

## FALL EXHIBITS BY THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

### THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CENTENNIAL EXHIBIT

#### WHERE:

Cleanth Brooks Reading Room  
McCain Library and Archives, Room 305

#### WHEN:

Sept. 14 – Dec. 23, 2009

#### WHAT:

In 2009, the Mississippi Library Association celebrates 100 years of providing support and leadership to the librarians of Mississippi. The University Libraries' Special Collections department, which recently became home to the organization's papers, will present an exhibit from Sept. 14 – Dec. 23, in honor of the Centennial. On display will be photographs, documents, and memorabilia illustrating the history of MLA.

### POPULAR READING COLLECTION

Tired of your textbooks? Want something fun to read to escape from it all? The Library's Popular Reading Collection on the first floor of Cook Library offers something for everyone. There are hundreds of books to enjoy. Some of the titles include the following: *Chasing Destiny* by Eric Dickey (PS 3554 .I319 C465 2006), *The Choice* by Nicholas Sparks (PS 3569 .P363 C47 2007), *Dress Your*

AA/EOE/ADA UC 61371.5148 9/09



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI**  
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

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### ARTISTS IN MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

#### WHERE:

USM Museum of Art

#### WHEN:

Oct. 21 – Nov. 12, 2009

#### WHAT:

The University of Southern Mississippi Museum of Art will host an exhibit from Oct. 21 – Nov. 12, showcasing works of art created by library employees from across the state. The exhibition coincides with the Mississippi Library Association's annual conference, held this year on the Hattiesburg campus. *Artists in Mississippi Libraries* will include pieces from the University Libraries' Special Collections.

—TRACY ENGLERT, INFORMATION SERVICES LIBRARIAN

*Family in Corduroy and Denim* by David Sedaris (PS3569. E314 D74 2004), *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy (PS3563. C337 R63 2006), and *You Suck: A Love Story* by Christopher Moore (PS3563.O594 Y68 2007).

For more information on this collection, contact Tracy Englert at [Tracy.Englert@usm.edu](mailto:Tracy.Englert@usm.edu) or 601.266.6396.



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI**  
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# LIBRARY FOCUS

University Libraries | Fall 2009

## MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE COMES TO USM

—ANN BRANTON, HEAD OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Celebrating 100 years, the Mississippi Library Association has been supporting librarians in Mississippi since 1909.

As we mark this centennial year, we look to our past with pride in all we have achieved to promote libraries as centers of information resources, reading and educational enrichment, and community service to support the needs of our society. Librarians have a long history in Mississippi of accepting leadership roles in their communities, incorporating progressive ideas through the use of new technologies, managing resources wisely, and challenging the status quo. We see a future where libraries will continue to be the center of the communities we serve and where librarians will provide leadership, resources, and expertise in developing environmentally safe and sustainable spaces for work and social interaction.

This year The University of Southern Mississippi will host the Mississippi Library Association Annual Conference from October 21 – 23 at the Thad Cochran Center. The theme is Eco-friendly Libraries: Green for a New Century, and as the vice president of MLA, I am responsible for organizing the annual conference. With the theme in mind, I wanted to select a setting that would provide a beautiful space for our annual professional gathering of librarians. I wanted a space where all the possible needs of the conference could be met—a space where we could walk to all the destinations scheduled during the conference without driving and where entertainment, restaurants, and libraries are within walking distance. In short, the conference requires a setting that fully supports the idea of environmental sustainability and highlights the university's strategic initiative introduced by

**Mississippi Library Association  
100th Year  
1909-2009**



**MLA Annual Conference  
Thad Cochran Center  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi**

**October 21-23, 2009**

Southern Miss President Martha Saunders. This is what I hope for all of our Mississippi communities; perhaps it will inspire librarians to visualize what I think of as a sustainable environment and then take some ideas home to be implemented as time and resources will allow. If we can imagine it, it will happen.

The conference keynote speaker is Louise Schaper, director of the Fayetteville Public Library. Ms. Schaper imagined a library environment that has become an inspiration to her community in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Arkansas has many of the same budgetary challenges as Mississippi. In spite of all the reasons one can feel defeated before starting a new and visionary plan, she successfully introduced progressive ideas to address the need to better manage the library's resources. A new library was designed with a vision of being environmentally sustainable. Even trees

from the new building site, one walnut, two cherry trees, and one maple, were saved for use in furnishings for the new building. Due to her efforts, the library received the prestigious Library of the Year Award in 2005, and in the fall of 2006, the new library was awarded the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification. The building was the first in Arkansas to be registered with the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certification program.

Highlights of the upcoming conference include an art exhibit, *Artists in Mississippi Libraries*, hosted by the Southern Miss Museum of Art. The exhibit will feature works produced by artists who work in libraries around the state. The exhibit will open Wednesday, October 21, from 5 – 6 p.m., in The University of Southern Mississippi's Museum of Art, in conjunction with the MLA President's Reception, to recognize the service of the current president, Jan Willis, director of Lee-Itawamba Library System. The exhibit, organized by Dr. Jan Siesling, director of the Museum of Art, will be on display in the art museum until November 12 and is open to the public. Also, University Libraries takes this opportunity to share some rare and selected pieces from their special collection of books and artwork. Of special interest to librarians who

earned their master's degrees at Southern Miss, the School of Library and Information Science will host an alumni mixer at the Power House on campus.

What would a library conference be without authors? This year two authors will be recognized by the Mississippi Library Association Authors Awards Committee which selects two outstanding works by Mississippi authors. Kathryn Stockett's book, *The Help*, which is currently on the New York Times Best Seller List, has been selected for the MLA Award in Fiction. Recognized this year in the nonfiction category is *High Cotton: Four Seasons in the Mississippi Delta* by Gerry Helferich. Both authors will speak at the Mississippi Authors Award banquet on October 22.

I think we have a wonderful conference planned with something for every librarian attending. I appreciate all the work and all the details that have to be attended to in order to put on a program for several hundred participants. I am particularly grateful to Carole Kiehl, dean of University Libraries, for her support and to all those who have shared their time and ideas to make it all happen.

For more information about the conference, go to [www.misslib.org/](http://www.misslib.org/) or contact Ann Branton at [Ann.Branton@usm.edu](mailto:Ann.Branton@usm.edu) or 601.266.4350.

## CHILDREN'S BOOK PREVIEW

—ELLEN RUFFIN, CURATOR, DE GRUMMOND CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COLLECTION



The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection invites you to take a sneak peek at what's new in children's literature. Each year at the Book Preview, the de Grummond Collection displays hundreds of newly released and upcoming titles for the public to browse. There is no pressure to buy because many of these books are not yet

available for sale. This is a great opportunity for teachers and librarians to get ideas for book selections for their classrooms and general collection development. It is also an opportunity for parents to get ideas for books to purchase for holiday gift giving. All visitors will receive a book list with publication and ordering information.

This year's event will be held in the de Grummond exhibit room on the second floor of Cook Library on Sunday, Nov. 15, 1 – 5 p.m., and Monday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

If you have questions, contact Ellen Ruffin at [Ellen.Ruffin@usm.edu](mailto:Ellen.Ruffin@usm.edu) or 601.266.6543.

## RELIVING THE JOURNEY: CONNECTING THE PAST TO THE PRESENT

—ALLISA BECK, COLLECTION MANAGEMENT LIBRARIAN, GULF COAST LIBRARY

Gulf Park College for Women was a private, two-year college founded in 1921. After operating for many years, the campus closed in 1971. In 1972, The University of Southern Mississippi began offering classes on the former GPCW campus, utilizing many of the original buildings. A small collection of Gulf Park College memorabilia was established. Over the years, the collection has grown.

The collection consists of at least one copy of every yearbook from 1922-71. Student handbooks describing campus life (both curricular and extra-curricular) are also available. *The Tammy Howl* was the campus magazine, and browsing through issues presents a fascinating trip through the decades of Gulf Park. There are also many photographs which depict all aspects of campus life. Dorm life, classes, athletics, parties and dances, theatrical and musical events, graduation—there's a photo for everything. Each year, some of the students went on a cruise to the Caribbean and through the Panama Canal. Stacks of photos and articles in the campus magazine show the fun that the women had on these cruises.

Here are a couple of highlights from the collection:

In the 1950's there was a spread in *Life* magazine about the Gulf Park College for Women. A copy of the article, including the full-color photos of the girls sailing, horseback riding, and practicing their fencing skills is available. In 1965, the movie *This Property is Condemned* (starring Robert Redford and Natalie Wood) was filmed in nearby Bay St. Louis. Some of the girls in the theater arts program visited the set to watch the filming. They got a firsthand look at filmmaking—meeting not only the actors in the film, but also having “movie makeup” applied by the film's makeup artist. Later, some of the actors from the movie visited the Gulf Park campus to watch the girls rehearse their latest play. The theater director compiled a scrapbook of photos from the visit to the movie set and donated it to the collection last year.

In the years prior to 2002, the Gulf Park collection was housed in the first floor of Hardy Hall. After the new library was built, the collection was moved to the first floor of that building, and the library assumed responsibility for the collection's preservation. When Hurricane Katrina's storm surge rushed through the building, some of the materials received water damage. Luckily, the damage was less than expected, since most of the materials were shelved above the flood waters. During the time that the library was closed for renovation, most of the collection was sent to the Hattiesburg campus for evaluation, preservation and safekeeping. Materials were returned to the Coast in 2008. Today the collection is located on the second floor of the library. The collection was moved to the second floor in order to insure that it would remain safe from future storms.

Each July, graduates of Gulf Park College return to the Mississippi Gulf Coast for a reunion. One of the highlights of the reunion is a visit to the library to browse through the GPCW archival collection and reminisce. The attendees enjoy looking through the many items that are housed in the archives collection. The Gulf Park College for Women alumnae are very aware of the importance of this collection and are eager to help it to grow and thrive. Many of the alumnae have been donating items from their own personal collections for the archives. The Gulf Park Foundation also offers assistance in purchasing materials for the collection's preservation and display.

There is a visitors' room where visitors are free to view the items in the room's display cases and around the wall. The room is furnished with comfortable antique couches and chairs and is available during regular library hours. Although the main collection is not available for general browsing, researchers may make an appointment to use items from the main archival collection. If you have questions about the collection or would like to use it in your research, contact Allisa Beck at [Allisa.Beck@usm.edu](mailto:Allisa.Beck@usm.edu) or 228.214.3468.



## UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES SUPPORTS FAIRY TALE CONFERENCE

—ELLEN RUFFIN, CURATOR, DE GRUMMOND CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COLLECTION

Organized by English department faculty member Dr. Molly Hillard, and generously supported by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council, the College of Arts and Letters, University Libraries, the Hattiesburg Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the Department of English, the Committee on Services and Resources for Women, the Honors College, and the English Graduate Organization, the Group for International Fairy Tale Study (G.I.F.T.S.) conference will bring internationally renowned English, theatre, Italian, and French faculty to Southern Miss.

This conference is the fourth in a series of international colloquia focused on fairy tale studies and hosted by various institutions including the University of Colorado, University of Guelph, and the University of Utah. This year's theme encompasses subjects as wide-ranging as literature, print culture, and anthropology.

Special interests for the conference include the cultural and material history of fairy tales, the adaptation of stories orally or for the stage, and folklore across cultures. It will feature presentations from fields in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts. This year at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, the conference is part of a semester-long "World of Words" hosted by the



Southern Miss College of Arts and Letters.

Conference events are free and open to the public and include a seminar on how to teach the fairy tale, a reception at Hattiesburg's lovely Saenger Theater, a keynote address by Dr. Jennifer Schacker, award-winning author of *National Dreams: The Remaking of Fairy Tales in Nineteenth-Century England*, and presentations by fairy tale scholars from around the world.

For more information on this conference, contact Dr. Molly Hillard at Molly.Hillard@usm.edu or 601.266.4199.

## CURRICULUM MATERIALS CENTER HOSTS SUMMER READING PROGRAM

—ANNA BRANNIN, CURRICULUM MATERIALS CENTER SPECIALIST



Over sixty children participated in the Summer Reading Program hosted by the Curriculum Materials Center during the month of July. Participants ranged from age three to eighteen and were all children of Southern Miss employees and students. Two events were held in conjunction with the

program, both consisting of arts and crafts, refreshments and door prizes. A reading list was available for each age group, and top readers were awarded prizes donated by local businesses. The program was quite a hit with nothing but excellent feedback. We are already looking forward to next year's program!

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR HELD IN COOK LIBRARY

—ANNA BRANNIN, CURRICULUM MATERIALS CENTER SPECIALIST



During the week of August 23, a Scholastic Book Fair was hosted by the Curriculum Materials Center (CMC) located in Cook Library. A wide assortment of books and other items for all ages were available for purchase. Although the fair was held to provide quality children's literature to the public at excellent prices, the

CMC was also able to benefit from the event. Based on the number of items sold, the Curriculum Materials Center was able to select books from Scholastic's catalog to add to their collection at no cost to them. Overall, the fair was successful with nothing but positive feedback.

## DIGITAL COLLECTIONS UPDATE

—LAURA CAPELL, DIGITAL ARCHIVIST

Due to recent technology upgrades, the University of Southern Mississippi Digital Collections Web site has moved. You can now access the Web site at [digilib.usm.edu/index.php](http://digilib.usm.edu/index.php).

The Southern Miss Digital Collections Web site features a wide variety of materials from McCain Library and Archives. Many new and exciting items have been added to the Digital Collections site in recent months.

The Southern Miss History Digital Collection features materials documenting the history of the University. In preparation for the University's upcoming Centennial Celebration, numerous photographs documenting campus life from 1910 through the present have been digitized and are now available online.

The de Grummond Children's Literature Digital Collection includes a selection of children's books and manuscript materials from children's authors and illustrators. The Digital Lab is currently digitizing a variety of fairy tales from holdings in the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection. Over 20 versions of Little Red Riding Hood and 30 versions of Cinderella are now available online.

The Historical Manuscripts and Photographs Digital Collection includes a growing number of documents, letters, photographs, and illustrations documenting the history of Mississippi and the South. Recent additions include numerous Civil War letters written by Confederate and Union soldiers, as well as Adams County Board of Police records dating from the 1830s through the 1850s.

New digital collections include the Rare Books Digital Collection and the Maps Digital Collection. The Rare

Books Digital Collection features a 16th-century Spanish Antiphoner and the Maps Digital Collection includes a selection of historical Mississippi maps.

The Southern Miss Digital Collections are a part of the Mississippi Digital Library (MDL), a cooperative statewide digital library that provides online access to a growing number of Mississippi's unique cultural heritage materials. The Web site for the MDL has also changed due to a technology upgrade. You can now access the MDL Web site at [www.msdiglib.org/](http://www.msdiglib.org/).

For more information about the Southern Miss Digital Collections and the Mississippi Digital Library, contact Laura Capell at [Laura.Capell@usm.edu](mailto:Laura.Capell@usm.edu) or 601.266.6493.



## UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES RECEIVES IMLS GRANT

—MIAO JIN, CATALOG LIBRARIAN

The Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS) awarded a grant of \$429,388 to the University Libraries and the School of Library and Information Services (SLIS) to recruit Mississippi minority students into librarianship. The grant money will be used for scholarships for ten Mississippi minority students recruited into the Master of Library Science program at The University of Southern Mississippi. These ten students will gain library experience while they work five hours per week during spring and fall semesters and ten hours a week in the summer in

the University Libraries or at the Mississippi Library Commission (MLC). Mentorship will be provided to these scholarship recipients from both SLIS faculty and librarians from the University Libraries and the MLC while they are enrolled in the program. Dr. Jenny Bossaller (SLIS) and Ms. Miao Jin (University Libraries) will be program directors for this grant. They will begin recruiting students from Mississippi colleges and universities for the program in the spring of 2010.

## CHILDREN'S LITERATURE ASSOCIATION AWARDS ARCHIVES TO THE DE GRUMMOND COLLECTION

—ELLEN RUFFIN, CURATOR, DE GRUMMOND CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COLLECTION

The University of Southern Mississippi's prominent reputation in the field of children's literature has earned it the right to house the archive of an international organization dedicated to the genre. After reviewing multiple applications from across the country, the Children's Literature Association (ChLA) announced last month at its 2009 International Conference in Charlotte, N.C., that the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection at Southern Miss was chosen as the repository for the archive.

The ChLA is considered the major association of children's literature scholars in North America. The organization was responsible for founding the first peer-reviewed journal and the first scholarly conference devoted to the literary study of children's literature. Today it produces two peer-reviewed academic journals in addition to co-publishing scholarly monographs.

In need of a home for its archives, the ChLA invited bids from several universities that hold significant children's literature collections. In June, at the annual

conference in Charlotte, N.C., it was announced that de Grummond would receive this significant archive.

"This award further confirms and strengthens the international importance of the de Grummond Collection and its significance for researchers in children's literature," said Dr. Carole Kiehl, Dean of Libraries.

Southern Miss assistant professor of English, Dr. Eric Tribunella, who also attended the conference, said that having the ChLA archives on campus opens up exciting research possibilities for him and his students and further enhances the University's reputation in the children's literature community.

"Southern Miss is already recognized internationally as one of the major research centers for the scholarly study of children's literature, so the decision to house the organization's archives at de Grummond reinforces the international prominence of both the collection and the University," he said.

To learn more about the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, go to [www.lib.usm.edu/~degrum/html/aboutus-welcome.shtml](http://www.lib.usm.edu/~degrum/html/aboutus-welcome.shtml).

## FIRST-YEAR STUDENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN COOK LIBRARY

—TRACY ENGLERT, INFORMATION SERVICES LIBRARIAN

University Libraries makes every effort to support first-year students in their transition to college by providing resources and services that will assist freshman and transfer students in achieving academic success. To create a positive learning experience for freshmen at Southern Miss, Cook Library offers books such as *Naked Roommate: And 107 Other Issues You Might Run Into in College*

(LB2343.3 .C62 2007), *Dorm Room Feng Shui* (BF1779.F4 O43 2005), *The Smart Student's Guide to Healthy Living* (RA777.3 .S63 2006), and *The Adult Student's Guide to Survival & Success* (LB2343.32 .S556 2008), as well as many more. These materials are located in the Popular Reading section on the first floor of Cook Library.

## INFORMATION KIOSK

—TRACY ENGLERT, INFORMATION SERVICES LIBRARIAN

During the first two weeks of the fall semester, Cook Library provided a warm welcome to students new to campus and the University Libraries. In the lobby of Cook Library, library staff and faculty worked at the information kiosk providing assistance with navigating the university, schedule questions, answering general questions about Southern Miss, and an overview of library services. Over 500 questions were answered.



## THE KATRINA RESEARCH CENTER: A HIDDEN GEM IN THE GULF COAST LIBRARY

—SHUGANA WILLIAMS, LIBRARIAN, KATRINA RESEARCH CENTER

Nestled on the third floor of the Gulf Coast Library at The University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Park campus is the multi-faceted Katrina Research Center. The center was established immediately after the storm to "serve as an interdisciplinary center and public clearinghouse to facilitate the gathering of historical and current information and knowledge. ...include[ing] the natural, physical, social, political, economic, and spiritual aspects of recovery from Hurricane Katrina and other disasters," according to the Center's Web site.

The Katrina Research Center maintains a growing library with books, DVDs, and scholarly resources, not only on the 2005 storm but on disasters in the United States and abroad. The library collections will soon be catalogued in ANNA, the University Libraries' catalog, which will allow broader access to the Center's resources.

The Center's archives consist of collections ranging from personal memoirs, journals, poems, news stories, transcribed oral interviews, home movie footage, photographs, and collected items. Thanks to a partnership with the Mississippi Digital Library, the KRC currently has images by amateur and professional photographers documenting the Coast pre- and post-Katrina online at [www.usm.edu/katrina/digital-archives.php](http://www.usm.edu/katrina/digital-archives.php).

The Katrina Research Center also boasts an active gallery. Between Aug. 27 – Oct. 3, the Center is hosting the exhibit *Abriendo Puertas: Una Mirada Fotográfica A Lo Que Tenemos En Común (Opening Doors: A Photographic Look At What We All Have In Common)*. This photographic exhibit was made possible by El Pueblo/The Village of Biloxi and the Community Outreach Department of

the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, which was created to visually document the Hispanic/Latino heritage and help the greater coastal community understand and appreciate this culture. The *Opening Doors Project, or Abriendo Puertas*, was developed to examine and display how the immigrant communities perceive themselves and their place on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

## THE CENTER IS PLEASED TO SHOWCASE THE UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS:

OCT. 15 – DEC. 4, 2009

*Joseph W. Bailey's Japanese Woodblock Print Collection*

Joseph Bailey has been collecting Japanese woodblock prints for over thirty years. The exhibit will include his private collection of mostly recognizable ukiyo-e artists.

JAN. 23 – MARCH 11, 2010

*Journey Stories*

This is a Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit which focuses on migration and immigration in the United States.

All exhibitions are free and open to the public.

The Katrina Research Center's library and archives are open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. – 10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

For additional information about the Katrina Research Center, contact Shugana Williams at [Shugana.Campbell@usm.edu](mailto:Shugana.Campbell@usm.edu) or 228.214.3423.

## TWO ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED STUDY ROOMS AVAILABLE IN COOK LIBRARY

—TISHA ZELNER, HEAD OF INFORMATION SERVICES

Cook Library is pleased to announce the availability of two additional technology-enhanced group study rooms. Each room has a 43-inch LCD monitor mounted to the wall and a wireless keyboard and mouse available for check-out from the Circulation Desk. The computers have Internet access and the same software as other library computers, including Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. The rooms are located in rooms 209D, 315, and 415. Use of these group study rooms is first-come, first-served. Come in and try one for your next group project.

