HVAC Renovations Underway at Library

In November, a project began to upgrade the HVAC system in the East building of the Library. Each floor of the library east wing will be affected, with study carrels and offices in the East and South walls being disrupted through the end of December, and office and study space in the North and West walls being affected in January. The Ferst Room on the 7th floor and the Staff Lounge are closed and will be unavailable until February.

This project will allow for better temperature control and energy efficiency. The estimated completion is March 2008.

We'll keep you updated on the progress. Please feel free to direct any questions to air@library.gatech.edu

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

November:
Jacqueline Dankins
Matt Frizzell
Brian Franklin
Bruce Henson
Casey Bowens
Marilyn Glasper
Katharine Calhoun
Katie Gentilello

December:
Sonia Roy
Brian Mathews
Katherine Norris
Cathy Carpenter
Carolyn Gill
Jon Bodnar
Shedonna Williams
New Faces in the Library

Stephany joined the Architecture Library on October 15. Although originally from Louisiana, Stephany just moved to Atlanta from Savannah where she worked in reference and research at the Georgia Historical Society’s library and archives. I’ve worked in various public and academic libraries in Texas, Tennessee, and Alabama. She is currently living in Decatur with her dog Henry. For fun she enjoys cooking, reading, watching Project Runway on television, exploring Atlanta, and fashion. She is so glad to be here at Georgia Tech and is very excited about working in the Architecture Library.

STEPHANY KRETCHMAR

Holiday Trivia

"Hot cockles" was a popular game at Christmas in medieval times. It was a game in which the other players took turns striking the blindfolded player, who had to guess the name of the person delivering each blow. "Hot cockles" was still a Christmas pastime until the Victorian era.

Alabama was the first state to recognize Christmas as an official holiday. This tradition began in 1836.

Hanukkah comes from the Hebrew word "Khanu" meaning 'and they rested,' and from the Hebrew date Kaf Hey which equals 25. That is why Hanukah is celebrated beginning on the 25th of the month of Kislev.

The large middle candle in the Menorah is called a shammus, which is used to light the other candles and, therefore, always remains lit.

Candy canes began as straight white sticks of sugar candy used to decorate the Christmas trees. A choirmaster at Cologne Cathedral decided have the ends bent to depict a shepherd's crook and he would pass them out to the children to keep them quiet during the services. It wasn't until about the 20th century that candy canes acquired their red stripes.

During the Christmas/Hanukkah season, more than 1.76 billion candy canes will be made.
ARL to Host Fourth Annual Leadership Institute for MLS Graduate Students

In January 2008, in conjunction with the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, PA, ARL will host its Fourth Annual Leadership Institute for MLS graduate students. The Leadership Institute objectives are:

* provide a theoretical overview of macro-level issues facing research libraries;
* provide advice on career opportunities in, and transitioning into a research library;
* develop a community of learners amongst the participants; provide opportunities for both formal and informal mentoring; and
* provide opportunities to network with ARL library leaders.

Registration for the public events is open to any MLS student or librarian who is interested in transitioning into an ARL library, free of charge. The Diversity Scholars track starts on Thursday, January 10, 2008 and the public track begins on Saturday, January 12, 2008. The institute concludes on Sunday, January 13, 2008.

To register, please go to http://www.arl.org/diversity/leadinst/registration.shtml.

Library Annual Report Now Available

The Library's 2006/07 Annual Report and the departmental annual reports are now available on the Library Intranet at https://intranet.library.gatech.edu/info/06_07.html

Prison Library Book Donations

Scott State Prison in Hardwick, GA is seeking book donations. Due to budgetary cuts, they are unable to purchase new books and many of their current selections are old and falling apart.

They are particularly interested in any up-to-date Health/Medical books, as well as any fiction books in the African American Interest genre, Spanish Language Fiction and Non-fiction titles, or books from these authors: W.E.B. Griffin, Eric Van Lustbader, Robert Jordan, Margaret Weis, Terry Brooks, James Patterson, and Jon Sandford.

Please send them to
Scott State Prison
Attn: Melanie Kimberly, Media Resource Specialist
PO Box 417
Hardwick, GA 31034-0417

CHEX MIX PUPPY CHOW

9 cups Chex cereal
1 cup chocolate chips
1/2 cup peanut butter
1/4 cup butter
1/4 teaspoon vanilla
1 1/2 cup powdered sugar

Put cereal in large bowl. Melt chocolate chips, peanut butter, and butter. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla. Pour over Chex cereal, put into a large plastic bag with powdered sugar and shake well to coat.

Spread mixture evenly on wax paper and allow to cool.
Crystal Renfro and Mary Axford attended the 2007 Internet Librarian conference. Topics at the conference included developments in searching, social networking (including blogs, wikis, RSS, social bookmarking, tagging, etc.), technology training, and more.

Elizabeth Winter co-authored an article titled, “On the road with electronic resources: creating community through the ER&L Forums”, which was published in the latest issue of Serials.

The number of ETDs in SMARTech reached 7,777 on December 13, 2007. In addition, there have been 5,025 theses and dissertations scanned since 2005.

Joey Fones ran his first marathon November 3. It was the Chickamauga Battlefield Marathon sponsored by the Chattanooga Track Club. He finished in 7th place for the 25-29 men’s age group. His time was 3:40:46. He hopes to eventually qualify for the Boston Marathon. Congratulations and Good Luck, Joey!

Joyce Craft recently received "The Customer Service Award". Congratulations to Joyce on her achievement.

Christine de Catanzaro was elected Vice President/President Elect of the Society of Georgia Archivists for 2008 and President for 2009 (the years of the organization’s 40th anniversary). Congratulations, Christine!

Tyler Walters co-authored an article titled, “A Natural Collaboration: Preservation for Archival Collections in ARL Libraries”, which was published in the Summer 2007 issue of Library Trends 56.

Tyler also spoke at Educause in October. He spoke on a panel called "A Discussion on Disconnects Between Library Culture and Millennial Generation User Values." The session reviewed topics such as student use of social networking tools and mobile technologies, learning space development in libraries, and needed organizational change in libraries to engage millennial generation students. Session resources are available at: http://www.educause.edu/E07/Program/11073?PRODUCT_CODE=E07/SESS047

Tyler also convened the session, "The e-Framework for Education and Research," with speakers associated with JISC, the Joint Information Systems Committee in the UK. Speakers were: Ian Dolphin, Head of e-Strategy, University of Hull; Sarah Porter, Head of Development, JISC; and Malcolm Read, JISC Executive Secretary, JISC.

Congratulations to the Collection Acquisitions & Management Department for winning the annual Halloween Contest.
Fire Safety Training

Presented by:

Michael Hodgson
GT Fire Safety Coordinator

*When:* Monday, December 17, 2007
9:30am - 11:30am, session 1
1pm - 3pm, session 2

*Where:* Wilby Room

*Who should attend:* Evacuation team members, Library staff, and Student assistants

You are encouraged to attend either session. The training course is designed to inform you of: proper use of fire extinguisher, home safety, safety in the workplace, evacuations, and more.

There will be a "hands on" fire extinguisher demonstration for those willing to participate.

Please plan to attend.

Recent Additions to SMARTech

Women in Design: a Brief History, a Bright Future
In this ID@GT lecture, Michelle Berryman, founder of the firm Echo Visualization, talks about the growing opportunities for women designers in the marketplace. http://hdl.handle.net/1853/16988

Meet your neighbor!
An introduction to social insects in Atlanta
Michael Goodisman discusses how social insects effectively manage ecological problems through their complex social systems and includes a discussion of the natural history of local insects in this Tuesday Talk. http://hdl.handle.net/1853/16989

Archives' Visual Materials Collection: College of Architecture Undergraduate Projects
A collection of images from the College of Architecture of undergraduate student's drawings and paintings. http://smartech.gatech.edu/handle/1853/16520

Quarterly Classified Employee Meeting

Our next Classified Employee Meeting is scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, December 18th, 2007 @ 2:30PM

The meeting will be held in the Wilby Room. Also, if there are items that you would like to discuss, please forward them to Sharon Baines as soon as possible in an e-mail response.

Make It Right Project

For those of you looking for a great cause to spend some of your holiday funds on, check out the Make it Right Project for restoring 150 homes in New Orleans, LA.

All monetary and in-kind contributions to Make It Right are tax-deductible.

The Make It Right Foundation accepts cash, product and service donations and discounts. Contribution amounts dictate donor levels and are outlined below.

We greatly appreciate all of our donors and recognize that with your help we can help Make It Right.

Contact them at:

Make It Right
PO Box 58009
New Orleans, LA 70158
http://www.makeitrightnola.org/

Don’t forget to submit your NEWSWORTHY items. If you’ve participated in conferences, have departmental news, new hires, exiting staff or any other information, please forward it to Katie at katie.gentilello@library.gatech.edu.