Realignment and Changes:

As the direction of the Library evolves to meet the challenges of a digital future, change is inevitable. Our latest strategic planning document, "Commitment to Excellence, 2007-2011," describes this evolutionary path. These changes, coupled with constrained funding, results in the need to shift resources internally to meet our rising strategic needs. The Technology and Resource Services Division underwent a strategic realignment, which was initiated in the Summer of 2007. We have operated for approximately one year with the new alignment and the early indications are that our major objectives are being met.

One rising need is in digital library systems and services. Campus needs, along with tight IT budgets, require that the Library leverage the use of emerging and open source technologies, participate in developing them, and use them as platforms for new information services. Therefore, we created the Digital Library Development Department (DLD). This new department engages in technology and application development activities for the Library’s digital repositories and collections, e-publishing initiatives, and other services to meet Library goals.

We also created the new department of Scholarly Communication and Digital Services (SCDS). SCDS is interfacing with campus units and individuals to raise awareness of author’s publishing rights, copyright issues, and options in publishing models. They also
market and provide repository, e-publishing, and event capture services, manage scanning and imaging operations, as well as promote other digital tools that support contemporary research and scholarship. SCDS is working closely with Digital Library Development and Systems to build and implement the technologies it needs for its programs.

In this new scheme, the Systems Department sharpens its focus on business continuity by maintaining the reliability of the Library’s production systems and usability of our websites, as well as supporting network, hardware, and software infrastructure. Their work also includes support for the digital programs, including DLD’s, SCDS’s, and Archives’ activities.

There also has been changes in acquiring, cataloging, and managing library collections. After the retirement of our long-time head of cataloging, Jean Hudgins, we determined it is in the best interest of the Library to merge the two departments - Acquisitions Services and Information Control Management (ICM) - into one new department, Collection Acquisitions and Management (CAM). The new, combined grouping supports the ongoing merger of acquisitions and cataloging routines in the digital environment and lays the groundwork for gains in processing efficiencies by further automating work, using vendor services, and cross-training staff for multiple assignments. Together they strive to incorporate the new infrastructures and capabilities that web-enabled electronic resources bring to the Library and its users.

The Archives and Records Management Department is far from being left out of all this change. They continuously interact with Digital Library Development and Scholarly Communication and Digital Services to create collections, manage repositories, and build new technologies for its programs. The Archives also works with Systems to manage its technologies and with Collection Acquisitions and Management for cataloging its print collections, electronic theses and dissertations, and sponsored program research reports.

Our past year’s experience suggests this latest arrangement better facilitates the new forms of infrastructure, content, and services that the Library is providing to the campus and beyond. The following report highlights some of the overarching strategic activities for 2007-2008 as well as some accomplishments already documented in the TRS Division individual departments’ annual reports. For further details, please consult those reports.
Partnerships: Collaborating to Educate, Advocate, and Promote

We continue to advance the GT library’s leadership role with many partnered initiatives. These partnerships continue to grow in importance as they represent the best and most successful means by which we accomplish our larger strategic goals. Among these are:

- The NDIIP Preservation Network Partnership with the Library of Congress and the MetaArchive Cooperative members -- Emory University, Georgia Tech, Virginia Tech, Florida State University, Auburn University, and the University of Louisville.

  - This project received another $562,000 in LC NDIIPP funding, supporting the Cooperative through March 2009.
  - The University of Hull (UK) joined during the year.
  - Major work on the Cooperative Charter and Membership Agreement has taken place as we focus on identifying and accepting new member institutions.
  - Clemson, Rice, Boston College, York (Canada), Purdue, and the consortium of HBCU institution libraries have been approached about membership.

- A grant from the National Archives and Records Administration (NHPRC). "MetaArchive: A Sustainable Digital Preservation Service to State and Local Institutions," with Emory University. $325,000 (2008-2010). This grant supports the market studies, business planning, and outreach efforts of the MetaArchive Cooperative to offer services and lend technical assistance to state and local archival institutions.

- This past year we prepared a proposal, led by MIT, and included Rice University and RENCI (the Renaissance Computing Institute) to develop a new data curation software and pilot a new data curation service. The GT Library would be a test site for the software and pilot service, as well as coordinate input from GT scientists regarding the design of the software. While this proposal was not funded, the NSF
did encourage our partnership to revise and resubmit in the next round, presumably Winter 2008/09.

- We continued developing the GALILEO Knowledge Repository by preparing and submitting a grant proposal to the IMLS’ National Leadership grant program in February 2008. We should know by the end of September 2008 whether or not it has been funded. We have been engaged in other GKR aspects, such as marketing and promotion of the emerging service via sessions at GUGM (GALILEO User group Meeting), the GOLD/GALILEO Annual Conference, and through statewide GKR meetings via the USG’s Horizon/Wimba software.

- Other GALILEO initiatives involved implementing Verde (e-resource management system) and Metalib (metasearching software). At the writing of this report, both these projects are in their early pilot stages.

- Involvement in the LOCKSS Alliance initiatives, including the new LOCKSS government documents mirror network. GT also became a member of the CLOCKSS network.

There are other partnerships with faculty, students, and campus units that flourished during 2007-2008 as well:

- The Library’s partnership with Prof. Michael Best and the production of his journal, Information Technologies and International Development, continue to mature. We are currently working together to create a new web site for the journal that helps to support a growing online community on this topic. Wikis, blogs, and other communication tools are being made available to help foster community between researchers involved in the international development of the Internet.
• SCDS and DLD are working with students to support the technology and production aspects of *The Tower*, GT's new online undergraduate research journal. The first issue should be appearing soon.

• The partnership with DLPE (Distance Learning and Professional Development) was initiated to offer a conference proceeding production service for faculty’s conferences held in the Global Learning Center. The proceedings of the Sixth International Planetary Probe Workshop is the first proceeding resulting from this joint effort.

• The OIT Digital Media Initiatives unit is working with DLD to create additional access to SMARTech digital video via the new GT iTunesU site. This project is underway.

• Systems collaborated with OIT/ART to improve wireless capability in the Library

• Systems collaborated with OIT/EIS to plan for access to library resources from foreign campuses

• Systems is collaborating with OIT/A&I and Emory University UITS and Libraries to create joint authentication and authorization for reciprocal access to resources for students and faculty of joint programs. This project is underway, and dependent on funding.

• The sponsored projects report harvesting initiative with the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) is progressing incrementally, as OSP continues to automate their reports management system. **

• A working relationship with the Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Research and Innovation was established, devising the campus memo from the SVP on the new NIH open access policy. SCDS worked with OSP on designing and implementing the NIH policy training workshop.
The Archives worked with GT faculty and students on instruction and research projects, utilizing archival collections. They worked with units and groups such as the College of Architecture, President's Scholars program, School of Literature, Culture, and Communication, and the School of History, Technology, and Science.

Web Services collaborated with students to redesign the Summer Reading Program website

II. Developing, Managing, and Making Accessible Library Collections

There are several major initiatives underway in regards to how the Library will manage its electronic resources, federate searching across many of its collections, and how it will display these search findings and source content to the user. Among the reasons for the robust work is the nature of the library collection today: 95% of its journals are electronic with the vast majority being electronic only; a rapidly increasing amount of e-books from publishers; and the fast growing base of locally generated digital content under the library's stewardship.

Throughout the year, work was in progress to implement:

- VUFind (user interface and searching)
- MetaLib (federated searching), and
- Verde (e-resource management system)

The MetaLib- and Verde-related work is being carried out consortially within the GALILEO / GETSM groups, with key GT Library staff involved in leading these efforts. When all these components are implemented, the GT Library will have achieved its next generation of online delivery of information resources for its constituents. This should take place during Fall 2008. Once operational, usability testing of VUFind and MetaLib will take place, which
will inform further customization and design enhancements. Please consult the departmental annual reports for details on these efforts.

Other access improvement initiatives:

Usability testing of eBook readers was completed in an effort to understand the status of the technology and whether or not the Library should provide eBook readers to its users. The recommendation was to not buy eBook readers at this time and to watch developments closely.

Realigning departments for improved workflows. As described in the first page of this annual report, the integration of two existing departments into the new Collection Acquisitions and Management Department (CAM) is progressing well, as the rise of many new workflows attests. Among these are new systems and procedures for ordering eBooks. Please consult the CAM Department's annual report for details.

Acquisitions data:

Added 80,925 items to the collection last year.

Cataloging data:

Much good work continues in regards to improving the library catalog. For instance, staff re-linked almost 1300 holdings records (a remnant of SIRSI to Voyager conversion problems). Also, approximately 7,500 bibliographic records were updated via authority control. Over 2,600 serials titles using the MARC Format for Holdings standard were produced in the library catalog as well as in the GOLD database.

Some special projects:
• Arranged for the author visit and book signing by Prof. Mark Bauerlein, who talked about his new book "The Dumbest Generation: How the Digital Age Stupifies Young Americans and Jeopardizes Our Future."

• Tom Fisher (CAM) with Charlie Bennett (Circulation) made a suggestion for a Beck Grant to purchase DVDs for the library’s collection. They received $24,000 to implement the project and have presently spent $11,169 of the grant to purchase 696 video titles for the collection.

**T-Square.** The Library’s efforts to integrate certain library systems and software with the Sakai learning and collaboration environment have been put on hold, due to campus budget constraints. The Library’s application developer on this project vacated his position in September 2007 and the funds were not continued by the Provost's Office. We will continue nurturing campus support and seek other opportunities to complete this software integration.

**Archives and Records Management**

• The Archives continued planning with the College of Architecture regarding the transfer of the Heffernan Design Archives to its custodianship. The entire collection will be moved during September, 2008.

• The Archives added 106 collections (235 linear feet of records, manuscripts, books, and photographs, and 147 cubic feet of architectural drawings).

• The Archives staff assisted in acquiring a new 35,000 sq. ft. off-site storage facility on Marietta Blvd. The contents of the Ethel St. records center will be moved to Marietta Blvd. during September, 2008.
III. Enhancing Building Resources and Fostering Library as Place

- Systems collaborated with OIT/ART to improve wireless capability in the Library

- Mounted exhibits of Archives’ materials in the Library East Commons

- Launched the Library Commons website http://librarycommons.gatech.edu/

- Recorded five events in the Library East Commons, deposited in SMARTech

IV. Expanding, Preserving, and Promoting Digital Repositories and Services

The Division's realignment supports the Library's capacity to advance its digital repositories, collections, and other digital services. There have been many organizational improvements made (i.e. Repositories Development Team, the DigiTech group), which has improved how tasks are envisioned, managed, and carried out. The maturing of SMARTech continues, with nearly 20,000 items by year's end. SMARTech was searched 480,926 times, with 1,399,135 items viewed and 1,156,861 downloads; 7,440 new items we submitted. SMARTech remains one of the four largest institutional repositories in the U.S. Below are some of the highlights of the overall services and infrastructure-building activities:

Digital Collections, Services, and Outreach

- Library staff and faculty were invited to the "Issues in Scholarly Communication" seminar which was held in late summer, 2007. Lee Van Orsdel and John Ober were the instructors/presenters. The seminar was attended by approximately 40 people.
• SCDS worked with subject librarians and their academic departments to complete the "Department Assessment Tool" adapted from the ARL/ACRL Scholarly Communication Institute. Meetings between Scholarly Communication and Digital Services, subject librarians, and academic departments will being in 2008-09.

• The Library formed the Copyright Committee, which is building a web site on library-related copyright issues. This committee is also leading the effort with OIT to create a campus-wide copyright issues and resources web site.

• In partnership with the Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Research and Innovation, and the Office of Sponsored Programs, SCDS developed and taught a campus workshop and developed a web site on implementing the NIH access policy.

• SCDS with DLD inaugurated the Library’s conference proceeding production service in partnerships with DLPE. Together they produced the first proceeding for the Interplanetary Probe Workshop (IPPW). A second proceeding project is underway with the College of Architecture for the 24th National Conference on the Beginning Design Student. This signals a shift from providing traditional archival services only to providing more collaborative services centered on hosting digital tools for faculty and students.

• Campus e-publications: 1,162 were submitted to SMARTech by the Archives Dept.

• All 838 of GT President G. Wayne Clough’s speeches and presentations are held in SMARTech

• The new Undergraduate Research Option was inaugurated with 30 research papers submitted to SMARTech. This is similar to the ETD workflow and is a partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Research.
Technology and Resource Services

- 582 ETDs (e-theses and e-dissertations) were added to SMARTech

- Archivists added 42 digital collections to the dark archive, Aardvark, and added 3,340 individual digital items (485.4GB)

- There were 359,614 total web page hits on the Archives' digital collections (collections not in SMARTech)

- Archivists gave five workshops/presentations on using the Archivists Toolkit software, and assisted many more institutions via phone and email.

- Scholarly event recording service: 87 events / lectures. This is up from 56 the year before. This has become a highly sought after, "in demand" library service. All recordings are deposited for public access in SMARTech.

Digital Imaging Production

- Retrospectively converted (scanned) 3,950 print theses and dissertations. There is now over 10,000 born-digital and converted ETDs in SMARTech.
- Converted 148 sponsored program reports
- Scanned 1,500 slides of undergraduate design projects for the College of Architecture
- Scanning initiatives for the Blueprint (yearbook) and the Technique (student newspaper) are ongoing

Development and Software Management

Generated by Clearspace on 2008-12-01-05:00
The new Digital Library Development Department (DLD) currently focuses on supporting the open source technologies that serve as platforms for the services offered by the Scholarly Communications and Digital Services Department and the Archives and Records Management Department. Among the software maintained and developed are DSpace, Open Journal Systems (OJS), Open Conference Systems (OCS), and the Archivists Toolkit. The Systems Dept. also collaborates in these ventures by installing and maintaining these software packages as well as maintaining the ETD databases. Please refer to DLD's annual report for a detailed listing of activities. Among DLD's core activities were:

- Began DSpace 1.5 upgrades
- Maintained SMARTech and Aardvark
- Began creating a government-funded technical reports repository
- Continued integration of the OSP and SMARTech systems
- Executed many fixes and emendations to OJS and OCS to maintain publishing services

Information Technology Infrastructure

- LDAP (authentication) integration for repositories and other library systems
- A new tiered storage architecture was co-designed with Sun Microsystems for all the Library's long-term digital storage needs. Hardware and software was purchased in July 2008. The storage architecture will be implemented during 2008-09.
- A Trac-SVN server was deployed to provide a project-tracking framework for IT projects

V. Empowering and Developing Library Staff while Promoting Internal Communication and Collaboration

Goal V.1.1: Foster a culture of inclusion that encourages open communication and participation
• A new blog, wiki, and document sharing collaboration system was implemented (Jive Software's Clearspace collaboration server) to address the library's online collaboration needs. The systems is named libSHARE. https://libshare.library.gatech.edu/clearspace

• The Desktop and Collaboration Services unit worked closely with a group of librarians and professional staff to offer the training course - Learning 2.0 @ GT - designed to improve all library employee's knowledge about emerging Web 2.0 technologies. Learning 2.0 was hosted on libSHARE.

• New and existing work groups strive to foster collaboration, communicate their work to others, and increase participation in a diversity of library initiatives. Examples of these groups are the Web Steering Committee, Repositories Development Team, DigiTech, EPIC, libSHARE Committee, and the Copyright Committee. New work groups and committees will be considered, where appropriate, to foster cross-departmental and cross-divisional work. All groups post minutes, actions, and project information openly on libSHARE.

• The new position of Training Coordinator in the Systems Department was created. This position helps library employees become proficient with the tools required to collaborate and communicate digitally across the library organization, as well as with production software used in the performance of employees’ work duties.

Selected High-level Divisional and Associate Director's Goals and Activities for 2008-09:

(in addition to TRS departmental goals)

• Lead TRS Division through implementation planning (action steps) for 2008-09 and continue working with and providing support to TRS departments to advance their programs per annual departmental goals
• Continue guiding the strategic realignment of the Division, with a focus on encouraging all Library departments to work together collaboratively and synergistically

• Continue seeking opportunities to improve and deepen work relationships with GT faculty and service units

Complete position searches, if budget conditions allow:

• Systems Analyst I (Web Development in DLD)
• Systems Analyst II (Applications Development in DLD)

• Begin investigating development opportunities and establishing a development program with the Dean's office

• Research Data Curation:
Convene the Data Curation Work Group in the Library and focus on:

• Learning how other universities have developed data curation services and infrastructures
• Devise methods to interview selected GT science faculty and interview them about their existing research data production and management practices; analyze and assess gathered data
• Revise and resubmit NSF DataNet grant proposal with MIT
• Read pertinent literature on data curation

• GALILEO Knowledge Repository:
• If funded, execute the work plans as described in the IMLS grant proposal.
• If not funded, revise proposal and resubmit to IMLS
• Assess what GKR activities can be carried out by the GT Library, based on available resources, and oversee their implementation
• Continue promoting, contacting, and liaising with USG institutions interested in GKR services

• MetaArchive Cooperative:
  • Execute work activities described in the LC/NDIPP, NARA/NHPRC grants
  • Grow membership and orient new members
  • Initiate business planning and market analysis for digital preservation services to cultural memory institutions
  • Serve on Steering Committee and as Treasurer

• 4th International Conference on Open Repositories:
  • Execute duties as Chair of the Organizing Committee and hold the conference, May 18-21, 2009 at Georgia Tech
  • Serve as member of the Open Repositories Steering Committee

• Sun Microsystems Preservation and Archiving Special Interest Group (PASIG):
  • Continue participation and partnership with Sun in digital preservation

• Provide management support to the Library’s Copyright Committee
  • Participate as a member of GT’s Educational Technologies Governing Board
  • Serve on the GT Honor Committee (a faculty committee), 2008-present
  • Maintain communications with OIT via the OIT Directors bi-weekly meetings

• Continue teaching activities:
  • Northeast Document Conservation Center, "Sustainability of Digital Assets" workshop, October 2008
  • University of Arizona, School of Information Resources and Library Science, IRLS 673 "Managing the Digital Information Environment" course, Spring 2009
Professional Activities, 2007-08:

Tyler O. Walters, Associate Director for Technology and Resource Services

Articles and Book Chapters authored:


Paper presentations:

"Digital Libraries Sustainability: From Regional to International Perspectives," Technological Innovation and Cooperation for Foreign Information Access meeting, Center for Research Libraries (invited speaker), May 2008

"Enterprise Repositories and Federated Archives: Distributed Digital Preservation," Sun Microsystems PASIG (Preservation and Archiving Special Interest Group), May 2008


"New Cooperative Strategies for Distributed Digital Preservation: MetaArchive and Educopia,"
Coalition of Networked Information, December 2007 (with Martin Halbert, Katherine Skinner)

"University Perspectives on Governance: MetaArchive Cooperative and DSpace Foundation,"
Global Digital Format Registry Governance Workshop, hosted by the National Archives and Records Administration, (invited workshop participant and speaker), November 2007

"A Discussion on Disconnects Between Library Culture and Millennial Generation User Values,"
EDUCAUSE October 2007 (with Robert McDonald, Charles Thomas, Richard Sweeney)

"Future Directions for Digital Repositories," Ohio State University (invited featured speaker), August 2007

Public Grants:


Grant Reviewing:
Institute of Museum and Library Services

Grant Panel Review Member, Laura Bush Librarians in the 21st Century Program, 2008

Teaching Activities:


Valdosta State University Master of Library and Information Science Program. MLIS7000 "Foundations of Library & Information Science." Guest Lecturer, Spring 2008.


Committees / Representations / Work Groups / Consortial Project Membership, etc.:
Continuing Activities:

Coalition for Networked Information (CNI)
Representative, Georgia Tech Library and Information Center, 2002-present

Educopia Institute / MetaArchive Cooperative
Founding Board Member and Treasurer, 2006-present
- Addresses sustaining educational cyberinfrastructure advancement for libraries and cultural memory institutions through projects and partnerships. Initial funding provided by the Library of Congress NDIIP Program

International Conference on Open Repositories
Chair, OR 2009 Organizing Committee, (selected March 2008)
Steering Committee member, 2008--present

Library of Congress
National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program
Sustainability for Digital Preservation Strategic Working Group, 2006-present

Completed Activities:

Association of College and Research Libraries
Global Digital Format Registry

International Governance Workshop, hosted by the National Archives and Records Administration, (invited participant and speaker), November 2007

University Systems of Georgia Activities:

GALILEO Knowledge Repository Steering and Technical Committees, 2007-present

GALILEO MetaLib / Verde implementation projects, 2007-present (serve as GT project sponsor)

Georgia Institute of Technology Activities:

Honor Committee (a faculty committee), 2008-present

Educational Technology Governing Board, 2006-present

Provost's Task Force on Defining and Supporting Interdisciplinarity, Internal Research Programs subgroup. Ended service, October 2007