The Library Strategic Plan

The Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) has been hard at work now since late August (about 3 months). The input that we received from the Library departmental focus groups as well as student and faculty focus groups was invaluable, and the information obtained is crucial to the environmental analysis process. We have identified the Library’s stakeholders, along with informal and formal organizational mandates, and are in the process of reviewing a considerable number of internal and external documents. This review process will complete the Library’s current situation analysis as we assess the external and internal environment to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, as well as strategic issues.

Our next steps are to write a background document and have an Open Forum so that Library staff can give us additional feedback on the strategic issues we’ve identified. After a hiatus in December, working groups (composed of the SPTF and other Library staff members) will be created in January to plan and develop the specific goals, objectives, and initiatives for each strategic issue. The Strategic Plan will then be completed in the spring.

If you have questions about the Library’s Strategic Planning process, please feel free to contact one of us.

Lori Critz and Kathy Tomajko, SPTF Co-Chairs
Chocolate Cherry Thumbprints

3/4 cup Sugar  1 1/2 cup All purpose flour
2/3 cup Margarine (1 stk + 3 tb.)  1 teaspoon Baking powder
2 large Eggs  1/4 teaspoon Salt, optional
1 teaspoon Vanilla  2 cup Maraschino cherries, divided
12 ounce Pkg. choc. chips (2 c.), dry
Divided  2 10-oz Jars); drain patted dry
2 cup Oats (quick or old fash.)  1 cup of melted morsels

Heat oven to 350 deg. Beat margarine, sugar, eggs and vanilla until smooth. Add 1 Cup of chocolate chips, melted. Mix well. Stir in oats, flour, baking powder and salt, mix well. Cover dough and chill 1 hour. Shape dough into 1 inch balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheet, press deep centers with thumb. (I use lg wooden spoon handle). Place a maraschino cherry into hole. Bake 10 to 12 minutes, or until set. Remove to wire rack, cool completely. Drizzle cookies with remaining chocolate chips. Note: To melt 1 cup of morsels, Microwave on High 1 to 2 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds.

WIN PRIZES IN THE STAFF ORNAMENT CONTEST
All entries due to Karen Manning by Dec. 8.

Ok, I have been too easy on you guys. Time to make it a little more challenging. Can you guess what this is?

Thanks to everyone who responded last month. You were all correct. It was a wet phonebook.

Good luck this month!

On November 16, the Library staff enjoyed a festive Thanksgiving Luncheon complete with turkey, ham and all the usual holiday fixins.

Special thanks goes out to Jackie Boyd and Jackie Dankins for organizing the event, to the folks in ICM for their assistance with the decorations and set up and to Library Administration for supplying the ham and turkey.
Julie Griffin, Susan Parham, and Kent Woynowski had their presentation proposal for The 2nd International Conference on Open Repositories 2007 accepted. The title of their presentation is, "Introducing New Services with DSpace" and the conference is in San Antonio, Texas, January 23-26.

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Georgia Tech Archives Acquires Murray Mill Records

The Archives announces the acquisition of the Murray Mill records. The mill opened in 1889 as the E. Van Winkle Gin and Machine Works and later became the Murray Mill Company. The mill manufactured cotton-ginning equipment, and during World War II, the mill was used to produce ammunition and mortars.

The archivists, with the assistance of Catherine Jannik, boxed up over 150 feet of business records, architectural drawings, and artifacts.

For a complete history of the company and buildings, please visit the mill's web site. http://www.artery.org/MurrayMill.htm
Digital Initiatives Reaches 10,000

Digital Initiatives announced on November 16th that SMARTech had reached 10,000 items. Some recent acquisitions include SACS accreditation documents, President Clough's speeches, and the 2,000th retrospective thesis.

According to the Registry of Open Access Repositories (http://archives.eprints.org/ accessed 2006-11-15), SMARTech is the:

- 4th largest of 58 DSpace repositories in the United States
- 13th largest of 179 DSpace repositories in the world
- 13th largest of 201 repositories on any software platform in the United States
- 55th largest of 764 repositories on any platform in the world.

Statistics covering June 13-November 28 indicate that the top three most accessed items in SMARTech are as follows.

2,005 views - A Comparison of Unconstraining Methods to Improve Revenue Management Systems (ed.1) (Ferguson, Mark E. et al) http://hdl.handle.net/1853/7398

1,550 views - Intuitive Revelations: The Ubiquitous Reference Model (Mathews, Brian) http://hdl.handle.net/1853/8446

776 views - Belt line - Atlanta: design of infrastructure as a reflection of public policy (Gravel, Ryan Austin) http://hdl.handle.net/1853/7400

Archives Announces New Search Engine

The Georgia Tech Archives is pleased to announce a new online search engine for the Archives' finding aids. Users may access the search on the finding aids page of the website (http://www.library.gatech.edu/archives/finding-aids/). Searches may be general, or they may be limited by title, creator, subject, or keyword. Many thanks to the Library's Systems Department, especially Ross Singer, for developing this excellent tool for archival researchers.

The Library Holiday Party will be held on Monday, December 11 between 2:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the Fersst Room, 7th Floor East, Georgia Tech Library.

Voyager Downtime

A Voyager upgrade has been scheduled for late December. In preparation for the upgrade, the Universal Catalog will be made unavailable. No requests can be made at that time. Downtime will be from December 13th through January 5th. The entire GIL Express process will be shut down during that time. A note will be placed on the UC to alert patrons.

New Floor at Entrance to Library

Beginning Saturday, Dec. 16 and continuing through Friday Dec. 22, the main entrance to the Library will be closed so a new floor can be laid, to match the floor in 1 East.

For that week, the fire door in the east commons (in the Jazzman's area) will be the building entrance/exit point. Security will be stationed at this door. There will be no passage of traffic in the bridge hallway, nor on any of the vinyl-floored area in the main entrance up to the carpet near the information service desk. The work area will be partitioned off.

The LWC and the Information Services Desk will be open, but with customers getting there via 2nd floor west elevator or rear stairs.