

LIBRARY FOCUS

University Libraries | Fall 2012



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI**
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

THE AQUILA DIGITAL COMMUNITY

— JOSH CROMWELL, SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

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Linda Ginn

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AQUILA DIGITAL
COMMUNITY
<http://aquila.usm.edu>

The **Aquila Digital Community**, a valuable new resource to support research and scholarship for the university, was launched in January 2012. *Aquila* provides a permanent location for faculty and students to preserve their research, publications, performances and other scholarly works.

All content in *Aquila* is highly discoverable on the Web. Several faculty members have already uploaded their publications to *Aquila* and have created a **Selected Works** profile. With this, they can create a Web page that highlights all their research, course resources and publications in one place. The **Honors College** has also partnered with *Aquila* to host honors theses.

An equally valuable component of *Aquila* is its ability to support the research and publications of various groups on campus. Many research grants require participants to preserve their findings in a stable location online, and *Aquila* provides the solution that researchers need. Research groups in math and science education, nutrition, anthropology, education and polymer science have used *Aquila* to promote and preserve their ongoing projects. *Aquila* is capable of supporting learning objects, pictures and galleries, research data sets and other digital assets.

Aquila also has excellent capabilities for supporting online journals and provides for the editorial and article management process. The School of Library and Information Science launched their new journal, **SLIS Connecting**, in February 2012 with very positive reviews.

Student groups and campus organizations



—continued on next page

FROM THE DEAN



Dr. Carole Kiehl

As I look over the articles in this issue of *Library Focus*, I am struck by how much that is mentioned is “new.” *Aquila*, our *new* Digital Community, is a showcase for our University’s research, creative productions and publications. Harvey Brenneise joined us in a *newly* created and much-needed position with responsibility for ensuring that we offer up-to-date – *new* – services that meet the needs of our community in the most user-friendly way possible. He has already, in his short time with us, introduced *new* and forward-looking services.

A *new* book group has developed that meets to discuss children’s literature. How apt that they meet in the beautiful, *new* de Grummond Exhibit Room. Who better to lead this book group than the curator of our nationally acclaimed de Grummond collection?

New computers are being added on upper floors of Cook Library, providing computers in quiet study areas for the first time. A *new* grant, *new* exhibits, *new* Science Café series at both campuses are also described.

I am very excited about all these *new* offerings and proud that the University Libraries have been able to achieve them. It shows that the creativity and energy of the Libraries’ staff can overcome the status quo, even in times of a stagnant budget.

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are contributing interesting projects and designs, including poster galleries (education), excavation maps (anthropology) and pictures from a geographical exploration. *Aquila* supports geo-tagging and file sharing through a variety of social media applications.

This is only the beginning of what is planned for *Aquila*. University Libraries hopes to provide enhanced support for multimedia, video and performances through improved audio and streaming services. During the fall, in partnership with the Web of Science Citation Services, we plan to upload full publication citations and abstracts of Southern Miss authors. This service will enhance recognition of works by Southern Miss authors and simplify the submission process.

You may submit your works directly to *Aquila* at http://aquila.usm.edu/submit_research.html. To learn more about *Aquila Digital Community* and how it can support your research, visit <http://aquila.usm.edu> or contact Corrie.Marsh@usm.edu or Joshua.Cromwell@usm.edu.



SPOTLIGHT ON...HARVEY BRENNEISE

—SARAH R. MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN, COOK LIBRARY

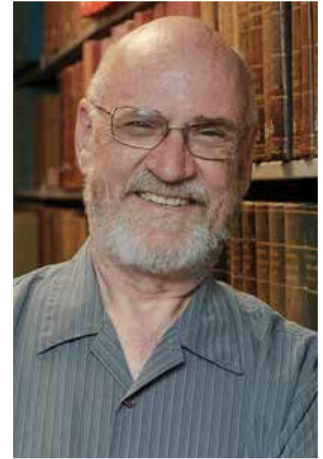
With a new position, a new environment and a new semester, Harvey Brenneise hit the ground running as University Libraries' new associate dean for Research Services. In his first two months at The University of Southern Mississippi, Harvey navigated the ordinary difficulties of moving 1,400 miles to a new job and a new life; however, the beginning of the semester was anything but ordinary because Harvey was welcomed to Mississippi by Hurricane Isaac just one week into the new school year. Now that everything has calmed down, Harvey is settling into life in Mississippi and at University Libraries quite nicely.

Harvey's past education and experiences have given him a well-rounded background that is a definite asset in his new position. He received his B.A. and M.A. in history from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and completed his M.S.L.S. at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In his career, he has held positions in public, academic and special libraries all over the country. It is those varied experiences that he plans to utilize to help move University Libraries forward. "I have been fortunate to have more kinds of professional experience (reference, collection development, systems, cataloging, etc.) in different parts of the country than many other librarians. I plan to use all of that to work with colleagues here in co-creating the best library possible with the resources that we have."

The associate dean for Research Services is responsible for managing all aspects of the Libraries' user services, including supervising the circulation, interlibrary loan, reference and special collections units; overseeing public exhibits and events; integrating new technologies to further the mission of University Libraries; and serving as part of the University Libraries' Executive Team.

Harvey has always been drawn to public service positions because he enjoys helping people, both in his personal and professional life. Challenges are also an everyday part of personal and professional atmospheres. The biggest challenge University



Harvey Brenneise

Libraries is facing,

as he sees it, is "money" and, more specifically, "how to be a research library on a flat or declining budget with vendors and publishers who still think we can continue to sustain price rises year after year that outpace either inflation or our resource allocations."

Outside of work Harvey enjoys growing orchids as well as general gardening, which is difficult with apartment living; he says he is making do for now with a nice porch and a plan to try growing indoors with LED lights. He loves to read, keep up with the news, and listen to his large collection of classical music. Harvey also enjoys traveling and has visited all 50 states, 10 Canadian provinces and 44 countries!

While never picturing himself living in Mississippi, Harvey was always open to living in the South. Living in North Carolina gave him a taste of what Southern living was all about. Harvey said, "My partner is from the South, and he said people are nice here, and he was right!"

EXPANDING COMPUTING SERVICES IN COOK LIBRARY

— DERIK WOOD, SERIALS SPECIALIST I

Seventy-two new computers were installed this semester on upper floors at Cook Library, significantly increasing the computing services available to students. These computers use the Windows 7 operating system, and users should expect them to be quite similar to those already in the Learning Commons on the first floor. The addition of new computers is a result of requests by library patrons to have the opportunity to work with computers in quieter areas.

Twenty-two computers and a printer will be installed in the second floor stacks area. The third and fourth floors will gain 25 computers each and will print using the copy machines already installed on those floors. Second, third and fourth floors will remain quiet study areas so patrons who work better in such an environment can excel.

The first floor Learning Commons and Second Floor South will maintain their current number of computers and are areas that provide for conversation and collaborative study. The fifth floor will remain



a silent study zone and will not receive any new computers.

iTech maintains a Web page that provides information about the number and availability of public computers on the Southern Miss campuses. Students and faculty can view this information from home, office or dorm room to learn where computers are available in the libraries. Visit <http://www.usm.edu/itech/public-computing>.

CIVIL WAR 150 GRANT RECEIVED BY UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

— JENNIFER BRANNOCK, CURATOR, RARE BOOKS AND MISSISSIPPIANA

The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries received the Civil War 150 grant from the Gilder Lehman Institute of American History. As part of the grant award, University Libraries will host a traveling exhibit with a focus on themes of the American Civil War including slavery, Civil War literature and the home front. The library will also receive \$1,000 for event programming, which will include additional exhibits highlighting collections in University Libraries' Special Collections and presentations from Southern Miss professors on

aspects of the war. The exhibit and programming will take place in September 2013.

Jennifer Brannock, curator of Rare Books and Mississippiana, with assistance from Library Grants Administrator Ann Branton, wrote the successful grant proposal. The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries was the only institution in Mississippi to receive the award.

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

DE GRUMMOND BOOK GROUP FORMED

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

Sometimes ideas that begin spontaneously grow into permanence, and that is exactly what seems to have happened with the de Grummond Book Group.

It began during the summer with six people who met to discuss a subjective list of “best of…” picture books named in an online article. While the article mentioned many good picture books, the selection process for the 50 best begged to be questioned by the group.

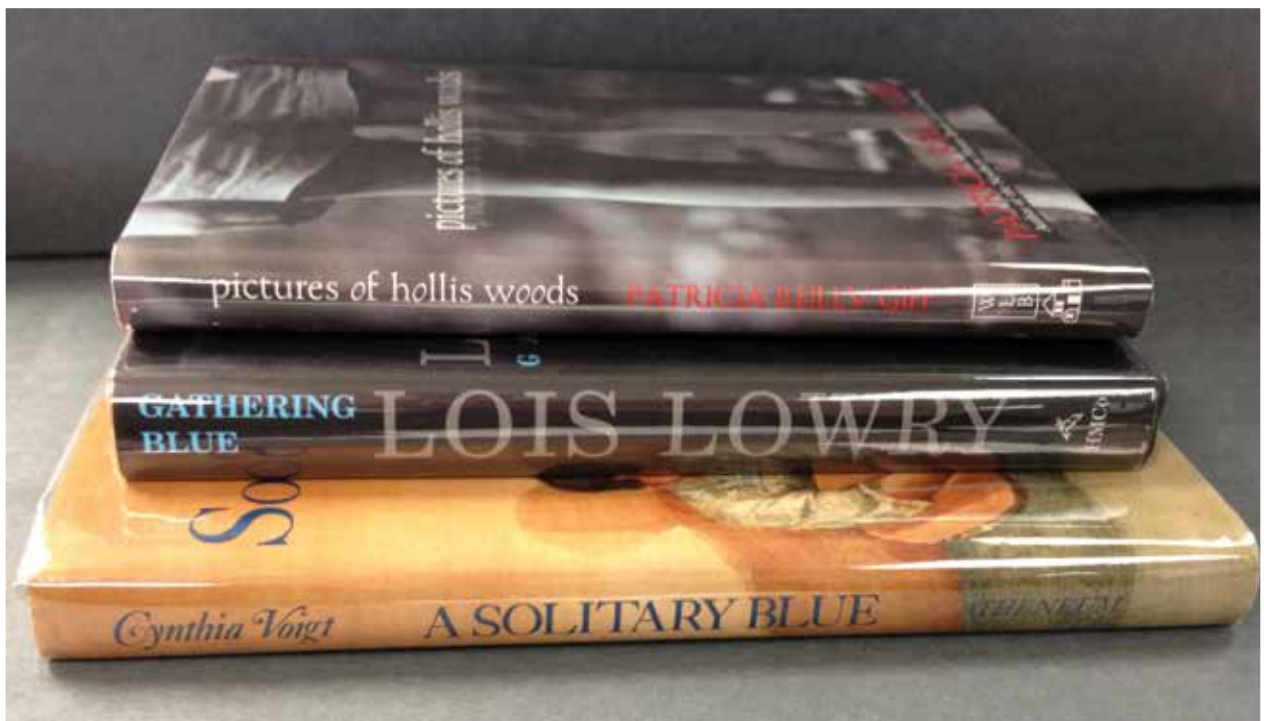
Each person brought several books to discuss at that first meeting. Can you “hear” the lively discussions that resulted from examining the interdependence of text and art? Discussion points seemed to tag team each other—one thought led to another and to another. The end of the hour was met with protests and comments of, “When can we do this again?”

The group decided to meet after a month to discuss a single book, and one of those present

selected *A Solitary Blue* by Cynthia Voigt, an excellent choice for examining the elements of good writing. At the end of the discussion a month later, someone else selected *Gathering Blue* by Lois Lowry for the next meeting. A month after that, *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff was selected and then *The Underneath* by Kathi Appelt.

The de Grummond Book Group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the de Grummond Exhibit Room on the second floor of Cook Library (between the Library Administration office and the School of Library and Information Science). Anyone interested in reading and discussing children's literature is welcome.

For more information about the de Grummond Book Group, contact Ellen Ruffin at Ellen.Ruffin@usm.edu or 601.266.6543. To receive email about the meeting schedule and book selections, subscribe to the listserv here: <http://mailman.usm.edu/mailman/listinfo/degrummondbookgroup>.



FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

— SARAH R. MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN, COOK LIBRARY

Friends of University Libraries was formed to promote and provide support for the research, teaching and public service mission of the University of Southern Mississippi Libraries. The Friends not only provide monetary support for University Libraries but also provide an avenue for members of the community to be involved. Friends members receive circulation privileges on both the Hattiesburg and Gulf Park campuses, member discounts at local businesses, and information about special events and programs.

The Friends are entering their third full year as a community organization in support of University Libraries. Over the past year, membership has doubled! There are now more than 200 members from the campus and local communities, and we hope membership continues to grow. Members at the Contributor level and above are as follows:

CONTRIBUTOR:

DAVID AND ANITA JOHNSON

LISA JONES

SHERRY SMITH

EDNA WALLER

BECKY WOODRICK

SPONSOR:

KAY BEHM

JANE BRISTER

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ROBERT AND MARSHA HESTER

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SUSAN SILTANEN AND

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RICHARD SUMRALL

RUSS WILLIS

BENEFACTOR:

PAT JOACHIM

AUBREY AND ELLA LUCAS

KELLI OVERMYER

LIFE:

DANIEL ROY BALL

HONORARY LIFE:

MR. AND MRS. J.F. TATUM

In the coming year, the Friends will hold the second annual Give a Child a New Book campaign in conjunction with the Salvation Army and the Favre 4 Hope Foundation. Last year, 1,961 books were donated in



the Hattiesburg area, and 1,673 were donated on the Gulf Coast! It is our hope that the Friends are able to place new books in the hands of many more children this year. For more information on upcoming events, visit www.lib.usm.edu/fof_home.html.

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/fof_membership.html or at any branch of University Libraries. We would love to have you become a Friend today!

SCIENCE CAFÉS AT SOUTHERN MISS IN HATTIESBURG AND ON THE GULF COAST

— JOYCE M. SHAW, HEAD LIBRARIAN, GULF COAST RESEARCH LABORATORY
— TRACY ENGLERT, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

What do topics as varied as carnivorous plants, orchids, dog psychology, medieval stained glass and birds that act like bullies have in common? Each has been a featured topic at a Science Café in the last couple of years.

University Libraries presented Science Cafés first at Cook Library on the Hattiesburg campus and then expanded the program to Southern Miss Gulf Coast, usually at Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL). 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. Science Cafés are free and open to the public.

The first GCRL Science Café for fall 2012 was "The Private Life of Carnivorous Plants" with presenter Kay Baggett on Tuesday, September 4. Baggett, a retired marine educator, led the discussion about carnivorous plants native to the wet pine savannah, the unique ecosystem of coastal Mississippi and nearby Alabama. She brought live specimens of three of the 19 species of carnivorous plants found in and around Ocean

Springs for participants to examine using hand lenses and microscopes provided by the GCRL Marine Education Center.

Other GCRL Science Café topics this fall were "Being Green in a Plastic World" and "Spooky Science." GCRL Science Cafés are sponsored by Coffee Fusion, an Ocean Springs coffee shop, which

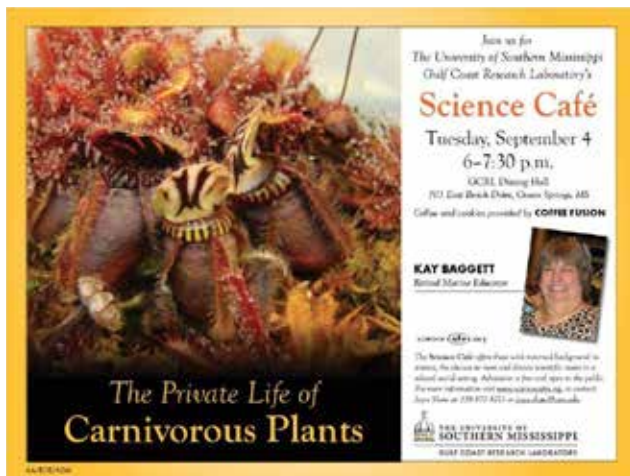


provides free gourmet coffee and cookies to attendees.

At Cook Library, the fall semester's first Science Café was on Monday, September 24. Harvey Brenneise, the Libraries' new associate dean for Research Services, presented "Darwin's Sexy Orchids," and led a discussion about Charles Darwin's fascination with orchids. On Monday, October 29, the topic was "Blood Suckers" led by Dr. Shahid Karim; and on Monday, November 26, Dr. Jodie M. Jawor will lead the discussion on "Hormones and Behavior."

In the future, Science Café presentation materials, photographs and videos may be archived in the Aquila Digital Community.

Learn more about Science Cafés at www.sciencecafes.org. For information about Science Café at Cook Library, contact Tracy Englert at Tracy.Englert@usm.edu or 601.266.6396. For information about Science Café at GCRL, contact Joyce Shaw at Joyce.Shaw@usm.edu or 228.872.4213.



MCCAIN LIBRARY EXHIBIT FEATURES CULINARY COLLECTIONS

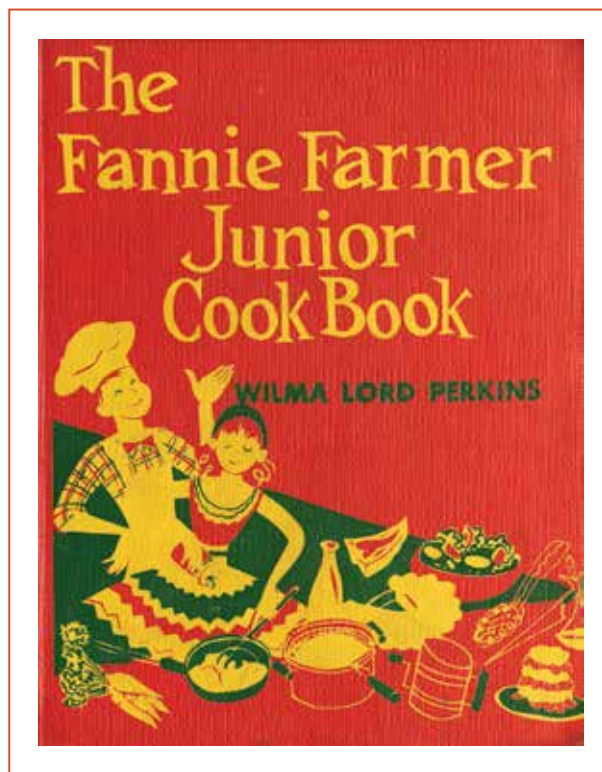
— JENNIFER BRANNOCK, CURATOR, RARE BOOKS AND MISSISSIPPIANA

Food is central to most social activities. At parties, the majority of the guests are always in the kitchen or around the food. Most first dates include some kind of food, whether it's eating at a restaurant or grabbing a Coke and some popcorn at the local movie theater. Food is often the only excuse to get out of the house and relax.

Buying, cooking, displaying and eating food can monopolize a person's day. There are menus to create, tablescapes to organize, and that's even before the cooking begins. To help women, children and men with facets of gastronomic culture, many resources have been written focusing on party planning, etiquette, recipes and tips for creating the finest food experience.

The exhibit, *Food is Fun! America's Culinary Culture*, features materials from Special Collections in McCain Library and Archives. The exhibit includes menus, food etiquette books, vintage party planning resources, children's cookbooks, manuscript material and regional cookbooks.

The exhibit is on display Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. until March 1, 2013, in McCain Library and Archives, room 305. For more information about the exhibit or to ask questions, contact Jennifer Brannock at Jennifer.Brannock@usm.edu or 601.266.4347.



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