

LIBRARY FOCUS

University Libraries | Fall 2013



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI.**
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

DR. B'S BOOK CLUB

— SARAH R. MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN, COOK LIBRARY

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor
Linda Ginn

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www.lib.usm.edu

CONTACT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

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601.266.4249

McCain Library
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Gulf Coast Library
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[www.lib.usm.edu/about_us/
library_hours.html](http://www.lib.usm.edu/about_us/library_hours.html)

**AQUILA DIGITAL
COMMUNITY**
<http://aquila.usm.edu>

To help keep students engaged and to encourage them to read more over the summer, Southern Miss President Rodney Bennett started “Dr. B’s Book Club.” Beginning as a Facebook page, the book club provided an online platform for students to post about books they had read. It also allowed them to interact with other students and Dr. Bennett on a personal level.

University Libraries saw an opportunity to support the program early on and worked hand-in-hand with the Office of University Communications to provide supplemental content for the club. Peggy Price, reference librarian for arts and letters, put together an online LibGuide of suggested reading materials from books on student success to faculty publications.

Other library-supported initiatives included the “Pick of the Week” by deans and other faculty and staff around campus; placement of selected materials on two-week reserve checkout for Dr. B’s Book Club; and even the management of the book club that began in the fall 2013 semester.

The summer book club concluded with a backyard barbecue at Dr. Bennett’s home on Sunday, September 22, where students who participated were recognized. The eight students with the most participation were awarded with tickets to attend a football game in the president’s box. Dr. Bennett also thanked University Libraries for their support and formally passed the management of the book club to the library.

University Libraries will take the book club one step further by providing a live forum for student discussion. The goal will be to have a book club that is “by students, for students.” To achieve this, University Libraries staff will solicit book suggestions from students across campus and encourage them to help facilitate the discussion. The club will meet in Cook Library up to three times each semester for a facilitated discussion.

Dr. B’s Book Club maintained a Facebook following of around 750 students, faculty, staff and alumni over the summer. It is University Libraries’ hope that students on campus will want to remain engaged in reading throughout the academic year.

Information about upcoming book club meetings and highlighted books can be found on the Southern Miss Cook Library Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SouthernMissCookLibrary, or by contacting Sarah Mangrum at 601.266.4251 or Sarah.Rials@usm.edu.



Dr. Rodney Bennett, Southern Miss president, and Sarah Mangrum, circulation librarian at Cook Library

CIVIL WAR 150 LECTURE SERIES

— JENNIFER BRANNOCK, CURATOR OF RARE BOOKS AND MISSISSIPPIANA

University Libraries sponsored five talks relating to the American Civil War during September and October in the Cook Library Art Gallery on the Hattiesburg campus. The events, which were free and open to the public, drew interested attendees from the campus and the Hattiesburg area.

The lecture series focused on aspects of the Civil War, including the life of the average soldier, African-American writer and reformer Harriet Jacobs, food in the Civil War, singing and fiddling by soldiers and slave insurrections in Mississippi. Presenters in the lecture series included a local musician and Southern Miss professors from the Department of English, Department of History and the School of Music. The lectures included the following:

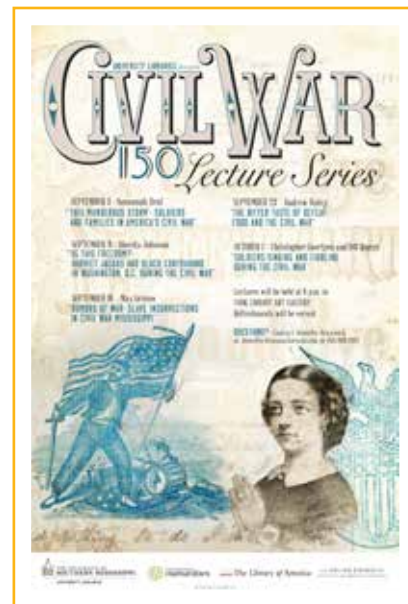
- Dr. Susannah Ural, *"This Murderous Storm": Soldiers and Families in America's Civil War*
- Dr. Sherita Johnson, *"Is This Freedom?": Harriet Jacobs and Black Contraband in Washington, D.C., During the Civil War*
- Dr. Max Grivno, *Rumors of War: Slave Insurrections in Civil War Mississippi*
- Dr. Andrew Haley, *The Bitter Taste of Defeat: Food and the Civil War*

- Dr. Christopher Goertzen and Mr. Bill Rogers, *Soldiers Singing and Fiddling During the Civil War*

The Civil War 150 Lecture Series talks were made possible by a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the Library of America and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Jennifer Brannock, curator of rare books and Mississippiana, served as the project director of the grant and coordinated

the lecture series and related exhibits in Cook Library and McCain Library and Archives.



SCIENCE CAFÉ

— TRACY ENGLERT, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Cook Library's Science Café celebrated its third anniversary in August. Since August 2010, 24 sessions on interesting and current scientific topics have been held with more than 900 students, faculty, staff and community members in attendance. Speakers representing academic areas as diverse as biology, nutrition and food systems, chemistry, criminal justice, social work,



history, polymer science, psychology, construction, exercise science, marine science, curriculum and instruction, art and anthropology have facilitated Science Cafés, leading discussions that were as varied as the academic areas – from carnivorous plants to dog psychology.

During spring 2013, topics and speakers included *Life on Mars* by Dr. Scott P. Milroy, associate professor in the Department of Marine Science; *The World of Viruses* by Dr. Fengwei Bai, assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences; *Constructing Sustainable Houses* by Ms. Miranda A. Grieder, visiting assistant professor in the School of Construction; and *Frogs and Other Environmental Aspects* by Jen Lamb, graduate student in the Department of Biological Sciences.

The fall Science Cafés included *Bioinformatics* by Dr. Mohamed O. Elasmri, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, and *Time Travel and Parallel Universes* by Dr. Sungwook Lee, interim chair and associate professor in the Department of Mathematics.

The fall schedule ended with a special NOVA Innovation

—continued on next page

GULF COAST LIBRARY SHOWCASES LOCAL ARTISTS

— BETTY SHAW, CIRCULATION SPECIALIST, GULF COAST LIBRARY

Breck Whitworth, a retired high school science teacher living in Gulfport, displayed his award-winning wood sculptures at the Gulf Coast Library during September and October. As a wood turner/sculptor, Whitworth's passion is to bring out the beauty that, as he says, "God has hidden inside trees." His work is also on display and for sale at the Gulfport Galleria of Fine Art in downtown Gulfport.

Also on display during September and October were paintings by artist Sam Stolte, a native of Hattiesburg. Stolte's artwork is heavily influenced by abstract expressionism, contemporary art and cubism. He received his B.F.A. in painting from Texas State University. In addition to being a well-known artist, Stolte is also a musician and

sleight of hand magician. Stolte's long-term plans are to continue to show his artwork in galleries across the United States and abroad.

Artists of the Gulfport Galleria of Fine Art exhibited their works at the Southern Miss Gulf Coast Library during July and August. Original photographs and paintings by 17 local artists were displayed. An opening reception for the exhibition was held on July 25.

The Gulfport Galleria of Fine Art was established during the summer of 2007 because after Hurricane Katrina, local artists had few locations to display their work. The organization, a cooperative rather than a gallery, is located in downtown Gulfport where 39 members offer paintings, ceramics, woodturnings and jewelry.



Artwork by Breck Whitworth



Artwork by Sam Stolte



Gulfport Galleria

continued from page 2—

Café, *Making Stuff Safer with Energy-Absorbing Foams in Multi-Impact Helmets*, by Dr. Daniel Savin, assistant professor, and Andrew Janisse, graduate student in the School of Polymers and High Performance Materials. The *Making Stuff Safer* café featured a special video segment from the NOVA television series, *Making Stuff*, and other themed materials.

The NOVA Innovation Café was a themed Science Café focusing on topics related to engineering, technology advancement and materials science as explored in the NOVA series, *Making Stuff*. University Libraries at Southern Miss was one of 40 cafés selected by the Public Broadcasting Service's NOVA Education to have an Innovation Café during fall 2013. Goals of NOVA Innovation Cafés include leveraging the grassroots nature of Science Cafés to empower communities to explore state-of-the-art science



and recruiting scientist speakers whose expertise in relevant fields make each café experience a truly one-of-a-kind educational event.

BRIDGING CULTURES BOOKSHELF: MUSLIM JOURNEYS

— TRACY ENGLERT, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

University Libraries, in collaboration with the Department of Philosophy and Religion, received a grant that provided the **Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys**. This compilation of materials will enhance the library's print and film collections and online resources with a balanced assortment of core titles about important areas of Muslim cultures.

The Muslim Journeys Bookshelf is comprised of 25 books and four films organized around six themes: American Stories, Connected Histories, Literary Reflections, Pathways of Faith, Points of View and Art, Architecture and Film. The Bookshelf is not intended to be a comprehensive study of Islam as a religion or of the Muslim world in all its complexity. Instead, the goal of the collection is to introduce readers to some new and diverse perspectives on the people, places, histories, beliefs, practices and cultures of Muslims in the United States and around the world.

The print and film materials were on display October 2 – November 6 in the Cook Library lobby, and a lecture series organized by the Department of Philosophy and Religion occurred throughout the fall semester.

Books and DVDs are available for checkout. A search in the library catalog for Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys will produce a list of the books and DVDs.

Muslim Journeys Bookshelf materials were selected with the advice of librarians, cultural programming experts and distinguished scholars in the fields of anthropology, world



history, religious studies, interfaith dialogue, the history of art and architecture, world literature, Middle East studies, Southeast Asian studies, African studies and Islamic studies.

For information about these new materials, please visit www.lib.usm.edu or contact the Reference Services Department at 601.266.4249.

The Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys is a project of the National Endowment for the Humanities in cooperation with the American Library Association. Major support was provided by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. Additional support for the arts and media components was provided by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

LIKE US AT...FOLLOW US ON...

University Libraries is on Facebook and Twitter. Follow us for updates on library events, exhibits, new services, volunteer opportunities and campus life. Patrons are encouraged to submit comments and suggestions for University Libraries as tweets on Twitter and posts on Facebook. We would like to hear your thoughts!

To stay in touch with favorite libraries and collections on campus, see the list of library-related social media below.

- Cook Library: Like the Southern Miss Cook Library page at www.facebook.com/SouthernMissCookLibrary or follow us on Twitter [@USMCookLibrary](https://twitter.com/USMCookLibrary).
- Special Collections: Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/USM-Special-Collections/83156181902?ref=stream or follow us on Twitter [@USMSpecColl](https://twitter.com/USMSpecColl).
- Gulf Coast Library: Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/USMGulfCoastLibraries.
- de Grummond Children's Literature Collection: Like the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/de-Grummond-Childrens-Literature-Collection/103104874119?ref=ts or follow us on Twitter [@degrummond](https://twitter.com/degrummond).

— SARAH MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN, COOK LIBRARY
— ELENA AZADBAKHT, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR HEALTH SCIENCES



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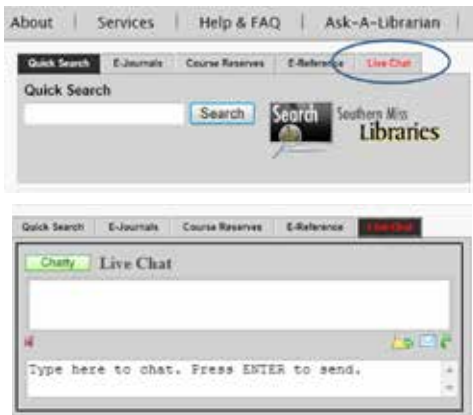
Southern Miss Cook Library

228 likes • 18 talking about this • 33 were here

LIVE CHAT AND MORE – NEW WAYS TO CONNECT WITH UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

– TISHA M. ZELNER, HEAD OF REFERENCE SERVICES, COOK LIBRARY

University Libraries introduced a new virtual service point this fall: Live Chat. Visitors to the Libraries website can have a real-time chat conversation with reference personnel at Cook Library and the Gulf Coast Library. Click the Live Chat tab on either the Libraries home page at www.lib.usm.edu or the Gulf Coast Libraries home page at www.lib.usm.edu/gulfcoast.html.



The chat service is also available on the Ask-a-Librarian page at www.lib.usm.edu/services/forms/askalib.html. Technical assistance and reference assistance are available, and plans are underway to expand the chat service to additional service points, such as circulation and interlibrary loan.



Assistance with short, simple questions is also available via text message, known as short message service (SMS). Text messages are limited to 140 characters and may be sent to

601.806.1000. Your mobile phone service provider's normal texting rates will apply.



Chat and texting services are provided by Southern Miss Libraries personnel and are generally available when librarians and staff are on duty. It is possible to keep the chat open in one window while you navigate through the Libraries website and also have online resources in another window. This way, you can get help at any point in your research process. If the Libraries provide you with information you would like to save for future reference, the chat software has a built-in option to send an email transcript of the chat session.

The Ask-a-Librarian email service remains a good alternative when the chat service is offline. The email service is also better suited for longer or more complicated questions that may take the librarian a bit more time to research and respond.

Of course, face-to-face assistance from the helpful library personnel in the Learning Commons at Cook Library or Gulf Coast Library is available 110 hours a week. To get one-on-one, in-depth help from a reference librarian at a time that is convenient for you, schedule a research consultation using the form at www.lib.usm.edu/services/forms/consultation.html. The Libraries faculty and staff want to help you succeed.

The chat and texting services are available to all Southern Miss students, faculty, staff and community users. All that is needed is an Internet connection or mobile phone with a texting plan; login is not required. The reference librarians look forward to interacting with more of you online and in person, and we hope everyone will enjoy having more ways to contact us for assistance.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES RECEIVES GRANT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRAMMING IN 2014

– JENNIFER BRANNOCK, CURATOR OF RARE BOOKS AND MISSISSIPPIANA

University Libraries received the **Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle** grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to mark the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's March on Washington. Through this grant, University Libraries and the Library of Hattiesburg, Petal and Forrest County will present scholarly programs and documentaries during 2014 with riveting new footage illustrating the history of civil rights in America.

"We are pleased to receive a grant from the NEH to provide programming around these films," said Jennifer Brannock, curator of rare books and Mississippiana and project director of the grant. "Pairing the lectures with the films will provide students, faculty and community members a number of opportunities to learn more about the history of civil rights, which is timely with the anniversary of Freedom Summer upon us in 2014."

LIBRARIAN SELECTED FOR MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

— JENNIFER BRANNOCK, CURATOR OF RARE BOOKS AND MISSISSIPPIANA

Jennifer Brannock, curator of rare books and Mississippiana, was selected to participate in the Mississippi Library Leadership Institute, an intensive, in-residence leadership training program for Mississippi librarians. The program is designed to grow the next generation of library leaders and directors in the state of Mississippi, and it consists of individual orientation sessions with a mentor and four retreats over the course of a year. All librarians admitted to the program are in the first 15 years of their careers, have a master's degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association (or are working on one), and work at a Mississippi library.

As part of the program, participants submit a proposal for a project that benefits the participant's library. Brannock is working with Jessica Herr of the Library of Hattiesburg, Petal and Forrest County to plan and host a series of events at Southern Miss and the public library. The outcome of

the project will be the creation of a library and cultural heritage network in Hattiesburg to bring together all libraries, museums and historical societies in the area.

The Mississippi Library Leadership Institute is made possible by the Mississippi Library Commission with funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Thirty librarians were chosen from around the state to participate in the 2013-14 program.



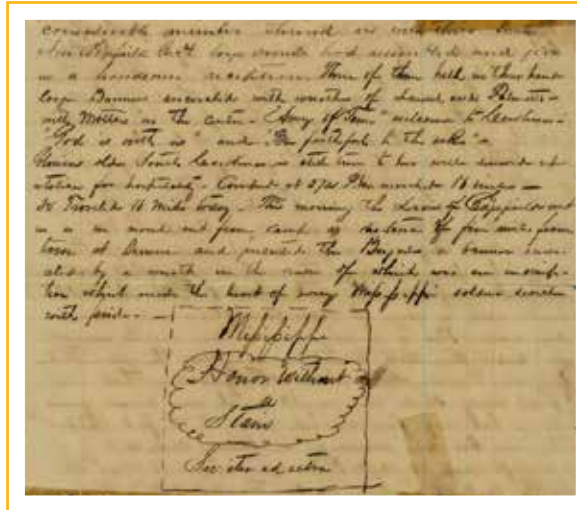
Jennifer Brannock

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS EXHIBITS FEATURE MATERIALS RELATING TO THE CIVIL WAR

— STEPHANIE SEAL

Special Collections in McCain Library and Archives featured two exhibits about the American Civil War in conjunction with the Civil War 150 Lecture Series.

Living Through the Rebellion: The Experience and History of the American Civil War, on display until January, explores the opinions and experiences of soldiers, women, children and historians of the 1860-67 period. The exhibit covers life in army camps and on the northern and southern home fronts during the "rebellion." *Living Through the Rebellion* also features the history of the Civil War as written in books, pamphlets and political memoirs from 1860-67. On display are personal letters from Confederate and Union soldiers, published soldier and spy memoirs, and other documents that express the hardships soldiers and their families endured. *Living Through the Rebellion* will be on display in the Cleanth Brooks Reading Room (Room 305) in McCain Library and Archives



Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., through January 15, 2014.

Defining Liberty: The Slavery and Abolition Debate in 19th-Century American Print Culture was on display in the lobby of Cook Library during September. This exhibit revealed differing viewpoints on the issue of slavery during the antebellum and Civil War eras. Throughout the 19th century, authors in both free and slave states published books and pamphlets either supporting or attacking the institution of slavery. This exhibit displayed a

sample of these printed publications from Special Collections in McCain Library and Archives.

The exhibits, curated by Stephanie Seal, a public history intern and Ph.D. student in the Department of History, were organized in conjunction with the Civil War 150 Lecture Series grant received by University Libraries from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, the Library of America and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

SPOTLIGHT ON...STEPHEN HALLER

— ELENA AZADBAKHT, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR HEALTH SCIENCES

University Libraries welcomes Stephen Haller, curator of historical manuscripts and archives, who began work on August 1. Although still in the process of relocating to Hattiesburg, Steve already feels at home at McCain Library and Archives, thanks to the “passionate and dedicated” staff within Special Collections.

Steve has more than 30 years of archival experience at nonprofit organizations and historical societies in three states. Before coming to Southern Miss, he was the senior director of collections and library at the Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis. While there, he increased online digital collections and managed a new award-winning digital exhibit program. Prior to that, Steve served as director of archives and records at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Virginia, where he designed an archives and records program to support the Foundation’s educational, historic property, public relations and development goals.

Steve grew up in the Midwest and has a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in history from Miami University of Ohio. His research interests include military history, the Revolutionary War period, the early republic and early 20th-century America. He is the author of *William Washington: Cavalryman of the Revolution*, published by Heritage Books in 2001.

While a graduate student, Steve interned with the Ohio Historical Society. He enjoyed the experience so much that when an archivist position became available there the following spring, he was quick to apply for it. Among his many contributions to the profession, Steve has taught college and adult education classes and has held leadership roles in local and regional professional organizations. He

is also a certified records manager (CRM).

Steve’s next steps as curator involve becoming more familiar with the local community so that he can preserve its history, and with the university environment, which he describes as a “welcome challenge.” Steve is eager to promote Special Collections to Southern Miss students and the community at large, and he has always enjoyed working with student interns and is looking forward to interacting with students again to support their research needs. Preserving and making historical materials accessible have always been priorities in his career. To meet these objectives in his current role, Steve intends to rely on his experience to facilitate the efficient processing of collections, new and old. He will also need to make important decisions about which university records to retain and how to make best use of limited space.

Steve is married and has two adult children, both of whom live in the South. He has been heavily active within community nonprofits, including Big Brothers Big Sisters and adult literacy programs, and would like to get involved with similar organizations in Hattiesburg. Furthermore, as a Vietnam veteran, Steve is interested in reaching out to student veterans.



Stephen Haller

FRIENDS OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

— SARAH R. MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN, COOK LIBRARY

The Friends of University Libraries are well into their fourth year of supporting University Libraries at The University of Southern Mississippi. Membership continues to grow and is up to 286. Members at the Contributor level and above are as follows:

- **Contributor:** Kaylene Behm, Penny and John Kochtitzky, Richard Sumrall, Teresa Welsh
- **Sponsor:** Dr. and Mrs. Richard Conville, Fr. Tommy Conway, Rick Fortenberry, Jeff and Diane Hammond
- **Benefactor:** Aubrey and Ella Lucas
- **Life:** Daniel Roy Ball, Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Tatum

The Friends are once again spearheading Give a Child a New Book Day, in partnership with the Favre4Hope

Foundation, the Salvation Army and Red Door Marketing Agency. The goal for this year’s initiative is to collect 5,500 books that will be distributed to children in need in the Hattiesburg and Gulf Coast areas through the Salvation Army’s Angel Tree program. Reading plays an important role in academic success, and through the Give a Child a New Book initiative, the Friends have provided new, age-appropriate books for thousands of children over the past two years. Donations will be accepted November 1–December 6, 2013.

For more information about Give a Child a New Book Day or becoming a Friend of University Libraries, contact Sarah Mangrum at 601.266.4251 or Sarah.Rials@usm.edu.



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

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UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN THE NEWS

— SARAH MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN, COOK LIBRARY

Activities and accomplishments of members of University Libraries are highlighted below:

JENNIFER BRANNOCK, CURATOR OF RARE BOOKS AND MISSISSIPPIANA

- *Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle*, public programming grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (\$1,200)
- Mississippi Library Leadership Institute. Selected and fully funded to attend, competitive application process
- Regional Archival Associations Consortium, Mississippi representative
- Mississippi Library Association's chapter of Association of College and Research Libraries, chair
- Society of Mississippi Archivists, vice president
- *Hard Hats, Visqueen and Stiff Drinks: Managing Archives Construction Projects*. Refereed poster session, Joint Annual Meeting of the Council of State Archivists and the Society of American Archivists, New Orleans, La., 2013
- *Hot Rods, Hot Girls and Cool Cats: Children's Racing Books After World War II*. Presentation. Children's Literature Association Conference, Biloxi, Miss., 2013
- *Shooting the Messenger: Creating Videos to Enhance Online Distance Education*. Joint presentation with Cole Smith.

Society of Mississippi Archivists Annual Conference, Cleveland, Miss., 2013

PEGGY PRICE, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN FOR ARTS AND LETTERS

- Sabbatical Review Committee
- Ph.D. (Department of English, May 2013)

SARAH MANGRUM, CIRCULATION LIBRARIAN

- University Assessment Committee
- University Climate Commitment Council

TISHA ZELNER, HEAD OF REFERENCE SERVICES

- Council of Chairs
- Faculty Senate
- Faculty Senate Elections Committee, co-chair
- Faculty Senate Awards Committee
- Faculty Senate Teaching and Service Committee

LINDA GINN, CATALOG LIBRARIAN

- "Map and Geographical Imagery in Editorial Cartoons," *Primary Source*, 31:2 (2013)
- Academic Council, corresponding secretary
- General Education Curriculum Committee, secretary
- *Library Focus*, editor
- *Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys*. Exhibit with Tracy Englert
- Friends of Oak Grove Public Library, president