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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Mississippi's libraries have changed more in the last few years than at any other point in my lifetime. Not only have we added an incredible array of electronic resources, we have greatly expanded our collections of traditional and not-so-traditional library resources. Our commitment to maintaining excellent service has only been exceeded by our efforts to improve that service. Libraries have grown in many ways and yet have remained true to the library's primary focus: providing information.

Many library users would be surprised by the great variety offered in our state's libraries. They may visit regularly to pick up a new novel, a weekend video, or a fax. They may come in once a year for a tax form or every day to check their e-mail. But even lifetime library users often do not know the wealth in Mississippi's libraries.

Most small public libraries offer a wonderful collection of local history and genealogy materials – even some library staff and trustees are surprised by the things that turn up in storerooms and closets! While many libraries make such collections an important part of their mission, most collect haphazardly – a family photo album from the 40's, a cornerstone from a demolished building, letters that the mayor's grandfather sent home from the war – not really knowing what to do with them. Before long, the accumu-



Henry Ledet

lation becomes a collection and the library becomes a treasure trove of priceless historical materials for the community.

Other (better funded) libraries set out to collect important historical documents and information. McCain Library and Archives at The University of Southern Mississippi houses one of the most

impressive collections of local history materials. Their recent oral history project concerning the civil rights movement of the mid-twentieth century is a landmark effort.

Libraries are not only collecting these rare and irreplaceable materials, they are finding new and innovative ways to make them available. Many libraries are providing access to their unique collections through their Web sites. A great wealth of historic photographs, such as Harrison County's Camille Photographs; indexes, such as Jackson/Hinds County's Clarion-Ledger Index; and primary documents, such as my library's oral history collection, are all available for research. And other interesting resources, such as Delta State's 75th Anniversary Web Exhibit, are available for use by anyone with a computer and a modem while the original materials are safely stored in archival conditions.

Mississippi libraries have so much to offer. And the only things better than our collections are our librarians.

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MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES

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NOTICE: Dues must be paid by March 1 in order to vote in election of officers and to receive the Spring issue of *Mississippi Libraries*.

Make Mine Medium Rare: Special Collections Librarians Consume the 20th Century

By Peggy Price

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Modern materials offer compelling testimonies of the recent past and contribute to the understanding of the entire course of human events. Not-so-old and not-quite-rare collections teach students through an immediate recognition of what they are, potentially creating a parallel point of reference to the artifacts of traditional historical research. For instance, editorial cartoons from 1979 reveal issues of the day in a recognizable format which, when compared to the sketches of 1879, help new users understand how and why we study similar relics from centuries past.

Now that the twentieth century has become, well, "history," collecting materials from recent decades appears more legitimate to those who might otherwise object. Changes in scholarship in the latter half of the twentieth century helped influence collecting decisions along the way. This article explores historical and prevalent attitudes regarding modern materials in special collections, reveals recent developments in providing access to such collections, and investigates potential solutions to old tensions through fresh technology, attitudes and perspectives.

COLLECTING THE PRESENT

Traditionally, rare book departments are primarily focused on the rare and unique, and special collections are actually specialized subject areas. A merger of sorts has occurred, however, creating a new paradigm for the academic special collections of the twenty-first century. Collection development requires new criteria and should be viewed through the

broader framework of comprehensive research collections.

Determining what will be important for future researchers generates many discussions about relevance, significance, and quality, and may or may not include references to gambling. Curators combine projected researcher needs, experience and personal tastes when deliberating over collecting decisions, knowing full well that it is not an exact science. Such issues are only made fuzzier when contemplating modern materials. Harry Ransom, the namesake of the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas, really created the trend thirty years ago by acquiring twentieth-century manuscripts while they were available.¹ Other universities followed his lead and have since created contemporary collections.

Another pioneer in the modern collecting movement was Howard Gotlieb of Boston University. Dr. Gotlieb created the Twentieth Century Archives, housed in the school's Mugar Library, in 1963. A dynamic collection, the archive documents a broad scope of American life and culture with papers of notable figures regularly sought after and donated. "We are the greatest repository of this century's archives in the entire country," the proud curator declared in a 1986 interview. He went on to say that "The prime object of our collection is to create a picture of our own era for present-day and future scholars."² Sounds quite innovative and forward thinking. Big names like Samuel Beckett, Bette Davis and Martin Luther King are represented in the archive. What better way to provide a window into the twentieth century? Collect the material now while it is available and, hopefully, inexpensive.

Michael T. Ryan says as much in his 1990 article, "Developing Special Collec-

tions in the '90s: A Fin-de-siècle Perspective." Ryan recognizes the new research climate which holds that "context is everything" and the implications for collecting for a diverse student and faculty population. He describes the need to seek out the margins when considering the "anti-canonical, multicultural world"³ of the 1990's and beyond, and goes on to support modern acquisitions with:

"Collecting the present for the future seems to me an eminently sensible starting point for a collection development strategy that avoids the marketplace and looks instead to the world at hand. Documenting aspects of this rich and complex moment may be the best way of building bridges to new constituencies, now and for the future."⁴

THE CONFLICT

How should special collections librarians decide what types of materials to collect in this new and "everything is a text to be read and therefore researchable" environment? Ryan feels that librarians should incorporate the specific skills and knowledge of special collections personnel into the development process and use mechanisms which "articulate that expertise in intelligible, relevant ways." Furthermore, the "authority of curatorial expertise needs to be as present in libraries as it has been historically in museums."⁵ Librarians need to be able to make the crucial development decisions in order to maintain the integrity of the collection. Connoisseurship meets mainstream collection development in the person of the special collections librarian, who must find the balance.

Dr. Gotlieb exercises "curatorial authority" when making collecting decisions for the Twentieth Century Archive.

"I must feel strongly, in my mind, that whatever we gather will be of interest and will be used by someone ten, fifty or one hundred years from now, and will not just gather dust. We are not a museum; we are a research library, and we therefore collect to have the materials used, not to sit in glass cases and be looked at."⁶

Noble and valid sentiments indeed, supported and practiced quite similarly by special collections librarians. But, when a certain (unnamed) best-selling author requests that her papers be included in the famous archive, Gottlieb declines her offer. One must ponder this decision in light of the fact that the archive seeks to "create a picture of our own era." Best-selling books, even of the bodice-ripping persuasion, certainly reflect reading habits and contribute to the social fabric of the times.

Outdated views like this one confined manuscript collections within a narrow margin of research, and assumed that scholars would not consider the literature "research quality," and failed to see the potential surrounding the manuscripts. Gottlieb, however, defended his decision by stating:

"But the caliber of her work, I felt, lacked taste, and should not be collected here. I'm not too sure that she will be studied, in the future, by scholars. So you see, I do have one basic test, and the curator must always be the final person to make a decision."⁷

NEW METHODS, NEW SOURCES

Revolutionary changes in literary research and the rise of cultural studies support new methods of studying primary source materials. Gottlieb's perspective illustrates a more traditional perception of literary manuscripts. On the other hand, Gretchen L. Lagana, Special Collections Librarian at the University of Illinois at Chicago, speaking just a few years later, describes the new directions in which

research should lead special collections:

"If special collections librarians are to plan for the future, they must begin to look towards the newer fields of study, exploring how these may offer resources to build the great collections that will distinguish the second hundred years of academic librarianship. Because so many of the fields are interdisciplinary, they will need to plan for a wide range of users, and explore existing collections."⁸

Shifts in this direction legitimize the purpose of special collections and validate their existence to the administration of the library and the university. In his article "Leaner and Meaner Special Collections, Librarians, and Humanists at the End of the Century," William Goodrich Jones suggests a bright future for the materials as well. He points out that "...one of the features of twentieth-century scholarship is that almost any topic is researchable," and continues: "for scholars the desire and availability of unique and abundant research materials is almost limitless."⁹

Never has there been such promise for a "best of all possible worlds" scenario for special collections. Technology impresses those who need to be impressed and will provide support for projects that, they feel, will impress others. However, advocates for special collections should emphasize the expertise and substance behind the techno-displays, while maintaining the skills and knowledge necessary to utilize modern tools effectively.

ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES

Special collections librarians realize that, through some magical chain of events, timing and technology must have come together just for them. How can it be that the modern and the antique should twist through modems and fiber-optic cable and land on the other side with something beautiful to report?

Modern special collections departments provide access to their materials in ways never before possible. Detractors who worry about volumes getting sucked into

the black hole of that "other library," never to be seen again, may rest a bit easier in light of the advances in access to finding aids, databases, online catalogs, and the departments themselves. Patrons confused by closed stacks and "noncirc" designations can click around on the department Web page for background information. Students who were suspicious of that top floor of the library, or just not desperate enough to find their way to another building across campus, can now surf their way through a finding aid or an exhibit.

Working in the field now demands rigorous dedication to access and use – online, virtual, digital and many words that mean instantaneous – along with the traditional collecting, care and preservation that are hallmarks of the profession. Preservation projects become excellent opportunities for documentation and improve access. Many twentieth-century items are still in the backlog for processing, and therefore ripe for the most updated measures of preservation and access.

Electronic finding aids and standardized formats allow researchers streamlined access to the materials, which increasingly may be in electronic forms themselves. Books, too, will remain central as current research in texts and the history of the book is on the rise, leading users back to the physical artifact. Opportunities abound for the proactive department to bring collections to distant scholars, pull researchers into the reading room, and generate support on college campuses for the new "intellectual center of the university."¹⁰

NEW HORIZONS

Old tensions between those who should be friends will certainly not melt away simply because finding aids can now be created using EAD. Many view modern methods as destructive and a sure sign of the decay of the reputation of the scholar-librarian. Others feel too much attention (and funding) directed toward the aesthetically appealing, but perhaps superfluous, special collections detracts from the primary mission of the academic library. Special collections have traditionally been used as a show-

case for the library as a whole, with an understated nod toward scholarship. Well, now is the time to demonstrate the beauty and functionality of special collections. Everyone benefits; everyone wins.

Publication and communication have never been easier. Librarians may visit any number of special collections via the Web in a single day, noting the policies, acquisitions, and exhibitions of everyone from the small publics to the Ivy League. E-mail lists create an open forum for queries and keep the professional networks, often established at annual meetings, functioning year round. Email opens up the reference desk twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Without question, the front door of the modern special collections now opens onto the Internet, making the Web presence a crucial function of the department. Librarians should use the medium to counter arguments against special collections by simply showing others what really happens behind the thick gray doors. Many misunderstandings, constructed over time, were built on pure ignorance of the true functions of the department. Finally, the moment has arrived to "put on the show!"

CONCLUSION

Twentieth-century materials provide excellent opportunities for collection development and outreach. Today's special collections librarians will continue to discover new avenues for access as standards and technology work together to form sophisticated entry points to their collections. Establishing and enhancing an Internet presence is of the utmost importance in order to communicate to researchers and to colleagues the functions and activities taking place in the department. As the general collections in academic libraries move more and more toward the electronic environment, books will only increase in value and continue to hold a central place in special collections. Mid-century dust jackets or paperbacks from the sixties may still be pretty pink in the middle, but they tell us something about our recent past and our present. So, please, if you don't mind, make mine medium-rare.

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- ¹⁰ Huttner, Sidney F. "Waving not Drowning: Rare Books in a Digital Age." *Rare Books and Manuscripts Librarianship* 13, no. 2 (1999):100.

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An Overview of the Care of Silver-Based Photographic Prints and Negatives

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Photographs have a way of drawing us in: at various times, they distract, entertain, disturb, and seduce. They lend immediacy to written words; they also stand on their own as invaluable primary sources of information. In a survey of seventy-five public and academic libraries in Mississippi last year,¹ a full 40% held photographic materials in their collections. Black and white (silver-based) prints were most common, and many of these libraries held materials dated prior to 1910.¹ Though they share some of the characteristics of other paper-based materials, the additional chemical components in photographs make them even more prone to damage and deterioration.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS

Even if we limit our discussion to black and white photography, a photographic collection could include cased objects such as daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, and tintypes; mounted or unmounted photographic prints of various types; and negatives of paper, glass, or some type of plastic film. Each of these items may present a unique set of problems for the institutions that house them, particularly in terms of conservation.² The first step in providing proper care to these materials is to understand their physical structure.

A photograph or negative is more complicated than it first appears. In general, photographic materials are actually more like a sandwich than a page out of a typical book. There are four possible "sandwich" layers: a support material, an interlayer, a binding medium, and an image-forming substance. Almost anything can serve as a support (including metal, wood, or cloth), but paper, glass, and flexible films of cellulose nitrate, cel-

lulose diacetate, cellulose triacetate, or polyester are the most common. Interlayers have also varied through the years; in more contemporary resin-coated papers, the interlayer is a pigmented polyethylene. The most common binding medium is gelatin, followed by albumen (an egg-white solution) and collodion. Image-forming substances of iron, platinum, palladium, metal salts, carbon, or other pigments and dyes have been found, but the most common photographs encountered in library collections are images based on silver.³

CARE AND CONCERNS

As with other paper-based materials, mishandling, insects, mold, and acidification of mounting boards, enclosures, or containers can damage photographs and negatives.⁴ In addition, they may present the special problems of glass plate breakage, cracked emulsion layers, and chemical deterioration of their separate component layers.⁵ Tables 1, 2, and 3 show some of the characteristics of the different types of photographic materials and the types of problems they may present.⁶

Both moisture and temperature speed up deterioration in photographic materials. On the other hand, too little moisture can cause these same materials to curl or crack. To further complicate matters, each layer of the photographic "sandwich" tends to react differently to changes in relative humidity. Nevertheless, established standards indicate that most photographic materials are best stored at 20°C (68°F) at a relative humidity between 35-40%. The temperature should not be allowed to fluctuate more than 4°C.⁷

Light exposure can cause cumulative and irreversible damage to photographic materials in the form of fading, discoloration, and increased brittleness. The obvious solution is to keep light exposure to a minimum. This can be accomplished by storing photographic artifacts away from light as much as possible.

Items on display can be protected through the use of special filtering devices on windows and glass framing materials, in addition to lowering or limiting the amount of light exposure in exhibition areas.⁸

There are other invisible threats to photographic collections. Sulphur (from air pollution, rubber bands, and the fumes from some adhesives, insecticides, and fungicides) is a particular problem. Adhesives in filing enclosures or print mounts, fingerprints, ink marks, newsprint, cellulose nitrate, old cardboard containers, copy machines, car exhaust, oil-based paints, and some common types of wooden shelving or furniture also cause damage. In addition, dust particles easily scratch photographic materials and encourage mold or bacterial growth. While it may be impossible to completely eliminate these environmental contaminants, they can be kept to a minimum through the use of air filtering systems, high-quality storage enclosures, and good housekeeping procedures.⁹

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Whether through accident or natural disaster, water is the most likely cause of an emergency situation in a photographic archive. The severity of the damage depends on the particular type of photographic material, the original chemical processing, the water temperature and the length of time that the materials were immersed. If time and space allow, it is best to let photographic materials air dry, but they should be kept wet until they have been separated from other materials. However, it should be noted that different types of material have different tolerance levels for water immersion. Silver gelatin prints, silver gelatin negatives, and salted paper prints can withstand a maximum of 48 hours in water, while albumen prints can survive three or four days. Glass plate negatives, ambrotypes, and tintypes will tolerate less than 24 hours of water

immersion.

If materials cannot be treated within these time frames, they can be placed in a freezer indefinitely until such time as they can be thawed and air-dried. If this method is impractical, most materials (with the exception of wet collodion glass plate negatives, ambrotypes, daguerreotypes, and tintypes) can be freeze-dried in a vacuum chamber with minimum damage. In this process, the temperature should be kept below 0°C to avoid clumping together of photographic artifacts. These materials should *never* be frozen, thawed, and then vacuum-dried because permanent clumping will inevitably result.¹⁰

FURTHER RESOURCES

This article has provided a general introduction to the care of silver-based photographic materials. There are many good resources available for further information about these and other issues in the care of photographs. These include:

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TABLE 1
CASED PHOTOGRAPHIC OBJECTS

These items were usually attached to a brass mat and cover glass and fitted into a miniature case in order to prevent dust and fingerprints from marring the surface of the image.

IDENTIFICATION

Daguerreotypes

- production began in 1839; popular in North America until 1865
- silver amalgam (alloy of mercury and silver) on a silver-plated sheet of copper
- mirrorlike, reflective surface
- color sometimes added with finely-ground pigments & gum arabic
- direct positive image

Ambrotypes

- popular in America 1850-1870
- glass coated with collodion with added potassium iodide and sensitized with silver nitrate
- highlights show up white; shadows show up as clear glass, which means that these are usually backed with black paper, velvet, or lacquer
- often colored same as daguerreotype

Tintypes

- collodion emulsion coated on a sheet of black japanned iron to produce a direct positive image
- often simply pasted into paper cards
- usually varnished to protect the surface

PROBLEMS

- cases are often in many pieces; once the seal is broken the image begins to tarnish, eventually becoming totally obscured.
- images are sensitive to chemicals in their surroundings
- images are very easily scratched
- light exposure should be minimized, particularly for colored items
- wide variety of materials found in each artifact make it difficult to find the best conditions for storage and display
- chemically unstable glass supports
- brass mats are prone to corrosion
- lacquer on ambrotypes subject to cracking and peeling
- ambrotypes that have been bonded to another piece of glass with Canada Balsam may be covered with a fern-like pattern
- iron base of the tintype prone to corrosion
- tintypes are easily bent; once bent, they are prone to rust

TABLE 2
PAPER PRINTS (SILVER PROCESSES)

Note: all paper prints are subject to a breakdown of paper fibers.

SALTED PAPER PRINTS

- prevalent 1840-1860
- also known as Calotypes or Talbotypes
- have no binding medium
- American examples are rare
- smooth matte surface
- obvious lack of fine detail in the image
- under magnification, the image appears embedded in the paper fibers
- any retouching is obvious

PROBLEMS

- serious fading due to lack of proper processing during production

ALBUMEN PRINTS

- 1850-1900; most common 1855-1895
- very thin paper, usually mounted on cardboard
- made with a solution of egg white and salt, sensitized with silver nitrate
- image made in daylight with paper in direct contact with negative
- often toned with gold chloride to improve stability and color
- often hand-colored with watercolor or aniline dyes
- warm brown or purplish brown in good condition
- readily identified by crackle pattern which develops as print ages
- highlights yellow as prints age
- albumen paper tinted after 1860

PROBLEMS

- high humidity irreversibly stains
- light causes severe fading of dyed prints, even after relatively short periods of exposure in optimal gallery conditions
- very susceptible to chemical changes and deterioration (can react with storage envelopes, mounting boards and adhesives, etc.)
- alkaline buffered filing enclosures are not recommended, since they hasten the yellowing of the print's highlight areas

GELATIN PAPER PRINTS

- late 1880's to the present
- paper coated with an emulsion of silver halide in gelatin
- gelatin chloride prints are warm-toned with a reddish cast
- gelatin bromide prints are cool-toned and appear black and white
- generally smooth surface, but may be matte, glossy, or highly textured
- under magnification, appears to sparkle, with no distinctive crackling

PROBLEMS

- may discolor from residual processing chemicals
- poor air quality of areas in which prints are housed can cause damage
- severe deterioration produces an iridescent sheen on the print, most obvious in the deepest shadow areas

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TABLE 3
NEGATIVES

PAPER NEGATIVES

- very rare
- well-preserved images
- commonly coated with wax to make them more transparent
- sky areas often coated with india ink to increase printing contrast

PROBLEMS

- darkening of the wax through oxidation
 - prone to cracks and tears
 - too fragile for exhibition purposes
-

GLASS PLATE NEGATIVES

PROBLEMS

- very heavy, bulky, and fragile
 - must be stored vertically on edge
 - chemically unstable glass supports
-

WET COLLODION

- 1851-1885
- cellulose nitrate in alcohol and ether
- used to produce ambrotypes and albumen paper prints
- usually protected from damage by varnish
- water does not usually dissolve collodion

PROBLEMS

- easily dissolved by alcohol and other solvents
 - collodion will be damaged by water if aging has changed its chemical properties
-

GELATIN DRY

- from 1880
-

CELLULOSE NITRATE FILM

- silver gelatin on a cellulose nitrate base
- any film made prior to 1950 should be suspected of being cellulose nitrate; this was the only type of film made before the 1920s
- five stages of decomposition
 1. discoloration and fading
 2. film becomes sticky
 3. formation of gas bubbles and development of a very bad odor
 4. film is soft, difficult to separate from adjacent film, and often covered with a thick opaque, iridescent froth
 5. film becomes very brittle, eventually deteriorating into a brownish acrid powder

PROBLEMS

- very unstable
 - secretes acidic gases which may damage nearby materials
 - ignites easily and burns rapidly, producing toxic and combustible nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxide
 - high temperatures and humidity accelerate decomposition
 - must be copied and then separated from all other collections
 - ideally, should be stored in a cold storage vault with superior ventilation
 - many building codes and insurance policies do not allow storage of this film type
-

SAFETY BASED FILM

- cellulose acetate or diacetate base with an adhesive layer of cellulose nitrate
- many (but not all) marked as 'safety' on the negative
- can be mistaken for cellulose nitrate film, but it deteriorates differently: a citrus smell as the film wrinkles, bubbles and turns yellowish

PROBLEMS

- emulsion separation as the support material shrinks and the nitrate adhesive layer deteriorates
-

POLYESTER FILM

- from mid-1950s
 - strong and stable
 - excellent keeping properties
-

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- ⁸ Hendriks et al, 414; Kennedy & Mustardo, 1778; Ostroff, 16.
- ⁹ Harvey, 37; Hendriks (1991), 93; Hendriks et al, 412-413.
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Virtual Collections and Real Labor: Selection and Maintenance of Electronic Resources

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INTRODUCTION

Librarians and administrators who have trouble getting a handle on the wiles of the Web are not alone. Deciding where, when, which, and how to add electronic resources are important challenges for information professionals and are increasingly common topics in library literature. In an article published by the *Journal of the American Society of Information Science*, Hur-Li Lee calls for a redefinition of "collection" to include all items that libraries provide access to, whether that access is physical or virtual. This redefinition includes a realization that e-resources should conform to the same selection standards and receive the same professional commitment as other formats.

Electronic resources are popular new additions that bring unique advantages and liabilities to libraries across Mississippi and around the world. A quick review of library Web sites reveals that Mississippi libraries are incorporating e-resources into their collections in a variety of ways, most often in the form of eBooks and subject bibliographies of Web pages. Despite all the interest and enthusiasm, however, few formal procedures and guidelines exist to help librarians or administrators develop local standards. In an effort to stimulate discussion, this article will provide a general overview of the two linchpins of successful integration of these e-resources: selection and maintenance.

WEB SITE SELECTION

Providing uncataloged access to online information through subject bibliographies is the most common manifestation of Web-based collection development in Mississippi libraries. Many libraries,

large and small, provide hyperlinks from their sites to Web pages on special topics (e.g., genealogy, children's sites or gardening). These lists are helpful tools that require a smaller investment of time than items that are fully cataloged into the OPAC, but they still require careful selection and ongoing maintenance.

The Webliographies should adhere to similar standards of selection and deselection applied to traditional circulating purchases in accordance with the collection development policy, except that e-resource collections cannot aspire to be comprehensive. A search on the Internet can yield an overwhelming number of options; therefore, in creating a Webliography for library users, the onus is upon the selector to determine the best sites for the most users. Below are some criteria to help evaluate Web sites.

Accuracy

This criterion can be divided into two parts: currency and bias. Careful attention should be paid to the "last update" information. Time-sensitive and statistical information demands currency, but other selected Web pages also should have been updated recently to demonstrate continuing scholarship.

Librarians should learn to recognize and avoid overly biased information. All writers are "guilty" of writing from a given perspective, but on the Web, biases can take ugly and misleading forms because of the lack of quality control and formal review. When a book is published, a reputable publisher endorses the quality and often will ask several knowledgeable sources to review the book for the publicity and endorsements. The Web, however, contains self-published works that were not reviewed or even seen by anyone but the creator. The author may interpret the truth beyond scholarly norms to fit an agenda. To safeguard patrons

against misrepresentation of facts, the selector should look for subject Web pages with reference lists, which allow users to verify the contents of the page and find more information.

Identifying the author is an important activity in uncovering possible biases. If the author is not listed on the page or in the page source metadata, but the page seems well-constructed and accurate, then it may be possible to contact the author via an email addressed to hostmaster [or postmaster] @www.[domain name].

Appropriateness

Selectors should stay focused on topics of interest to the library constituency and avoid padding the Webliographies with links of only marginal utility and functionality. Like library gifts, Web pages are not truly free. The labor involved in selecting, cataloging, and maintaining links properly is considerable; therefore, do not include sites that a librarian would not recommend personally to a patron.

The needs of the user should be the focus in evaluating the design of a page. Sites should be easily navigable and visually appealing. Avoid selecting sites that have flashy graphics or backgrounds that would tend to confuse the user, detract from the legibility of the page or dramatically increase the download time. A site also should use terminology appropriate for a wide audience or offer useful glossaries. Although advertising seems ubiquitous on the Web, be cognizant of commercial content on sites. Often the best librarians can hope for are unobtrusive and subject-appropriate ads.

Authority

As in the print world, identifying the creator or author of a source is valuable in judging the credibility and the authority of information. The difference between print

and electronic, however, is that Web site authority has relevance for the long-term availability and maintenance of the resource and its vulnerability to security breaches. Finding out who funds the project, provides server space, and employs the author can be useful in assessing the longevity and seriousness of the work. A page may meet all the other criteria, but if it is not continually revised and from a stable source, then its information is likely to become out-of-date or may disappear entirely. Also give preference to the most authoritative source on a given subject (i.e., link to the U.S. Copyright Office for information on copyright law). A security evaluation of a site incorporates internal and external considerations. Librarians should avoid selecting sites that collect any personal data or leave cookies since patrons do not want to have personal information sold to other vendors without first being warned. Also, the site's information should not be unduly vulnerable to hackers. When reviewing sites, look for a locked padlock in the lower left corner (Netscape) to verify that measures have been taken against hacking. Pranksters who re-write the page may foil the best intentions of the page creator and embarrass the library.

EBOOK SELECTION

Several universities around the state have introduced eBooks to their collections. As the number of publishers and

titles available electronically grows, eBook acquisitions increasingly will resemble print selections. Libraries with limited budgets should consider the advantages and liabilities of this format. Although public librarians from New York to Kansas to Texas have reported great success with fiction eBook titles, the strength of this medium – given their internal hyperlinks and short checkout times – is in reference and instruction manuals. Therefore, libraries may want to negotiate flexible contracts with vendors to place orders on a title-by-title basis without ordering pre-selected blocks of titles bundled by the vendor.

Several models exist for eBook acquisition. Libraries may order individual titles or select from collections bundled by vendors and consortia, or place standing orders with netLibrary. The University of Mississippi was the first library in the state to sign directly with netLibrary. As of April 2001, its library has acquired almost 14,000 electronic titles, which are fully integrated into the library's OPAC.

Mississippi State University joined SOLINET's first shared collection of eBooks. This collection presently contains almost 16,000 titles and continues to expand. This year SOLINET opened a second shared collection that is committed to purchasing at least 10,000 titles for its members. Institutions may join these collections for \$0.80 per full-time student for 4-year universities; or for public

libraries, for a rate based on the size of the community. Consortia, such as SOLINET, ease the processing and cataloging concerns of eBook implementation but come with a risk of reduced access. All member libraries share the same limited number of "copies," and unless the library adds the records to its OPAC, the users need to search a separate database, on the SOLINET Web page, to find library eBook holdings.

LINK VERIFICATION

The Web is too fluid to assume that a resource always will remain the same vital and useful site that it was at the time of selection, even if evaluated carefully. Selection is important, but it is only the first step in providing a quality collection of electronic resources. Regular verification of links, user education, and proper cataloging can keep these efforts from being ignored or forgotten by users. A quick review of Mississippi libraries with Webliographies reveals that a significant number of sites linked to inaccurate or inactive URLs, at least one broken link per library sampled.

When a patron receives an error message, the library loses credibility and the inconvenienced user may decide to ignore the library's subject pages in the future. To maintain credibility, all links from the library should be monitored and verified as part of the routine responsibilities of a designated

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library employee. Hyperlink verification software is available from online services such as Dr. Watson and NetMechanic. While both services also provide helpful assistance on Web page coding, neither one can confirm that the correct page is linked – only that the link is active. Dr. Watson 4.0 is a free service, but it cannot verify internal targets or email addresses. NetMechanic charges \$40 per year per site (with up to 100 pages) and has the advantage of scheduling automatic weekly, bi-weekly or monthly checks of all hyperlinks on the site. When the library contributes or imports MARC catalog records for electronic resources in the Cooperative Online Resource Catalog (CORC) database, OCLC checks the PURLs in the records and alerts holding libraries of any changes.

SHOW ME THE RESOURCE

Although not usually trained in public relations, librarians do a great deal of promotion. As with the introduction of other library services, the successful integration of e-resources requires a certain amount of marketing. Library Web pages can provide users with excellent service *if* the community knows to look for them.

If these resources are not cataloged, then they need to be visible elsewhere, because unless the user can find the subject lists, the librarian's hard work in selecting the "best" Web pages on a topic is lost. Advertising the Webliographies, preferably on the library page that lists all other collections or that allows users to enter the OPAC, can help. Consider offering users the choice of selecting Internet or in-house resources (catalog). Adding counters to the subject pages will gauge patron use and, thereby, facilitate a quantitative cost/benefit analysis of continuing the service.

An option for eBooks is to place dummies in the stacks to show where these items would fit on the shelves for browsing patrons. The display and indexing of these records in the catalog is also an important consideration. It can be useful to allow users to limit searches to electronic documents or at least to clearly identify e-resources within the search findings.

INTO THE CATALOG

One of the greatest concerns over

adding new e-resources to the catalog is time. As catalogers face backlogs in their print and non-electronic media collections, the idea of taking on an additional collection is not appealing. NetLibrary responded this concern by guaranteeing MARC21 cataloging records for each eBook title in its collection. However, as with all other shared cataloging databases, the quality of records is uneven and standards for these items have not been universally adopted. Therefore, local records can vary widely for individual titles, and librarians loaning eBook readers have the option of cataloging the readers as the main item with added access points for each title loaded onto the device.

A few institutions of higher learning have begun to create MARC records for electronic journals and individual pages. If a library decides to catalog Web resources, the CORC project can ease metadata collection and inclusion into the local catalog. A cataloger can search the OCLC database for records for a growing number of educational and governmental Web sites. If a new record needs to be created, then the cataloger can enter a single or a list of URLs into a search query, much like the batch search for WorldCat. CORC will "harvest" key metadata found in the pages' headers. A librarian then can verify the information harvested and make revisions and corrections to the initial record. CORC also allows catalogers to switch or "toggle" from a Dublin Core record to a MARC record with the click of a button. Nancy Olson wrote a practical online guide, *Cataloging Internet Resources: A Manual and Practical Guide*, for cataloging electronic resources that is available on the OCLC Web site. OCLC also published MARC coding guidelines updated by Jay Weitz in September 2000 at <http://www.oclc.org/oclc/cataloging/type.htm>. Other leading figures in the world of bibliographic control have published more theoretical works on the future and direction of Web cataloging on the LC Web site at: <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/bibcontrol/>.

CONCLUSION

Library collections are changing quickly, and it is important not to underestimate

the amount of time that integrating these new acquisitions will require. The selection of links for Webliographies requires careful analysis of the site's content, design, and authority. Maintenance of e-resources, in whatever form, requires a plan for making the items accessible and a commitment to link verification. However, the benefits of adding an electronic dimension to the collection offer a valuable and important outreach service that many Mississippi libraries already appreciate.

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Finding State, County and Local Statistics in State of Mississippi Publications

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How much money is spent per pupil in the Hinds County School District? What is the unemployment rate in Lafayette County? How much money is collected in taxes from the casinos? These questions and many others can be answered using State of Mississippi publications. While most of the time you would think to look in statistical sources from the federal government, occasionally you need to find information at the county or city level, or information that would be compiled only by the state. Often the federal statistical sources only go down to the state level (the major exceptions being the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics). State agencies' publications are therefore the next logical step in finding statistics closer to home.

Similar to the federal government, there is no state agency responsible for accumulating and disseminating all statistical information. Instead, it is decentralized, with each agency responsible for collecting their own data and sharing this data with the public. This article is meant as a guide to locating statistics compiled by state agencies.

State of Mississippi printed publications are disseminated by the Mississippi Library Commission to twenty-seven participating depository libraries in the state. But just like the federal agencies, state agencies are also using the Web as a means of distributing information to the public. Unfortunately, not all of the agencies have a lot of information available on their Web sites, but the amount of information is growing. If a particular publication is available online, the URL is provided. Below are brief descriptions of useful statistical sources, arranged by subject.

GENERAL COMPILATIONS

There are two major compilations for Mississippi statistics, the *Handbook of Selected Data* and the *Mississippi Statistical Abstract*. The *Handbook of Selected Data* is published occasionally by the Center for Policy Research and Planning of the Board of Trustees of the State Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL). The latest version is from 1999, and it is a 100-page compilation of basic demographic and economic statistics from various state and federal agencies.

The *Mississippi Statistical Abstract* is an annual publication from the Office of Business Research and Services of Mississippi State University's College of Business and Industry. It offers more than 500 pages of statistics from local, state and federal sources, as well as its own data, on a variety of topics.

AGRICULTURE

Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service

<<http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/>>

The federal government's local office



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compiles useful statistics. The Web site offers access to current reports as well as the latest Census of Agriculture.

Selected Publications:

- *County Estimates* <<http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cehtml.htm>> – breakdown of crop estimates for each county, back to 1995.
- *Mississippi Ag Reports* <<http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/msagpdf1.htm>> – statewide and district-wide statistics on cotton, catfish, rice, and other crops, as compared to other states. The reports also offer an analysis of trends. Print versions are distributed by the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

<<http://www.mdac.state.ms.us>>

This agency is responsible for regulating and promoting agricultural products and related businesses.

Selected Publications:

- *Annual Report* <<http://www.mdac.state.ms.us/Library/Published/PublishedDocuments.html>> – overview of the department, with some selected data on what the agency accomplished in the past year.

ECONOMICS

Economic Development and Research & Planning, Institutions of Higher Learning

<<http://www.ihl.state.ms.us>>

Since higher education is closely tied to economic development for the state, IHL publishes reports and statistics on the economy.

Selected Publications:

- *Mississippi Business* – monthly newsletter with statistical analysis of the economy and employment issues.
- *Mississippi Economic Review and Outlook* <http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/body_economic_outlook.html> –

semiannual journal with statistics and analyses of various economic issues affecting Mississippi. Recent articles include "Trends in Tax Collection" and "Creating Higher-Wage Service Jobs." Each issue also contains an appendix of historical or predicted economic statistics. The IHL Web site has selections from the publication.

Mississippi Department of Finance & Administration

<<http://www.dfa.state.ms.us>>

This agency oversees the finances of the state and the implementation of the budget.

Selected Publication:

- *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report* <<http://msonline.state.ms.us/CAFR/cafr99/cafr99.htm>> – report of the state's budget, with an appendix of selected statistical data, usually going back several years as a comparison.

Mississippi Gaming Commission

<<http://www.msgaming.com>>

The Commission regulates the riverboat gambling and charitable bingo for the state. The Commission disseminates data on the casinos, back to 1998.

Selected Publications:

- *Monthly Reports* <<http://www.msgaming.com/main-reports.html>> – data on the number of slot machines and win percentages for each casino or region.
- *Quarterly Reports* <<http://www.msgaming.com/main-reports.html>> – data on each casino or region, from square footage to how much is spent on advertising.

Mississippi State Tax Commission

<<http://www.mstc.state.ms.us>>

The Commission administers and collects various tax levies for the state, and they disseminate data on the amounts collected.

Selected Publications:

- *Annual Report* <<http://www.mstc.state.ms.us/info/annualreport/FY1999/main.htm>> – detailed report of tax revenues, by type of tax and county.
- *Gaming Statistics* <<http://www.mstc.state.ms.us/taxareas/misc/gaming/main.htm#stats>> – data on the gross revenue of the casinos by region, back to 1992, and the amount of taxes collected by the state.

EDUCATION

Institutions of Higher Learning

<<http://www.ihl.state.ms.us>>

IHL publishes analyses on the eight publicly supported universities.

Selected Publications:

- *Almanac* <http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/research/pub_00.htm> – statistics on the eight universities, including enrollment, finances, ACT scores, and faculty salaries.
- *Fall Enrollment Fact Book* <http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/research/pub_00.htm> – selected statistics on students in the eight public universities, including the number of students at each university by race, gender, and declared major.
- *IHL System Profile* – annual overview and outlook for the public university system.

Mississippi Department of Education

<<http://www.mde.k12.ms.us>>

Overseeing the public schools, this agency disseminates statistics on a variety of topics, from the amount of money spent in each school district to test scores.

Selected Publications:

- *Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Education* <<http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/account/2000report/contents.htm>> – offers an overview of the public school system, with over 150 pages of data on expenditures per pupil, salaries, tax revenues, and

enrollment, most for each school district.

- *Mississippi Report Card* <<http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/account/report/mrc.htm>> – detailed data on each school district, as well as standardized test results for each school.
- *School Dropouts* – annual report detailing the number of dropouts in each school and the reason given.

HEALTH

Mississippi State Department of Health

<<http://www.msdlh.state.ms.us/msdlhome.htm>>

This agency promotes health information and disseminates vital statistics. The agency's Web site has a search interface, called "Online Documents," where you may keyword search through all of the data online, rather than picking a particular document.

Selected Publications:

- *Annual Report* <<http://www.msdlh.state.ms.us/documents/agency.annrpt99.pdf>> – overview of the agency, with selected statistics to illustrate trends.
- *Mississippi Morbidity Newsletter* – monthly newsletter with provisional morbidity statistics by region, as well as an article analyzing a particular health issue.
- *Vital Statistics Mississippi* <<http://www.msdlh.state.ms.us/phs/stat1999.htm>> – detailed statistics on births, deaths, marriages, divorces, and induced terminations, by county, race, and age.

LABOR

Labor Market Information Department, Mississippi Employment Security Commission

<<http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/lmi/index.html>>

This agency disseminates detailed information on Mississippi's employment and

unemployment outlook. Virtually all of their current publications are available online.

Selected Publications:

- *Annual Averages* <<http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/lmi/pubs/annavg.html>> – 10-year averages of the number of persons employed in manufacturing, service, government, etc., by county.
- *Labor Market Data* <<http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/lmi/pubs/lmdata.html>> – monthly report on the number of individuals employed or unemployed, by county, metropolitan area, or region.

TRANSPORTATION

Mississippi Department of Transportation

<<http://www.mdot.state.ms.us>>

This agency plans and oversees all modes of transportation for the state: aeronautics, highways, public transit and railroads.

Selected Publications:

- *Mississippi Public Roads Selected Statistics* – detailed statistics on the number, type, and length of roads, and the amount of traffic by type of vehicle, and time of day.

HINTS FOR FINDING MISSISSIPPI STATISTICS

1. **Look in the major compilations *Mississippi Statistical Abstract or Handbook of Selected Data*.** If you do not find the exact statistic you are looking for, at least you may find something similar and then note which agency collects that data.
2. **The agency in question should be the state government's equivalent of the federal agency.** If you know that the federal Department of Health and Human Services collects statistics on divorce, then the Mississippi Department of Health

should (and does) have local divorce statistics.

3. **Look in the agency's annual report.** Most of the agencies have published annual reports, which may or may not have statistical information. The Mississippi Department of Education's *Annual Report* <<http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/account/2000report/contents.htm>> has lots of statistics in it, while other agencies' just use theirs to summarize their activities for the year.

4. **Browse the agency's Web site.** The University of Mississippi has a comprehensive list of agencies' Web sites <http://www.olemiss.edu/govinfo/ulgbis/miss_st/index.html>, as does the State of Mississippi <<http://www.state.ms.us/lts/msportal.nsf/WebForm/Government?OpenDocument>>. Some state agencies have put their publications online, while others have not, and the information available changes all the time. However, each agency's Web site is unique and may require some hunting to find its publications. Look for words such as **publications**, **data**, **reports**, etc. The Employment Security Commission <<http://www.mesc.state.ms.us>> has a lot of statistics, but they are under the link **LMI Guide** <<http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/lmi/pubs/index.html>>, not exactly intuitive.

CONCLUSION

While not all statistics from Mississippi state agencies are available electronically, many are, and the number is growing. Regardless of whether you have access to the print versions, the convenience of these electronic resources can speed your search.

MLA Officers for 2002

VICE-PRESIDENT/
PRESIDENT ELECT



Prima Plauché

SECRETARY



Kathleen Wells

The MLA Election Committee announces the results of the election of Mississippi Library Association officers for 2002.

Keyword Search...Online Standard Periodical Directory

Oxbridge Communications, long known for the *Standard Periodical Directory*, has developed 'Keyword Search.'

This new reference tool costs just \$49.99 a month or \$495 a year.

Go to www.mediafinder.com to access the database of 80,000 Publications comprising Magazines, Journals, Catalogs, Newsletters, Directories, and Newspapers.

To spread the word, Oxbridge is offering a free month-long trial to Libraries only. Please call or e-mail Johanna at 212-741-0231 x 213 custserv@oxbridge.com

Baskets Are For Lovers!



Libraries are challenged to put their ingenuity to work to create lovely, clever, adorable and unique gift baskets that everyone would LOVE to bid on during the silent auction at the MLA conference. An example would be a Movie Lovers' Basket to include videos, popcorn, Junior Mints (or other movie candy), a six pack of soft drinks, books about movies, etc. All proceeds will benefit the scholarship fund. For more information contact June Breland. Phone 662-325-7672. Email jbreland@library.msstate.edu.

News Briefs

The Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi Library Commission is pleased to announce the appointment of **Sharman B. Smith**, (M.L.S., George Peabody College; B.S., Mississippi University for Women) as the new Executive Director of MLC beginning August 1, 2001. She is currently State Librarian of Iowa. Prior to that appointment, she was employed by the Mississippi Library Commission for fourteen years and served as the Director of Library Services.



— ❖ —

Mississippi State University Libraries announces the addition of new staff members. **Craig Piper** (Ph.D., Mississippi State University; M.A., Mississippi State University) has been named Assistant Professor/Archivist, Congressional and Political Research Center. **Robert E. Wolverton, Jr.** (M.L.I.S., Louisiana State University; Ed.D., Mississippi State University; M.S., Miami University) is the new Assistant Professor/Database Management/Authority Control Librarian.

RESEARCH

Glenice Stone, librarian at Northeast Mississippi Community College (NEMCC), and her husband, Dr. Bill Stone, speech and philosophy instructor at NEMCC, recently conducted research on the subject of plagiarism and online paper mills. The research resulted in a workshop for faculty, staff, and administration at NEMCC. The presentation was well received, and the Stones have had opportunities to present their findings at additional workshops and conference presentations.

AWARDS

Congratulations to **Kay Clanton** at the Washington County Library System

(Leland Public Library); **Nancy Butler** at the Harriette Person Memorial Library (Port Gibson) and **Patsy Brewer** at the Wayne County – Waynesboro Public Library for their Millennium Project for Public Libraries awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Library of America and American Library Association. The awards are designed to help public libraries build their collection of American literature and history and to expand opportunities for educational programs within their communities. The three public libraries are part of 293 urban, suburban and rural public libraries throughout the nation that have been selected to receive 50 recently published volumes in *The Library of America*, the distinguished series of American literature and history.

— ❖ —

Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library, was awarded the second National Literary Landmark in Mississippi March 31, 2001. Beauvoir has been home to authors Sarah Dorsey, Jefferson Davis, Varina Davis, and Varina Anne "Winnie" Davis. Mrs. Barbara Carroon, Past President of Friends of Mississippi Libraries, presented a bronze plaque to Beauvoir. See sidebar for bibliography of works recognized.



Books are on display at the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library; Gwendolyn Green, Librarian/Archivist

BEAUVOIR BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dorsey, Sarah Anne (Ellis), Mrs., 1829-1879. Mrs. Dorsey was the third owner of Beauvoir purchased in 1875. She invited Confederate President Jefferson Davis to rent her library pavilion in 1877. She sold the property to Mr. Davis in 1879.

Agnes Graham : a novel. Philadelphia, Claxton, Remsen, and Haffelfinger; New Orleans, J.A. Gresham, 1869.

Athalie, or, A southern villeggiatura : "A winter's tale." Philadelphia, Claxton, Remsen, and Haffelfinger; New Orleans, J. A. Gresham, 1872.

Castine.

Lucia Dare : a novel. New York: M. Doolady, 1867.

Panola : A Tale of Louisiana. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers, 1877.

Recollections of Henry Watkins Allen, Brigadier-General Confederate States Army, Ex-Governor of Louisiana. New York: M. Doolady, 1866. [non-fiction]

The Vivians.

Mrs. Dorsey wrote many magazine articles and six novels; *Agnes Graham* was serialized in 1863 in the *Southern Literary Messenger* and was published in book form in 1869. *Lucia Dare* was published in 1867, *Athalie* in 1872, and *Panola* in 1877. Two other novels, *Vivacious Castine* and *The Vivians* were manuscripts written for the *Church Intelligencer* and were never published in book form.

Jefferson Davis, 1808-1889.

Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government. New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1881. (Vol. I-II)

A Short History of the Confederate States of America. New York: Belford and Co., 1890.

Davis, Varina (Howell) 1826-1906.

Jefferson Davis, Ex-President of the Confederate States of America : A Memoir by his Wife. New York: Belford Co., 1890. (Vol. I-II)

Davis, Varina Anne "Winnie," 1864-1898.

An Irish Knight of the 19th Century : Sketch of the Life of Robert Emmet. New York: J. W. Lovell Co., 1888. [non-fiction]

A Romance of Summer Seas : A Novel. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1898.

The Veiled Doctor : A Novel. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1895.

Toby Graham, Head of Special Collections, USM Libraries, McCain Library & Archives at The University of Southern Mississippi, accepted the award for achievement in preservation and electronic information exemplified by The Special Collections Digital Program which provides descriptive information online about archival collections through electronic finding aids and offers digital surrogates of the actual items for the library's most notable and often consulted unique collections.



SOLINET's Outstanding Library Programs Awards recognize the exceptional efforts of libraries in the Southeast.

— ♦ —

Jeff Slagell, Serials/ILL Librarian at Delta State University, was presented the NASIG Horizon Award during the 2001 North American Serials Interest Group conference held May 23-26 at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. The Horizon Award is presented annually to three promising new individuals in the serials profession.

— ♦ —

Diane DeCesare Ross, Digitization Specialist at The University of Southern Mississippi, was awarded the Shirley Olof-

son Scholarship Award by the ALA/New Members Roundtable (NMRT) to attend the 2001 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco, CA. The scholarship is presented annually to new librarians and provides financial assistance for travel expenses to the annual conference.

— ♦ —

The Hancock County Library System in Bay St. Louis was presented the 2000 Community Pride Award by the Hancock Chamber of Commerce at its annual awards banquet in January this year for continued commitment to community service and economic development.

NEW LIBRARIES

The grand opening of the Robert W. Windom Memorial Library in Georgetown was celebrated on April 7, 2001. With much excitement and anticipation by local residents, Georgetown opened its first public library. The library is named for former Georgetown mayor Robert



Windom, whose dream of starting a public library in Georgetown began twenty years ago. The new library contains between 5,000 and 10,000 books and also houses computer equipment. As Georgetown is located in Copiah County, the new library becomes part of the Copiah-Jefferson Regional Library. Heading the new Robert W. Windom Memorial Library is Linda Dewitt, under the supervision of Director Paul Cartwright of the Copiah-Jefferson Regional Library.

PROGRAMS

The Columbus-Lowndes Library sponsored storyteller Milbre Burch's appearance at the Possum Town Storytelling Festival IV, April 25-26, 2001. Burch is an award-winning and internationally known performer, recording artist, poet, writer, and teacher. In addition to her work as a performing artist, Burch has served as artist-in-residence for the state arts councils of Utah, South Carolina, Georgia, Rhode Island, and California; and she worked with her husband, Columbus native Berkley Hudson, from 1997 to 1999 to co-direct the Storytelling Project of the Cotsen Children's Library of Princeton University. In July 1999 she received the Circle of Excellence Award from the National Storytelling Network. The award is given to those who have "created a body of work which is nationally recognized as a shining example of quality in the art form of storytelling performance."

— ♦ —

An Adopt-A-Library program has been established as a partnership between the staff of the Mississippi State University Libraries and the Oktibbeha County School District library aides and teachers. Each school library has two or three MSU library staff volunteers who visit their adopted library at least monthly to provide any help that is needed. A monthly series of hands-on, active learning sessions has been given since August 2000 to both library aides and teachers. The sessions are to promote the Internet accessible information resources purchased through the Magnolia project. Adopt-A-Library volunteers are also working with library aides under the direction of the district librarian to establish an electronic shelflist of library holdings in the individual school library sites.



Accepting the award is Prima Plauché, second from left, director of the Hancock County Library System, with Chamber President Dusty Rhodes (left) and Mississippi Governor Ronnie Musgrove and Library System Board Chairman Joyce Lee.

NEW SERVICES

"Cook 'books," a notebook computer loan program, began on February 1, 2001, at The University of Southern Mississippi's Cook Library. USM Libraries, in cooperation with USM's Office of Technology Resources, purchased ten notebook computers to provide wireless access to the Internet, library resources, email, and word processing. With a valid ID, and by signing an agreement taking responsibility for the equipment, USM students, faculty, and staff may borrow a Cook 'book for use in Cook Library for a three-hour period. For more information about the service, call Kay Wall, Director of Public Services at 266-4362.



Mississippi State University's Electronic Library Link (ELL) is designed to provide library services to off-campus Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Station and Mississippi Extension Service personnel. The service includes answering reference questions, literature searches, and document retrieval as well as other library services. The ELL Librarian, Sara E. Morris, is available through email and phone, and Web forms are also available. For more details visit the Web site at <http://library.msstate.edu/ell/>

NEW CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

The University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Mississippi are both offering new 18-hour certification programs in media librarianship for K-12 school settings.

The University of Mississippi is offering a new Certificate Program in Library Science at the Tupelo Campus beginning summer of 2001. Through intensive summer study and convenient after-school classes during the school year, students can earn the 18-hour add-on endorsement to their standard Mississippi teacher's license, and credits earned may be considered for a graduate degree program in Curriculum and Instruction. Classes will be offered at the University of Mississippi Advanced Education Center with state-of-the-art classrooms and computer facilities. Direct questions to Dr. Charles Harrison at the Ole Miss Campus in Tupelo, Mississippi by calling 1(662)844-5622 or email tupelo@olemiss.edu or www.ics.olemiss.edu/tupelo for more information.

The School of Library and Information Science at The University of Southern Mississippi offers several certification and degree programs ideal for school librarians and media specialists. SLIS currently offers several courses online or partly online. Two programs will be offered completely online in the near future.

- Supplemental Endorsement with A certification for teachers who desire to work in school libraries (18 credits, available online starting in fall 2001)

- ALA-accredited master's degree with AA certification (45 credits, available mostly online starting in fall 2001)
- Specialist's degree with AAA certification (at least 33 credits, available partly online)

Please contact Dr. Tom Walker, Director, SLIS, for more information call 1(601)266-4228 or email him at Thomas.Walker@usm.edu or check out the SLIS homepage at <http://www-dept.usm.edu/~slis/>

Call for MLA Award Nominations

In recognition of those who have made significant contributions to the association and the library profession, the Mississippi Library Association awards outstanding members at the annual state conference. A description of the awards, as well as a listing of past recipients, can be found on the MLA Web page at <http://www.lib.usm.edu/~mla/org/awards/main.html>.

The **Past President's Award** is given to an outstanding beginning professional librarian who is an active MLA member. Candidates must hold an MLS degree, be employed in Mississippi and have between two and six years professional experience, two of which must be in Mississippi. Nominations may only be submitted by MLA members and should be sent to the immediate past president: Rhonda Tynes; 113 Russell Lane, Pontotoc, MS 38863; 662-841-8979 (w); 662-841-8987 (f); rtynes50@hotmail.com.

The **Peggy May Award** honors a person who has made special contributions in library development and recruitment. The **Outstanding Achievement Award** is open to librarians, trustees, or lay citizens. Nominations for these awards should be sent to the awards committee chair: Lynn Shurden; MLC, 1221 Ellis Ave., Jackson, MS 39209; 601-961-4068 (w); 601-354-4081 (f); lynnsh@netdoor.com.

Deserving school librarians may be honored with the **Carroon Apple Award** for exceptional contributions in school librarianship. The **Edward Ransdell Instructional Television Award** recognizes an administrator and a school library media specialist involved in the effective use of instructional television. MLA members may submit nominations for these two awards to the current school library section chair: Cindy Harrison; 1147 Waller Road, Yazoo City, MS 39194; 662-746-8363 (w & f); cindyjh55@hotmail.com.

All nominations should contain the following information: nominee, award, current title, institution, address, education (required for the Past Presidents' Award only), accomplishments, and the name, address, phone, and e-mail of the person placing the nomination.

Two awards are presented by the Friends of Mississippi Libraries. The **Ruby Assaf Presidential Award** honors an outstanding volunteer in FML or in a local chapter. Local chapters affiliated with the state group may be nominated for the **Chapter One Award**. For these awards the following information should be provided: nominee, address, phone, sponsoring FML chapter (Assaf Award only), and accomplishments. Nominations should be addressed to: Barbara Carroon; 5818 Northdale, Jackson, MS 39211; 601-956-1806 (h); lecarroon@aol.com.

All nominations must be received by September 30, 2001. For information contact Lynn Shurden <lynnsh@netdoor.com>.

Tech Notes, et al.

Column Editor: Rick Torgerson, Delta State University

What Call Number Is This? An Explanation of Superintendent of Documents Classification

By Ileen Miller

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& Documents Coordinator
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The Superintendent of Documents Classification, or SuDoc, is a classification scheme created for organizing federal publications. The main difference between the SuDoc and the Library of Congress or Dewey classification schemes is that publications are arranged by issuing agency, rather than by subject. Since most of the publications disseminated by the government are part of a series, this classification scheme works quite well in keeping items together on the shelves. The main drawback is that many agencies are at the whim of the executive and legislative branches, and they can come and go, or they may be renamed. Following the history of a particular series of publications may involve looking at perhaps three different call numbers, as the issuing agency may have been renamed or moved to a different department.

HISTORY OF SUDOC

Adelaide Hasse created the SuDoc classification system while she was a librarian for the Los Angeles Public Library in the 1890s.¹ Faced with the task of organizing thousands of federal publications, she chose to arrange them by government author, or agency, rather than by subject. Also, she chose a mnemonic system (much to the eternal gratefulness of this Documents Librarian). She later was recruited to work for the Superintendent of Documents, a new position within the

Government Printing Office (GPO), and the GPO adopted her classification scheme. Though it has undergone many modifications, the GPO continues to use this classification scheme created over a hundred years ago. It has proved workable despite the enormous growth and complexity of the federal government.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CALL NUMBER

The letters and numbers of the **stem** (up to and including the colon) of the call number indicate the issuing agency and the type of document, or if the document is part of a series. The letters and numbers after the colon form the **book number** that identifies the individual publication. All of the sample call numbers given in this article are formatted as GPO suggests. All letters should be capitalized, and there should only be a space between the letter(s) and the Cutter number.

BEFORE THE COLON:

The first letter or letters of the call number describe the agency (or the overarching agency of which the bureau, office, center, etc. is a subsidiary) that published the document.

A = Agriculture Department
AE = National Archives and Records Administration
C = Commerce Department
D = Defense Department
E = Energy Department
ED = Education Department
HE = Health & Human Services Department
I = Interior Department

J = Justice Department
JU = Judiciary
L = Labor Department
LC = Library of Congress
NAS = NASA
PR 43. = Office of the President
(43 for G.W. Bush, the 43rd President)
PREX = Executive Office of the President
S = State Department
T = Treasury Department
TD = Transportation Department
V = Veterans Affairs Department
X = Congress (for Congressional Record and House or Senate Journal)
Y = Congress

The number after the letter(s) is assigned for a particular bureau or office within the overarching agency. The number 1 is for the main agency.

C 1. = Commerce Department
C 3. = Census Bureau
C 55. = National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

The number after the period indicates the type of publication, followed by a colon.

.1 = Annual report
.2 = General publications
.3 = Bulletins
.4 = Circulars
.5 = Laws
.6 = Regulations, rules, and instructions
.7 = Press releases
.8 = Handbooks, manuals, and guides
.9 = Bibliographies and lists of publications

- .10 = Directories
- .11 = Maps and charts
- .12 = Posters (theoretically, but a lot of posters are given another series number)
- .13 = Forms
- .14 = Addresses

If the number is not .1 through .14, then the publication is part of a series. Each series is assigned a unique number.

- A 1.47: = *Agricultural Statistics*, Agriculture Department
- A 1.57: = *USDA News*, Agriculture Department

Some issuing agencies fall under a sub-agency, rather than the main agency, and they are given a 100-900 or 1000-9000 designation after the period. The number that should have been after the period to describe the type of document, or the unique series number, is added to the number for the particular issuing agency.

- C 55.101: = *Annual Report*, National Weather Service (which is under NOAA)
- C 55.102: = General Publication, National Weather Service
- C 55.127: = *Aware* (Quarterly), National Weather Service

AFTER THE COLON:

What comes after the colon depends on whether the publication is a serial (same title), part of a series (common title but different individual titles as well), or an individual, stand-alone item.

Serials

Serials are given a date or a volume and issue number. In general, the number chosen will correspond with the numbering system on the publication itself.

- If it is an annual, then just the date is after the colon. Dates before the year 2000 were just 3 digits, e.g. 990 for 1990.

- PREX 2.8:985 = *Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1985*, Office of Management & Budget

- NAS 1.1:2001 = *2001 Annual Report*, NASA

- If it is a journal, then the volume and issue number are given.

- L 2.6:124/1 = *Monthly Labor Review*, volume 124, issue 1 (January 2001), Bureau of Labor Statistics

Series

- Publications that are part of a series are usually given the number that corresponds with the numbering system on the publication itself.

- GA 1.13:RCED-95-208 = *Teacher Training Status and Participants' Views of Delta Teachers Academy*, General Accounting Office (GAO/RCED-95-208)

Individual Items

- If the publication stands on its own, then it is given a letter(s) and a Cutter number that describes the subject of the publication. If it is about more than one subject, or the subject is not obvious from the title, the classifiers usually take the first descriptive noun of the title and use that as the subject. If there are subsequent publications about the same subject, then a slash is added and the next number is assigned.

- ED 1.2:SCH 6 = *The School Team Approach*, Education Department

- ED 1.2:SCH 6/15 = *Combining School and Work*, Education Department

Revisions, Corrections, Parts, and New Editions

- If the agency updates an existing publication, then the same call number is used, followed by a slash and the year of the update (again, with dates before the year 2000 being only 3 digits). If a corrected copy of an existing publication is issued, the same number is used, followed by a slash and the abbreviation, "CORR." Individual volumes, parts, summaries, final editions, etc. are handled the same way, with a slash after the call number.

- C 21.14/2:D 46/998 = *Guide To Filing A Design Patent Application*, Revised May 1998, Patent and Trademark Office

- I 29.2:M 69 1/4/V.1/DRAFT = *Lower Mississippi Delta Region: Draft Heritage Study/Environmental Assessment*, National Park Service

- ED 1.102:C 86/EXEC.SUM. = *Indicators of School Crime and Safety: Executive Summary*, National Center for Education Statistics

- Y 4.ED 8/1:106-83/CORR. = *Hearing: The Federal Role in K-12 Mathematics Reform (STARPRINT)*, House Committee on Education and the Workforce

CONGRESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Congressional publications are classified the same way as other agency publications described above, but the call number scheme has been modified to fit virtually all the Congressional publications under Y.

- Y 1. = Legislative documents, bills, reports and documents
- Y 3. = Congressional commissions, boards, and advisory councils
- Y 4. = Congressional hearings and committee prints
- Y 10. = Congressional Budget Office publications

The names of the Congressional commissions or committees are Cuttered, and publications are either numbered sequentially or Cuttered after the colon.

- Y 3.T 25:2 AD 9 = *The Tennessee Valley Region: Its Unique Advantages for Business and Industry*, Tennessee Valley Authority – **T 25** is Tennessee Cuttered, and **2** is for a general publication. **AD 9** is advantages Cuttered.

- Y 4.AP 6/2:S.HRG.106-825 = *Economic development in the Mississippi Delta*, Committee on Appropriations – **AP 6** is appropriations Cuttered and

(continued on page 64)

Preservation Notes

Column Editor: Irmgard Wolfe, The University of Southern Mississippi

Preserving Non-Print: the Exotic, Esoteric or Electronic

By Sue Davis

Preservation Librarian

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Many library and archive collections contain items that are made from a variety of materials other than paper. Sometimes these items are only curiosities of local importance. For instance, in our own university archives there is a doorknob, mounted on a block of wood, that has historical significance. Sometimes the items are integral parts of the collections as a whole, such as tape recordings of music played on a collection of historical instruments, or maybe a CD with photo images from a family reunion.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Each of these different materials has special preservation needs, which can differ dramatically from those of paper. The difficulty in the past was how to find information on storing, handling, displaying, or conserving these non-paper materials. Today many answers to these questions can be found on the Web. Below are just a few examples of places to go to find help. (Disclaimer: Inclusion in this list does not necessarily mean an endorsement by the author.)

If you feel adventurous, you may want to strike out on your own and track down even more possibilities on the Web. I have discovered that using different search engines can produce different results. No single search engine finds it all – the Web is a very large virtual place.

The first three sites listed are good general starting points. The rest of the list focuses on specific materials ranging from

feathers to clocks to textiles. Happy hunting!

GENERAL STARTING POINTS

<http://www.solinet.net/presvtn/preshome.htm>

Our favorite Southeastern resource – SOLINET – provides information and links online. Plus, we can call the office when urgent questions arise. 1(800) 999-8558.

<http://www.indiana.edu/~libpres/Manual/prsmanual2.html#PSNBM>

Preservation pages from the Indiana University at Bloomington library. This particular FAQ sheets deals with the care and handling of non-book materials. Surf around in these pages and find all kinds of pertinent preservation advice, especially for libraries.

DIGITAL OR ELECTRONIC

<http://www.clir.org/pubs/pubs.html>

Lots of up-to-the-minute information about digital formats, digitizing collections, and related preservation issues.

<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/bytopic/electronic-records/electronic-storage-media/>

Includes articles from companies and institutions about the care for and preservation of electronic media. From the site's main page, you can search archives of various listservs on related topics. One of the best on the Web because it is indexed well, has lots of content, and is chock full of links. This site is a perfect starting point for anything to do with conservation.

<http://www.kodak.com/>

This big site is a bit of a challenge to navigate, but has good information. The heading "Service & Support" offers preservation information under the various product types. The section "Library of KODAK Publications" has manuals, "how-to" guides, tips, techniques, technical bulletins, and so on.

<http://www.ArchiveBuilders.com>

A non-frills site specializing in manual and digital corporate archives and records management. It contains many articles on preservation and course materials from on-line courses which are relevant to libraries, all of which can be downloaded or printed. The site is particularly up-to-date on digital and electronic materials.

ON FILM AND SOUND

<http://216.149.118.71/VideoID/>

Information about history and care/preservation of videotapes from the Electronic Media Group section of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works.

<http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub54.html>

Council on Library and Information Resources Magnetic Tape Storage and Handling: A Guide for Libraries and Archives, 1995. A comprehensive report can be downloaded.

<http://www.vidipax.com/>

A videotape restoration vendor Web site with lots of advice.

http://members.dca.net/gallagdt/film_preserv.html

A collection of Web sites about movie film and its preservation needs. Includes a discussion of the "vinegar syndrome," an aromatic sign of deteriorating film.

<http://www.amianet.org/>

Web site of the Association of Moving Image Archivists includes an "Information & Services" section, which includes film and videotape storage standards as well as FAQs on amateur and small format films and on video formats and preservation.

MORE ESOTERIC NEEDS

<http://www.hand-fan.org/FANwebsite/resources/preservation.htm>

A single Web page devoted specifically to fan preservation.

<http://www.tinfoil.com/trc.htm>

A site devoted to preserving wax cylinder recordings. Commercially oriented, but provides some helpful hints on care and handling.

<http://www.music.ed.ac.uk/euchmi/cimcim/irt/irte.html>

This site provides information on the care and preservation of musical instruments, especially those in a museum environment.

<http://www.bishop.hawaii.org/bishop/conservation/conservation.html>

The Bishop Museum in Hawaii has a Web site that provides preservation information about Asian lacquers, feathers, textiles, calabashes, and tapa. While objects made of these materials may not be as common in non-tropical areas, many collections could contain one or two such objects.

<http://www.hfmgv.org/histories/cis/pfs.html>

The Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village Web site contains a large amount of preservation information. It covers textiles, archival materials, brass

and bronze, clocks, furniture and other wooden objects, glass, ceramics, historical iron, historical silver, oil paintings, artworks on paper, and photos.

<http://www.museums.gov.uk/>


The British Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries offers fact sheets on a multitude of media, including plastics, natural history specimens, furniture, clocks, musical instruments, photographic materials, costume accessories, textiles, and works of art on paper.

A LAST THOUGHT

If you decide to discard media, why not recycle them? Take a look at this site:

<http://www.ecomedia.net/>

EcoMedia provides free and convenient recycling of magnetic media and offers cost-saving certified tape for applications where new tape is not crucial.



Calling All Artists, Artisans, and Craftspeople!

Showcase your talent by donating an art object for the Silent Auction to be held during the MLA annual conference. For more information, contact June Breland.

Phone: 662-325-7672.

Email: jbreland@library.msstate.edu

Academic Focus

Column Editor: Jessie B. Arnold, Alcorn State University

A Primer on Outsourcing

Joyce B. Radcliff

Catalog Librarian

The University of Southern Mississippi

joyce.radcliff@usm.edu

Outsourcing is not the newest topic in library technical services. Libraries have been employing many aspects of outsourcing for more than thirty-five years.¹ Examples of these services include purchasing catalog cards with books, ordering LC cards, and purchasing catalog records on bibliographic utilities. However, the term "outsourcing" has only been in use for about ten years.

But just what is outsourcing? Outsourcing has been defined as the process of accessing expert services and resources from external organizations to either supplement or take full responsibility for a function that was previously done in-house.² Outsourcing can be a useful tool that can assist academic libraries to keep up with patrons' demand for more and faster services, particularly in the face of budget reductions.

TYPES OF OUTSOURCING FUNCTIONS

Outsourcing is done for routine library functions such as collection development, materials selection a.k.a. surveillance or approval plans, materials processing, cataloging and management. The two most popular functions are:

1. Surveillance or approval plans. New books are supplied to a library according to the library's specifications.
2. Cataloging materials. Print or non-print materials, new or existing in the library collection that require cataloging and/or processing.

New book approval plans can be outsourced to simplify, expedite and enhance the selection process for any library by a company that offers integrated library ser-

vices: approval programs, cataloging, book processing and catalog maintenance.

Both approval and cataloging services can provide "shelf ready" items, where volumes are selected, acquired, cataloged, and physically processed. Library functions with no "market-driven" variations or patron specifications and with well-defined selection criteria can possibly be outsourced entirely.³

SURVEY IN MISSISSIPPI

Although a few years ago the use of outsourcing was "not a prevailing trend among academic libraries,"⁴ there may be indications that this view is shifting. This author conducted a telephone survey in the fall of 2000 on the outsourcing practices in the technical services departments of eight academic libraries in Mississippi. The results of this survey show that the use of outsourcing might be increasing in academic libraries in Mississippi. Easily half of these libraries are outsourcing the processing of government documents, cataloging, or book processing and approval plans for new materials. These libraries also reported that they have had success in outsourcing, and expect to continue outsourcing in the future. Of the remaining libraries, 35% anticipate outsourcing in the future. No library expects to decrease any of the functions that have been outsourced to date.

WHY OUTSOURCE?

The results of this survey may lead one to conclude that perhaps outsourcing is becoming more commonplace, and even necessary. Rather than follow the lead of those who are currently outsourcing, it is still worthwhile for a library to consider why it would want to outsource. The reasons for choosing to outsource a task or set of tasks are varied. Libraries

look for means to reduce costs and improve productivity, as more commercial sources for outsourcing materials become available. Librarians and vendors agree that financial savings is one of the main reasons for outsourcing due to increasingly lower library budgets. Another compelling reason for outsourcing is to reallocate personnel to other functions.⁵ Beyond these reasons to outsource, though, there are some other issues that deserve consideration.

WEIGHING PROS AND CONS

The advantages and disadvantages of outsourcing have been enumerated at the American Library Association (ALA) Web site. [See Webliography] Former ALA president, Sarah Long, has described the following good and bad points of outsourcing in a position statement:

Pros:

- Outsourcing specific functions saves libraries money and time and can improve the quality of services.
- By focusing on certain services, vendors can deliver faster, better and less expensive service.
- Library staff is allowed more time to provide more and better services.

Cons:

- Libraries sacrifice quality when vendors are motivated by profits.
- When library managers relinquish control of outsourcing activity, quality control is hard to maintain, and local needs may not be met.
- Downsizing sometimes results from outsourcing, thereby lowering staff morale.⁶

OUTSOURCING GUIDELINES

Outsourcing should be carefully evaluated and planned before it is undertaken. There are several factors to be consid-

ered, such as: 1) the real cost of the activity; 2) the impact on users; 3) workflow; 4) backlog content; 5) assessment of staff skills; and 6) careful consideration of the goals and how the vendor will meet them.⁷

The following is a partial list of guidelines that may help the decision maker to think about outsourcing activity:

WHY

Why or why not outsource?
Why consider outsourcing?
Why select a particular vendor?

WHO

Who makes the decision to outsource in the library?
Who will decide what to outsource?
Who will the vendor be?
Who will be administering the outsourcing?

WHAT

What materials will be outsourced?
What materials deserve special local treatment?
What format is to be outsourced?
What constitutes a matching record?

WHEN

When in the library year should one plan for a project?
When will records be added to OPAC (versus the process)?
When will the outsourcing item be "done"?

HOW

How should this be done?
How will it integrate with your OPAC?
How much will it cost?
How does the vendor charge?

WHERE

Where in the library will the changes need to be made?
Where in your current processes will changes need to be made?
Where will you be in the end?⁸

Guidelines should be set and communicated to vendors before attempting to outsource. Vendors should be supplied with complete documentation that includes: 1) records that actually meet a standard; 2) definitions of local practices; and 3) specific classification policies. It is also important to request generated reports to evaluate the project (Harken, p. 83).⁹

SELECTIVE LIST OF OUTSOURCING VENDORS

- *Ingram Library Services.* Collection development, title selection, cataloging and processing and video highlights are a few of their services. Over a third of their staff holds a M.L.S. degree. <http://www.ingramlibrary.com/default.asp>
- *MARCIVE, Inc.* MARCIVE maintains an excellent reputation for cataloging services for U.S. government documents. <http://www.marcive.com/prodserv.htm>
- *PromptCat.* PromptCat is designed to work with copy cataloging to reduce staff time for searching and editing time in handling titles. <http://www.oclc.org/oclc/menu/prompt.htm>
- *YBP Library Services.* YBP provide books and support for collection management and technical services in academic, research and special libraries. Their staff consists of 20 professional librarians. <http://www.ybp.com/>

The use of outsourcing appears to be increasing, particularly in academic libraries. The promise of saving money makes outsourcing more appealing to library managers, but decisions to outsource must be made in light of the issues of control of the process and the efficient use of personnel. Successful results can be achieved with outsourcing, but only if

outsourcing is accompanied by proper planning and monitoring.

WEBLIOGRAPHY

- **American Library Association Taskforce.** The American Library Association created a Task Force to review ALA's policies on outsourcing libraries. <http://www.ala.org/outsource/index.html>
- **Outsourcing Issues: Pros.** <http://www.ala.org/alcts/now/outsource2.html>
- **Outsourcing Issues: Cons.** <http://www.ala.org/alcts/now/outsource2.html>
- **The Librarians Yellow Pages.** A list of outsourcing vendors. <http://www.librariansyellowpages.com>
- **Academic Book Center.** <http://www.blackwell.com>

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- ² Dunkle, Clare B. "Outsourcing the Cataloging Department: a Meditation Inspired by the Business and Library Literature," *Journal of Academic Librarianship* 22, no. 1 (Jan. 1996): 33.
- ³ Abel, 76-77.
- ⁴ Libby, Katherine A., and Dana M. Caudle. "A Survey of Outsourcing in Academic Libraries," *College & Research Libraries* 58, no. 6 (Nov. 1997): 556.
- ⁵ Abel, 78.
- ⁶ Long, Sara Ann. "Outsourcing Library Services." WWW URL: <http://www.sarahlong.org/position2.htm>
- ⁷ Libby and Caudle, 552, 555.
- ⁸ Harken, Shelby E. "Outsourcing: Ready, Set, Go? A Cataloger's Perspective," *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 23, no. 2 (1996): 82-83.
- ⁹ *Ibid.*, 83.

What's So Special About...

Column Editor: P. Toby Graham, The University of Southern Mississippi

Congressional and Political Research Center at Mississippi State University

By Michael Ballard

Coordinator of the Congressional
and Political Research Center
and University Archivist
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Historians and other researchers have begun to recognize over the last half-century or so that the papers of United States senators and representatives are a treasure of information on many aspects of American life and on America's position on the world stage. These collections are cross-sections of the human experience, shedding light at once on political, social, familial, economic, governmental, scientific, military, racial and ethnic, environmental, and recreational developments. Archivists face an enormous challenge in preserving and processing these collections, and also in creating guides that reflect the many nuances unique to each collection.

Mississippi repositories – including MSU – contain significant congressional collections. Due to a lengthy state tradition of returning senators and representatives to Congress for many consecutive terms, the papers of congressmen tend to be voluminous and to reflect extensive periods of history at the local, state, national, and international levels.

In recognition of the importance of these primary sources, Mississippi State University opened the Congressional and Political Research Center on November 12, 1999 in the Mitchell Memorial Library. Its purpose is to provide research material and information on individual U.S. senators and representatives, the U.S. Congress, and politics at all levels of government. This is accomplished

via in-house holdings and Internet links to pertinent sites.

The Center partners with the John C. Stennis Institute of Government and the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service in establishing outreach programs and distributing information in various formats. An example is the Morris W.H. (Bill) Collins Speaker Series on Politics, which brings leading figures of the day to the Mississippi State University campus to engage in discussions about their lives and careers.

The heart of the Center, however, is its collections. Core materials include the John C. Stennis, G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery, David Bowen, Charles Griffin, Chip Pickering, Mike Espy, Wiley Carter and Wayne Weidie collections.

JOHN C. STENNIS

Senator Stennis was a key player in the Joe McCarthy era, was actively involved in the development of the U.S. space program, and chaired the Armed Services Committee during the Vietnam War era. Since he served in the Senate during the Civil Rights revolution of the 1960s, his papers reflect his active role in that era, both in Mississippi and nationwide. Stennis served in the Senate for forty-two years (1947-1989). His collection – of some 2,500 cubic feet – contains files, documents, photographs, audio/video material, oral histories, and memorabilia that provide rich details of world, American, and Mississippi history during the latter half of the twentieth century.

G.V. "SONNY" MONTGOMERY

Sonny Montgomery was a decorated veteran of World War II who served in the

United States House of Representatives from 1966 to 1997. The focus of Montgomery's years in the House was the U.S. military. A career National Guardsman himself, Montgomery chaired the House Veterans Affairs Committee and served for many years on the House Armed Services Committee. After the Vietnam War, he set up the House Select Committee on U.S. Involvement in Southeast Asia as well as the House Select Committee on Missing Persons in Southeast Asia. Montgomery played a major role in the ongoing POW/MIA issue, but his proudest achievement by far was the passage in 1985 of the Montgomery G.I. Bill, which provides financial assistance for veterans to attend college.

The Montgomery Collection consists of some 1,200 cubic feet of files, documents, books, photographs, tapes, and artifacts. Anyone interested in military affairs during the latter half of the twentieth century will find much pertinent information here. Also, Montgomery has had a long, close friendship with former President George Bush, and the collection contains documentation of that friendship. The Montgomery Collection is currently closed except for some public items (speeches, press releases, etc.). The earliest that the collection could possibly be opened is January 3, 2007.

DAVID BOWEN

David Bowen, a graduate of Harvard and Oxford, taught history and political science at Millsaps College, served as Southeastern Coordinator for the Office of Economic Opportunity, and was coordinator of federal-state programs in Mississippi before his election to Congress in 1972. Bowen served continuously until

1982. Since leaving Congress, Bowen has taught courses at MSU and has become an accomplished playwright.

The Bowen Collection consists some 270 cubic feet of files, documents, publications, photographs, and memorabilia. Much of the material reflects Bowen's interest and expertise in agricultural matters. He served on numerous agriculture-related committees and wrote significant sections of numerous farm and forestry bills. Bowen played key roles in securing funds for cotton research, promoting agricultural production in Third World countries, and expanding overseas markets for American farmers.

CHARLES GRIFFIN

Charles Griffin was a native of Utica, Mississippi, a graduate of Mississippi State University, and a World War II veteran who won his Congressional seat in a special election held in 1968. Griffin was re-elected to two succeeding terms. Griffin's service in Congress was marked by his memberships on two House committees: Banking and Currency, and Merchant Marine and Fisheries. The collection is composed of 80 cubic feet of mostly files and documents.

MIKE ESPY

Mike Espy, a native of Yazoo City, Mississippi, was elected to the House of Representatives in 1986, becoming the state's first African American congressman since Reconstruction. While in Congress, Espy served on the Budget and Agriculture committees and on the Select Committee on Hunger. In his first term in Congress, Espy was the only freshman member to compose and have passed a major piece of legislation, the Lower Mississippi River Valley Delta Development Act. He won re-election in 1988, 1990, and 1992, resigning his seat in 1993 to accept a position as Secretary of Agriculture in the Clinton administration.

Espy's tenure as Secretary of Agriculture was marked by administrative successes, but marred by criminal charges that he accepted unlawful gifts and favors.

After a long, drawn-out trial procedure, Espy ultimately was cleared on all counts. During the course of the investigation, he resigned his cabinet position and is now practicing law in Jackson, Mississippi.

The Espy Collection contains files, audiovisual material, publications, and memorabilia documenting his congressional career plus some personal files and other items from his work as Secretary of Agriculture. The collection is currently being processed, and most of the material will be opened to the public when processing is completed.

CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

Chip Pickering is a native of Jones County who began his public service career as an assistant to Senator Trent Lott. In 1996, he was elected to succeed the retiring Sonny Montgomery. He was re-elected in 1998 and 2000. Congressman Pickering serves on the House of Representatives committees of Agriculture; Science; and Transportation and Infrastructure. His subcommittees include: (Agriculture)-Forestry, Resource Conservation, and Research; Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry; (Science)-Basic Research, Space and Aeronautics; (Transportation and Infrastructure)-Aviation, Surface Transportation. Congressman Pickering's office has not yet begun transferring materials to the Research Center.

WILEY K. CARTER

Wiley Carter was a native of Jackson, Mississippi and an MSU graduate who spent most of his career in public service. He was an assistant to Mississippi Lieutenant Governor Carroll Gartin, a field representative to Mississippi Congressman John Bell Williams, and assistant director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Industrial Board. Beginning in 1973 and for the next twenty-five years, Carter served as an administrative assistant to then Congressman, later Senator, Thad Cochran. The Carter Collection contains correspondence and other printed material related to all phases of his career, plus many photographs and memorabilia. The collection is in process and is closed

pending renegotiation of the donor agreement with the Carter family.

WAYNE WEIDIE

Wayne Weidie is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and, since 1990 has been on the staff of Gene Taylor, Mississippi Congressman from the Fifth District. Weidie is currently Taylor's Chief of Staff. During his career he has been manager of Weidie Oil Company, Publisher and Editor of the *Ocean Springs Record* and *Gautier Independent*, a syndicated political columnist, and a political analyst for the Biloxi television ABC affiliate. Weidie's collection consists largely of political memorabilia in various formats. The collection is currently in the processing stage and is closed to researchers. Additions are expected.

ACCESS INFORMATION

The Manuscripts Division of the Special Collections area of the MSU Libraries contains other political collections that are not described above. These include the Mississippi Republican Party Papers and several collections of prominent political journalists, such as Hodding Carter, Bill Minor, and Sid Salter. We will provide our patrons with cross-reference information, both on our Web site and in our reading room, about such collateral collections.

The Center's Web site is available at <http://nt.library.msstate.edu/congressional/>. The site provides information about the Center, including its hours, contact points, and collections. The site also links to other pertinent Web resources representing government and politics at the local, state, national, and international levels. A quarterly newsletter entitled *We The People*, available on the Web site, provides news about the Center and about the John C. Stennis Institute of Government and the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service.

Abridged and reprinted from the *Primary Source*, the journal of the Society of Mississippi Archivists.

About Books

Frankel, Noralee. *Freedom's Women: Black Women and Families in Civil War Era Mississippi*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1999. 270 pp. \$35.00 hardcover.

Freedom's Women is the story of Lucy Brown, as well as other African American women, who created lives under the shadow of slavery, and then anticipated creating new lives when freedom was finally given to them. Under the premise that there was no one but themselves, African American women dreamt of a great plan for their new lives of freedom. However, freedom did not turn out to be exactly as they had hoped. The story Frankel has constructed, through numerous personal documents, first-hand accounts, and public records, is a look into the hopes and fears of these women so long ago. The book takes the reader through various issues relevant to African American women and their families during slavery, the Civil War, and the period of Reconstruction. The topics discussed in this work include the impact of the War of Liberation on families and work, life within the Union lines, labor after the Civil War, intimate relationships among men and women, families, kin networks and communities.

The challenges experienced by Lucy Brown provide examples for each topic of discussion. Her personal story provides the thread that ties the entire book together. Readers learn of her slave marriage to Thomas Brown before the Civil War, witness the birth of her children, the separation of husband and wife when Thomas enlists in the United States Army, their reunion when Lucy arrives in Vicksburg to live in an army camp, and the subsequent death of Thomas Brown while in service.

As Lucy's story continues, Frankel explores other issues of concern to African American women during this time period. After Thomas Brown's death, Lucy finally settles down in a legalized marriage contract with Reuben Kelly. Widows were not allowed to keep the military pension from their deceased husbands if they remarried; nevertheless, they sometimes went to great lengths to

keep the pensions anyway. In Lucy's case, her close friends and family all lied to government officials about her marriage to Reuben Kelly, exemplifying the family network, kin and the larger community that helped African American women achieve greater independence.

Frankel, Assistant Director on Women, Minorities, and Teaching at the American Historical Society, is the author of *Break Those Chains at Last: African Americans 1860-1880*, and co-editor of *Gender, Class, Race and Reform in the Progressive Era*. This current work, while of an academic bent, is an easy read and will be of interest to a variety of readers interested in the lives of women who have struggled for independence and respect. It would be suitable on the shelves of both public and academic libraries.

Brooke Lippy

Catalog Librarian

University of Southern Mississippi

Iles, Greg. *24 Hours*. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2000. 335 pp. \$24.95 hardcover.

Madison, Mississippi, the perfect town for the perfect family, becomes the site for the perfect crime in Greg Iles' *24 Hours*. Will Jennings has a very successful medical practice, while his wife, Karen, cares for their five-year old daughter, Abby, and manages their elegant home. All is not perfect, however, for Will and Karen. They live their marriage as strangers who share a strong, mutual love for Abby.

John Hickey has plans for the Jennings family. He has focused on them to become his newest targets in a vicious kidnapping scheme. Knowing that Will plans to be away at a medical convention on the Gulf Coast, Hickey initiates a terrifying, twenty-four hour perfect crime. Five times he has applied the same hellish precision to creating a crime of technology and terror; however, this time it is different. This time he wants more than the money. This time he wants revenge.

Ironically, Hickey has not expected the

strength that lies dormant within each of the Jennings. United by their deep love for their child, Will and Karen find a way to work together. Although pushed against a wall of helplessness, they are able, by skillful cunning, to communicate with one another. Even young Abby demonstrates a strength that belies her age, as she draws on her coping skills to deal with illness and the reality of her juvenile diabetes. Now when a new reality, the trauma of being kidnapped, faces her with terrifying harshness, she faces this new challenge just as she faces her diabetes – head-on.

Greg Iles is quite the storyteller as he weaves this heart-pounding thriller. His characters have depth, substance and appeal. Abby is precocious and lovable. Will is honest and caring as he deals with frustrations over his failing marriage and his crippling arthritis, which will soon end a prominent practice. Karen suppresses her resentments of the past in which she gave up a promising career to love and nurture their daughter. Her strength of will is her greatest asset when facing John Hickey. Hickey is unsavory, not only in what he does to his victims, but also in how he treats people in general, including his own partners, Cheryl and Huey.

The book concludes with an unrealistic but heroic save; for all of its lack of realism, it is effective. The hero rescues the maiden, or, in this case, the maidens.

Every Mississippi library should have this fun thriller by a Mississippi storyteller who knows how to embellish exactly where and when it's needed.

Donna Phelps Fite

Branch Librarian

Purvis Public Library

Lamar County Library System

Lane, John and Gerald Thurmond, eds. *The Woods Stretched for Miles: New Nature Writing from the South*. Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1999. 237 pp. \$16.95 paperback.

Editors John Lane and Gerald Thurmond have put together an anthology of

eighteen southern essays stretching literally for miles from the Black Creek Wilderness Area in central Mississippi to the outer banks of North Carolina and then south to the savannas of South Florida. All are penned by exceptional writers, and some are by familiar nature enthusiasts like E. O. Wilson, Wendell Berry, and Rick Bass, whose "Good Day at Black Creek" gives anyone who loves the woods and camping a virtual breath of fresh air.

A majority of the essays, including "Hurricane" by Jan DeBlieu, describe a specific event. DeBlieu's essay was my favorite. The personal rendition of Hurricane Gloria's landfall will keep you spellbound. Then there is Archie Carr's "Living with an Alligator" which is almost unbelievable, yet funny, as man and reptile coexist sharing a front-yard pond. In Eddy L. Harris' "Vicksburg," readers experience an adventurous canoeing trip down the Mississippi River before reaching the author's destination of Natchez. Susan Cerulean's "Searching for Swallow Tails" triggers the emotions of bird lovers as the biologist climbs to reach her intended nest of chicks. Janisse Kay's "Whither Thou Goest" is deeply reflective.

The reader sees a shared thread woven throughout the essays of wildlife restoration, community cohabitation, and meditative therapy. Even though there are similar themes in several of these essays, each writer paints a distinct and clear picture of nature, an event, a time, and a place.

This book would be a colorful and exciting addition to any academic or public library with a southern literature and/or a nature writing collection.

Maria Mathilde Martin

*Reference and Distance Learning Librarian
J. D. Williams Library
University of Mississippi*

Neilson, Melany. *The Persia Café*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2001. 276 pp. \$23.95 hardcover.

A Mississippi native and University of Mississippi graduate, Melany Neilson proved that she could write non-fiction with *Even Mississippi*, her compelling account of Robert Clark's campaigns for

the U.S. House of Representatives. With this first novel, *The Persia Café*, she proves herself in fiction as well. Although the author has recently come under fire with an accusation that she plagiarized several phrases, this is a worthy effort on a topic that is always a concern – race relations in small-town Mississippi.

Set in a small, fictional Mississippi town in the early 1960's, *The Persia Café* portrays the racial tension of the period through the lives of Fannie Leary, her family, friends, and community. Persia sits on the banks of the Mississippi and, like all towns of that era, is distinctly divided along color lines. The main setting of the story is the restaurant known as the Persia Café, once owned by Fannie's Aunt Eugenia and inherited by Fannie on Eugenia's death.

The crucial incident is the disappearance and presumed death of Earnest March, the young black man who delivers milk to the café. Following his argument at the café's backdoor with his girlfriend, Sheila Jones, Earnest is chased away by the sheriff and other male patrons of the café. Sheila, a white girl a few years younger than Fannie, confided earlier to Fannie that she had a secret boyfriend. Further complicating Earnest's disappearance is the fact that Fannie's husband, Will, vanishes immediately following the incident.

Fannie's sighting of a body floating in the water leads her to request assistance from local law enforcement officers. Their "investigation" comes up with no results; but Mattie, the café cook, asks her pastor for assistance, and soon the FBI appears at the café unexpectedly. The FBI's persistence causes white Persia to shun Fannie, her family, and the café. A surprising turn of events helps her keep the café financially afloat until the FBI brings some closure to the incident. Not surprisingly, however, Persia itself remains unhealed and unwilling to see itself as it is.

This title is a must-have for any Mississippi library in either the original edition or the revised edition to come out after corrections of the questioned phrases have been made.

Louise Plodinec

*Assistant Collection Development Officer
Mississippi State University Libraries*

Tech Notes et al.

(continued from page 56)

/2 is for the Senate Committee (versus /1 for the House Committee). This is hearing number **825** in the Senate as a whole for the **106th** Congressional year.

FUTURE OF SUDOC NUMBERS?

Despite the uniqueness and relative complexity of the classification system, it is at heart a shelving arrangement. One may therefore question the continued usefulness of a shelving arrangement system for government information that exists only on the Internet. Currently, around 60% of the documents disseminated by the Government Printing Office are available online, and many are no longer printed by the GPO. For these, and for virtually all forthcoming documents, it is irrelevant what SuDoc number has been assigned. All that matters is whether the URL works.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The information in this article was drawn largely from guides from the Government Printing Office (GPO). These guides are readily available online.

For a general summary, consult *An Explanation of the Superintendent of Documents Classification System* [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/explain.html].

For an in-depth analysis, consult *GPO Classification Manual* [http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fdlp/pubs/classman/index.html]. This is a 100+ page manual that offers a thorough explanation of classifying all types of federal publications, with chapters on Congressional publications and maps.

REFERENCE

- ¹ Nelson, Gail K. and John V. Richardson, Jr. "Adelaide Hasse and the Early History of the U.S. Superintendent of Documents Classification Scheme," *Government Publications Review*, 13 (1986): 79-96.

About Children's Books

CORETTA SCOTT KING WINNERS AND HONOR BOOKS, 2001

AUTHOR AWARD WINNER

Woodson, Jacqueline. *Miracle's Boys*. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2000. 131 pp. \$15.99.

The three Bailey brothers struggle as a family after the death of their parents. Their dad died a hero after he saved a woman and her dog from drowning, and their mother died some years later after suffering a heart attack. Ty'ree, the oldest brother, supports them financially, but there's serious trouble between the two younger brothers. Charlie, the middle brother, blames twelve-year-old Lafayette for their mother's death. After Charlie returns from Rahway Home for Boys, he either ignores Lafayette or is mean to him. Lafayette calls him Newcharlie and wishes for the old Charlie to return. Through well-placed flashbacks, Lafayette gradually reveals his love for his mother, and readers learn the truth about her death. Charlie suffers because the last time his mama saw him, he was being taken away in handcuffs. At last, the brothers come to terms with their mother's death and can love and support each other. Once again Woodson shows her ability to create a memorable story from the raw emotions of well-developed characters.

AUTHOR HONOR BOOK

Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *Let It Shine! Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters*. Illustrated by Stephen Alcorn. San Diego, California: Gulliver Books/Harcourt, Inc., 2000. 107 pp. \$20.00.

Pinkney presents brief biographies of ten African American women who were civil rights activists. Each woman's story includes an inspirational and impressive list of accomplishments from simple acts to sublime ones. For instance, Rosa

Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man; Shirley Chisholm entered the United States Presidential race. Their courage and determination in the face of great odds should encourage anyone, of any race, male or female, to work for what is right. Of special interest to Mississippians are three women who were born in the Magnolia State: Biddy Mason, born in Hancock County; Ida B. Wells-Barnett, born in Marshall County; and Fannie Lou Hamer, born in Montgomery County. Other women included in the volume are Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Mary McLeod Bethune, Ella Josephine Baker, and Dorothy Irene Height. Each clearly written biographical sketch begins with a full-page oil-on-canvas portrait depicting each woman interacting with events that represent her life's contributions. The collection concludes with recommended Further Reading, consisting of a list of general historical collections and biographies of freedom fighters.

ILLUSTRATOR AWARD WINNER

Collier, Bryan. *Uptown*. New York: Henry Holt, 2000. 32 pp. \$15.95.

A young African American boy guides readers through Uptown, Harlem, his home. In sparse, clear prose, he describes the Metro-North train, chicken and waffles, brownstones that "look like they're made of chocolate," weekend shopping, the Apollo Theater, jazz, a barbershop, a Van Der Zee photograph, Rucker's Playground, canvas awnings, sisters going to church, an orange sunset, and the Boys Choir of Harlem. All of these sights and sounds add up to the young boy's world. Collier's collage and watercolor illustrations work with the text to describe Harlem. Lettering is sometimes white, sometimes black, and sometimes yellow or orange, making the colors "pop out" from the illustrations. Words move with the scenes being depicted. For example, the word "jazz" is an intense pink, each letter a slightly altered

angle and level. This harmonious combination of text, illustration, and lettering work well together to catch the energy and contentment of one boy's Harlem.

ILLUSTRATOR HONOR BOOKS

Rappaport, Doreen. *Freedom River*. Pictures by Bryan Collier. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2000. 28 pp. \$14.99.

Rappaport's story of John Parker, a freedom fighter on the Underground Railroad, is enhanced by Collier's appropriately somber full-page collage and watercolor illustrations. This brief telling of one successful rescue is carefully crafted with suspense and compassion for John Parker and the mother, father, and baby Parker rescues. Parker risks his life to snatch the couple's baby from the foot of their master's bed and to row them to safety across the Ohio River. Collier demonstrates his belief in spiritual guidance by showing people in prayerful attitudes on most pages of text. Across their faces are wavy lines representing "the river, for the river is the key to freedom."

Rockwell, Anne. *Only Passing Through: The Story of Sojourner Truth*. Illustrated by R. Gregory Christie. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2000. 32 pp. \$16.95.

Primitive art accompanies this biography of a woman born into slavery, who grew to become an abolitionist and champion of African Americans. The story of Isabella, later known as Sojourner Truth, reads like a legend. She was able to accomplish much through her strength of character. Once she began her sojourns, her height, her powerful speaking and singing voice, her devotion to the Bible and to the rights of African Americans combined to present an impressive force that attracted people to her cause. Told with clarity and complemented by full-page illustrations, this is a remarkable picture biography of a remarkable woman.

Mississippi Library Association Minutes

DECEMBER 8, 2000

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING

Billy Beal, *ALA Councilor*
 Kaylene Behm, *Secretary*
 Ann Branton, *Editor, Mississippi Libraries and chair of Publications committee*
 June Breland, *ACRL section chair*
 Juanita Flanders, *ZYCRT*
 Cindy Harrison, *School Library section chair*
 Terry Latour, *Vice-President/President-elect*
 Henry Ledet, *President*
 Victoria Penny, *YPSRT*
 Glenda Segars, *SELA*
 Madel Stringer, *Trustee section chair*
 Rhonda Tynes, *Past President*
 Kathleen Wells, *TSRT chair*

COMMITTEE CHAIRS PRESENT:

Susan Cassagne, *Continuing Education*
 David A. Juergens, *Conservation*
 Ruth Pierce, *Handbook*
 Jennifer A. Smith, *National Library Week*

The meeting was called to order by President Henry Ledet at 11:05 a.m. The agenda was presented.

I. INTRODUCTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS:

Introductions of new officers, section chairs, roundtable chairs, and committee chairs were made. A list of new officers and chairs was distributed for corrections. President Ledet welcomed each person to the meeting.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. National Library Week Committee – Jennifer Smith reported on the planned National Library Week activities. "Partners for Progress" panel discussion will be held on January 29th in the ETV auditorium in Jackson. Two panels will be made up of media professionals and librarians within the state.

Information on additional National Library Week and Legislative Day activities will be mailed out to all MLA members.

B. Site Selection Committee – Rhonda Tynes presented the recommendation for the 2002 conference to be held in Hattiesburg at the Lake Terrace Convention Center. The recommendation was voted upon and was accepted.

C. Legislative Committee – Glenda Segars submitted the mission and goals for the committee, which were accepted by the board.

Ms. Segars circulated a copy of the invitation to the Legislative Reception, and a copy of the ALA Legislative Day website.

D. Nominating Committee – Rhonda Tynes presented the report. The motion was made by June Breland, seconded by Glenda Segars to accept the slate as presented. The motion passed.

E. Fiscal Management Committee – The treasurer's report was circulated. The motion to accept the report was made by June Breland, and seconded by Billy Beal. The motion passed.

The 2001 budget was circulated. Upon review of the budget, the motion was made by Billy Beal and seconded by Kaylene Behm to accept the proposed budget. The motion passed.

F. LAMP Tour – After a lengthy discussion, President Ledet requested that June Breland join Rhonda Tynes and Jolee Hussey as they continue the investigation of MLA's participation in the annual LAMP tour.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Ann Branton proposed the Mississippi Libraries editors' choice award to be presented at the Awards Banquet at the annual MLA conference. The motion was made by Terry Latour and seconded by Billy Beal to approve this award. The motion passed.

IV. 2001 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

President Ledet noted the board meeting schedule in the agenda.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Kaylene Behm, *Secretary*

JANUARY 29, 2001

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Henry Ledet, *President*
 Terry Latour, *Vice-President/President-elect*
 Kaylene Behm, *Secretary*
 Keith Coleman, *Treasurer*
 Rhonda Tynes, *Immediate Past President*
 June Breland, *ACRL section chair and Scholarship committee chair*
 Joe Tynes, *Public Library section chair*
 Madel Stringer, *Trustee section chair*
 Billy Beal, *ALA Councilor*
 Glenda Segars, *SELA representative*

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mary Julia Anderson, *Executive Secretary*
 Ann Branton, *Editor, Mississippi Libraries and Publications committee chair*
 Susan Cassagne, *Continuing Education committee chair*
 Theresa B. Ellison, *Black Caucus chair*
 Juanita Flanders, *ZYCRT chair*
 Victoria Penny, *YPSRT chair*
 Peggy Price, *Web Page committee member*

Jennifer A. Smith, *National Library Week chair*
 Kathleen Wells, *TSRT chair*

President Henry Ledet called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. The agenda was presented.

I. OFFICER'S REPORTS

A. Minutes of previous meeting were distributed. Rhonda Tynes moved that the minutes of December 8, 2000, meeting be accepted as written and distributed. The motion was seconded by Theresa Ellison and passed.

B. Vice President/President-Elect – Terry Latour reported the theme for the 2001 MLA conference will be "Mississippi Libraries @ Your Service" with William Gordon, Executive Director of ALA, as the keynote speaker. There may be times in Mr. Gordon's schedule for involvement at other sessions. For more information about the conference, contact Terry.

C. Treasurer – Keith Coleman announced that he has a meeting scheduled with the accountant in February.

D. SELA Councilor – Glenda Segars received correspondence from Frank Allan, the editor of *The Southeastern Librarian*, requesting statewide news from libraries in Mississippi or articles to be published.

E. ALA Councilor – Billy Beal reported on Mid-winter meeting. Key issues dealt with in council were privatization and outsourcing, filtering as it relates to public and school libraries, volunteer certification for public librarians, library advocacy, and the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (UTICA). Billy distributed a printout from ALA's website entitled "Libraries and the Internet Toolkit."

The Chapter Relations committee discussed ways to boost membership in state chapters. This information will be given to the Membership Committee chair of MLA.

I. SECTION REPORTS

A. ACRL – June Breland reported that they are working on a fall meeting and possibly a spring meeting.

B. Trustee – Madel Stringer announced that a Trustees website is being developed.

I. ROUNDTABLE REPORTS

A. Black Caucus – Theresa Ellison reported they will be meeting that day for the first time this year, electing new officers and committee chairs, and vigorously planning for the MLA conference.

B. Technical Services – Kathleen Wells reported they are planning a spring workshop on cataloging electronic resources and planning a program at the MLA conference.

(continued on page 67)

Minutes

(continued from page 66)

C. 2YCRT – Juanita Flanders reported they are making plans for the conference. She announced the two projects recently developed for distance education students and completed by the community college libraries. They are "Mississippi Electronic Libraries Online" (<http://www.colin.cc.ms.us/vclib/>) and an online course "Information in the Electronic Age" (<http://lrc.hinds.cc.ms.us/instructional.asp>).

D. Special Collections – Peggy Price reported for Erica Coe that the committee is developing a Web page, and planning a conference program on digitization.

E. YPSRT – Victoria Penny reported they are working to secure a speaker for the conference and exploring the possibility of having a book review corner at the conference.

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Scholarship Committee – June Breland distributed a list of past scholarship donors, a scholarship donation form, and reported that donations are still being accepted. Contributions to the scholarship are half way to the goal of raising \$10,000. The scholarship form is available on the MLA website. She requested that the Hospitality committee help with the Silent Auction at the conference. The board approved this request.

A request was made that the "Outstanding Librarian Giving Program" information be sent in the next bulk mailing. June will revise the form and submit it to Mary Julia for the next mailing.

June requested the reprinting of the Peggy May

brochure as needed. President Ledet indicated this to be a worthwhile request. Rhonda stated that she had left a supply of brochures in the MLA office and to use those before reprinting.

B. Publications Committee – Ann Branton reported that the Publications Committee, Web Page Committee, and ML editorial board met last Friday to discuss the boundaries of each.

Discussion centered around private information being available on the MLA Website. It was recommended to update the membership form to include preferences for publicly distributing addresses and phone numbers. It was determined that a print version of the MLA Directory was not necessary at this time. Mary Julia will be contacting the Web Committee members for updating the membership list on the website.

C. Web Page committee – Peggy Price reported that the committee members will be offering assistance to any MLA committees, roundtables, and sections in developing Web pages. A flyer will be distributed giving the pertinent information for seeking assistance.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. National Library Week committee – Jennifer Smith reported that there are over 200 people registered for the NLW activities, and 9 committees are scheduled to meet.

B. Legislative committee – Glenda Segars announced that the legislative reception is scheduled for that night at Eudora Welty Library. The agenda will be to express appreciation for the funding already received, and that if there is any money to be distributed, to encourage the legislator's support of Mississippi Library Commission and MAGNO-

LIA. Thank you notes are in NLW registration packets for members to send to legislators.

National Library Legislative Day will be Tuesday, May 1. If interested in attending contact Glenda Segars.

C. LAMP – The committee members will meet today.

I. NEW BUSINESS

A. Regional Training Institutes – Billy Beal discussed the ALA Chapter Relations committee's grant proposal seeking funding to provide leadership training programs for professionals and paraprofessionals across the country. Each state chapter has been asked for endorsement as part of the grant proposal. June Breland made the motion to endorse the proposal and Rhonda Tynes seconded the motion and was passed. President Ledet will write a letter in support of the grant proposal and send an endorsement from the MLA Board.

B. Glenda Segars announced that the Executive Director position of the Mississippi Library Commission was advertised in the *Commercial Appeal*, *Clarion-Ledger*, and *Times-Picayune* newspapers and posted on the MLC website and with ALA. For further information, contact Ms. Cheryl Mott, Human Resources director at the Commission.

I. NEXT BOARD MEETING – Friday, March 23 at 10 a.m. in the MLC Board Room

II. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kaylene Behm, Secretary*

Mark Your Calendar

July 14-19, 2001	American Association of Law Libraries, Minneapolis, MN
September 2001	Library Card Sign-up Week
September 22-29, 2001	Banned Books Week
October 11-14, 2001	LITA National Forum, Milwaukee, WI
October 14-20, 2001	Teen Read Week
October 17-19, 2001	Mississippi Library Association, Jackson, MS
November 4-8, 2001	ASIS, Washington, DC
November 14-18, 2001	AASL, 10th Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN
January 18-23, 2002	ALA (Midwinter Meeting), New Orleans, LA

mla

J O I N

TODAY

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Section: ☐ ACRL ☐ Public ☐ School ☐ Special ☐ Trustee

YEARLY DUES SCALE

Personal Membership

Salary up to \$ 9,000.....	\$15.00	\$ _____
Salary up to \$19,999.....	\$25.00	\$ _____
Salary up to \$29,999.....	\$35.00	\$ _____
Salary up to \$39,999.....	\$45.00	\$ _____
Salary \$40,000 and up.....	\$50.00	\$ _____
Trustee (Non-librarian).....	\$15.00	\$ _____
Friends and others not employed by a library agency.....	\$15.00	\$ _____
Library student (full-time)	\$15.00	\$ _____

Institutional Membership\$45.00 \$ _____

Round Tables

ANRT — Automation and Networking	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
Black Caucus	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
ECRT — Educational Communication and Tech.....	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
GODORT — Government Documents.....	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
LIRT — Library Instruction.....	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
NMRT — New Members	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
SCRT — Special Collections.....	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
TSRT — Technical Services.....	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
2YCRT — Two Year College.....	\$ 3.00	\$ _____
YPSRT — Young People's Services.....	\$ 3.00	\$ _____

Professional Liability Insurance

Professional Liability Insurance for Librarians\$45.00 \$ _____

Donation to Peggy May/MLA Scholarship Fund..... \$ _____

TOTAL MLA DUES \$ _____

MLA may at times supply its membership list to other professional organizations or library vendors. Check here if you **do not want** your name included on such lists: ☐

Make checks payable to Mississippi Library Association and mail to MLA, P. O. Box 20448, Jackson, MS 39289-1448. All dues include subscription to *Mississippi Libraries*.

Please charge my MLA dues to my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

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NOTICE: Dues must be paid by March 1 in order to receive March issue of *ML*. No back issues will be sent.



Mississippi Quilts

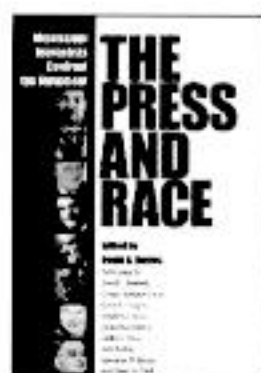
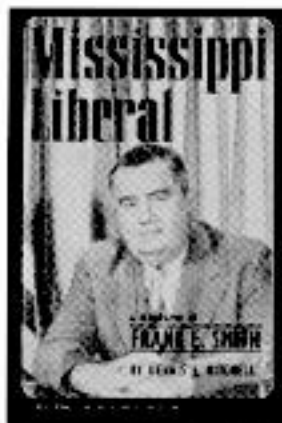
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