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Spring 2009

## Library Focus (Spring 2009)

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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SOUTHERN  
MISSISSIPPI**  
UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARIES

## HATTIESBURG REMEMBERS THE FREEDOM SUMMER OF 1964

—DIANE DECESARE ROSS, CURATOR OF MANUSCRIPTS AND ARCHIVES

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### CONTACT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Cook Library  
601.266.4249

McCain Library  
601.266.4345

Gulf Coast Library  
228.214.3450

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[www.lib.usm.edu/about\\_us/  
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**Library Focus  
receives MLA Best  
Newsletter Award**

See page 7 for details

## PICK UP YOUR SUMMER READS AT COOK LIBRARY

This summer when you are hitting the beach or heading off to your favorite vacation spot, don't forget to swing by the Popular Reading Collection on the first floor of Cook Library to grab a book or two for your trip.

Getting your books from Cook Library can save you a trip to the public library and the money you would have spent purchasing them at a bookstore.

The Popular Reading Collection contains approximately 1,000 books that include *New York Times* best-sellers and *Independent* best-sellers. Fiction genres include romance, mystery, horror, science fiction and many more. If nonfiction is more your taste, check out the latest self-help sensations, biographies, cookbooks and political commentaries.

The next time you are in Cook Library grabbing a cup of coffee or picking up a book for class, head over to the Information Services area outside of Starbucks and browse the Popular Reading Collection.

Since titles in the collection rotate every few months, there is always something new to read! Books from the Popular Reading Collection are checked out for 30 days and can be renewed.

If you have any suggestions about possible additions to the collection, please contact Tracy Englert at Tracy.Englert@usm.edu or 601.266.6396.

The Civil Rights era of the 1960s had a profound impact on the history of the United States, and Hattiesburg and Palmer's Crossing were important centers of the Civil Rights movement in Mississippi. Hattiesburg was the largest Freedom Summer site in the state, with over ninety volunteers from out of state, 3,000 local participants, and nearly 700 Freedom School students. The headquarters of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and several Civil Rights organizations were all located on Mobile Street in Hattiesburg.

That time was recently relived through a display of original photographs from the University Libraries' collections. These photographs, taken by Herbert Randall during Freedom Summer in 1964, captured the events, lives and emotions of Hattiesburg during that critical time. The photographs were displayed as part of the *Hattiesburg Remembers the Freedom Summer of 1964* exhibit at the historic Train Depot in downtown Hattiesburg. The exhibit, sponsored by VISITHATTIESBURG™, the University of Southern Mississippi Libraries, the African-American Military History Museum, and the City of Hattiesburg, ran from February 4th through February 28th.

Approximately fifty of Randall's photographs were the main feature of the exhibit. An African



and Native American photographer, Herbert Randall was born in New York in 1936. In the spring of 1964, he was awarded the John Hay Whitney Fellowship for Creative Photography. Shortly after, he met someone involved with the Mississippi Freedom Summer Project in Hattiesburg. That meeting inspired him to use his fellowship to photograph Freedom Summer activities in Hattiesburg. Later, he donated these photographs (nearly 1800 of them) to The University of Southern Mississippi Libraries, and worked with the library's former archivist, Bobs Tusa, to produce a book featuring them. His work has been exhibited in the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Brooklyn Museum, and the Art Institute of Pittsburgh. In addition, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the New York Public Library, and

the Library of Congress contains photographs by Herbert Randall in their permanent collections.

Herbert Randall spoke at the opening reception, which was held on Saturday, February 7th. The reception also featured the Cotton Blossom Singers from Mississippi's Piney Woods School. More than 1,000 people visited the exhibit during the month of February. The response was so positive that the exhibit was extended until March 11.

The Herbert Randall Freedom Summer Photograph Collection is housed in McCain Library & Archives, along

with many other collections related to the Civil Rights movement. The photographs, diaries, letters, and other documents tell a story of ordinary people gathering their courage and doing extraordinary things to make a difference in the world. Many of these materials can also be accessed online through the University Libraries' Digital Collections page [http://cdm.lib.usm.edu/cdm\\_usm/index.php](http://cdm.lib.usm.edu/cdm_usm/index.php).

For questions about this collection, contact Diane Ross at [Diane.Ross@usm.edu](mailto:Diane.Ross@usm.edu) or 601.266.5592.

## RELIVING THE JOURNEY: CONNECTING THE PAST TO THE PRESENT

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

**N**oted author, Louise Borden, presented an enlightening talk at the University Honors Forum on March 31, 2009. Borden, the author of *The Journey That Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H. A. Rey*, spoke to the audience about her lifelong love of books and libraries and how that love led to her own journey of discovering H. A. and Margret Rey.

Borden related her experience of uncovering an article in *Publishers Weekly* in June 1995. The article stated that H. A. and Margret Rey had escaped from Paris on bicycle on a rainy day in June of 1940. On their backs were the art and manuscript for *Curious George*. Borden mentioned her amazement at discovering the fact that the bicycle journey ended after a few days when the Reys were able to take a train through Spain and then a boat from Lisbon to Brazil.

Borden had majored in European history while in college, so the fall of France in 1940 was no surprise to her. She immediately got a map of France and traced the journey the Reys must have taken when leaving. From that moment on, Borden was determined to retrace the steps the Reys had taken to escape Nazi occupation.

Among the many contacts Borden made in attempting to uncover the Rey journey was Laylee Ong, the executor of the Rey estate. Dr. Ong directed Borden to the de Grummond Collection at the University of Southern Mississippi, where the Rey archive now resides.

All in all, Borden made several journeys of her own as she wrote the story of the wartime escape: Three trips to Paris, three to Hattiesburg, and travels through France in which she actually followed in the Reys' route. Borden pieced together the bicycle journey by translating Hans' tiny pocket diaries at the de Grummond Collection.

Borden's focus on the de Grummond Collection served to remind listeners of the significance of an archive. She cited the de Grummond Collection as one of the "guardians of the past," which is indispensable to historians and writers.



H. A. and Margret Rey

## JUDY BLUME RECEIVES THE 2009 SOUTHERN MISS MEDALLION

—KAREN ROWELL, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL

**T**he 42nd annual Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival was held April 1-3 at the Southern Miss Thad Cochran Center. The event boasted an impressive lineup. From the 2009 Southern Miss Medallion winner **Judy Blume** to previous Southern Miss Medallion Winner **Ashley Bryan** to current young adult novelist **John Green**, the book festival was full of big names all across the board.

Other outstanding guests included author and poet **Eloise Greenfield**; artist and illustrator **Jan Spivey Gilchrist**; illustrator and teller of Mexican folk tales **Yuyi Morales**; author, actor, and prolific writer for opera, ballet, film, and theater **Arthur Yorinks** and the current president of ALSC, the Association for Library Services to Children **Pat Scales**. The de Grummond Lecture was given by **Louise Borden**, author of *The Journey that Saved Curious George*.



Judy Blume

**T**his year a special celebration was held in honor of the late Coleen Salley who was a storyteller, author, and enthusiastic Children's Book Festival supporter. The Mardi Gras themed event featured a New Orleans jazz band, storytelling, throws, a video memorial of Coleen, and a silent auction. Proceeds from the auction will go to the

Coleen Salley Storytelling Endowment, a fund established by her family to celebrate her passion for children's literature and to ensure her continued presence at the festival.

The 2009 Book Festival also included a collaborative effort with the Hattiesburg Tourism Commission to provide trolley services to the downtown area, discounted dining for festival participants, and a special reception featuring the travelling exhibit *Storybook Look: Illustrations by Southern Artists*, displayed in the historic Saenger Theater.



Coleen Salley

## USM LIBRARIANS ELECTED TO NATIONAL, STATE POSITIONS

—JENNIFER BRANNOCK, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARIAN



KAROLYN THOMPSON  
Document Delivery  
Coordinator

**KAROLYN THOMPSON**, Document Delivery Coordinator, has been elected to serve as president of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA). According to the BCALA web site, “The Black Caucus of the American Library Association serves as an advocate for the development, promotion, and improvement of library services and resources to the nation’s African American community; and provides leadership for the recruitment and professional development of African American librarians.” Ms. Thompson will serve a one year term that expires in 2010.

For more information about The Black Caucus of the American Library Association, visit the Web site at [www.bcala.org](http://www.bcala.org).



TISHA ZELNER  
Head of Information Services

**TISHA ZELNER**, Head of Information Services, has been elected to serve as the vice-chairperson for Mississippi’s Association of College and Research Libraries’ (ACRL) chapter of the American Library Association (ALA). As vice-chairperson, Ms. Zelner will serve as the “program chairperson for the annual meeting and serve as a delegate to the Chapters Council of the ACRL of ALA.” This is a one year term ending in 2009 when she takes over as President of Mississippi ACRL of ALA.



JENNIFER BRANNOCK  
Special Collections Librarian

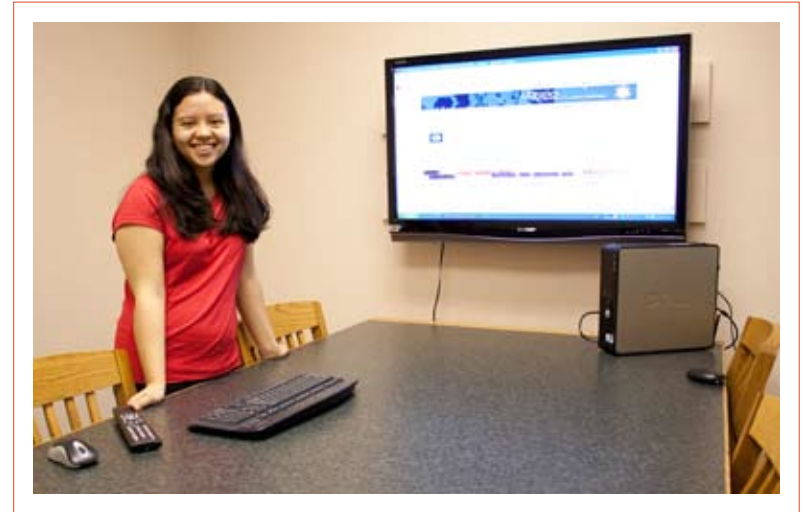
**JENNIFER BRANNOCK**, Special Collections Librarian, was elected to serve as vice-president of the Society of Mississippi Archivists (SMA). Due to the departure of the president of the organization, Ms. Brannock took over as president of the group. As president, she oversees the planning of the annual conference and works with the SMA board and other state organizations to create opportunities for archivists, curators, and special collections librarians around the state.

In addition to serving as vice-president and president, Ms. Brannock was also elected to serve SMA as a board member and secretary/treasurer. For more information about SMA, go to <http://www.msarchivists.org/>.

## TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED STUDY ROOM

—TISHA ZELNER, HEAD, INFORMATION SERVICES

Cook Library is pleased to announce the creation of its first technology-enhanced group study room. The room is located on the second floor of Cook Library, on the east side of the building in room 209D. A 42-inch LCD monitor is mounted to the wall and a wireless keyboard and mouse are available for check-out. The computer has Internet access and the same software as other library computers, including Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Come in and try it out for your next group project.



## NEW EXHIBIT IN MCCAIN LIBRARY, LONG AGO AND FAR AWAY

What do a palm-leaf manuscript from Asia, pottery done by the creators of *Curious George*, and a “Claw-A-Klansman” squeeze toy have in common? These are just a few of the items held in USM Libraries’ Special Collections that will be part of *Long Ago and Far Away*, a new exhibit

in McCain Library. The exhibit will be available in the Cleanth Brooks Reading Room on the 3rd floor of McCain Library from March 23 through August 28.

For more information about the exhibit, contact Diane Ross at [Diane.Ross@usm.edu](mailto:Diane.Ross@usm.edu) or 601.266.5592.

## NEW BOOK APPROVAL PLAN FOR UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

—NANCY KAUL, COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Southern Miss Libraries are pleased to announce the beginning of a new book purchase plan with YBP Library Services of New Hampshire. The approval plan will provide us with books from university and other academic presses shortly after they are published.

This book selection and purchase plan will help insure relevant and more even subject coverage in the collections at both the Hattiesburg and Gulf Coast campuses. In addition, the consolidation of purchases through an approval plan brings the added benefit of cost-saving discounts.

The Libraries will receive weekly shipments of new books selected through the application of profiles for each academic area. The profile parameters were developed

by library bibliographers and department liaisons in cooperation with representatives from YBP by examining the teaching, learning, and research needs of each discipline.

The incoming books will be examined by bibliographers before adding them to the collections, and those determined not suitable will be returned for credit. The profiles can then be adjusted to fine-tune the selection of titles. The libraries look forward to offering our patrons more recent and relevant materials for their learning and research needs.

For more information, contact Nancy Kaul at [Nancy.Kaul@usm.edu](mailto:Nancy.Kaul@usm.edu) or 601.266.5078.

## NEWLY RENOVATED SPEAKING CENTER OPENS IN COOK LIBRARY

—SHIRLENE STOGNER, INFORMATION SERVICES LIBRARIAN

The University of Southern Mississippi Speaking Center opened in its newly renovated location in the heart of Cook Library (Cook 117) on January 20, 2009. The Speaking Center provides peer consulting for formal and informal presentations, advice for participating in classroom discussions, mock interviews, and help with speech anxiety. The Speaking Center is open to all students, staff, and faculty and all levels of speakers

(beginner or advanced). You can use the center to practice your presentations with a variety of audio and visual equipment (video camera, DVD, computer and projector) and record and watch your speech.

Speaking Center services are free. To schedule an appointment and to find out more about the Speaking Center, visit [www.usm.edu/speakingcenter](http://www.usm.edu/speakingcenter) or call 601.266.4965.

## FILM SHOWING FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

—TRACY ENGLERT, MEDIA LIBRARIAN  
ADRIENNE MCPHAUL, INFORMATION SERVICES LIBRARIAN

In celebration of Women's History Month, the University Libraries, Women's Studies, and The University Committee on Services and Resources for Women (CSRW) sponsored a viewing of "Running in High Heels" on March 5th. A documentary about women and politics, it was written and directed by Maryann Breschard. The film follows the campaign of a 29-year-old woman running for a State Senate seat in New York. Interviews and commentary by notable women from the right and left of the political spectrum are intercut into the narrative. The

documentary explores the power of stereotypes in society and asks the question: if women represent a majority of the population why don't more of them hold political office?

Refreshments were provided by the University's Committee on Services and Resources for Women (CSRW). The event was held in Cook Library room 123 and was well attended.

If you missed the viewing, you can always check out the movie from Cook Library (HQ1236.5.U6 R86 2005).

## FALL BOOK PREVIEW

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

The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection hosted a successful Fall Book Preview which was held over the first weekend of November 2008. The book preview generated nearly 700 donated titles for the de Grummond Collection and welcomed 79 visitors from the Southern Miss and surrounding community. New to the Fall Book Preview in 2008 was the collaboration with the Curriculum Materials Center (CMC). Activities for children were held in the CMC, while the donated titles were displayed in the

de Grummond Exhibit Room. Children were provided with snacks, storytelling, learning games and other activities.

Each year at the Book Preview, the de Grummond Collection displays hundreds of newly released and upcoming titles for the public to browse. This is a great opportunity for teachers and librarians to get ideas for book selections for their classrooms and to plan for general collection development. It is a great opportunity for parents to get ideas on books to purchase for the holiday season.

## COOK LIBRARY ROOM CHANGES NAME AND FUNCTION

—KAYLENE BEHM, HEAD, ACCESS SERVICES

The name of the Reading Room in Cook Library has been changed to **2nd Floor South**. The room will continue to house media, music recordings, current periodicals, newspapers, microforms, and government publications, however, staffing has been eliminated during evening and weekend hours. Staff will be available to assist patrons in the 2nd Floor South on Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Assistance needed after those hours should

be requested from librarians and staff at the Information Services desk on the 1st floor. All media materials (including music recordings and media reserves) may be checked out at the Circulation and Reserve Desk located in the Cook Library lobby. Scores with parts may now be requested at the Circulation Desk for check out.

## DISPLAY CELEBRATING DR. GORDON GUNTER ON DISPLAY AT GUNTER LIBRARY

—JOYCE SHAW, HEAD LIBRARIAN, GUNTER LIBRARY

Gunter Library begins its celebration of the life of Dr. Gordon Gunter, former director of the Gulf Coast Laboratory, by displaying a poster of a few of his many contributions to marine science.

Dr. Gordon Gunter (1909-1998) was the third director of the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory(GCRL). In 1972, the library at GCRL was named the Gunter Library by the Board of Trustees of the Institutes of Higher Learning. Dr. Gunter wrote over 300 scientific publications with 19 of those appearing in the prestigious journal, *Science*. He also founded two scientific journals and coined the phrase "fertile fisheries crescent." One of his publications, "Studies on marine fishes of Texas (1945)," has been cited over 200

times in the literature.

The poster was recently on display at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences. Co-authors/creators are Madeline Trier-Rourke, a graduate library student at USM, Jonathan Weaver, honors biology intern from the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College – Jackson County campus, and Joyce Shaw, Gunter Library head librarian.

The poster will be on display in Gunter Library at the GCRL campus until June 1. For questions about the poster or the Gunter Library, contact Joyce Shaw at [Joyce.Shaw@usm.edu](mailto:Joyce.Shaw@usm.edu) or 228.214.3469.

## LIBRARY FOCUS RECEIVES MLA BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD

The University Library's *Library Focus* was the 2008 recipient of the Mississippi Library Association's Public Relations Award for Best Newsletter. The newsletter was selected over many other submissions from around the state. The purpose of the newsletter is to increase library visibility and inform users of the services,

resources, and programs available at the University of Southern Mississippi Libraries. This is the first time the *Library Focus* has received the award in the 13 year history of the newsletter.

