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Bookmark - McKee Library Newsletter

Spring 2011

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McKee Library

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The library can no longer be described as simply a quiet book-filled space. It is increasingly becoming a place where knowledge is not only found, but also shared, developed, and experienced. On a daily basis this is evident by the ever rotating number of students at the computers and in the study rooms.

During Alumni Homecoming Weekend, McKee Library took the opportunity to increase awareness of what the library has to offer and to share the semester-long celebration of the library’s 40th anniversary.

On October 29, the library hosted Recitation III - Celebrating Mark Twain (see page 3). This was followed an hour later by a tour of the Barry Moser art exhibit (see page 2) by art major Nancy Valencia. At noon, the library hosted a Southern Scholars Luncheon, the first of its kind. It was a chance for alumni scholars to reconnect and visit the new Southern Scholars Wall in the library. In the afternoon Shane Anderson, author of How to Kill Adventist Education and How to Give it a Fighting Chance, spoke to a large audience of alumni, students, and educators. The panel discussion following the lecture provided additional thought provoking ideas on saving a school system that is vitally important.

On October 31 the library held its first-ever Author Fair. Fifteen authors participated in the event, giving book readings and signings. The ABC provided book sales. A highlight of the event was Southern student Rainy Park with her new book Love, Kirsten. Park provides a beautiful look into the life and death of Southern student and missionary Kirsten Wolcott. Join us this year for more exciting events!

If I were to sum up Patricia Beaman’s career as a librarian I would call it unexpected and exciting. Graduating from La Sierra University with a degree in French, Beaman went right into medical librarianship with a job at Glendale Adventist Hospital. Working at the university library while in school prepared her for her first job and gave her a taste of a career path that would span over 40 years. One of Beaman’s first accomplishments was managing editor of the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature. CINAHL was a first of its kind in the nursing field and has grown over the years from a single bibliographic database to a comprehensive resource now owned by EBSCO.
While in California she also completed her master’s degree in Library Science. Beaman’s next adventure took her to what is now Middle East University in Lebanon where she worked as a librarian for two years. Her love of travel made this an ideal job, but she enjoyed medical librarianship and so upon returning to the states she worked as a librarian for the Texas Center for Infectious Disease where she retired in 1998 after 24 years of service.

In 1998 Beaman was invited to join the staff at McKee library where she worked first as Technical Services Manager and then as Periodicals Librarian. Beaman has been instrumental in shaping the technological updates that the library has seen. Her first task involved going from a print system for managing serials to an automated one with the serials module of ALEPH. This allowed another major ongoing periodicals project to take place, the move from print to ejournals. She also served as chair of the website committee and more recently coordinated the digitization of Southern publications, which are now available online.

In Beaman’s quiet and cheerful manner I have seen a dedicated Christian women who excelled at her job. “It was a good career for me” Beaman said. It must have been, because Beaman is now retiring for the second time after 12 years at Southern. Her immediate plans? She’s not sure, but they will probably involved traveling. First on the list: Paris and Greece! We wish her all the best.
There have been many great events, exhibits, and accomplishments in 2010 as we celebrated the 40th anniversary of McKee Library. One of these was the redesign of the library webpage.

When I joined the library team in July 2008, there had been a major update to the library webpage. The improved functionality and fresh appearance were warmly welcomed, but a goal had already been set to integrate the library page into the institutional SharePoint system.

The new library page was created collaboratively to improve both layout and organization. Users can easily find needed information and also enjoy the virtual library environment. Carol Loree, project manager for the new webpage, says that “like the recent remodeling of the physical library building, the transformation of the website makes it not only a place where users can get things done, it’s a pleasant place to hang out—an important priority for students.” She further adds that “the library website makeover is a giant step toward our ultimate goal of providing an attractive and highly usable website with intuitive, seamless navigability. Every design and content decision was made with users in mind.”

This redesign of the library webpage is just one example of how our library continues to focus on users as we support teaching and learning at Southern.

THE DUANE AND EUNICE BIETZ COLLECTION

“When I am king, they shall not have bread and shelter only, but also teachings out of books, for a full belly is little worth where the mind is starved.”

- Mark Twain, The Prince and the Pauper

It is a great privilege for McKee Library to provide Southern’s students with literary and technological resources that help them excel in their studies. It is greater still when we are given the opportunity to offer them something that they could not have access to elsewhere. Until now, the Thomas Memorial Collection of Abraham Lincoln and Civil War materials was the extent of our special collections.

On October 29 we celebrated the arrival of the Duane and Eunice Bietz Collection of Mark Twain books and artifacts. Southern alum Richard Garey, a professional Mark Twain actor, performed a short sketch on the life of Mark Twain. Students and staff read passages and poems from Mark Twain and his contemporaries, and Dr. Duane Bietz shared the history of the collection and his desire to place it at an institution that would value and utilize it. Not only will the English Department and their students use the collection, but the library will host a yearly event celebrating Mark Twain and the importance of reading.

The collection contains a complete set of his writings, signed copies of his works, and biographical books on his life including the Autobiography of Mark Twain (100th Anniversary Newly Edited and Commented Edition) released in November of last year as specified by Twain himself. The collection will continue to grow to include Twain artifacts. The library hopes to eventually place the collection in the Lincoln Room after it is remodeled. Currently the collection can be found on the first floor of the library behind the main staircase.

DIRECTOR’S LETTER

USER FRIENDLY WEBSITE

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NEW LIBRARY FACULTY

DEYSE BRAVO RIVERA

Periodicals Librarian

Rivera holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from University of California Berkeley and a Masters of Library Science from City University of New York, Queens College. She will be replacing Patricia Beaman, who retired in December (see page 1). Having lived in large cities in Brazil, Canada, and the United States, Rivera is very excited to be moving to a quieter and more scenic part of the country. McKee Library welcomes Rivera to the team!
New at the Library

FEATURES YOU’LL LOVE
From DVD’s to printing and new study spaces, McKee Library is the place to be!

Wireless Printing
You’re heading out of your room on the way to class when you remember that you still need to print out your homework. But your printer is out of ink and you can’t find your flash drive! No problem, simply go online and send your document to the library printer. Then swing by the library on your way down the promenade, swipe your card and hit print. You make it to class on time, homework in hand, and the day is saved thanks to wireless printing at the library!

Shhhhh . . . Quiet Study
Now that the library is the happening place to be, where can you go for some quiet study?

The Lincoln Room. Lights Volunteers keep the room open Monday-Thursday from 1-5 p.m.

Library Class
Wouldn’t it be great if Southern offered a degree in Library Science? Maybe someday, but for now join the new class being offered this semester by three of our library staff. Philosophy of Library Research is a one-hour class you don’t want to miss!

DVD Check-Out
It’s cheaper than RedBox and more interesting than the dollar theater. Students can now check-out DVDs from the library’s 1800 title collection. Check-out is for one week and yes, it’s free!

Website Facelift
As part of Southern’s Visual Identity Standards, the library has a brand new website. We’re pretty proud of it! Check it out at www.southern.edu/library and let us know what you think.

Kickin’ it with Abe! Check out our new quiet study space in the Lincoln Room on the third floor of the library.