We have moved all Farley collections to this facility and once the compact shelving is installed, we will be moving in the congressional collections which are now stored in the Law School basement and at Wal-Mart. We will also use this facility for back-runs of serials, which we have in other formats and for unprocessed collections. This building will be of great help to us as many call number ranges in the Williams and Science libraries are so full that we have not been able to shelve recently bound journal titles. We have also created offices for

the small congressional archives work group in this building as well as limited space for Access Service staff who will be retrieving and processing materials stored in this facility. This building will not, however, be a public service facility. Rather, library staff will retrieve materials for users. The addition of this remote storage facility also helped offset the loss of Bryant Hall as a future home for Archives and Special Collections. The University determined this building should be used for other academic purposes. We will continue to look for other solutions for the expansion of space for Archives and Special Collections, which is growing.

Staffing

This year saw the retirement of one of our most experienced department heads, Nancy Fuller. Mary Chrestman, a senior library assistant for over 33 years, also retired. Buffy Choinski, who has been serving as the interim head of reference, will be returning to the Science Library to take Nancy's place. In the fall, Ryan Johnson will take over as head of reference and interlibrary loan. This is a newly combined department. Other transitions this year included:

Christina Torbert, Assistant Professor and Head of Serials, hired July 15, 2004.

Michael Hawkins, Library Assistant, hired January 3, 2005.

Jennifer Aronson, Assistant Professor and Visual Curator, resigned May 6, 2005.

Tavetia Foster, Senior Library Assistant, resigned May 3, 2005.

Gail Herrera, tenured and promoted to Associate Professor

Amy Mark, tenured and promoted to Associate Professor

Mathilde Martin, tenured

Publications

Cheng, Alexander H-D. and Daisy T. Cheng, "Heritages and Early History of the Boundary Element Method", *Engineering Analysis with Boundary Elements*, v. 29, no. 3 (March 2005) p. 268-302.

Leslie, John. "Music's sentimental role in Tristram Shandy," *Papers on Language and Literature* 41, no. 1 (Winter 2005) pp. 55-66.

Mark, Amy E. (2005). "Libraries Without Walls: An Internship at Oshkosh Correctional Institution Library" *Behavioral and Social Sciences Librarian*. vol. 23, no. 2. *Peer reviewed journal*.

Mark, Amy E. Presentation: ACRL Instruction Section's Midwinter Discussion Forum

Mark, Amy E., Thomas G. Kirk Polly D. Boruff-Jones. Panel: "Agents of Change: How Instruction Librarians Can Use the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) to Promote Information Literacy on Campus". January 16, 2005, American Library Association Mid-winter Conference, Boston, MA.

Martin, Maria Mathilde. "Adapting Reference for a Unique Group of Distance Learners", *Journal of Library & Information Services in Distance Learning* 1, (2004): 59-66.

Sabatini, Rafael. Scaramouche. Introduction and Notes by John Cloy. (New York: Barnes & Noble, 2005).

Stephan, Elizabeth. The Academic Library as Place, *Mississippi Libraries*, vol. 69, no. 1, Spring 2005, pg. 3

Stephan, Elizabeth. Mississippi Libraries: Working Together, *Mississippi Libraries*, vol 69, no. 2, Summer 2005, pg 29

Stephan, Elizabeth. A Usability Survey at the University of Mississippi Libraries for the Improvement of the Library Home Page, *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, January 2006 (peer reviewed)

Stephan, Elizabeth. Satellite Reference at The University of Mississippi, BRASS Academic Newsletter

Stephan, Elizabeth. Poster session, Usability Session at JD Williams Library, The University of Mississippi, ALA Annual, Sunday June 26, 2005

Torbert, Christina. "2005 ATLA Conference News for Technical Services Folks", *Theology Cataloging Bulletin*, 13:2 (Feb. 2005), sec. 3 p. 2.
<http://www.atla.com/member/publications/tcb.html>