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LIBRARY FOCUS



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI**

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

University Libraries | Spring 2013

LEARNING COMMONS OPENS IN GULF COAST LIBRARY

— JORGE BROWN, ACCESS SERVICES LIBRARIAN, GULF COAST LIBRARY

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www.lib.usm.edu

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To provide students with a single portal for tutoring services, the newly christened Learning Commons opened during fall 2012 in the Gulf Coast Library. The Learning Commons unites all tutoring services on the Gulf Park campus, bringing together the Writing and Speaking Center, the Math and Science Lab and the Foreign Language Lab to give students quick access to academic support. Led by Jack Covarrubias, director, the Learning Commons plans to “put philosophy into action.”

It is no coincidence that this new tutoring center shares its name with the first floors of the Gulf Coast Library and Cook Library. The movement to create space in libraries that brings together academic support and fosters student learning has been a welcome addition to many college libraries throughout the country, but the Learning Commons will take the concept one step further. Going beyond the original mission of its predecessors, the Speaking and Writing Center and the Math and Science Lab, it is hoped that this exciting new venture will be more than just a place for tutoring but will serve as a holistic academic support center for students.

The location of the Learning Commons within Gulf Coast Library provides for easy access to additional research support from the librarians at the reference desk. In addition to basic services, the Learning Commons is adding new disciplines not traditionally found in tutoring labs. The goal is to create an eclectic array of support that focuses on the needs of the students rather than confining the students to what is offered by the Learning Commons. Other services added to the pre-existing structure are two fully equipped media labs for group project work. In an effort to provide service beyond the walls of the building, the Learning Commons has introduced tutoring services via chat, webcam and text message.

To learn more about the Learning Commons, check hours of operation or schedule an appointment, call 228.207.0150 or go to www.usm.edu/gulfcoast/learning-commons.



SPOTLIGHT ON...JORGE BROWN

— ALLISA BECK, COLLECTION MANAGEMENT LIBRARIAN, GULF COAST LIBRARY

Jorge Brown is the Access Services librarian at the Gulf Coast Library on the Gulf Park campus in Long Beach. He is responsible for all activities in that department, including circulation, interlibrary loan and all course reserves. He was the recipient of the Past President's Award at the Mississippi Library Association (MLA) Conference during fall 2012. The award is given to an "outstanding beginning professional librarian" who is an active MLA member.

Jorge grew up in the Midwest. He received the B.A. at Concordia University in Austin, Texas, and the M.L.S. at Emporia State University in Kansas. Since joining University Libraries Gulf Coast in November 2008, Jorge has wasted no time in focusing his professional pursuits. His research is in developing technology for enhancing the user experience in responsive Web design, and he has

just had a chapter accepted for publication in a book to be titled *The Machiavellian Librarian*.

Outside of work, Jorge enjoys the culinary arts and fencing (he was a member of the Emporia State Fencing Club, participated in many tournaments and served as the group's president for two years). He also serves as financial director for the Mississippi Gulf Coast-Northshore Louisiana chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and is very active in his church.



Jorge Brown

SOUTHERN MISS ALUMNA FINDS HAPPINESS (AND A PAYCHECK) IN THE ART STUDIO

— PETER R. DEAN, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN, GULF COAST LIBRARY

Linda Lang Ishee is living a life many only dream of as a full-time artist. "I have drawn all my life," said Ishee. "As a very young child, I was drawing."

Ishee, whose artwork was displayed at the Gulf Coast Library during September 2012, began taking painting classes at age 11. Once in high school, she took private painting classes. She graduated from



Linda Lang Ishee

Southern Miss with a degree in paralegal/pre-law with plans to attend law school, worked as a paralegal, married and started a family. Later, she began taking college-level art classes and pursued a professional career

in art because, "I get tremendous satisfaction when I am painting. I am probably the happiest ever."

Ishee's family has a long history at Southern Miss. Her parents met when they were students, and her seven brothers and sisters also attended. Now Ishee's daughter is a student at Southern Miss.

In addition to painting, Ishee also started teaching fine art classes for children and adults in her Gulfport studio in 1998. Her class called "Canvas and Cocktails" is what she calls a "quick-painting class," where the student can create a painting in one class. "A lot of my students are people who have always wanted to do art but didn't think they could. Some people have been afraid of art, [and] they see a side of themselves they haven't seen before." She also teaches fine art workshops for those wanting to learn more in-depth knowledge on painting.

Ishee paints mostly in oils and acrylics. "Oils are my favorite medium...it's a more sensual medium

EXPANDED SERVICES AT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

— SARAH R. MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN, COOK LIBRARY
— JORGE BROWN, ACCESS SERVICES LIBRARIAN, GULF COAST LIBRARY

University Libraries is pleased to announce several service enhancements for the spring 2013 semester. Feedback from the campus community is vital to the success of the library. You've spoken, and we have listened!

In conjunction with University Libraries' partnership with iTech, public computers and printers have been expanded to the upper floors of Cook Library. Eighty-two additional computers plus printing stations were added to the second through fourth floors. For the first time, there is public computer access in designated quiet study areas. For up-to-date information on the availability of public computers on the Southern Miss campuses, visit www.usm.edu/itech/public-computing.

Cook Library now offers extended study space from midnight until 2 a.m. Sunday-Thursday. Second Floor South will remain open along with the first floor to allow access to more computers and provide a quiet study space during late night hours. Access to collections, circulation and other library services will continue to be available only during regular library hours.

To reduce spending and support the University's green initiative, materials being checked out will no longer be stamped with a return date. An email receipt will be sent to the campus email address at the time of checkout. Students, faculty and staff can access their online library account 24 hours a day by

clicking on <http://tinyurl.com/my-catalog1>. The online library account lets you view checked out materials, due dates and overdue fines. You can also renew items, all from the convenience of your PC, tablet or smart phone.

The Interlibrary Loan office on the Hattiesburg campus is now located in Second Floor South of Cook Library. Hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For pick-up of ILL books after hours and on weekends, please inquire at the Circulation Desk on the first floor. In addition to obtaining research materials from other institutions, the ILL office will assist patrons with the microform reading and printing machines.

Four new microfilm viewers were added – three in Second Floor South in Cook Library and one on the second floor of Gulf Coast Library. The ST ViewScan Film Viewer/Scanner makes loading and accessing microfilm and microfiche easier than before. These new machines allow the patron to clearly view the film and quickly find information. The machines also have the ability to save information to a flash drive, email as a PDF attachment, save to Google docs, or print to nearby print stations in the library.

To leave comments or suggestions, go to www.lib.usm.edu and click on "Comments" at the bottom of the page.

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than acrylics. It moves on the canvas better."

Despite challenging economic times, Ishee's business teaching students and her sales of paintings have grown. She hopes her artistic future includes continuing to make art as well as teach it, which includes her own continuing education. "If you're not learning, you're not growing!"

Ishee has advice for aspiring artists. "I always tell people if they want to learn to become a better artist,

they have to practice it every day. Set up a place in your house and don't worry about making mistakes; just do it. One thing I tell them is everyone has an artist inside; everyone needs to do something creative."

Linda Lang Ishee's artwork is shown at Westside Studio in Hattiesburg, Gallery 782 in Biloxi, Arts on the Avenue in Pascagoula, in her Gulfport studio and at her home by appointment. For more information, visit www.lindalangishee.com/canvasandcocktails/.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE TO BE HOSTED BY SOUTHERN MISS

— ERIC L. TRIBUNELLA, CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

The 40th Annual Children's Literature Association (ChLA) Conference will be hosted by The University of Southern Mississippi and is being organized by Ellen Ruffin, curator of the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, and Eric Tribunella and Kay Harris of the Department of English. The 2013 conference will be held at the IP Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi, June 13-15.

Classic and contemporary works for young people often represent children or young adults playing games or taking chances, and with Biloxi's thriving gaming industry as backdrop, the Conference Committee selected "Play and Risk in Children's and Young Adult Literature and Culture" as the conference theme. Presentations by ChLA members will address variations on this theme, such as games and game theory, dramatic play, stylistic or formal play, children at play, chance, risk-taking, at-risk youth, sports, and winning and losing in children's literature and culture.

Dr. Jerry Griswold, professor emeritus and former director of the National Center for the Study of Children's Literature at San Diego State University, will deliver the Francelia Butler Lecture. Author of seven books including *Audacious Kids: Coming of Age in America's Classic Children's Books* (1992) and *Feeling Like a Kid: Childhood and Children's Literature* (2006), Dr. Griswold has repeatedly addressed the complex psychological lives of children at play or at risk in children's literature and has been a member of the Children's Literature Association for many years.

Kevin Henkes will receive the first Phoenix Picture Book Award for *Owen* (1993), a book about



a mouse with a deep love for his yellow blanket, and Gaye Hiçiyilmaz will receive the Phoenix Award for *The Frozen Waterfall* (1993), which recounts the story of 12-year-old Selma and her family as they migrate from Turkey to Switzerland.

Conference attendees will have an opportunity to visit the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection on the Southern Miss Hattiesburg campus, take a bus tour of Hattiesburg, and attend the 40th birthday celebration of the Children's Literature Association.

The Children's Literature Association, founded in 1973, is an international organization devoted to the scholarly study of children's literature. The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection is the repository for the ChLA archives.



KEATS BOOK AWARD WINNERS

— ELLEN RUFFIN, CURATOR, DE GRUMMOND CHILDREN'S LITERATURE COLLECTION

The Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, in partnership with the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection at The University of Southern Mississippi, announced on February 26 the winners of the 27th Annual Ezra Jack Keats New Writer and New Illustrator Book Awards. Presentations were made on April 11, during the Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival.

Julie Fogliano and Hyewon Yum were presented the New Writer and New Illustrator Awards respectively. Wendell Minor, a noted children's book illustrator who has worked with, among others, Charlotte Zolotow, Buzz Aldrin and Diane Siebert, was the guest presenter.

Julie Fogliano won the New Writer Award for *And Then It's Spring*, published by Neal Porter Books/Roaring Brook Press, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group. First-time author Fogliano shares the excitement that goes hand in hand with planting the first seeds of spring. After months of snow, a boy and his dog agree that enough is enough and decide to plant a garden. They dig, plant, play and wait...and wait...until at long last, shades of green begin to replace the brown. Spring is in the air!



Julie Fogliano

Hyewon Yum won the New Illustrator Award for *Mom, It's My First Day of Kindergarten!* Yum's book was published by Frances Foster Books/Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group. First day of kindergarten jitters may be nothing new, but in Yum's book, it's the parents who are frantic and need to be reassured. Playfully using color and size (mom and son take turns appearing blue and rosy pink; large and small), this author/illustrator captures the emotional highs and lows of both parent and child around this milestone.

"My book is based on a true story," said Yum, who both wrote and illustrated her book. "My son was going off to kindergarten, and I was a new mommy. I felt like the five-year old – he wasn't afraid, but I was nervous. I thought it was better to draw what we were feeling so I drew the mom in the book small and blue at first and the son large and rosy. Their colors and sizes change as they each get more and less brave throughout the day. My own son said, 'Mom, that's not how you are!' He didn't even notice how nervous I was."

The Ezra Jack Keats Book Award honorable mentions were also announced and awarded.



Hyewon Yum

2013 NEW WRITER HONOR

- Mara Rockliff for *My Heart Will Not Sit Down* (Knopf Books for Young Readers)
- Jennifer Lanthier for *The Stamp Collector* (Fitzhenry & Whiteside)
- Don Tate for *It Jes' Happened* (Lee & Low Books)

2013 NEW ILLUSTRATOR HONOR

- K.G. Campbell for *Lester's Dreadful Sweaters* (Kids Can Press, Ltd.)
- Sanjay Patel for *Ganesha's Sweet Tooth* (Chronicle Books)





UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES REVEALS NEW RESEARCH GUIDES

— ELENA AZADBAKHT, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR HEALTH SERVICES

LIBGUIDES, a content management system that allows librarians to feature, organize and connect patrons to library resources in a user-friendly manner, was introduced at the beginning of the fall 2012 semester. Most noticeably, LibGuides has changed how patrons access library databases and other electronic resources.

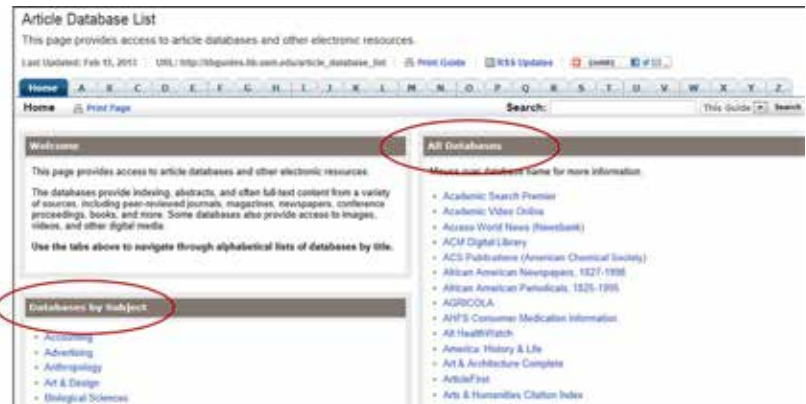
The new Articles and Databases page on the Libraries' website provides patrons with an alphabetical list of all our databases and a way to view them grouped by subject, as did the previous Article Databases page. However, these display options are now separated into two distinct boxes on the page: Databases by Subject and All Databases. In addition, the navigation at the top of the guide provides a separate tab for each letter of the alphabet, and the databases are listed alphabetically by title under the corresponding letter of the alphabet.

The subject-specific guides have been redesigned as well. Reference librarians used LibGuides to create a research guide for each of the departments and/or subject areas for which they are responsible. These new research guides replaced the old subject guides on our website, expanding on the older format that had been limited to lists of databases and Internet resources. Our new research guides not only provide access to the same subject-specific databases as the former design, but also outline basic database search strategies and tips for evaluating sources. Each guide has pages dedicated to finding reference resources, articles, journals and books. Built-in

search boxes on these pages allow patrons to conduct searches directly from the guides.

To view the list of research guides by subject, click on the Research Guides link on the Libraries home page at www.lib.usm.edu.

Librarians can also create guides to assist students in particular courses and for other topics of interest to the Southern Miss community. This flexibility will be useful for courses with special research needs or research-heavy assignments.



Please check out our new research guides, powered by LibGuides, and let us know what you think! Faculty members who would like to work with a reference librarian to tailor a guide for a specific course or research area may contact Tisha Zelner, head of Reference Services, at Tisha.Zelner@usm.edu or 601.266.6170.

MISSISSIPPI DIGITAL LIBRARY

— NICOLE LAWRENCE, MISSISSIPPI DIGITAL LIBRARY SPECIALIST
— ELIZABETH LABEAUD, DIGITIZATION SPECIALIST

The Mississippi Digital Library (MDL) provides researchers with a unique approach to finding resources within Mississippi. As a collaborative effort among member institutions, the MDL creates a unified portal to digital collections statewide.

The MDL is hosted and managed by Southern Miss University Libraries and functions to increase awareness of and provide worldwide access to the valuable cultural, historical and academic resources found within Mississippi.

Through the MDL website, www.msdiglib.org, researchers have access to materials located at academic and public libraries, museums, colleges, centers and historical societies representing all regions of the state. With more than 20 participating institutions at present, the majority of collections focus on Mississippi history, culture and heritage. Other significant scholarly resources are included, though, such as selected materials in the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection (Southern Miss) and the Medieval Manuscript Fragments Collection (University of Mississippi).

Recently the MDL was chosen as the recipient of a National Endowment for the Humanities Preservation Assistance Grant. The grant allows for two consultants to conduct a preservation needs assessment for the MDL, draft a long-range plan



for the care and preservation of digital collections, and hold a digital preservation workshop open to members of academic and cultural heritage institutions statewide.

For more information about the Mississippi Digital Library, go to www.msdiglib.org or Facebook, Google+ and Pinterest.



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E-BOOKS ON THE RISE

The significant technological changes that have taken place over the years have changed the needs of the community served by a university library. Today's students are a product of these technological changes. They want information quickly. They need the ability to access information on the go, and the convenience of being able to access materials virtually is of high value to them. To benefit distance education programs and students, increase accessibility for on-campus students and better market collections, University Libraries has been purchasing more electronic materials such as e-journals and e-books.

University Libraries currently provides access to more than 160,000 e-books through a variety of

sources, including Books 24x7, Credo Reference, Alexander Street Press, E-book Library, EbscoHost and Sabin. These e-book collections cover all academic areas and provide a broad spectrum of information useful to researchers. New titles are added frequently so the accessible information is up to date with the latest publications.

Some materials are purchased by University Libraries as packages, while other materials are purchased individually by title. The Libraries are working to increase and enhance support for the curriculum and research needs of students and faculty alike, and providing electronic resources is a step in the right direction.

— JENNIFER CULLEY, ACQUISITIONS LIBRARIAN
— SARAH R. MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN, COOK LIBRARY