

LIBRARY FOCUS

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES | FALL 2014



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

MEET THE DEAN



John Eye,
Dean of University
Libraries

As the new dean of University Libraries, it has been my pleasure to spend my first three months on the job learning about Southern Miss and meeting so

many people deeply committed to making this a great place to learn and work. Between the Gulf Park and the Hattiesburg campus libraries, I've observed faculty, staff and students who work hard to support students and faculty in their dedication to exceptional research, teaching and learning.

Originally from Minnesota, I grew up on a small farm and enjoyed athletics, especially basketball. I was also intrigued with the new computer technology that was emerging, specifically the Apple II. I still remember doing a demonstration in high school for a class project where we "dialed in" to the St. Cloud State University online catalog system to

see their library holdings using an Apple IIe. Later, I learned how to connect my computer to ham radio and communicate with others around the world. After high school, I played basketball in junior college and then got a teaching degree with a school library endorsement. While working in rural Minnesota as a school library media specialist, technology coordinator and basketball/baseball coach, I met my wife at a 10K running race, and we eventually moved to Utah. Thirteen years later, here we are. We now have two children, Jacob (9) and Emily (5), who both attend Long Leaf Elementary School.

As I reflect on my life so far, an important theme that quickly emerges is the importance of education. In my view, there isn't a more important endeavor than learning; working in a library is something that I have enjoyed throughout my career. At Southern Miss, I will push to advance the University Libraries toward continuous improvement, aiming to leverage technology and good ideas to support the University mission effectively and efficiently. We live in a very exciting time where innovation is all around us, and I can't think of a better place to be than one centered on the pursuit of learning.

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AQUILA DIGITAL COMMUNITY

aquila.usm.edu

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES SUPPORTS HEART WALK

Elizabeth La Beaud, Digital Lab Manager

University Libraries recently participated in the American Heart Association's 2014 Forrest-Lamar County Annual Heart Walk. Eight individuals from across the Libraries rallied early Saturday morning to walk the 3.2 miles in support of ending heart disease in Mississippi. As the state's number one cause of death, heart disease claimed the lives of 7,542 Mississippians in 2010 and continues to be Mississippi's number one health concern, according to the American Heart Association.

University Libraries hosted several fundraising opportunities to benefit the American Heart Association and help fund research to battle heart disease in Mississippi. T-shirt sales, donations and the radically popular "pie in the face" event raised over \$425 for the charity. Supporters from both the Libraries and the public were given the opportunity to purchase the shirts to show their support and contribute to the campaign. Red paper hearts were given to anyone who made a donation and were then put on display in the Libraries' administration office.

However, the overwhelming success of the fundraising ventures was due to the "pie in the face" event. Volunteers from each of the Libraries' Hattiesburg departments agreed to take a pie in the face for charity. Buckets were assembled, one for each volunteer, to collect the chances to throw a pie at our willing volunteers. Over two weeks, \$1 donations were accepted for the chance to throw a pie. On Friday, September 26, the Libraries gathered outside while each volunteer drew his or her lucky pie thrower. After lots of whipped cream and fun, our most successful fundraiser brought attention to the cause at hand.



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES SPONSORS CIVIL RIGHTS FILM AND LECTURE SERIES

Jennifer Brannock, Curator of Rare Books and Mississippiana

University Libraries received the *Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle* grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to mark the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s march on Washington, D.C. University Libraries collaborated with the Library of Hattiesburg, Petal and Forrest County to host scholarly presentations and documentaries that featured riveting, never-before-seen footage illustrating the history of civil rights in America.

The series focused on different aspects of the civil rights movement, including school integration, slavery in the Civil War, media coverage of the movement, interracial marriage and the Freedom Riders. Lectures were held in Cook Library at Southern Miss with the film discussions at The Library of Hattiesburg, Petal and Forrest County.

"We were pleased to receive a grant from the NEH to provide programming around these films. Pairing the lectures with the films provided students, faculty and community members a number of opportunities to learn more about the history of civil rights, especially as it was timely with the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Summer in 1964," said Jennifer Brannock, University Libraries' curator of rare books and Mississippiana and project director of the grant.



The events included the following:

Sept. 3 – Charles Bolton – "The Battle Over School Integration in Mississippi and the Nation"

Sept. 8 – Kevin Greene - *Slavery by Another Name* (film discussion)

Sept. 10 – Max Grivno – "Slaves in Civil War Mississippi"

Sept. 15 – Kevin Greene - *Freedom Riders* (film discussion)

Sept. 17 – Dave Davies - "The Mississippi Press and the Civil Rights Movement"

Sept. 22 – Kevin Greene - *The Loving Story* (film discussion)

For more information on the events, contact Jennifer Brannock at Jennifer.Brannock@usm.edu or 601.266.4347.

WHAT'S NEW IN DE GRUMMOND?

Danielle L. Bishop, Assistant Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection is pleased to announce the addition of two significant collections to the holdings. The papers of multi-award-winning author and poet Angela Johnson were added in March, and Newbery Honor Award-winning author Jennifer Holm became the 1,344th contributor to the collection this past May.

Among her many accomplishments, Angela Johnson is a three-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Award for her novels, *Toning the Sweep* (1994), *Heaven* (1999) and *The First Part Last* (2004), which also won the American Library Association's Michael L. Printz Award for Outstanding Young Adult Fiction the same year. Johnson was named a MacArthur Fellow in 2003 in recognition of her immense talent and recently became the first writer-in-residence for the Kent State University School of Library and Information Science. Her donation to de Grummond includes the drafts, typescripts and notes for her award-winning novels, as well as production materials for over 35 of her other books.

Jennifer L. Holm and her brother, Matthew, are the creators of the wildly popular *Babymouse* graphic novel series for young readers,

which won a Will Eisner Comic Industry Award from Comic Con International for *Babymouse for President* in 2013. Holm's solo efforts have been rewarded with three Newbery Honors for her middle-grade novels, *Our Only May Amelia* (1999), *Penny From Heaven* (2007) and *Turtle in Paradise* (2010). Her latest book, *The Thirteenth Goldfish* (2014), was selected for the 2014 Global Read Aloud, and is currently listed among the top 10 on the Children's Best Sellers in the *New York Times Book Review*. Holm's de Grummond contribution consists of drafts, typescripts and notes from her middle-grade novels, as well as sketches and proofs from some of the *Babymouse* and *Squish* graphic novels.

The de Grummond Collection is always interested in receiving contributions of children's books; manuscripts, illustrations and related materials used in the creation of children's books; or monetary support. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible contribution to the de Grummond Collection, please contact Curator Ellen Ruffin at 601.266.4349.

AN ADULT BOOK GROUP READING CHILDREN'S BOOKS?

Ellen Ruffin, Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

What originally began as an informal gathering of two or three people who enjoyed discussing the works of the authors attending the upcoming Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival has evolved into a monthly meeting where a book is selected to be read by the group and discussed the next month. The de Grummond book group meets regularly on the third Thursday of the month from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the de Grummond Exhibit Room on the second floor of Cook Library.

This is an exciting time in children's and young adult publishing, and it is not without controversy, which leads to lively and opinionated discussions each month. The group examines a variety of books,

from the realistic contemporary fiction title, *A Solitary Blue* by Cynthia Voigt, to *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*, a controversial National Book Award-winner by Sherman Alexie.

As the April book festival draws near, an emphasis will be placed on reading the titles of the authors attending. The upcoming festival promises to offer a fair share of controversy, from Gene Luen Yang's Printz Award-winning *American Born Chinese*, to David Levithan's *Two Boys Kissing*, which is described in the *Los Angeles Times* as "open, frank and ultimately optimistic." Levithan also co-authored *Will Grayson, Will Grayson* with the YA "rock star" John Green.



The book group refuses to censor itself; anything written for young people is game. However, not every book read by the group is controversial. Generally, the guiding principle is something that young adults or children are reading or will read. For example, the October selection, *Inside Out and Back Again*, Thanhha Lai's National Book Award-winning work, is about a young girl who moves from Saigon to Alabama when the war in Vietnam encroaches on her family's lives.

The titles for each month are published on USM Talk (the University's email listserv), the University's calendar, the Libraries' website and various University Libraries' Facebook pages. For further information, contact Ellen Ruffin via email at ellen.ruffin@usm.edu.

MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COOKBOOK PROJECT

Jennifer Brannock, Curator of Rare Books and Mississippiana



On October 9, history professor Andrew Haley spoke to a packed room in Cook Library about his research on Mississippi community cookbooks. His lecture, *The Disappearing Cook: African Americans and Community Cookbooks*, focused on the role of black cooks, their recipes, and their depiction in white community cookbooks during Jim Crow Mississippi.

"African Americans have played a critical, important role in the development of Mississippi cooking that sometimes has gone unacknowledged. Community cookbooks offer a glimpse at the important role of black cooks," Haley said.

The lecture also introduced the Mississippi Community Cookbook Project, a new digital humanities initiative sponsored by the College of Arts and Letters and the University Libraries at The University of Southern Mississippi that seeks to archive and explain Mississippi's culinary history.

Refreshments, including macaroni loaf, stuffed dill pickles and sweet potato casserole, were prepared from the cookbook, *Coahoma Cooking: Everyday and Sunday Too*, published by the Coahoma Woman's Club in 1952. The reception was sponsored by University Libraries and Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society.

"In Special Collections, we collect community cookbooks to help document the culinary history of Mississippi. The research of Dr. Andrew Haley combines aspects of a digital humanities project with the social and cultural history of Mississippians. By collaborating with Dr. Haley on his project, the library's materials will be able to reach researchers worldwide," said Jennifer Brannock, curator of rare books and Mississippiana for the University Libraries' Special Collections.

If you are interested in donating cookbooks to support the work of the Mississippi Community Cookbook Project, contact Jennifer Brannock at 601.266.4347 or Jennifer.Brannock@usm.edu. For additional information on the Mississippi Community Cookbook Project, contact Andrew Haley at ms-community-cookbook@gmail.com.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES INTRODUCE PRIMO SEARCH

Tisha M. Zelner, Head of Reference Services

The Primo search tool went live on the University Libraries website on August 4, to coincide with the start of the fall (mini-session) term. Primo search is what is known among librarians as a Web-scale discovery service, and it essentially allows library users to search across multiple sources with a single search and generate relevancy-ranked search results, often with links to full-text content. University Libraries is providing this new discovery service to help meet the expectations of students, faculty, staff and other library patrons who want a simple method to find and retrieve information from among the wide variety of sources accessible through the Libraries. The Primo search tool is accessible through the multi-tabbed search widget on the Libraries' home page or by going directly to Primo searches at www.lib.usm.edu/primo.

Since approximately 2007, the Libraries have utilized a variety of systems aimed to provide a "single search box" user experience. But in libraries, as in the rest of the world, technology is constantly evolving and improving. With a contract due to expire, 2014 was the right time for the University Libraries to make a change by offering our patrons a more mature form of the discovery service technology. Before selecting a product, the Libraries investigated the current state of Web-scale discovery (WSD) services and considered WSD systems from multiple vendors. It was decided that Primo, a system licensed from Ex Libris, was the best fit for the library environment at Southern Miss. Once the software selection was complete, a Primo Implementation Team made up of several Libraries faculty and staff spent much of the summer doing all the behind-the-scenes work to customize Primo for University Libraries. The implementation process involved customizing both the "front end" user experience and the "back end" of what is being searched.

A Primo search includes local sources, such as the Libraries' Classic Catalog, Southern Miss Digital Collections and the Aquila Digital Community. It also searches the Primo Central Index (PCI), which Ex Libris describes as "a mega-aggregation of hundreds of millions of scholarly e-resources of global and regional importance. These include journal articles, e-books, reviews, legal documents and more that are harvested from primary and secondary publishers and aggregators and from open-access repositories." Technically, Primo doesn't search all the full-text article databases, abstracting and indexing databases, e-journals, e-book collections and other online resources that the Libraries subscribe to, but today's Web-scale discovery services bring library users closer to that ideal "single search" experience than any of their predecessors.

Primo's capabilities include e-Shelf, which allows users to set preferences, save search results and save search queries. Guest users can temporarily store items in e-Shelf for a single session. Southern Miss users with a valid CampusID username and password can log in to permanently store items, queries and settings in e-Shelf. In e-Shelf, you can save items from your search results, and if you like, organize them into folders. Users are also able to save a search query to use again later.

Primo is a valuable addition to the Libraries' suite of resources and services and provides users with a single search box that retrieves results from multiple sources and returns a relevancy-ranked results list with links to full text where available. Users with questions about Primo or other library resources and services can contact a reference librarian directly, visit the Reference Services section of the Libraries' directory at www.lib.usm.edu/directory.html#ref, or use the Ask-a-Librarian page for assistance at www.lib.usm.edu/services/forms/askalib.html.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES CURATES EXHIBIT FOR OGLETREE HOUSE RIBBON CUTTING

Stephen Haller, Curator of Historical Manuscripts and Archives

The EF-4 tornado that tore through the Hattiesburg area on February 10, 2013, caused heavy damage to the southern edge of the Southern Miss campus, including the front half of the Ogletree House, one of the University's five original buildings. The venerable structure has been since restored to its pre-tornado luster.

The University celebrated significant post-tornado recovery achievements with a special ceremony on Friday, Sept. 5, on the Hattiesburg campus. In advance of the ceremony that included an official re-opening of the Ogletree Alumni House, Steve Haller, curator of historical manuscripts and archives, with assistance from Jessica Clark, Leah Rials and Elizabeth LaBeaud, worked with the Southern Miss Alumni Association staff to create an exhibit of photographic reproductions, documents and memorabilia in the Warren Library.

Each of eight bookcases in the library features a dozen or so glimpses of the University since 1912: Mississippi Normal College (1 case, 1912-24), State Teachers College (1 case, 1924-40), Mississippi

Southern College (1 case, 1940-62), The University of Southern Mississippi (2 cases, 1962-present), the Ogletree House (originally the President's Home; 1 case, 1912-present) and Athletics (2 cases, 1912-present).

Originally built as the President's Home for Mississippi Normal College, the Ogletree House opened in 1912, and the building served as the home for the first five presidents of the institution until 1975, when it then became the home of the Southern Miss Alumni Association. As one of the historical landmarks on campus, the building welcomes faculty, staff, alumni and visitors on a daily basis.



EXHIBITS, PAST AND UPCOMING

Sarah Mangrum, Circulation Librarian

LEARNING COMMONS GALLERY

Freedom Summer, 1964: The Photographs of Herbert Randall May 19 – September 6

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Freedom Summer, Cook Library hosted an exhibit comprised of photographs from award-winning civil rights photographer Herbert Randall Jr. Randall's works are also permanently represented in collections at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the New York Public Library and the Library of Congress.

The exhibit, which was displayed in the Cook Library Art Gallery and Learning Commons Gallery, featured 43 photographs that were taken during the summer of 1964. During the summer, Randall, who was the official photographer of Freedom Summer, took almost 2,000 photographs, which he donated to University Archives at Southern Miss. *The Herbert Randall Freedom Summer Photographs* digital collection can be accessed at digilib.usm.edu.

Eagles Write!

October 2014

Eagles Write! is sponsored by the Department of English as a celebration of student writing, which coincides with the

National Day of Writing held in October. The *Eagles Write!* exhibit in the Cook Library Learning Commons Gallery featured selected excerpts from student essays, along with posters celebrating Mississippi authors designed by students in the Department of Art and Design.

Department of Art and Design/Special Collections Exhibit November 1 – December 10

Graphic design students in the Department of Art and Design collaborated with curators from the McCain Library and Archives to select images from Special Collections to showcase various design elements and themes. The student-curated images are currently exhibited in the Cook Library Learning Commons Gallery.

COOK LIBRARY ART GALLERY

Highlights from the Permanent Collection Ongoing

The Cook Library Art Gallery features rotating pieces from the Museum of Art's permanent collection. The gallery is staffed Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. and can be accessed after hours by contacting the Circulation Desk.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES SCIENCE CAFÉ

Tracy Englert, Reference Librarian for Science and Technology

A Science Café's casual meeting place, plain language and inclusive conversation create a welcoming and comfortable atmosphere for people whose primary background may not be science. Each meeting is organized around an interesting scientific topic, with a presenter (usually a scientist) giving a brief background overview, usually with visuals, before the discussion kicks off. Science Cafés are free and open to the public.

The spring series began with a discussion of time travel. Dr. Lawrence Mead, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, discussed "What Physicists REALLY Think About Time Travel." He examined various "proposals" for time travel, and for each, he showed how experiments either confirm or eliminated each one as a possibility. These included the Twin Travelers Effect, the CPT-theorem and its consequences, rotating black holes, Einstein-Rosen Bridge (worm holes in space), the grandfather paradox and Stephen Hawking's Chronology Protection Principle. February's café, by Dr. Song Guo, assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, discussed manufacturing diamonds and the potential for future electronics applications. Participants were able to see for themselves just how hard diamonds can be when they were invited to cut pieces of glass with diamond cutters. The spring series ended in March with NanoDays™ @ Cook Library, which was part of a nationwide festival of educational programs exploring nanoscale science, matter and engineering and its potential impact on the future.

The fall series kicked off in September with a discussion of the "Ice Age Murder Mystery," by Dr. Danforth, professor in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology. After viewing a clip of the NOVA PBS film, *The Iceman Murder Mystery*, Dr. Danforth discussed the forensic investigation of the 5,000-year-old famous mummy, Ötzi the Iceman, and touched on topics such as human osteology, bioarchaeology, dental anthropology and forensic anthropology. Danforth is a physical anthropologist interested in skeletal biology, particularly nutrition and disease indicators, and demonstrated to participants models and casts of actual human bones and skulls from the Anthropology department.

The fall series ended in October with a discussion of viruses and mosquito-borne illness in Mississippi, including the "new West Nile" virus or the Chikungunya virus, by Dr. Fengwei Bai, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences. Bai is currently researching how viruses are recognized by the host's innate immune system and how innate immunity initiates and generates protective adaptive immunity. His long-term research goal is to use this knowledge in rational design of effective vaccines or therapeutics, or of microbicides for the prevention of transmission of viral pathogens.

For more information about the University Libraries' Science Cafés, contact Tracy Englert, reference librarian for science and technology, at tracy.englert@usm.edu.

DIGI DAY

Elizabeth La Beaud, Digital Lab Manager

Leah Riels, Digitization Specialist

On Saturday, June 21, University Libraries' Digital Collections hosted the first annual Digi Day. Digital Collections partnered with the University Libraries and the Information Science Student Association (LISSA) to provide a hands-on digitization experience by learning basics such as metadata creation, image capture and file-naming. Ellen Ruffin, curator of the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, allowed students access to select letters from the H.A. and Margret Rey papers. A high priority for digitization, the Rey letters offer insight into the Reys' lives and the publishing process of their early books. "Due to the significance of the Rey papers in the de Grummond Collection, it has been a priority to get as much of the collection digitized as possible. This project helped us take a big leap in accomplishing that goal. It was definitely a 'win-win,'" Ruffin stated.

Digi Day consisted of two sessions, one beginning at 8 a.m. and a second at 1 p.m. Each session began with a short history on the Reys and an orientation to the digitization process. Students were instructed on how to handle archive materials and scanning equipment, how to scan and edit using Adobe Photoshop, and how to create imaging production records for each item. After orientation, the students separated into five scanning stations and digitized items with the help of the Digital Collections staff and LISSA faculty advisor, Dr. Matthew Griffis. "It was gratifying to see students so enthusiastic and eager to learn about the digital aspects of archival science. It was also exciting for me, as a faculty observer and participant, to work with documents of such historical and literary importance. I look forward to more Digi Days," said Griffis.

A Lunch-and-Learn for all the attendees was provided on behalf of the Library and Information Science Student Association (LISSA). The lunch included talks from guest speakers Nicole Lawrence, coordinator of the Mississippi Digital Library, and Josh Cromwell, institutional repository coordinator for The University of Southern Mississippi. Students heard about different aspects of digital libraries, including building a collaborative and documenting the scholarly output of a university. The speakers also commented on needed skills and bonus skills to help students be more successful in the digital libraries field.

All participants received a certificate of participation, as well as a booklet containing basic digitization guidelines. The students also received goodie bags with Post-it notes,



pens, bookmarks and stickers from the Mississippi Digital Library and Aquila, as well as a T-shirt from the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection. Digi Day was highly beneficial to the participating students as it allowed them an opportunity to receive training and experience working in a digital library. The event was mutually beneficial for Digital Collections and the de Grummond Collection as it helped make headway on increasing access to the Rey papers. Overall, the reception of the event was overwhelmingly positive, making this Digi Day the first of many more to come.

SUPPORT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The University Libraries offers several opportunities to accommodate the giving interests and needs of alumni, friends and Libraries supporters. Friends of the University Libraries, named endowments and planned gifts are some of the ways you can provide support for research, teaching and public service missions for the University Libraries.

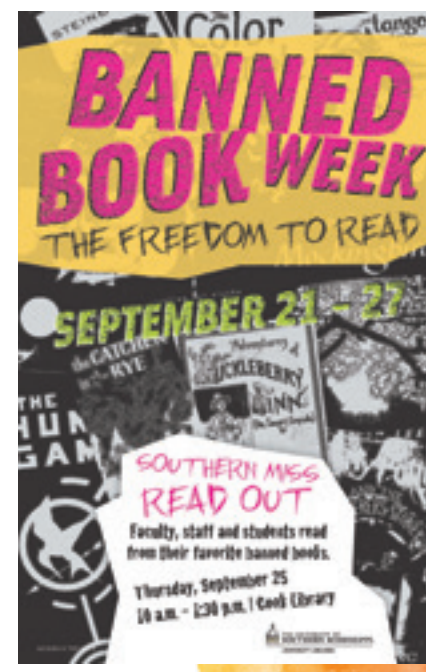
Visit www.usmfoundation.com/libraries to make your donation. Such support for the Libraries is tax-deductible and benefits all Southern Miss students and researchers in their academic pursuits.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES CELEBRATES BANNED BOOKS WEEK

Dawn Smith, Assistant to the Dean for Publicity and Outreach

University Libraries celebrated Banned Books Week Sept. 21-27, as a part of the nationwide event to celebrate the freedom to read. Typically held during the last week of September, Banned Books Week highlights the value of free and open access to information. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community — librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.

The Gulf Coast Library and the College of Arts and Letters hosted a Read Out in front of the Gulf Coast Library from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, September 23. Approximately 50 participants including students, staff and faculty read five-minute selections from a banned book of their choice. On the Hattiesburg campus, Cook Library hosted its Read Out on September 25, from



10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Members of the university faculty, staff and student body, including Dr. Joe Paul, Dr. Dave Davies and Dr. Ellen Weinauer, read excerpts from their favorite banned books throughout the day.

"There is always confusion about censorship and banned books," said Ellen Ruffin, curator of the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection at Southern Miss. "Well-meaning parents often lodge complaints or challenges concerning books their children are reading. Parents have the right to make those kinds of decisions for their own children, but what they deem appropriate may be in direct conflict with other parents."

"In the United States of America, we have basic freedoms, and by drawing attention to Banned Books Week, we hope to remind people of their freedoms - to read, to believe and to choose," Ruffin said. "The American Library Association's document on the Freedom to Read begins by stating that the freedom to read is essential to our democracy. One of my favorite quotes is from Voltaire, who said, 'I may not agree with what you have to say, but I will defend your right to say it.'"

By focusing on efforts across the country to remove or restrict access to books, Banned Books Week draws national attention to the harms of censorship. While books have been and continue to be banned, part of the Banned Books Week celebration is the fact that, in a majority of cases, the books have remained available. This happens thanks only to the efforts of librarians, teachers, students and community members who stand up and speak out for the freedom to read.

FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Sarah Mangrum, Circulation Librarian

The Friends of University Libraries continue to stay active in supporting University Libraries and the community that they serve. This past summer, in conjunction with the Freedom Summer Conference held on the Hattiesburg campus of Southern Miss, the Friends sponsored a reception for conference attendees. The reception was held in the Cook Library Art Gallery, where attendees had the opportunity to view the *Freedom Summer, 1964: The Photographs of Herbert Randall* exhibit.

The Freedom Summer Conference was attended by people from all over the United States, some of whom participated as Freedom Riders during the summer of 1964. The exhibit reception gave attendees the opportunity to reflect back on their experiences, spark conversations with younger generations, and view the photographs on display. Some even found that photos of themselves were included in the exhibit.

In the coming year, the Friends will continue to support University Libraries but also provide an avenue for members of the community to become involved. Friends' members receive circulation privileges

on both the Hattiesburg and Gulf Park campuses, discounts at local businesses, and information about special events and programs.

There are a variety of membership levels and many different ways to show your support for University Libraries. Membership forms are available online at www.lib.usm.edu/fof_home or at any branch of University Libraries. You can also make your donation online by visiting www.usm.foundation/libraries. We invite you to become a Friend today!

Thank you to our members at the Contributor, Sponsor, Life and Honorary life levels.

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SPOTLIGHT ON . . . NEW FACULTY IN 2014

Tisha M. Zelner, Head of Reference Services

University Libraries announces the addition of three new faculty librarians. Joining the University Libraries faculty are Xiaojie Duan, assistant professor and catalog librarian; Elena Azadbakht, assistant professor and reference librarian for health sciences; and Michele Frasier-Robinson, assistant professor and reference librarian for education and psychology.



Duan earned her master's degree in library and information science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2013, following a bachelor's degree in Italian language at the Sichuan International Studies University in Chongqing, China, in 2011. Prior to coming to Southern Miss, Duan cataloged Chinese language materials at the main library of the University of Illinois and also worked

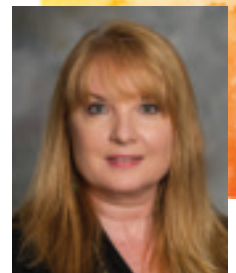
as a map cataloger at the Milwaukee Public Library. Duan's research interests include cataloging and classification problems in library catalog records and library patrons' information needs and searching behaviors. Duan is a lifetime member of the Chinese American Librarians Association, an affiliate of the American Library Association, and serves as the Web manager for the Southeast Chapter.

Azadbakht earned her Master of Science in Information degree from the University of Michigan in 2011, and a bachelor's degree in English with minors in German and international studies in 2008, also from the University of Michigan. Prior to starting her tenure-track position at Southern Miss Libraries, Azadbakht was a visiting assistant professor and reference librarian for health sciences at Cook Library for a little over two



years (since January 2012). She also worked as a graduate reference assistant at the Taubman Health Sciences Library and as student coordinator at the Shapiro Undergraduate and Science Library, both at the University of Michigan. Azadbakht's research interests are user experience and instruction, with a recent interest in the history of medicine. Since moving to Mississippi, she has become involved with the Southern Chapter of the Medical Library Association and is a member of both their Communications and Public Relations Committees.

Frasier-Robinson earned her Master of Library and Information Science degree at Louisiana State University in 2004, as well as both master's and bachelor's degrees in history from the University of Louisiana. Prior to joining the faculty at Southern Miss Libraries, she was the library director at the University Center of Southern Oklahoma. Frasier-Robinson also worked as a librarian at the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism in Oklahoma City and served as the instruction librarian at East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma. Her current research interest is information literacy assessment, and she is currently a peer reviewer for *College and Research Libraries* and a book reviewer for *CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*.



One observation shared by all three of these new members of the Southern Miss faculty is the positive impression made by the people here during the interview process, as well as during their first months on the job. They each commented, in some form, on the friendliness of the people they met, the warmth and hospitality of the library faculty and staff, the helpfulness of their new colleagues inside and outside the Libraries, and the cooperative work environment.