

2004 Annual Library Report

University Library. The library was honored to receive the Marla Haas Corts Missionary Biography Collection, a gift by President Thomas E. Corts in honor of his wife and in appreciation of her service to Samford University. In addition the library received and processed almost 10,000 gift books.

In a continuing effort to improve library instruction for students, the library evaluated 352 students in the Project for Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (SAILS). The results of the LibQual+ Survey, which assess library service and resources, were presented to parents, the SGA, and senior administrators. The library will participate in both SAILS and LibQual+ in 2004/5 to continue the evaluation of knowledge and service. New services this past year included implementation of E-struction training for faculty and staff of our most common database interfaces. The library orientated students in the Summer Forensics Program and instructed participants in the Lakeshore Rehabilitation Summer Institute.

The William H. Brantley Collection of Birmingham photographs, 1880s through 1930s, taken by Birmingham's photographer O.V. Hunt were digitized and are a part of the AlabamaMosaic project which will be online in September 2004. 58 maps were digitized and are included in the Alabama Map Project of the University of Alabama (<http://alabamamaps.ua.edu/>). Among the materials processed this year were the William F. Franke Family History Collection, the Charles Spurgeon Collection of galley proofs and the Lloyd Elder Collection.

The library hosted 4 workshops: Red, White, and You: The Patriot Librarian in Today's Information Environment, Copyright in the Academic Environment, The Successful Searcher in the Connexion Client, and Copy Cataloging with Connexion Client. Elizabeth Aversa, the Director of the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alabama was the library's guest as part of Samford's celebration of National Library Week.

The library displayed the Earth Day 2004 Art Exhibition, the 50th Anniversary Photography Exhibit of the Shades Valley Camera Club, the art of Libby Wright, photography by Mike Hedger, Milestones and Memories of Howard College and Samford University, and 30 books for children handcrafted by the parenting students from the Department of Family Studies.

Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research. The Institute had a successful conference with 10 courses including the first course for Samford on African-American Research. The 216 students came from 35 states, ranging from Florida to California with one international student from La Roche Blanche, France. 13 individuals researched in London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow this year as participants in the British Genealogy Institute.

Faculty Achievement. Among the staff contributing leadership in their professional organizations was Beth Ashmore serving on the Teaching Methods Committee of the Instruction Section of Association of College and Research Libraries Division (ACRL) of the American Library Association (ALA), as webmaster for the Alabama Chapter of ACRL (AACRL), editor for the Internet Insider Feature in College and Undergraduate Libraries and as a member of the Alabama Library Association (ALLA) Centennial Papers Review Committee. Della Darby coordinated the AACRL Best Practices Programs for the ALLA and served as Newsletter Editor

for AACRL. Lori Northrup was co-moderator/organizer of the CUS Research Forum, ALLA convention and chair of the CUS Research Committee. Sue Peterson served as a member of the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL) Online Content Committee. Jennifer Taylor served as a member of the Cornerstone Metadata Standards Working Group (NAAL). Jean Thomason served as chair of the Membership Committee of NAAL and on the Recruitment for Academic Librarianship Task Force. Carla Waddell served on the ALLA Centennial Papers Review Committee, planned the CUS/AACRL workshop and the CUS programs for the ALLA convention. Elizabeth Wells served as secretary of the Alabama Baptist Historical Society, a member of the Local Arrangements Committee for the Alabama Historical Association, Nominating Committee of the Southern Baptist Library Association and on the Board of Advisors of the Baptist History and Heritage.

Beth Ashmore and Carla Waddell presented “Communication Arts: Research Skills in Two Acts” at the ALLA Library Instruction Roundtable (ALIRT). Della Darby, Lori Northrup, and Carla Waddell’s article “Cooperation in a Multi-Faceted Reference Department: Blending Resources, Personnel, and Services of Reference, Instruction, Interlibrary Loan, and Government Documents” was published in Cooperative Reference: Social Interaction in the Workplace, Haworth 2003 and The Reference Librarian, No. 83/84, 2003. Jean Thomason presented “Customer Service in the Library” at the Alabama College Association, “Reorganization of the Samford University Library” for the University of Alabama Library Information Studies management class, “Filtering the Internet at Samford University” at the AACRL Workshop on the Patriot Act and “LibQual+ at Samford University” at the CUS breakfast at the ALLA Convention. Elizabeth Wells was the keynote speaker at Judson College’s 11th Annual Women’s Conference and presented workshops for numerous genealogy and historical societies.

Faculty Development. Staff attended national and regional conferences including those hosted by the Alabama Library Association, the American Library Association, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the Music Library Association, the Network of Alabama Academic Libraries, the National Genealogical Society, and SOLINET.