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Cover image courtesy Jaclyn Lewis, Youth Services Director, Madison County Library System.

Editor's Note

It's been an interesting year here at *Mississippi Libraries*, with a new editorial regime and a return to regular publication after a year of difficulty on both the publication and the economic sides. With that in mind, I'm happy to say that *Mississippi Libraries* has been able to fulfill most of its obligations to those who submitted articles or book reviews for 2010, 2011, and 2012. It's been a grueling process, and I--along with my staff and the Mississippi Library Commission--would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your patience and understanding.

But in publishing, as in all other facets of life, time marches on and *Mississippi Libraries* is moving ahead with plans for the future. As such, I am pleased to present the first issue of *Mississippi Libraries* in its new online format. The online journal is open-access, and Mississippi State University is serving as the host to its data and online maintenance, using the OJS open source application. As an online-only publication, it will finally be free of the distribution and funding issues that have plagued the publication since its inception.



I understand that there is nothing to compare with the weight of fine paper in one's hand, and in an era of unlimited support we would surely continue with paper publication. We've tried to invest as many people in the decision-making process as possible, but some are bound to be disappointed with the result; for that, I apologize. As a former bookstore employee, I know all about the intangible magic of the printed page as opposed to the computer screen.

However, *Mississippi Libraries* is also using this as an opportunity to unveil some exciting new features. We will move forward with an experimental proposal to have one peer reviewed issue of *Mississippi Libraries* per annum. This experiment will not only offer an outlet for more scholarly articles about our state and its libraries, but help those librarians in-state and nearby that need publications for promotion and advancement.

We are very excited to transition to an online, open-access journal framework, and invite you to join us in moving forward while keeping an eye on the past and remaining mindful of our obligations to you, our readers, and our state. Please report any errors or problems with the new format to me directly at apwatson@olemiss.edu.

Alex Watson
Editor, Mississippi Libraries

President's Page

Lynn Shurden

President, Mississippi Library Association

Being a member of the Executive Board of MLA, brings various duties with the various offices. But one of the most interesting and beneficial things to me has been to participate in the ALA Legislative Day in DC. As those of us who have been librarians in this state for many years know, we are a close group, no matter what type of library we work. Participating in the ALA Legislative Day events is one of the things that unites all of us in the various library issues we think are important for our profession.



This year our participants included: Celia Fisher, Glenda Segars, Jolee Hussey, and Pamela Pridgen, of the Mississippi Library Commission Board of Trustees; Amanda Powers, VP/President Elect of MLA; Susan Cassagne, MLA Legislative chair; Sharman Smith, Executive Director of MLC; Jennifer Walker, MLC Director of Development and me. We traveled to our beautiful capital city to meet with our Congressmen. Arriving on Monday, Susan had arranged with Congressman

Gregg Harper's office for us to have a "behind the scenes" tour of the Library of Congress. It was an excellent tour and no matter how many times I go into this building, I still stand around in amazement when I tour it. (It is something that every librarian should put on his or her bucket list.) The next morning we were invited to have coffee with Senator Roger Wicker and his staff. At this coffee we met other Mississippians who were there for various reasons as well as meeting those bright young people who work for the Senator. That afternoon and the entire next day we met with our Congressmen or their staff members. While this may all seem like a lot of fun, it actually is a lot of work and walking. We talk to them about the issues that are most important to us as librarians. And this year we focused on the importance of continuing LSTA funding and what it has meant to citizens in our state, including librarians in the Elementary and Secondary Education authorization, and the general concerns of the broadband needs of all libraries.

All of our Congressmen and staffs are welcoming and give us the time and attention to discuss the issues. It is always impressive to me to see the wonderful young people who fill the offices of Congress. I always come away with the feeling that we are still educating some very bright young people who are dedicated to trying to make our world a better place. The enthusiasm that each of them has for what they do is very encouraging to me. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we saw this enthusiasm and hope in the eyes of the young librarians who are being trained in our library programs today? Something to think about, perhaps.

Bringing Mississippi's Government into the Homes of its Citizens: The Mississippi College Law Library's Legislative History Project

Stephen Parks

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INTRODUCTION

In this age of information, legal professionals and ordinary people can use online sources to watch a presidential speech, sit in on congressional hearings, listen to audio tape of Supreme Court arguments, read a court opinion and otherwise engage in the legal process. Even state information is widely available from governor addresses, to the text of bills and to rulings by the Mississippi appellate courts. Access to government information helps the public to be more actively engaged in holding political leaders accountable and in establishing a more justice oriented society.

Surprisingly, given these other sources of information and given the public desire for even more, librarians, legal practitioners, and members of the general public in the state of Mississippi are limited in the amount of information available to them for purposes of researching legislative history. The Mississippi Legislature's House and Senate Journals offer at best a cursory review of actions taken by legislators. Conference Reports of select pieces of legislation provide nothing more than textual changes to legislation upon which the conference committee agreed. Live webcast of the House and Senate floor proceedings are of the "blink and you miss" variety as the Legislature currently provides no method of archiving its proceedings for later viewing. Mississippians not able to observe the Legislature live are essentially left with final vote totals, reports of textual changes, and a listing of prior enactments in the Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated. This is the case even as the Mississippi Legislature has debated hot-topic laws such as abortion, voter identification, and immigration control in its most recent 2012 Regular Session.

Over the past two decades in an effort to promote transparency and greater access to one's government, states across the country have begun providing live webcast of legislative proceedings while archiving video of the proceedings for later viewing.ⁱ The state of Mississippi joined the movement in 2008 when the state legislature for the first time went live online.ⁱⁱ However, the legislature, for whatever reason, chose not to archive its proceedings. No change in this decision, at least by the legislature, appears likely for the foreseeable future.

The Mississippi College Law Library has therefore decided to take upon itself the task of creating a free, searchable archive of the Mississippi Legislature's floor proceedings. Called the Mississippi College Legislative History Project, the video archive provides recordings of the daily sessions of both the Mississippi House of Representatives and the Mississippi Senate. The Project connects specific video clips to individual bills making it possible for a user of the

Project to view only video clips that pertain to, for example, House Bill 3. The Law Library is excited about placing this new venture alongside its Judicial Data Project in an effort to make the state legislature more accessible to the public.

In an effort to promote and describe the Legislative History Project, this short article is divided into three sections. The first section will discuss the lack of legislative history materials in the state of Mississippi. The second section will discuss the recent history of live webcasting of the Mississippi Legislature. Lastly, the third section will introduce and describe in great detail the Legislative History Project and its usefulness to not only the legal profession in Mississippi but also to the ordinary citizen interested in the workings of state leaders.

LACK OF LEGISLATIVE HISTORY MATERIALS IN MISSISSIPPI

“Does not exist.”ⁱⁱⁱ “Much less adequate ... frustrating.”^{iv} “Difficult or impossible to find.”^v “Not easy.”^{vi} This is just a sampling of descriptions legal research scholars have used in referring to any attempt at locating legislative history materials of state statutes. Each state varies widely in the materials it provides in the paper trail of legislative documents that constitute legislative history so what may work in one state normally will not work in another.

Those unfamiliar with state specific legal research may find this surprising given the wealth of information provided on the federal level. First year law students in any legal research course are generally taught the four major sources of federal legislative history as being individual bills, committee hearings, floor debates, and committee reports and how to locate them.^{vii} Each source of federal legislative history may go through numerous changes throughout the entire process, but, generally, one interested in the history of a federal statute may access these materials either online themselves or with the assistance of a law librarian.^{viii} Locating these items for an individual state, however, is an entirely different matter.

The four major sources of federal legislative history cannot be adequately and efficiently applied to the several states, especially the state of Mississippi. Well-respected legal research scholar William Manz goes so far as to definitively say it “is not ... possible to determine legislative intent from the available documents” provided by the Mississippi Legislature.^{ix} Others agree. Expounding on the various theories of statutory interpretation, former Mississippi Court of Appeals Judge Leslie Southwick^x describes how “Mississippi legislative debates are not preserved, nor are committee reports and other documents that are often used to explain the intent of Congress to those advocates and judges who believe in that exercise.”^{xi} Southwick goes on to explain how “[t]he annual journals of each house do not contain such information but instead record official actions – attendance, votes, language of offered bills and amendments, and other matters that reflect the procedure and not the substance of the legislature’s consideration.”^{xii} With these limitations, Mississippians may research legislative history in a piecemeal fashion, with the potential value of legislative intent lost.

Anyone with an internet connection may access the individual bills introduced in the Mississippi Legislature. All introduced measures are posted on the Legislature’s website, going as far back as the 1997 Regular Session. Any amendments to the measures are posted as well for viewing. While the print editions of the House and Senate Journals are considered to “contain the

complete history of bills of their respective houses,” they provide fairly little.^{xiii} Listing by date of consideration the measure number, its short title, all action taken, and any vote total, the Journals provide nothing further into any insight as to what might be the intent behind any piece of legislation.^{xiv}

Committee hearings of the Mississippi Legislature are not recorded or broadcast live via webcast. If one wishes to be informed of what occurs in a committee hearing it would be necessary to attend the hearing in person. No record of the hearing is made for public view. On the federal level, committee hearings generally consist of the testimony of experts and other interested parties. The testimony and statements are typically reduced to writing and made available to the public in some fashion. However, Mississippians, and citizens of most all other states, are unable to access any similar materials from their state legislatures.

Floor debate is one aspect of legislative history Mississippians may access. However, they must access it by watching the floor debate live either in the galleries of the House and Senate or via live webcast. The Legislature at this time does not archive any recordings of floor debates. The federal government does archive recordings of floor debates, and all aspects of floor debate in the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate is transcribed daily and published in written form.^{xv} Making floor debate publicly available promotes good government and transparency by allowing citizens the capability of seeing their representatives in action.^{xvi} By providing no archive or written record, however, the Mississippi Legislature does a disservice to its citizens who are unable to witness the live debate. As a tool of legislative history, floor debate is not the most definitive source as members may amend or supplement their words and actions at a later time. In fact, Mississippi legislators oftentimes will switch their votes a day after an initial vote on a bill.^{xvii} However, floor debate does offer citizens a window into the actions of their government, and the state of Mississippi is to be commended for at least providing its citizens a live webcast.

The fourth major source of federal legislative history, the Committee Report, is “generally considered to be the most authoritative” of all legislative history documents.^{xviii} On the federal level, a committee report usually contains the committee’s reasons for recommending the bill to the full Legislature for passage. The report may also provide a section-by-section analysis of the bill and the views of any dissenting committee members. Transcripts of any expert testimony given before the Committee may be attached to committee reports. Applied to the Mississippi Legislature, however, the committee report is nothing more than a description of textual changes made to bills. Neither the views of committee members nor an analysis of the bill and its intent is provided. Furthermore, the Mississippi Legislature only issues committee reports from conference committees. Standing committees of the Legislature do not release any written record or report of their proceedings.^{xix}

While the four major sources of federal legislative history are easily obtained online or through a law library, a citizen of Mississippi is unable to apply the same process of compiling legislative history documents on a state level. Mississippians may access the text of introduced measures. They may attend committee hearings but only in person. No written record of hearings is made just as no written record of floor debate is made publicly available. Written committee reports are made available, but the reports offer nothing more than textual changes suggested by

committee members. The state Legislature of Mississippi, as well as many others, would do well to examine the lack of materials available to librarians, legal practitioners, and the general citizenry wishing to examine the legislative history of the numerous items signed into law each year.

LIVE WEBCAST OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

Locating legislative history materials in the state of Mississippi can be difficult as described above. Most of the documents created throughout the process are simply not available for public viewing, and oftentimes the only way to view the legislative proceedings is by attending in person. The Legislature does provide its citizens with a live webcast of floor debate in both the Mississippi House of Representatives and Mississippi Senate. In a strange twist, however, both houses of the Mississippi Legislature have prohibited themselves from archiving the floor debates.

Beginning in the 2006 Regular Session of the Legislature, State Senator Merle Flowers began introducing a senate resolution which would have amended the Senate Rules to “direct the committee on rules to contract with a high-speed wireless internet service to broadcast floor proceedings of the Mississippi Senate.”^{xx} The resolution, however, met its untimely fate of death by committee inaction. Undeterred, Flowers again introduced a senate resolution in the 2007 Regular Session with the exact language.^{xxi} Again, the resolution died in committee.

It would be the 2008 Regular Session before any movement on the issue would take place. The newly elected Senate introduced its permanent rules at the start of the session with the addition of a newly written Rule 35D. The proposed new rule directed the Committee on Rules to contract with an appropriate service to “telecast the regular floor proceedings of the Mississippi Senate on high-speed wireless internet.”^{xxii} The rules were adopted January 8, 2008, and, for the first time, the Mississippi Senate would be telecast live to the citizens of Mississippi.

The Mississippi House of Representatives followed suit in amending its initial permanent rules to provide a live telecast of House proceedings. The new House Rule 18C mirrored the new Senate rule and was agreed to January 18, 2008.^{xxiii} Curiously enough, both the House and Senate stipulated in the new rules that “no such telecast shall be archived or recorded for future use by the [House and Senate] or its contractee.”^{xxiv}

Upon the start of the new 2012 Regular Session, both houses of the Legislature enacted permanent rules maintaining Rules 35D and 18C allowing for live telecast.^{xxv} Also kept in the new rules was the prohibition on the recording and archiving of such telecasts by the respective houses and their contractee. An amendment to the House rule proposed allowing the telecast of any House member speaking at the podium when the House is not in session perhaps in a similar fashion of representatives in the United States Congress speaking each morning on C-SPAN before the House has been gavelled into order. The amendment, however, was defeated 37-79.^{xxvi} Live webcasting continued throughout the 2012 Regular Session, and has continued as the Legislature meets for its 2013 Regular Session.

INTRODUCING THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY PROJECT

The live video feed provided by the Mississippi Legislature is indeed beneficial. It is a vast improvement over having no live video feed at all. However, live feed without the availability of an archive cannot meet the needs of today's busy citizens who desire greater transparency in government. Not everyone has the time to access the Legislature's website each day at the appointed hour and watch the day's proceedings of the House or Senate. It is difficult for the citizens of the state to devote any meaningful time to keeping up with the actions of their elected representatives in the capital city of Jackson. It is also difficult for those in the legal and library fields to look back at actions already taken in an effort to derive some sense of intent behind legislative action with the lack of materials available as already discussed.

The Legislature appears in no hurry to correct this by way of an archive whereby Mississippians could access video of the Legislature's daily proceedings. The Mississippi College Law Library has decided to provide such a resource. After numerous discussions amongst library staff and others, the Law Library decided to take on the task of associating the many bills and resolutions with floor debate captured via the live video feed. The Library worked to create a prototype website throughout the spring and summer of 2012 as the Legislature met for its Regular Session. Recording the live feed each day, the Library staff then segmented each video into individual clips that have been associated with an individual bill or resolution. The end result is a free website where an individual may access videos of debate on individual measures utilizing various search functions.

Figure 1: The home page of the Legislative History Project may be accessed at www.law.mc.edu/legislature.



To use the Project, an individual may simply access the website at law.mc.edu/legislature. The Library is proud of the hard work put into connecting video clips to individual bills as this option

is not offered by any other state legislative video archive. The Project currently has two methods of searching for individual bill clips.

Figure 2: Once inside the full bill listing, a user may access the videos of a certain bill by clicking on the measure number and may access the author's legislative page by clicking on the author's name.

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Legislative History Project

HOME FULL BILL LISTING BILL SEARCH BILLS BY AUTHOR

Bill List for 2012 Session

The Legislative History Project only provides video of bills that are debated on the House and Senate floor. Bills introduced but not debated are not provided in any form.

House Bill

Measure		Principal Author
HB 3	Crimes; provide procedure for expunction of certain felonies of persons under 18 years of age at time of conviction.	Smith (39th)
HB 9	Hancock County Tourism Development Bureau; extend repealer on.	Baria
HB 16	Child Protection Act and Child Rape Protection Act; enact.	Gunn
HB 17	Vulnerable persons; revise law.	Buck (72nd)
HB 35	Kevser Ermin Memorial Highway; designate certain segment of MS 314 in Lafayette County as.	Reynolds
HB 86	Mississippi Highway 25; remove requirement that certain segment in Monroe County be constructed as fully controlled.	Bell
HB 87	Industrial life insurers; increase maximum life insurance policy from \$5,000.00 to \$20,000.00.	Holland
HB 90	Mississippi Highway 30 Bypass; designate in Prentiss County and the City of Booneville as "F. Wade Lambert Memorial Highway."	Arnold
HB 97	Crime Victims' Compensation Act; revise.	Buck (72nd)
HB 98	U.S. Highway 78; designate certain segment of in Benton and Marshall Counties as "William R. 'Bill' Minor Memorial Highway."	Woods
HB 99	Mississippi Highway 51; designate segment of in Town of Goodman, Holmes County, as "Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Hwy."	Clark
HB 120	Attempted murder; create offense.	Denny
HB 122	Sunshine Act; create for agencies hiring attorneys.	Gunn

The first method of searching for an individual bill or resolution is by selecting the "2012 Full Bill Listing." The full measure listing provides users a listing of all bills debated on the House and Senate floor with which the Project has available video. The list provides the measure number, the short title of the measure, and the principal author of the measure. From this list, one may click on the author's name to be taken to the legislative page of that individual representative or senator. To view the videos for any particular measure, the user can simply click on the measure number. Once on the page of the measure, the user is provided with all videos associated with that measure. Videos may include initial debate and votes, motions to reconsider, adoption of committee reports, etc. If any action was taken on the floor of the House and Senate on an individual measure, video will be found in the Library's archive so long as its recording software captured that day's proceedings. Also provided on this page is a link to the Legislature's measure history page where the user may access the historical summary of the measure as well as the text of the measure and any amendments and committee substitute that may have been held to a vote.

Figure 3: On the bill search page here, the word “tax” has been typed into the description box to retrieve only bills and videos pertaining to “tax.”

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HOME FULL BILL LISTING BILL SEARCH BILLS BY AUTHOR

Bill Search

The Legislative History Project only provides video of bills that are debated on the House and Senate floor. Bills introduced but not debated are not provided in any form.

Bill Lookup:

Principal Author:

Description:

Figure 4: A search for “tax” in the bill description box yields these results. Here, the user of the Project can then click on the bill number to access further information on the bill as well as all videos.

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Legislative History Project

HOME FULL BILL LISTING BILL SEARCH BILLS BY AUTHOR

Bill List for 2012 Session

The Legislative History Project only provides video of bills that are debated on the House and Senate floor. Bills introduced but not debated are not provided in any form.

[Return to Search Page](#)

39 results

House Bill

Measure		Principal Author
HB 129	Sales tax revenue; divert portion of revenue collected in Tunica County to the Tunica County Tourism Commission.	Burnett
HB 386	Jefferson Davis County; may utilize portion of oil and gas severance tax revenue for garbage collection and disposal.	Warren
HB 389	Income tax; extend repealer on tax credit for certain charges at airports used for export/import of cargo.	Formby
HB 390	Income tax; extend repealer on tax credit for certain charges for using certain port facilities.	Formby
HB 536	Income tax; increase credit for ad valorem tax paid on inventory.	Smith (39th)
HB 544	Burn Center Lodge; update name of organization receiving tax to support it to the current name of MS Burn Foundation.	Baker
HB 626	City of Ellisville; authorize to impose a tax on motels, hotels and restaurants.	Shows
HB 746	Income tax; delete repeal date on tax credit for certain employers sponsoring skills training for employees.	Formby
HB 751	Income tax; delete repealer on tax credit for certain new jobs in upholstered household furniture manufacturing industry.	Formby
HB 779	Tourism Project Sales Tax Incentive Fund; increase maximum period of time that MDA may make payments from.	Martinson
HB 794	Hotel renovation projects sales tax incentive; authorize for certain projects.	Martinson
HB 967	Free port warehouse law; clarify that manufactures are eligible for ad valorem tax exemption.	Smith (39th)
HB1251	Income tax; remove repeal date on tax credit for certain charges for using certain port facilities and airports.	Smith (39th)
HB1257	Qualified equity investment tax credit; revise certain provisions regarding.	Smith (39th)
HB1264	Income tax; authorize certain employers to pass tax credits through to employees.	Smith (39th)

The second method of searching for videos allows users to key in certain search categories for a narrower listing of measures. Rather than having to scroll through a list of all bills for the entire

2012 Regular Session, the user may simply search using keywords. The first category to search by is the bill number itself. From a dropdown menu, the user may select the abbreviation of the measure and then type in a number. The second category to search by is principal author. A search using this category will retrieve all bills with videos authored by the individual's name. The third and final search category is the bill description. The description field searches the short titles of all bills for any keyword the user inputs. After performing a search, the user can then move forward to an individual bill's page where he or she may access the videos as well as the Legislature's page of historical summary and bill text.

Figure 5: Once on an individual bill's page, the user may then access the Legislature's history page by clicking on "Full Bill History Link" and may watch all videos that have been associated with that individual bill.



The Library's Project is set up this way for many reasons. The Library recognizes that most people will not wish to sit and view a full day video of House or Senate debate. Recognizing this fact, the Library has made it easier for the individual wishing to view video of debate only on certain bills. Tying each individual video clip to a bill along with links to the bill's history, the Library has simplified the process for the user and has placed this important aspect of government information at the user's fingertips.

CONCLUSION

The Law Library has begun to announce its archiving of the 2012 Regular Session and its plans to go "live" with the video Project when the Legislature begins its 2013 Regular Session in early January. This project will be one-of-a-kind as no other state legislative archive segments daily recordings into small clips attached to the numerous bills and resolutions debated throughout the legislative session. Admittedly the state of Mississippi could provide its own archive of full day videos with greater technology and usability like other states have done. However, the state has

yet to do so. The Mississippi College Law Library is willing to step in and provide this service. The Legislative History Project demonstrates the resolve of the Mississippi College Law Library to meet the American Association of Law Libraries' (AALL) vision of making legal information available to all. AALL deems the availability of legal information to all people "a necessary requirement for a just and democratic society,"^{xxvii} and this project is a step forward in enhancing that vision in the state of Mississippi by placing the state's legislative leaders into the homes of Mississippians.

ⁱ "Almost all states provide Internet or television broadcasts of legislative proceedings" as legislative information technology has become more and more sophisticated over the years. NCSL, Legislative Information Technology, <http://www.ncsl.org/issues-research/telecom.aspx>, (last visited July 26, 2012).

ⁱⁱ Then Lieutenant-Governor-elect Phil Bryant announced in early January, 2008, a partnership between the state Senate and Mississippi Public Broadcasting that would bring live webcasting of the state Legislature for the first time ever. "Parts of state Senate session to be broadcast online," <http://www.yallpolitics.com/index.php/yp/post/6018/> (Jan. 8, 2008, 10:23 am).

ⁱⁱⁱ Harry Bitner & Miles Price, *EFFECTIVE LEGAL RESEARCH* 73 (3d ed. 1969).

^{iv} Morris Cohen, Robert Berring & Kent Olson, *HOW TO FIND THE LAW* 257 (9th ed. 1989).

^v Morris Cohen & Kent Olson, *LEGAL RESEARCH* 217 (8th ed. 2000).

^{vi} Christina Kunz Et Al., *THE PROCESS OF LEGAL RESEARCH* 259 (6th ed. 2004).

^{vii} See Amy Sloan, *BASIC LEGAL RESEARCH* 222 (5th ed. 2012); Donald Dunn & Roy Mersky, *LEGAL RESEARCH ILLUSTRATED* 166 (8th ed. 2002).

^{viii} A great free resource for federal legislative history is the Library of Congress's THOMAS website. Subscription sites such as Westlaw and Lexis Nexis also offer select pieces of legislative history.

^{ix} William H. Manz, *GUIDE TO STATE LEGISLATION, LEGISLATIVE HISTORY, AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATERIALS* 220 (7th ed. 2008).

^x Having served on the Mississippi Court of Appeals from 1995-2006, Southwick now serves on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

^{xi} Leslie Southwick, *Statutes, Statutory Interpretations and Other Legislative Action*, in 8 *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MISSISSIPPI LAW* 41, 103 (Jeffrey Jackson & Mary Miller, eds., 2001).

^{xii} *Id.*

^{xiii} Lynn Hellebust & Kristen Hellebust, *STATE LEGISLATIVE SOURCEBOOK* 286 (2012).

^{xiv} The United States House of Representatives and United States Senate also maintain Journals that provide vote totals, actions taken, and text of measures. The print Journals can typically be found in most law libraries.

^{xv} The Congressional Record is the United States Government's publication of the daily congressional proceedings and transcripts. It may be found in most law libraries and online through various sites such as www.gpo.gov/fdsys. Recorded video of congressional floor debate may be viewed in the C-SPAN Video Library at www.c-spanvideo.org. C-SPAN's archive for the House of Representatives begins in 1979, and its archive for the Senate begins in 1986.

^{xvi} In the creation and implementation of most legislative live webcasts, legislative leaders expressed the desire for greater transparency as the leading reason behind the push for webcasts. See Heath Haussamen, *Another Web site to offer free audio webcasting of N.M. Legislature*, NEW MEXICO INDEPENDENT, Feb. 02, 2009, <http://newmexicoindependent.com/17088/another-web-site-to-offer-free-audio-webcasting> ("We're committed to transparency in government . . . and this service to the state and the public will allow everyone a new level of access to the legislative process."); Associated Press, *Iowa Senate may join House in streaming debate*, SIOUX CITY JOURNAL, April 14, 2012, http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/iowa-senate-may-join-house-in-streaming-debate/article_01b06c28-8637-11e1-803e-0019bb2963f4.html ("It's had a lot of positive effects in terms of openness and transparency."); South Carolina House of Representatives, A Message from the Speaker of the House, <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/house.php> (last visited July 20, 2012) ("We are consistently seeking out innovative ways to give South Carolinians better and more open access to their state government.").

^{xvii} The House and Senate Rules allow Mississippi legislators to change their vote provided certain conditions are met. In the House, Representatives may request to change his or her vote "after the voting machine has been locked, but prior to the display of the tabulated vote on the electric voting board." H. Rule 97, *available at* http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/htms/h_rules.pdf. If the tabulated vote has already been displayed, a member "with unanimous consent may change [his or her] vote on the measure" provided the vote would not change the final outcome. *Id.* In the Senate, members may change their recorded vote "before the result is announced by the President." S. Rule 115, *available at* http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/htms/s_rules.pdf.

^{xviii} Amy Sloan, *BASIC LEGAL RESEARCH* 223 (5th ed. 2012);

^{xix} Manz, *supra* note 9 (noting that "[c]onference committee reports are issued, but not standing committee reports").

^{xx} S. Res. 15, 2006 Reg. Sess. (Miss. 2006). For the text and history of this measure see <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2006/pdf/history/SR/SR0015.htm>.

^{xxi} S. Res. 3, 2007 Reg. Sess. (Miss. 2007). For the text and history of this measure see <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2007/pdf/history/SR/SR0003.htm>.

^{xxii} S. Res. 1, 2008 Reg. Sess. (Miss. 2008) (adopted Jan. 08, 2008). For the text and history of this measure see <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2008/pdf/history/SR/SR0001.xml>.

^{xxiii} H. Res. 5, 2008 Reg. Sess. (Miss. 2008) (adopted Jan. 18, 2008). For the text and history of this measure see <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2008/pdf/history/HR/HR0005.xml>.

^{xxiv} S. Res. 1, *supra* note 23; H. Res. 5, *supra* note 24.

^{xxv} S. Res. 1, 2012 Reg. Sess. (Miss. 2012) (adopted Jan. 03, 2012); H. Res. 7, 2012 Reg. Sess. (Miss. 2012) (adopted Jan. 11, 2012).

^{xxvi} H. Res. 35, 2012 Reg. Sess. (Miss. 2012). For the text and history see <http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/2012/pdf/history/HR/HR0035.xml>.

^{xxvii} American Association of Law Libraries, <http://www.aallnet.org/top-menu/about> (last visited December 5, 2012).

Committed to Health at Roberts-LaForge Library

David Salinero

Reference Librarian

Roberts-LaForge Library

Delta State University

Ann Mulloy Ashmore

Reference Librarian

Roberts-LaForge Library

Delta State University

ABSTRACT

This article explores initiatives undertaken by Roberts-LaForge Library at Delta State University to promote healthy lifestyles among Mississippi citizens and suggests ways that local libraries and schools can do the same through the use of authoritative resources, outreach campaigns, and training workshops.

INTRODCUTION

Try watching the television these days without seeing a commercial for a restaurant promoting healthy eating choices, an advertisement from a national figure highlighting the importance of being active for children, or an endorsement for ways to lose weight and stay fit. Each points to a growing concern for the nation, and Mississippi in particular. We are out of shape, overweight, and generally, in poor health. According to recent statistics, Mississippi's percentage of overweight or obese adults is at 68.9 %, the second highest in the nation. (Kaiser Family Foundation) The data for low levels of physical activity and diseases connected to poor lifestyle choices are just as grim. As a result, many state and local initiatives are trying to raise awareness and promote healthy lifestyles among Mississippi citizens. Roberts-LaForge Library at Delta State University has taken an active role in supporting these initiatives by providing the campus community and the Delta with the necessary information to make the right choices.

COMMITMENT TO HEALTH

Delta State University's "Commitment to Health" is stated in its Guiding Principles which read: "Delta State acknowledges the importance of physical health for its students and the region and extends its resources in support of that goal. Through undergraduate and graduate programs in nursing and pre-professional programs in the sciences, the University provides health care practitioners to serve the State. The University works as the leading partner in the Delta Health Alliance, a collaborative effort with other Delta stakeholders, which conducts research and provides education on the health care needs of the region."

The mission of Roberts-LaForge Library is closely aligned to the overall mission of Delta State University – to support DSU's undergraduate, graduate and continuing education programs, faculty research and service, and to provide access to information resources for the wider

community that promote the “intellectual, cultural, ethical, physical and social development” of the citizens of the Mississippi Delta.

This "Commitment to Health" was put into action with the launch of a campus-wide Year of Health and Wellness in the Delta in August 2006. As part of its participation that year, Roberts-LaForge Library applied for a National Libraries of Medicine (NLM) Express Outreach Grant to fund a series of consumer health workshops throughout the region. The target audiences for these workshops were librarians and library staff working in Dancing Rabbit Library Consortium member libraries. Additionally, however, the workshops were designed to be of interest to other professionals and individuals who provide or facilitate access to consumer health information for clients, consumers, students, representatives of consumer groups such as seniors or minorities, K-12 educators, school nurses, and the public at large. As a follow-up to the NLM grant, Roberts-LaForge Library is committed to providing ongoing librarian-to-librarian reference services in the area of consumer health via telephone, email, U.S. mail, and interlibrary loan.

DANCING RABBIT CONSORTIUM

Located in the heart of the Mississippi Delta, Delta State University serves as an educational and cultural center for the region through its role as a Carnegie Master's I university. In support of these goals, Roberts-LaForge Library has always considered outreach to the larger regional community as part of its purpose. As a National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM) partner, Roberts-LaForge Library, not only acquires and maintains resources to support DSU's graduate and undergraduate programs in Nursing, Education, Health and Physical Education, Nutrition, Counselor Education, and Social Work, it also shares resources with other community colleges and universities throughout the United States through NNLM's interlibrary loan program. Additionally, reciprocal borrowing agreements with other Mississippi universities allow distance education students to check out books from the Roberts-LaForge Library for use in online classes offered by universities around the state. Delta Area School District employees and Head Start teachers are also provided borrowing privileges by presenting their school district identification card.

In 2001, as part of its commitment to serve a wider community, Roberts-LaForge Library took a leading role in creating the Dancing Rabbit Library Consortium, a cooperative library network made up of ten county and library systems in Mississippi, including Bolivar, Sharkey, Sunflower, and Washington counties. In May of 2004 this consortium was honored by the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET) with their Multi-type Library Cooperation award. Its mission is to develop and improve library service in Northwest Mississippi through collaborative efforts. As a result, any citizen with a library card from any of the ten participating county library systems can check out books from Delta State University's collections.

RESOURCE SHARING & TRAINING

From its beginnings, the Dancing Rabbit Library Consortium has emphasized resource sharing and ongoing staff development among its members. Following in this tradition, Roberts-LaForge Library planned and presented six training workshops for public librarians, school librarians, and members of the general public to address the topic of consumer health e-literacy. These events

were made possible by the previously mentioned Express Outreach Project Award from NLM. Efforts to assist and train librarians and teachers in the area of consumer health and health education have continued beyond the parameters of the NLM grant and include workshops presented by Delta State University librarians and sponsored by the Mississippi Library Commission, Bolivar County Library System, and the Delta Area Association for Improvement of Schools (DAAIS).

DSU HEALTHY CAMPUS/COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Led by the College of Education, and in collaboration with the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Mississippi, DSU's Healthy Campus/Community Initiative was created to develop and provide a sustainable model for institutions, schools and communities to create healthier environments for their employees, students and citizens by:

- Creating and providing health curricula in pre-service teacher and leadership programs, as well as health-related components in school district curricula;
- Creating a comprehensive Health and Wellness Center at Delta State University;
- Establishing a healthy campus/P-12 environment;
- Providing ongoing health information, screenings, and educational venues for the purpose of creating a healthy campus culture.

In support of this program, the library staff:

- Provides reference resources for DSU's Nursing and Allied Health programs, including other educational programs that emphasize healthier lifestyles in today's youth and citizenry in the areas of health and physical education, public education, counselor education, and social work.
- Provides resources and instructional sessions in support of allied health, nutrition, etc.
- Creates pathfinders, subject guides, and wellness flyers.

RESOURCE GUIDES

The following annotated list of resources provides access to up-to-date and authoritative data, reliable consumer health information, and links to downloadable pamphlets, brochures, and handouts that you can print, adapt, or order for your library. In this era of tight budgets, these invaluable resources provide an entire health and wellness library at your fingertips at little to no expense. All of these resources were compiled from the various workshops, presentations, and pathfinders created and hosted by DSU librarians.

Children

- **Building Blocks for a Healthy Future** – Maintained by the Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), this site is dedicated to helping children grow up happy and healthy. Sections for parents, educators, and children. Available at <http://www.bbblocks.samhsa.gov>.

- **Let's Move** – A government initiative aimed at ending childhood obesity. Includes tips and guidelines for eating and physical activity. The site also includes “5 Simple Steps to Success” for kids, parents, schools, and community leaders. Available at <http://www.letsmove.gov>.
- **MyPlate** – The official dietary plan from the USDA. An interactive section for professionals and consumers including children ages 2 – 11 is provided. Printable materials are included as well. Available at <http://www.choosemyplate.gov>.
- **Searchasaurus** – A database for kids that provides easy access to magazines, books, and articles on such topics as exercise, food, safety, and hygiene. Available through MAGNOLIA.
- **Team Nutrition** – Aimed at improving child nutrition programs, this site includes appropriate recipes, food buying guides, and an extensive “Best Practices Sharing Center.” Available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn>.
- **Tox Town** – An interactive site geared towards helping children and adults identify everyday toxic chemicals in common environments such as the city, the farm, and the town, just to name a few. Available at <http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov/index.php>.

Consumer Health

- **Consumer Health Complete** – One-stop-shop of authoritative and quality information for the layperson on everyday topics such as drugs, diseases, and illnesses. Available through MAGNOLIA.
- **Medline Plus** – Consumer health database produced by the National Library of Medicine. Find reliable and up-to-date information on “diseases, conditions, and wellness issues, anytime, anywhere, for free.” Available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/>.

General

- **CDC Publications** – Find fact sheets, reports, and guides for many public health issues. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/publications>.
- **Health.gov** – Introductory portal to health information on the Net. Includes an A to Z list, customized health advice, and common health guidelines.
- **Printable Materials from NN/LM** – Brochures and printable materials provided by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Available at <http://nnlm.gov/sea/services/promotional.html>.

Nutrition

- **Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion** – Contains dietary guidelines for Americans, healthy eating index, U.S. food plans, MyPlate guidelines, nutrient content of the U.S. food supply, and expenditures on children by families. Available at <http://www.cnpp.usda.gov>.
- **Food and Nutrition Information Center** – Dietary guides, selected web sites, articles, and publications prepared by the Food and Nutrition Information Center and the University of Maryland Department of Nutrition, and Food Science. Available at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic>.
- **National Nutrient Database** – Robust database that provides the nutritive value of many common foods and certain brands. Available at <http://ndb.nal.usda.gov>.

- **U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** – Responsible for protecting the public health by assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines, and other biological products, medical devices, our nation’s food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, and products that give off radiation. Available at <http://www.fda.gov>.
- **USDA Economic Research Service** – Provides up-to-date briefing reports, data sets, and links to publications by the USDA on food, nutrition, diet, and food health and safety. Available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov>.

Statistics

- **Health, United States** – Published annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, this report includes charts and tables on the U.S. population, health status of Americans, utilization and access to health care and health insurance expenditures, and much more. Available at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm>.

Statistics – Mississippi

- **Mississippi State Department of Health** – Click on the “Data and Statistics” link to access a wealth of Mississippi health data including county health reports; disease and vital statistics; time series data (including historical statistics), and cancer data. Also take notice of the “Most Requested” section for topical issues such as boil water notices and restaurant inspections. Available at <http://www.msdh.state.ms.us>.
- **Vital Records** – Information on acquiring birth, death, and marriage certificates. Available at http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/31,0,109.html.

For more information on providing consumer health information to your patrons, see “Providing Consumer Health Reference Services: Resources for Mississippi Libraries” in the Fall 2008 issue of *Mississippi Libraries*.

CONCLUSION

Roberts-LaForge Library’s commitment to healthy living exemplifies the old adage “knowledge is power.” Promoting these resources at local libraries and schools can have a lasting and significant impact on the physical development and lifestyle of every Mississippi citizen. DSU and Roberts-LaForge Library expect to fulfill their leadership role by continuing to foster collaborative, resource-sharing relationships, and to provide training opportunities for the greater Mississippi Delta community.

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“Useful Work Versus Useless Toil:” Cataloging with William Morris’s Work Ethic

John Leslie

Music Cataloger and Assistant Professor

J. D. Williams Library

University of Mississippi

INTRODUCTION

What would it take to change the widespread perception that cataloging is boring and tedious? In an article titled, “Why does everybody hate cataloging?,” LIS professor Heidi Lee Hoerman documents the wailing about cataloging from all but a handful of library school students, and she attributes their aversion to fear, ignorance, and the perception that the system is outmoded (2002, 30-31). Hoerman offers catalog-specific suggestions, but the problem also resides on a deeper level: a flawed conception of work itself. To address this issue in the profession, it is helpful to consult William Morris’s classic essay, “Useful Work versus Useless Toil.”

Figure 1: William Morris



Printed from a lecture delivered in 1884, the essay attacks the infamously exploitative system of labor in Victorian Britain, wherein the majority of people worked at mind-numbing tasks in squalid conditions for the benefit of the wealthy. Morris called for an end to the system, which he saw as tantamount to slavery, but he did so by asking for more than just better pay and shorter workdays. As a reputable artist, poet, and craftsman, Morris was in a unique position to demand that work be attractive and enjoyable. He believed that this aim would be fulfilled by making the products of work beautiful, looking back to medieval craftsmanship as a model.

Morris’s designs for textiles and wallpaper all show the application of his ideology, an ideology which can be applied to work well beyond the medieval revivalists’ handicrafts. As Petts asserts, “Arts and Crafts or Morrisian aesthetic theory is fundamentally one of good work rather than handicraft per se. Handicraft is perhaps best seen, in this light, as emblematic of good work for the Arts and Crafts *Movement* rather than good work’s sole artistic presence” (2008, 38). Stirling distills Morris’s thought on work to “joy in labour” (2002, 130), adding, “The

outcome of work that is a pleasure in itself is a product that has the qualities that Morris would call ‘art’” (2002, 133). If good work can be understood as art, then good cataloging may also be seen as an art.

Taking the lecture “Useful Work versus Useless Toil” as a starting point, this paper will examine the cataloging profession against Morris’s three criteria for good work: rest, product, and pleasure:

What is the nature of the hope which, when it is present in work, makes it worth doing? It is threefold, I think—hope of rest, hope of product, hope of pleasure in the work itself; and hope of these also in some abundance and of good quality; rest enough and good enough to be worth having; product worth having by one who is neither a fool nor an ascetic; pleasure enough for all for us to be conscious of it while we are at work. (1973, 87)

REST

Morris’s first precondition of worthwhile work is rest, because as he admits, not all work is enjoyable: “Whatever pleasure there is in some work, there is certainly some pain in all work, the beast-like pain of stirring up our slumbering energies to action, the beast-like dread of change when things are pretty well with us” (1973, 87). Because the job is sometimes tedious, it’s good to have a set hour each day when it will be over. While it may be true that catalogers sometimes struggle with tedium, they do have good hours and a stable schedule. At the end of the day, most are able to leave work at the office to allow a degree of mental repose. If they can avoid reading AACR2 at bedtime, catalogers should have enough rest to meet the first criteria of work.

But there is another component in Morris’s view of rest that deserves attention: leisure time. If Morris argued that time on the job ought to be more pleasurable, he also advocated using leisure time for productive pursuits. Ruth Kinna summarizes Morris’s thought this way: “maintaining the pleasure to be derived from work, he defined leisure as voluntary or unforced production, comparable with labor and the fulfillment of desire” (2000, 497). Admittedly, this benefit of the job has more to do with time away from work; so how does Morris address the problem of dissatisfaction with the work itself? One solution is to focus on the product.

PRODUCT

Product is a notion that catalogers will readily identify in their monthly statistics and in the book carts awaiting their attention, so product is the aspect of cataloging work that aligns most easily with Morris’s thought on craftsmanship. His ideas can be applied to the creation of cataloging product: bibliographic and authority records.

Morris called for excellence in work, resulting in “product worth having by one who is neither a fool nor an ascetic” (1973, 87). In other words, the product of work should be worthwhile, intelligent, and aesthetically pleasing. How can catalogers achieve these

standards in their work? They can control the quality of bibliographic records they create, and they can edit copy before putting it in their local systems. Creating and editing records with excellence requires time and concentration, not to mention a commitment to the integrity of the catalog.

Unfortunately, as Hoerman describes, the quality of cataloging work is often minimal (2002, 33-34). She suggests that cost is the main reason for low standards of quality and fullness in bibliographic records. Cheap products lacked quality in Morris's day, too, and his resounding pronouncement on the subject is worth repeating: "But it is waste of time to try to express in words due contempt of the productions of the much praised cheapness of our epoch" (1973, 92). Product worth having requires an investment, both on the part of workers and on the part of consumers. The problem of cheap cataloging can be solved then at the personal level and at the institutional level.

On the personal level, catalogers should examine their performance, remembering that the accuracy or inaccuracy of their work has real potential for good or for harm. When catalogers employ thorough description and subject analysis, they can provide access to needed resources; but of course, the opposite is also true. The discipline of determining the "aboutness" of an item is particularly important, because catalogers are virtually placing intellectual content in an ontological box, and if it's the wrong box, it may never be found. As Sheila Bair writes, "Catalogers should be vigilant in ensuring that they do not purposely or inadvertently 'censor' or 'lose' information through inaccuracy and the use, misuse, or nonuse of encoding, subject headings, classification schemes, and authority control" (2005, 17).

Authority control is another crucial ethical responsibility, assigning authorship to the right person. Sometimes authority work requires much research to distinguish one name from another, to determine which John Smith in the list of John Smiths is responsible for the item in hand. Imagine the outrage an author might feel if his work was misattributed to another person with the same name but different life dates. Thus follows the ethical responsibility to work hard at accurate subject analysis and at authority control.

On the institutional level, cataloging is expensive. It is labor-intensive. But as Hoerman points out, if libraries revert to a lower standard of quality in cataloging, the resulting product will not be worth the cost (2002, 33). No, catalogers should insist on making their bibliographic records rich in information, remembering that their time and effort is valuable and costly. Ironically, when catalogers devote special care to the creation of bibliographic records, their production statistics may decrease. Administrators should be mindful of this fact, and should look for quality as well as quantity in assessing performance.

Administrators can also contribute to catalogers' job satisfaction by allowing a degree of autonomy in decision-making, particularly concerning choice of materials to catalog. Cataloger autonomy will look different across institutions; one library may give catalogers a voice in meetings to discuss workflow, another may present them with a large backlog and invite them to take their pick of items to catalog.

Giving catalogers more control of their work should improve job satisfaction. Morris's principle of autonomy is well paraphrased by Rob Breton (2002, 50): "The worker, simply put, in order to take pleasure in the work and thus make a work of art, also has to decide for himself or herself what it is that he or she is going to make and then have equal social and intellectual access to it." When catalogers do this with excellence, they can enjoy the products of their work, falling in step with Morris's second criteria for pleasurable work.

PLEASURE (CRAFT)

Pleasure in work for Morris hinges on rest and beautiful products, but also in the free exercise of one's craft. Indeed, craft should be given pride of place in cataloging if the job is to be enjoyable. Morris's vision of craftsmanship takes on mythical proportions: "But a man at work, making something which he feels will exist because he is working at it and wills it, is exercising the energies of his mind and soul as well as his body. Memory and imagination help him as he works. Not only his own thoughts, but the thoughts of the men of past ages guide his hands; and, as a part of the human race, he creates" (Morris 1973, 88).

However utopian this pronouncement sounds, notice that Morris's version of craft is guided by the earthy standard of precedent, using proven methods of artisans of the past. In the same way, catalogers are guided by standards that have proven effective for the description and organization of library materials.

Mastery of the craft of cataloging takes years of experience and diligence, much like the apprenticeship that craftsmen undertake to master their art. And it's true that the mind must be engaged with what Morris outlines above—memory, imagination, and thought are required when the item being cataloged presents unusual variations on the norm, or falls between standard categories. The cataloger often employs such thoughts in original work, describing materials for which no bibliographic records exist, "making something which he feels will exist because he is working at it and wills it." It is a privilege to have such ownership of one's work and to share it, to know that the exercise of one's cataloging abilities will benefit others directly through time savings in their work and research.

So the craft of cataloging is an exercise of one's hard-earned abilities within well-defined limits with standards that have been proven over time. When done well, it participates in what Petts calls "art as good work" (2008, 31). As he says, "The proper state of affairs would involve everyone being able to exercise this 'gift' of sensing beauty in the world both in making and appreciating." (2008, 41)

CONCLUSION

There are a number of applications to take away from this reading of Morris, some for catalogers and some for their supervisors. For catalogers, a pride in quality work

performed with good craftsmanship should enhance their jobs. An intentional and productive use of leisure time, often taken for granted, may also enhance workers' perception of their jobs. For supervisors, it is crucial to build autonomy into cataloging workflows so as to foster creativity and a sense of ownership in the net product of the cataloging unit.

The benefits do not come without cost. Establishing lower quotas to allow for more careful work ultimately costs more of catalogers' time. Changing a physical workplace to make it more attractive costs money. Indeed, more autonomy for catalogers can have one of the hardest costs to concede: less direct administrative control. But these costs will ultimately benefit the whole library, not to mention patrons who will benefit from an improved library catalog.

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News Briefs: Spring 2013

NEW GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN YOUTH SERVICES AND LITERATURE AT USM

The School of Library and Information Science at The University of Southern Mississippi is pleased announce the new Graduate Certificate in Youth Services and Literature. The 15-credit hour certificate includes online courses related to literature, programs, services, and related topics for youth (birth to age 18).

The Certificate can be earned with an MLIS degree, a related master's degree or as post-master's certificate for those holding an MLS or master's degree in a related field. For more information, please contact <mailto:Stacy.Creel@usm.edu> or visit us at: <http://www.usm.edu/slis>.

Additionally, the Graduate Certificate in Archives and Special Collections, initiated in 2009, has added a new course to the list of possible electives—LIS 580 British Studies. For more information, please contact <mailto:Teresa.Welsh@usm.edu> or visit us at: <http://www.usm.edu/slis>.

Courses for both certificates are online; the practicum required for the archival certificate can be done at an approved archive or special collection near the student.

*Submitted by
Teresa S. Welsh, Ph.D.
Associate Professor School of Library & Information Science
University of Southern Mississippi*

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2ND ANNUAL WORDS AND MUSIC COMMUNITY CULTURE SERIES CLOSES WITH A CONCERT IN THE COURTYARD BY THE BRUCE DAIGREPONT CAJUN BAND

The Pass Christian Public Library closed our 2nd Annual Words and Music Community Culture Series with a "Concert in the Courtyard" by the Bruce Daigrepoint Cajun Band on Friday evening March 15, 2013. The series started on December 20 with a presentation of "Mark Twain-100 Years Later". The series also featured story teller Colleen Sutherland on January 31 and Dr. Lawrence Powell, author of "The Accidental City" on February 7.

We are able to offer this series through a generous grant from the Mississippi Development Authority! To learn more, you can visit <http://www.ci.pass-christian.ms.us> or <http://www.harrison.lib.ms.us> or email at <mailto:passchristianlibrary@gmail.com> or you can call the Pass Christian Public Library at 228-452-4596.



The Bruce Daigrepoint Cajun Band performs in the Pass Christian City Hall Courtyard as part of the Pass Christian Library 2nd Annual Words and Music Community Culture Series.

*Submitted by
Wendy Allard
Children's Librarian
Pass Christian Public Library*

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RIBBON CUTTING FOR THE NEW EAST HANCOCK PUBLIC LIBRARY

A ribbon cutting ceremony officially opened the new East Hancock Public Library was Thursday, March 14. The library is located at 4545 Shepherd Square on the campus of Hancock Medical Center. The new \$1.3 million 7,000 square foot library, funded by federal CDBG and HUD grants obtained by the Hancock County Board of Supervisors, is a contemporary glass-and-steel building featuring a reading room with comfortable seating areas and the latest technology. This new state-of-the-art building, designed around a river theme, once open, is expected to become one of the busiest of the library system's five branches.

The library houses books, books on CD, movies on DVD, public Internet computers, and wireless Internet access inside and outside the building. Children will be able to visit the Mark Twain-themed children's library and community organizations may use the meeting room.

Hours for the new library will be Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



The ribbon cutting ceremony at the new East Hancock Public Library

*Submitted by
Mary M. Perkins
Public Affairs/Development Officer
Hancock County Library System*

People in the News: Spring 2013

On November 30, 2012, Watkins Elementary School Librarian **David Schommer** was named Watson Quality Ford Teacher of the Week. At Watkins, in addition to his regular responsibilities, Mr. Schommer is responsible for the school's book fairs, Accelerated Reader program, yearbook, photographing school events, school newsletter, grant-writing, school & PTA websites, assisting teachers with spending their Educational Enhancement Funds, reading fair and more. In 2006, he also published the school's newspaper. He serves as project leader for the Watkins Playground Project and to date has raised over \$100,000 for the project, including a Project Fit America grant. Also serving as recycling coordinator for the school, the Watkins Recycling Program won the 2011 Keep America Beautiful State Recycle Bowl and was named Educational Institution 2012 Recycler of the Year for Mississippi by the Mississippi Recycling Coalition.

His library received grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities in 2007, 2008 and 2009 and a \$5,000 Laura Bush Foundation Grant in 2011. In 2010, he received the Outstanding Educator Award by Parents for Public Schools and the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson. A photographer as well, his photograph "Reflections" was featured on the cover of the 2010 Summer edition of Mississippi Libraries . In 2011, he was named a Metro Jackson Teacher of the Year by the Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership. Also in 2011, he successfully completed the Paul Lacoste Fit-4-Teaching program, placing in the Top 10 and receiving the Healthy Lifestyle Change Award. He has been nominated a Mississippi Teacher of the Year.



Schommer

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There have been some big changes going on at the Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library in Oxford, MS.

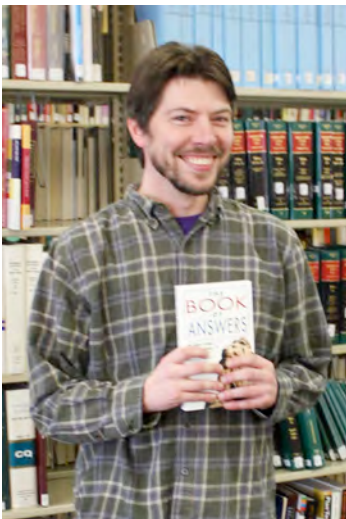
Dorothy Fitts, known as "Dotsy" around town, retired in October after being the Head Librarian since 1968. Ms. Fitts was a strong advocate for literacy and libraries and encouraged several of her staff members over the years to pursue graduate degrees in Library Science. Two of those staff members have now advanced in their careers at the library.

Laura Beth Walker has been promoted from Reference Librarian to Head Librarian. She received her MLS from the University of Alabama in 2001 and has been with the Library since 1997. Replacing Ms. Walker as Reference Librarian is **Corey Vinson**. He received his MLS from the

University of Mississippi, and has been working as Library Assistant at the Oxford Public Library. The Lafayette County & Oxford Public Library is a branch of First Regional Library. For more information, visit <http://www.firstregional.org>.



Fitts, Walker



Vinson

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Joyce M. Shaw, head librarian at Gunter Library at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, co-authored a book with Betty Hancock-Shaw, circulation specialist at Gulf Coast Library, both affiliated with The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast. *Images of America – Ocean Springs* was published in December 2012 by Arcadia Publishing. It contains nearly 200 photographs that provide a unique look at the history of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, a town that is now a lively arts community but has roots reaching back to a French settlement in 1699. Shaw is a former chair of the Special Libraries Section of

the Mississippi Library Association.



Shaw

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Dr. Carole Kiehl, formerly dean of University Libraries at The University of Southern Mississippi, was named Special Assistant to the Provost for Analysis and Planning and will work with university Provost Dr. Denis Wiesenburg in that capacity. In her new position, Kiehl will evaluate emerging software and technologies that support academic programs, assist in developing an academic space plan, and work with the academic assessment office on accreditation recertifications. Kiehl served as dean of University Libraries from August 2008 until January 2013.



Kiehl

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Named interim dean of University Libraries was **Dr. Melanie J. Norton**, associate professor and director of the School of Library and Information Science at Southern Miss since January 2003. Norton has been a faculty member at Southern Miss since August 1993.



Norton

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Dr. Elizabeth Haynes, associate professor in the School of Library and Information Science, was named interim director of the School. Haynes, whose academic specialties include cataloging and school librarianship, has been a faculty member in the Library School since 1998.



Haynes

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Kathleen Wells, Senior Catalog Librarian at the University of Southern Mississippi retired at the end of March after a forty-year career in libraries, seventeen of which were spent in Mississippi. She received her M.S.L.S. at Louisiana State University. Kathy served as Coordinator of Cataloging Services at the Mississippi Library Commission from 1995-1998 before moving to Southern Miss as Senior Catalog Librarian. Among her many accomplishments at Southern Miss are her invaluable participation in two online library system migrations, responsibility for cataloging Special Collections materials and elimination of catalog backlogs of Mississippi state documents and rare books, and her training and mentoring of staff and librarians into successful professional librarian careers of their own.

An active member of Mississippi Library Association (MLA), she has given many presentations at MLA conferences and MLA's Technical Services Round Table workshops, as well as at Southeastern Librarian Association conferences. She played a key role in the Cooperative Online Resource Catalog (CORC) project of the Online Computer Library Center (1999), designed to integrate records for Web resources into library catalogs. She was responsible for formalizing Name Authority Cooperative Program (NACO) authority work during 2001-2013. She authored nationally published surveys on authority work and on the impact of downsizing technical services positions in libraries. In service to Southern Miss, Kathy served as corresponding secretary on Academic Council (2004-2006) and twice represented University Libraries on the University Advisory Committee.

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Watkins Elementary librarian **David Schommer** was named a Watson Quality Ford Teacher of the Week! Schommer is serving in his eighth year as library/media specialist at Watkins. Some of his additional responsibilities at the school include coordinating the school's book fairs, newsletter, and yearbook, photographing school events, grant-writing, and managing the content on the school's and PTA's websites. He is also instrumental in the Watkins' recycling program, student garden, and playground projects. Schommer also serves on the school's administrative team, JPS Recycling Committee, JPS Partners in Education Advisory Board and the Junior League of Jackson's Community Advisory Council. In 2010, he was named an Outstanding Educator by Parents for Public Schools and the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson. In February 2011, Schommer was named a Metro Jackson Teacher of the Year by the Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership. Schommer received a check for \$100, a trophy, a gift pack, and a \$25 gift card from Watson Quality Ford.

Watson Quality Ford honors teachers in central Mississippi who have made a difference in the lives of their students. Watson Quality Ford and WAPT are encouraging students, parents, and school staff to nominate teachers for the Watson Quality Ford Home Team Teacher of the Week honor. To nominate your favorite teacher, visit WAPT.com.



Participating in the presentation were (from left) Gail Gibbs of Watson Quality Ford, Schommer, Watkins Principal Dr. Lisa Johnson, and Cliff Mitchell of Watson Quality Ford.

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Antoinette Giamalva has joined Delta State University as a Reference/ Instructional Services Librarian at Roberts-LaForge Library. Antoinette has worked for a number of years at the Flowood Public Library and is a recent graduate with her MLIS degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. Antoinette will work closely with other librarians on outreach projects, as well as, instruct classes on research skills.



Giamalva

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Lydia Brinkley, of Cleveland, MS, passed away on March 14, 2013. Lydia worked for the Bolivar County Library System for 22 years, most recently as Technical Services Librarian. To see her full obituary please go to <http://rayfuneralhome.net/book-of-memories/1520297/Brinkley-Lydia/obituary.php>.

Jennifer Wann Walker has been selected to attend the 2013 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Global Libraries Peer Learning Meeting in Cape Town, South Africa. The Global Libraries Peer Learning Meeting brings together librarians from around the world to learn from each other on the topics of exploring community engagement, building strong partnerships, assessing community needs, innovating in a local context, and strengthening the base of support from which libraries are funded. The Global Libraries Peer Learning Meeting will be held in Cape Town, South Africa April 22-25, 2013.

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Joyce M. Shaw, head of the Gunter Library at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, was elected by her fellow members to serve as SAIL Representative to the Board of the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers. SAIL, a regional group of IAMSLIC, is a network of 60 cooperating libraries from the Gulf Coast states in the southeastern and central United States, the Atlantic seaboard of North America--including central and eastern Canada, Bermuda, Bahamas, Caribbean, eastern Mexico, and Panama providing information and professional support to each other, scientific investigators, and the general public. IAMSLIC has over 300 members around the world representing libraries in governmental agencies, research institutions, and universities. Her term of service is three years beginning in May 2013.

Shaw is an associate professor at the University of Southern Mississippi and received her MLIS from Dominican University in River Forest, IL. She is a 17 year member of SAIL and has served on the

Mississippi Library Association board as Chair of the Special Libraries Section. She serves as an Assistant District Governor with Rotary International District 6840 and is a Past President of the Rotary Club of Ocean Springs.

*

Alice Pierotti, Branch Manager, and the entire Emily Jones Pointer Public Library in Como family, has been awarded the 2013 Award for Documenting Mississippi's History for their wonderful work entitled *Elders Remember Panola County Music: A Teen Oral History Project*
<http://www.firstregional.org/comoelders.html>.

It began as an LSTA project, garnered the John Cotton Dana Award for excellence (and a \$10,000 prize!) <http://www.ebscohost.com/academic/john-cotton-dana>, and now it has won this prestigious award from the Mississippi Historical Records Advisory Board.

Needless to say, the entire First Regional Library family is extremely proud of Alice, her staff, teen volunteers, and the entire Como community!

Cates, TJ. *Como Hunt Club*. Mustang, OK: Tate Publishing, 2010. 127 pp. \$10.99 (paperback).

The story presented in *Como Hunt Club* is unique and interesting with a ton of potential. Four young Memphis men are profiting from the sale of humans to be used as game for a group of wealthy hunters in Mississippi. When one of the victims is found beaten and bloodied on the riverbank, the entire town is in shock. It is politics as usual when the authorities from Memphis get involved. The author makes a bold statement about those that have and those that do not. The story is fast paced and engaging; unfortunately, that is where the positive ends.

The book is a mere 127 pages, and much of that is filler. Chapters average only 2 to 3 pages, with one chapter actually consisting of seven lines. New characters are not transitioned into a scene; they are awkwardly thrown into the middle. It is sometimes difficult to determine which character is speaking. The writing is choppy; there is not a smooth segue from one scene to another.

Overall, I would not consider *Como Hunt Club* a must-have book. Purchase only where locally set fiction is popular.

Jennifer J. Meister

Branch Manager

G. Chastaine Flynt Memorial Library

Yarbrough, Paul H. *Mississippi Cotton*. Salt Lake City, UT: WiDō Publishing, 2011. 216 pp. \$13.95 (paperback).

In the summer of 1951 Jake Connor, 10, takes his first solo bus ride from Jackson to the archetypical Mississippi Delta town of Cotton City. There Jake, a city boy, looks forward to spending a few weeks with his preadolescent cousins picking cotton, fishing and going to the movies. Soon after getting on the bus Jake finds out an older African American man was recently found murdered floating in the river near his destination. The story that unfolds is a murder mystery as seen by a 10-year-old Jake, but retold to the audience as an adult. Yet, there are some truths in the wild imaginations and innocence of three young cousins. While the foundation of the novel is a murder mystery, much of the book is dedicated to illustrating life in the Mississippi Delta in the early 1950s, as well as, a tribute to boyhood in general.

Paul Yarbrough, native of Mississippi, is a first time novelist with a background in math and physics. Now a retired resident of Houston, Texas with indicated love for the state of Mississippi. He dedicates the book to “Mississippi. The finest land; the finest people.” This story will charm the Mississippi Delta Baby Boomers who know first-hand what it is like to pick cotton in the oppressive heat of a southern summer. Furthermore, Jake’s 10-year-old point of view makes this significant to a young adult audience as well. This novel is appropriate for public and high school libraries especially collections that feature southern or Mississippi authors.

Judith Hilkert
Librarian
Hinds Community College

Wildmon, Allen. *Colonel William C. Falkner: Death on the Courthouse Square.* Denver: Outskirts Press, 2011. 196 pages. \$29.95 (hardcover).

In a short, simple portrayal of Colonel William Clark Falkner's life, Allen Wildmon pieces together historical documents, genealogical records, and his own fictitious narrative to write *Colonel William C. Falkner: Death on the Courthouse Square*. This 182-page novel, equipped with references to each historical tidbit, chronicles the life of the Nobel-winning author's great-grandfather. From running away from home as a teenager, to famous duels, to his illicit personal and business affairs, Wildmon retells the many heroic and dastardly episodes of Colonel Falkner's life. Within the narrative of his creative history, Wildmon uses actual excerpts from Falkner's personal letters and town newspapers, and he includes photographs of the historical "characters," artifacts, and locations from the post-Reconstruction Mississippi era, giving life and validity from another time in his present-day publication.

The excerpts themselves sparkle with the sheen of 19th-century Mississippi language. They also provide connections for readers to the local ephemera of towns and hamlets like Ripley, Oxford, Pontotoc, Holly Springs, and Walnut. A conversational, "fireside" narrative, the story itself is somewhat outshined by these illustrious ghosts of Mississippi's past. Wildmon's style provides quite a contrast to the language of Falkner's era, and his conversations between characters are somewhat trite and often stereotypical. For example, the complexities of Southern events often become reduced to the fickle ways of a woman, the showy manhood of a public figure, or the sycophantic loyalty of a freed slave. Not to be overlooked, the book also contains several factual and grammatical errors that seem to be the result of a lack of editing.

However, the genealogical connections, the landmark descriptions, and the retelling of such a Mississippian story merit this novel's attempts of bringing the Falkner family legacy to our bookshelves. This novel would be very appropriate for a public library, perhaps with local history volumes or Mississippiana archives. Wildmon's fascination with Colonel Falkner's life, which often transplants the reader into a Western folk tale, seems to be the glue that binds its pages. It is this quality that may even have the potential to spark this fascination for Mississippi legend in others.

Hillary Richardson
Library Associate
Mississippi State University

Sillery, Barbara. *The Haunting of Mississippi*. Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publishing Company, 2011. 312 pp. \$17.95 (paperback).

The back cover of *The Haunting of Mississippi* promises that Barbara Sillery will delve “into legends and myths, tracking the homes where spirits still roam,” but what really transpires is a road trip with antidotes. It is similar to Walt Grayson’s *Mississippi Roads*, with a walk around the building, a conversation with a local resident, and some pictures to give you a visual.

Fortunately, Sillery is a good writer. The descriptions of the landmarks and details of the stories she relates create internal images so that the reader feels as though they are there themselves, hearing the singing of the Pascagoula River or avoiding Donna Snow’s eyes from her portrait at Waverly. The stories of hauntings and history are vivid and interesting. Regrettably, Sillery does not cite any of her sources to validate the stories and some of the pictures are flat and taken from weird angles.

On the other hand, she does highlight Mississippi history and landmarks. There are not many books written about ghosts or hauntings in Mississippi, so she adds to that literature. But more importantly, through her investigations of each haunted building she tells the story of that place, how it was established and the life around that landmark. She educates the reader in Mississippi’s unique history. As the former chairwoman of the Natchez Pilgrimage Club stated, “I think when you personalize history, it makes it alive. That’s what ghosts do; you get to meet the people before you.” Another good point of the book is at the end there is a comprehensive appendix for more information about the sites visited. This encourages the reader to investigate further and perhaps visit the sites themselves.

Overall, *The Haunting of Mississippi* reads like an extended tour guide, and I believe it is a great book for a book shop or tourist stop. But I also encourage libraries to obtain at least one copy to supplement their paranormal collection.

Jennifer Delaney Rose
Public History Coordinator
Sunflower County Library System

Williams, Michael Vinson. *Medgar Evers: Mississippi Martyr*. Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2011. 453 pp. \$34.95.

No other work about Medgar Evers “provides an in-depth biographical analysis of Evers that details his overall role in and contributions to the civil rights movement in Mississippi and the nation at large,” writes the author, Michael Vinson Williams, of his work *Medgar Evers: Mississippi Martyr*. However, the book is more than the story of Medgar Evers and his contributions. It is also the story of how the Mississippi African Americans’ struggle for their civil rights fit into the national fight for civil rights in the United States of the 1950s and 1960s.

Michael Vinson Williams chronicles Medgar Evers’ life in order to highlight what he considers to be Evers’ largely overlooked contributions to the civil rights movement. Medgar Evers, a native of Decatur, Mississippi who later became an insurance salesman in Mound Bayou, observed first-hand the plight of poor African Americans in the Mississippi Delta region, and was moved to start chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in the surrounding area. Eventually, he became the field secretary for the NAACP in Mississippi from 1955 until his assassination in 1963. In this capacity, he reported violence and abuse of African Americans to the national NAACP office, and organized voter registration drives. But more than that, he was involved in all aspects of the fight for African Americans’ civil rights, and ultimately, he gave his life for that cause.

In this book, the author shares information gleaned from personal interviews with Medgar Evers’ family members and close friends, as well as other sources. Quoted sections of these interviews provide the reader true insights into the life and work of Medgar Evers, bringing the fight for civil rights in Mississippi to life.

Medgar Evers: Mississippi Martyr is recommended for public and academic libraries. The book is well written, engrossing, and has both extensive references as well as a bibliographical essay.

Sheryl Stump
Cataloger/Associate Professor
Delta State University

Crosby, Emily, ed. *Civil Rights History from the Ground Up: Local Struggles, A National Movement*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2011. 508 pp. \$26.95 (paperback).

Civil Rights History from the Ground Up seeks to expand our understanding of the civil rights movement, which “wasn’t what the American public thinks it was.” Contrary to the master narrative most Americans have come to accept, the movement began before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a bus, continued after the death of Martin Luther King, Jr., and owes more to ordinary citizens and community-based activism than to high-profile national leaders. This collection uses local studies to bring to light previously invisible stories, focusing on lesser-known figures such as Fannie Corbett and Ella Baker. Historians reexamine and reframe issues such as Black Power, the 1968 Poor People’s Campaign, and the lives of Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King.

The book is divided into three sections, progressing from local studies to synthesis with the national movement, and concluding with a section on “Creating and communicating movement history”, which includes a discussion of the political cartoons following the election of Barack Obama. Emily Crosby, professor of history at the State University of New York, Geneseo and author of *A Little Taste of Freedom: The Black Freedom Struggle in Claiborne County, Mississippi*, edited this collection and contributed an essay on the role of self-defense as well as interviews with SNCC staffer and filmmaker Judy Richardson.

In her concluding essay, Crosby discusses the effect of this more authentic, “bottom-up” approach to history on students at the Local Studies Conference at Geneseo, showing that “When students replace their myths with history, they become more engaged.” Learning how ordinary people changed society empowers students to participate in the ongoing struggle.

While in places this book fails to live up to its own ideals, presenting one-sided views of some issues, it provides excellent scholarship and insightful analysis of the field, highlighting areas for further research. This book is most appropriate for academic libraries, but is accessible enough to be of interest to public libraries as well.

Michelle Townsend
Cataloging Associate
Leland Speed Library
Mississippi College

Smith, Mark M. *Camille, 1969: Histories of a Hurricane*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2011. 90 pp. \$24.95 (hardcover)

Camille, 1969: Histories of a Hurricane, written by Mark M. Smith, takes an unfamiliar look at the devastating hurricane that hit southern Mississippi. Three themes were defined in the essays that were featured in the fifty-four page book: effects that this storm had on Mississippians' five human senses, the role politics played on the recovery efforts, and the results federal money had on the local economy. Each essay focused on how differently social classes were affected by this disaster and subsequent recovery. With a few historical facts incorporated into each essay, Mr. Smith made a point to highlight the civil right issues that were plaguing the state in the late 1960s. School integration and the lack of racial diversity on government councils were two matters discussed in length.

Because of the historical references and content level, *Camille 1969* would be best suited for a library in higher education. People studying civil rights in the South would find this book interesting on factual information yet somewhat confusing on the weak comparisons of possible civil right violations and hurricane relief provided by federal agencies.

With the magnitude of destruction that Hurricane Camille caused, Mr. Smith barely scraped the surface of what possibly occurred on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in August 1969 and the months following. More details of what actually occurred, more narratives and more illustrations would have enhanced this book, which focused mainly on civil rights in Mississippi during than 1960s than on Hurricane Camille.

Valeria Johnson
Librarian
St. Aloysius High School

MLA 2013 Election Candidates

These are official biographies for the candidates running for election this month to MLA offices. Those elected will begin service in January, 2014.

Vice President/President-Elect:



Patsy C. Brewer

Director

Waynesboro-Wayne County Library

Education: M.L.S., University of Southern Mississippi, 1990; B.A., University of Southern Mississippi, 1988; Minor in French and Computer Science, 1988; A.A. Jones County Junior College, 1986.

Professional experience: Waynesboro-Wayne County Library, Library Director, 1998 to present. Waynesboro

Memorial Library, Library manager, 1993-1998. Pine Forest Regional Library, Regional Services Librarian, Assistant Director, 1988-93. University of Southern Mississippi Circulation Department, Student worker, 1982-84.

Professional membership and activities: American Library Association (ALA) member 26 years; Public Library Association member; Southeastern Library Association member; Mississippi Library Association member; Past president of LIRT; Mississippi Society of Archivists member; Association of Rural and Small Libraries Association, Inc. member, Friends of the Waynesboro-Wayne County Library; Lifetime member of the USM Alumni Association. Accreditation Advisory Committee member for the Mississippi Public Library System Accreditation Program; 2010

Professional Presentations: Workshop Presenter for "Effective Adult Programming – for FREE" for the Mississippi Library Commission; 2008 Workshop Presenter for "Practical Promotions for Public Libraries" for the Mississippi Library Commission; 2010, 2011 Library display at the Mississippi State Capitol exhibitor

Community: Lifetime member of the USM Alumni Association; Southeast USM Alumni Association president, 2008-9; Civil Service Award from the Waynesboro Lions Club 2008; Community Service Award 2010 – National Society Daughters of the American Revolution – (National award); Secretary and member of the Wayne County Genealogy Organization, Inc.; General Federation of Women's Club Distinguished Service award; Member of the Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs – Fine Arts Club; Member of the Between the Lines book club; Past President, Reporter of The Fortnightly Club of Waynesboro; 2009-10 Mississippi Daughters of the American Revolution State Genealogical Records Chairman. Co-Treasurer of TEAM W.

Vice President/President-Elect:



Jenniffer L. Stephenson
Director
Greenwood-Leflore Public Library System

Education: Master's Degree in Library and Information Science, University of Southern Mississippi, December, 2010; Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, University of Mississippi, 2003.

Professional Work Experience: Director, Greenwood-Leflore Public Library System, March, 2011 to present; Director, Carroll County Public Library System, March, 2005 – February, 2011.

Professional Memberships and Activities: Selected by the Mississippi Library Commission as one of two public library directors to represent Mississippi at the 2006 PLA Annual Conference; Mississippi Library Association, member 2007 to present, Workshop Presenter 2007 and 2012, Public Library Section Chair 2012, National Library Week Committee Co-Chair 2013; American Library Association, member 2011 to present, NMRT, YALSA, LLAMA, LLAMA LOMS, PLA; Association for Rural & Small Libraries, member 2009 to present, ARSL State Representative for Mississippi 2011 to present; Graduate of MLC's Librarianship 101 and 201 Institutes; Served on MLC Public Library System Accreditation Committee, 2007; MLC Public Librarian Scholarship Committee, 2012; and recently selected to attend the 2013 Mississippi Library Leadership Institute.

Volunteer Experience and Community Service: Friends of the Carrollton-North Carrollton Public Library, ex officio member 2007 – 2011; Greenwood-Leflore County Chamber of Commerce, member and Ambassador, 2011 to present; Greenwood Rotary Club, member 2012 to present, Student of the Month/Scholarship Chairperson, 2012-2013.

Awards: MLC Public Librarian Scholarship, 2008; Bernard Vavrek Library Student Scholarship (ARSL), 2009; OCLC Scholarship for attending Project Compass National Convening in Arlington, VA, 2012.

Secretary:



Janet Y. Armour
Librarian
Itawamba Community College

Professional Work Experience: Itawamba Community College, Librarian
June 2010 to present.

Taught professional development classes for faculty and staff, including presentation at Faculty Meetings. Have lead and served on college committees and associations including the Faculty Association and a NISOD (International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence)

Conference presenter June 2011. Media Specialist/Librarian, Tupelo High School, Tupelo, MS: 2004 – 2010. Library Media Assistant, Church Street Elementary School, Tupelo, MS: 2000 – 2004. Account Representative/Media Buyer, Robinson & Associates, Tupelo, MS: 1989 -2000. Customer Service Representative, Ford Motor Credit Company, Memphis, TN: 1986-1989.

Education

University of Southern Mississippi – Master of Library and Information Science, 2003;
University of Mississippi – Bachelor's Business Administration, 1986; St. Mary's Dominican High School, New Orleans, LA. - High School Diploma, 1982.

Professional Affiliations

Mississippi Library Association – Served on MLA Author Awards Committee 2011-2012, MLA Conference chaired Poster Sessions. Chairman of the Two Year College Round Table, 2011-2012. A Member since 2009

Tupelo Itawamba Community College Faculty Association – Incoming president for 2013-2014. Served as secretary, 2012-2013

Delta Kappa Gamma (Professional Women Educators) – Communications Chairman 2012 – 2013. A member since 2010.

Secretary:



Marsha A. Case
Assistant Director for Technical Services
Jackson/Hinds Library System

Education: M.L.S., University of Southern Mississippi, 1994; B.S., Mississippi State University, 1981; A.A., Hinds Community College, 1977.

Professional Experience: Assistant Director for Technical Services, Jackson/Hinds Library System, 2004–present; Coordinator of Technical Services Division, JHLS, 2004; Collection Development Coordinator, JHLS, 1995-2004;

Northside Branch Manager, JHLS, 1994-95; South Hills Branch Professional Assistant, JHLS, Summer 1994; Clerk, Technical Services Dept., JHLS, 1986-1994; Clerk, Technical Services Dept., Jackson Metropolitan Library System, 1980-1986; Student Assistant, Technical Services Dept., Mitchell Memorial Library, Mississippi State University, 1977-1979.

Professional Activities: MLA—1994-present; National Legislative Week Committee; Public Relations Awards Committee Chair—2002-04; Hospitality Committee Chair, 2005; Awards Committee, 2005-2009, 2011; Awards Committee Chair—2007-2009; Author Awards Committee—2007, 2010-2011; Public Library Section Chair—2007, 2012; Fiscal Management Committee—2007-2008, MLA Secretary—2009; Nominating Committee Chair—2010; Local Arrangements Chair—2010.

Honors: Beta Phi Mu, Beta Psi Chapter, National Library Science Honor Society, 1995-present; Beta Phi Mu, Beta Psi Chapter, Secretary/Treasurer, 2003-present.

Treasurer:



Blair Booker
Librarian
Holmes Community College
Ridgeland, MS

Education: M.L.I.S., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 2007. B.S., University of North Alabama, English, Florence, Alabama,

2004.

Professional Work Experience: Holmes Community College Libraries, Librarian, 2008 to present. Mississippi Library Commission, Reference Librarian, 2007-2008. Mississippi State University Libraries, Graduate Internship, 2006.

Professional Memberships and Activities: Mississippi Library Association (MLA) member 2007 to present. Chair, MLA Registration Committee 2012-2013. Assistant Editor, *Mississippi Libraries*, 2009-present. Secretary, MLA-ACRL, 2013. Volunteer, QuestionPoint Ask-a-Librarian, 2011-present.

Community Service: Choir member at First United Methodist Church, Ridgeland.

Treasurer:



James Kennedy
Serials/Reference Librarian
Hinds Community College

Education: M.L.I.S., University of Southern Mississippi, 1996. M.A., History, Mississippi State University, 1993. B.A., Communication, Mississippi State University, 1989.

Professional Work Experience: Hinds Community College, Serials/Reference Librarian and Adjunct Instructor, Raymond, MS, 2000 to present. Laurel – Jones County Library, Reference Librarian, 1997 – 2000.

Professional Membership and Activities: *American Library Association:* Member, 1995 to present. *American College and Research Libraries:* Member, 2001 to present. *Mississippi Library Association (MLA):* Member, 1998 to present. Chair: Publicity Committee, 1999; Two Year College Roundtable, 2004; Publications Committee, 2005; Educational Communication & Technology Roundtable, 2005 – 2006; Nominating Committee, 2012. *Central Mississippi Library Council*, Chair, 2008.

Selected Publications: "Oil and Gas Industry." *Mississippi Encyclopedia* (forthcoming). "Job Searching: (Mostly) Mississippi Web Sites." *Mississippi Libraries* 64 (2000): 21 – 22.

Selected Presentations: "But I Didn't Know I Was Creating An Outlaw Wiki." Presented to the 2008 Mississippi Library 2.0 Summit. "Libraries and Wireless." Presented with Sean Farrell to the 2006 MLA Educational Communication & Technology Roundtable. "What I Did Last Summer: Electronic Access to Subscribed Journals." Presented to the 2004 Educational Communication & Technology Roundtable.

Community Service: Active member of Raise Your Pints.

ALA Councilor:



Ellen Hunter Ruffin
Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection
The University of Southern Mississippi
Hattiesburg, MS

Education: M.L.I.S., The University of Southern Mississippi, 1998.
 B.A., The University of Southern Mississippi, 1977.

Professional Work Experience: Curator, de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, 2006-present. Librarian, Hattiesburg High School, 2001-2006. Librarian, Stone County High School, 1998-2001. Instructor, English Language Institute, The University of Southern Mississippi, 1996-1998. Literacy Coordinator, Itawamba Community College, 1991-1996. Literacy Coordinator, Sunflower County Library, 1987-1991.

Professional Memberships and Activities: American Library Association, 1998-present. Division member, ALSC, 2006-present; Elected to the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award Committee, for 2013-2015; Chair, Bechtel Fellowship and Special Collections Committee, 2010-2012; Elected to 2009 Newbery Committee. Division member, YALSA, 2006-present. Mississippi Library Association, 1998-present; Mississippi Author Awards, 2010-2011. Children's Literature Association, 2006-present; on ballot for Phoenix Award in 2012, co-host 2013 Conference. United States Board on Books for Young People, 2006-present; Ambassador for Mississippi, 2012. Judge, Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award, The Center for the Book, Pennsylvania State University, 2012. Ezra Jack Keats New Author and New Illustrator Awards, Executive Committee, 2011-present.

Other Service: Mississippi Children's Museum, Educator Advisory Board, 2011-present. Hattiesburg Arts Council, Board Member, 2009-2012. Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival: Advisory board, 2005-present; Steering Committee, 2010-present; Medallion Committee, 2006-present. Mississippi Children's Choice Awards (MAGNOLIA), Board Member, 2009-present.

Selected Publications and Presentations:

- Ruffin, Ellen. "Read to Succeed: Strategies to Engage Children and Young People in Reading for Pleasure." *Public Libraries*. 51.3 (2012).
- Capell, Laura, and Ellen Hunter Ruffin. "Dispelling the Myths: Primary Sources in the K-12 Classroom." *Children and Libraries* 7.1 (Spring 2009): 26-31. Print.
- Ashmore, Ann, and Ellen Hunter Ruffin. "A Perfect Setting: Margret and H. A. Rey in New York, Again!" Forthcoming, *Children and Libraries* (Winter 2011).
- Ruffin, Ellen H. "The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection: 46 Years of Collecting." *The Collectors' Club*, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS. March 2012.
- Ruffin, Ellen H. and Jones, Dee. "How Curious George Came to Hattiesburg." *Still Curious? Lecture Series*, Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS. June 2012.
- Ruffin, Ellen H. "Treasures from the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection." *Mississippi Library Association*, Natchez, MS. October 2012.
- Ruffin, Ellen. "One Woman's Vision: The Lena Y. de Grummond Children's Literature Collection and the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival 46 Years Later." *Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Regional Conference*, Birmingham, AL. October 2012.
- Ruffin, Ellen. "Surviving the Newbery Challenge: Or...The Year of Living Dangerously." *Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Regional Conference*, Birmingham, AL. October 2012.
- Ruffin, Ellen. "Lena de Grummond and H. A. and Margret Rey: A Friendship." *Lauren Rodgers Museum of Art*, Laurel, MS. October 2012.

ALA Councilor:



Dr. Blanche Sanders
Dean, University Libraries
Alcorn State University

Background and Professional Experience: Dr. Blanche Sanders, Dean of University Libraries, provides leadership in library services at Alcorn State University and its branch campuses. Blanche brings over seventeen years of experience and professional training in direct library service and administrative leadership during which she served as Circulation Assistant and Coordinator, Circulation Librarian, Archivist(1996-1999), and Assistant Professor (2000 to present).

Education: Sanders earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration and M.A. in Elementary Education and Guidance Education both from Alcorn State University; Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Southern Mississippi; and Ph.D. from Mississippi State University.

Professional Memberships and Activities: She is a member of the American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries, and the Society of Mississippi Archivist. She also has received professional training in library service from; the HBCU Library Alliance Exchange (2008), Information Literacy Leadership Institute (2008), Graduate of Harvard Institute for Higher Education Program, Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians (2007), Graduate of Peabody Professional Institutes, Summer Institute for Academy Library Leadership (2006), HBCU Library Alliance, Leadership Institute I and II (2005-2006), the Grant Institute (2004), and HBCU Archives Institute (2001), and was named the 1890 Vice-President Elect for Library Deans/Directors Association. Most recently she was featured in the publication *"Who's Who in Black Mississippi 2012"*.

Goals and Outlook: In seeking to optimize the ASU learning experience and environment, the library has become an information commons facility and lead player in implementing integrated services. These services have aggregated library, technology, and other campus services. In turn, fostering informal collaborative work and social interaction, which are conducive to the 21st Century students.

Personal: Dr. Sanders is married to Dr. George Sanders, Office of Financial Aid (Alcorn State). To this union, they have one daughter, Dannielle Sanders.