Position: Dean and Director of Libraries

Years at Georgia Tech: 3

Education/Previous positions:

BS Chemistry, BA Library Science from Mizzou (University of Missouri), MS Library Science, from U of Illinois, MA Economics, “Clemson.” People from Clemson, SC tend to pronounce the word as if it had a “p” in it. You can tell when a sports announcer is really in the know; you’ll hear the P. If he or she says “Clemmmson” they are out of touch.

Favorite aspect of job: Getting to know so many interesting people. Libraries are full of folks with remarkable stories and backgrounds. Every one of you reading this, has a human interest story. Not to mention the faculty. Talk about eclectic!

I also enjoy exploring new ways to open up the world of information and intellectual content. My first full time academic library job involved developing a replacement for the card catalog based on a computer driven microfiche approach. I enjoyed developing online systems at Clemson and am having great fun helping to figure out how we can develop the right tools to manage the explosion of media enriched output that faculty and students will generate here at GT over the next decade. Fortunately, we have lots of talent here to do it well.

Hometown: St. Louis, Missouri. Home of real barbecue pork steaks and sports like corkball.

Hobbies: These have changed over time. When my two daughters were little, we played lots of games. I also spent a good bit of time building a doll house for them with all the furnishings. We still have it and now the grandchildren play with it when they visit.

My longest running hobby has been just keeping the house maintained. We seem always to have a high maintenance place and I do most of the work that’s needed.

I’ve also been much involved over the years in Bible study and church work. For several years when we lived in Clemson, I shared the pulpit with two other guys at a small church in Anderson. That was quite an experience and very rewarding.

Right now my favorite hobby is taking a nap on Sunday afternoon. Ahh, that’s bliss.

Personal: I’m married to a born teacher who is surrounded by teachers. Clare’s Dad was an avid Bible teacher, her older brother taught at the university level and several of her nieces teach. Clare (cont’d on page 4)
The 2003 edition of the "Library Fact Sheet" is now available: [http://intranet.library.gatech.edu/docs/2003factsheet.pdf](http://intranet.library.gatech.edu/docs/2003factsheet.pdf). It can also be accessed on the Library Intranet under “News & Publications” then “Library Documents.” Please contact Kathy Tomajko if you have any questions about this.

**Digital Initiatives**

Laurel Crafts joined the Digital Initiatives Department effective December 1st. Laurel will move to the 3rd floor and continue to expand her duties within Digital Initiatives while continuing to work on graphic design projects as needed.

**ICM**

Karen Manning attended the GACOMO Convention in October to receive her Georgia Paraprofessional award. The convention was held on Jekyll Island, GA. Karen represented the library well and heard quite a few responses of “oh, you work at Georgia Tech.” Now she wonders what THAT means?

Karen Manning’s daughter was crowned Ms. Black and Gold for Georgia State University. She will also be competing in regional contests leading up to nationals.

**Special Formats & Maps**

First and foremost, I would like to extend a profound apology to my colleague and “sister,” Jenita Billups. In the November edition of the *conneXus*, I simply made a mistake, an oversight on my behalf. I overlooked her special day, November 22, 2003. I would be remiss not to ask Mrs. Billups to forgive my error...Vincent Thorpe.

Ask the Dean

The January issue of *conneXus* will debut a new feature - “Ask the Dean.” Please submit your questions to Dean Meyer, and if they pertain to the whole staff, the question and answer will be included in the newsletter.

Now, if everyone would join me in wishing our colleague and friend Mrs. Billups, a very HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY. Cathe Cannon was in the chorus for “Four Tickets to Christmas” a dinner theatre presented December 4-6 by members of the First Baptist Church, Jonesboro. On December 14th, the Celebration Choir and Orchestra presented “The Majesty of Christmas.” Cathe is a member of this choir.

Finally, Special Formats & Maps Department extend to each of you Seasons Greetings and a prosperous and Happy New Year!
New Hires

Batecia Sands (below, left) joined the Information Services Department on November 11, 2003. Batecia previously served a brief stint with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia as the GA BEST Administrative Assistant for Project Support & Communications in the Office of Student Services. Prior to her job with the Board of Regents, Batecia worked as a search specialist with Cox Interactive Media supervising a team of other web surfers. There she helped build online directories for a network of city sites such as AccessAtlanta.com and 70 other cities around the nation for 4 1/2 years. Batecia has a BA in journalism from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA and is currently studying for the graduate school admission exam in hopes of pursuing a masters degree in library and information sciences. She is originally from Monticello, GA and has lived in the metropolitan Atlanta area since the age of five. Batecia has a fraternal twin sister and in her spare time enjoys traveling, watching hours of television shows like Alias, collecting angels, and hanging out with her family and friends.

Jacques Lamour (above, right) joined Systems on November 17, 2003. He is involved in dynamic web development and manages the Library Intranet.

The benefits (in bold) are the ways that the Library & Information Center participates in the Corporate Liaison Program. Even though the benefits indicate that the fees are waived, the Library is reimbursed by the Corporate Liaison Program for services provided (in other words the Corporate Liaison member does not pay them). I have also made presentations for companies who are considering membership and have done consulting for companies who are members and needed advice related to library and information issues (for this the Library receives some financial remuneration).

I serve as the Information Consultant for this program, so feel free to contact me if you have any questions about it. If you know of companies who are potential members, please feel free to refer them to me or to Lynn Boyd directly.  --Kathy Tomajko, X4-4527
We want to hear from you!

Now that the new Library website has been in production for a few months it is time to start planning our first user survey. Before we poll our external users we would like to know what our internal users think about the site. We welcome both positive and negative feedback. We'd also like you to take this opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the history of the project, why things appear where they do, why we chose to use certain terminology, etc. Finally, if you have a specific question that you would like us to include in the user survey please let us know.

We will be conducting user surveys on a regular basis as we continue to focus on our users’ needs.

Please send your comments & questions to webteam@library.gatech.edu.

Georgia Tech Corporate Liaison Program (CLP) and the Library

The Corporate Liaison Program was established in 1982 and is the largest industry-supported affiliate program at Georgia Tech. Its industrial members serve more than twenty student organizations and 300 faculty members annually. Over 30 corporations nationwide participate in Georgia Tech’s Corporate Liaison Program. Lynn Boyd is the Director of the Corporate Liaison Program and can be reached at X4-3732 or lynn.boyd@dev.gatech.edu.

Membership is available at a couple levels with the highest being the $20,000 level; benefits at this level include:

- Sponsorship of your choice of professional student organizations;
- Ability to directly support faculty contacts of your choice;
- Access to experienced staff dedicated solely to coordinating all member needs;
- Coordination of corporate-sponsored student and faculty events;
- Exclusive annual listing of new student professional organization leadership;
- Up to $4,000 in tuition-waived access to continuing education courses;
- Up to $4,000 in fee-waived access to our Library’s Information Service Department (this includes fee-waived interlibrary loan and research services);
- Exclusive book and document checkout privileges (in-person circulation privileges for up to five employees; refer to Kathy Tomajko for the paperwork necessary);
- Regular mailings including research briefings, recruiting event opportunities, course updates, fact books, and directories;
- Referrals to faculty members for expert assistance with short-term consultation;
- Invitations to campus-wide seminars, career fairs, professional events, departmental workshops, and conferences;
- Customized annual report of each member’s activities;
- Private skyboxes for members use in recruiting and entertaining;
- Partnership arrangements available through focused programs including ECE, ME, AE, MSE, GTRI, Manufacturing, and Computing. (cont’d on page 3)

Staff Profile, cont’d

taught junior college courses in secretarial science and computer applications for 20 years. It may have influenced our daughters; both have degrees in education. Sharyn taught Spanish, Math and English before she started her family. Karyn hasn’t taught, but she’s coached volleyball a small amount. Mostly, she paints theatre sets.

People may be surprised to know...My first full time job was an interim year between my 2nd and 3rd year of college. I worked for McDonnell-Douglas as a technical illustrator. Ever pay attention to those illustrations for maintenance of things like lawn mowers with drawings that show all the parts stretched out so you can see how they fit together? I did that sort of drawing for fighter aircraft. It was fun, but I missed the best part: never got to ride in an F4H Phantom. I sure hope I drew those pictures correctly for the sake of those guys who did fly.

Good books you’ve recently read:

The Hollow Kingdom by Clare Dunkle. The publisher has three of her sequels in the works already. This is a series of fantasies ful of goblins, elves and those ilk. But, the books contain a strong theme of tolerance for other people’s point of view, appearance and interests. It’s full of symbolism and metaphors. Best recommended for female teens. Now you’re wondering why I read it. Clare was one of my former associates at Trinity where she cataloged monographs.