Vice-President's Corner

Dr. Rebecca Turner, Vice-President of Academic and Student Affairs, has placed several items of interest on reserve. These items include:

Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE)'s Board of Trustees and Accountability Reports
Departments That Work: Building and Sustaining Cultures of Excellence in Academic Programs by Jon F. Wergin
Life on the Tenure Track: Lessons from the First Year by James M. Lang
The Shifting Frontiers of Academic Decision Making: Responding to New Priorities, Following New Pathways edited by Peter D. Eckel

These items and more can be found through the Library's reserve system. From the Library's home page, click on the "Course Reserves" link in the left-hand navigation and then select Dr. Turner from the drop-down list of instructors. Some of the reserve items are available electronically through the Library's catalog. Those that are not can be accessed through the Reserves Desk located in the Lobby of the Library.

Nuttall wins Emmy

By day, Harry Nuttall is the Library's subject specialist for American, English, and Western European literatures. Off the clock, however, he's a musician—a bassist who was one of the formative members of the band Un-Reconstructed. This five-person group of musicians specializes in Civil War era music, with the occasional foray into Celtic tunes. The band was formed about 15 years ago, and started with just two people playing around the campfire at Civil War re-enactments. From these humble beginnings, the band has gone on to produce six CDs, five of which featured Mr. Nuttall, who has since "retired" from the group due to time constraints. He had this to say about the group’s evolution, “A lot of people get into music to ‘make it,’ but we do it purely for the enjoyment of the music. We weren’t trying to do this, but all these doors started opening, and things just started happening.”

The serendipity didn’t end there. When the producers of The Last Ditch, a documentary about the last official Civil War battle at Columbus, Georgia, had their planned soundtrack fall through, they consulted Google and came up with Un-Reconstructed’s website. After hearing the band live, they approached them about using Un-Reconstructed’s music as the soundtrack for their documentary. Band member Chris Dempsey gave them the band’s CDs and told them to use whatever they liked, royalty-free. The documentary’s soundtrack was later nominated for and won an Emmy Award for Musical Composition/Arrangement from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, making Mr. Nuttall and his bandmates Emmy Award-winning musicians. The awards ceremony, a black-tie event, was held 21 June 2008 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in the Buckhead section of Atlanta, Georgia. After a champagne “meet and greet” and dinner, the televised awards ceremony commenced. The band members and producers of the documentary accepted the award as a group, and

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Visit http://www.jsu.edu/library/news.html to view more COLE Train issues online.
Popcorn ‘n Picture Books

Laurie Charnigo held her 6th Annual Popcorn ‘n Picture Books presentation for the JSU Writing Project on June 10th. The purpose of the presentation is to show off new children and young adult books the Library has collected during the previous years. The idea for the program arose when Ms. Charnigo realized that many students in children’s literature classes were not aware of new children and young adult books which reflect today’s mores and issues. In order to create excitement about these new, award-winning books, Ms. Charnigo started the Popcorn ‘n Picture Books program in May of 2003 for Dr. Elizabeth Engley’s children’s literature class. Since then, it has become an annual tradition. During the presentation, students and faculty are treated to book readings, activities, refreshments, and a viewing of the year’s Andrew Carnegie Award winner for best adaptation of a children’s book on film. Students and faculty are encouraged to share their thoughts on new children and young adult books they have recently read.

According to several of the teachers in the JSU Writing Project, TTYL (Talk To You Later) by Lauren Myracle is one of the most popular young adult books among teenaged girls today. Written entirely in texting, the novel follows the trials and tribulations of three high school sophomore girls. For those of us not familiar with text messaging jargon, read AYOR (at your own risk).

For all the teachers and students who have been elected to represent the Technical Services Department of the Library for the Faculty Senate, Laurie Charnigo was elected to serve as Secretary for the Alabama Library Association’s College, University, and Special Libraries (CUS) Division. She was also appointed to be the Chair of the CUS Research Committee.


ELECTIONS

Congratulations to Kimberly Stevens who has been elected to represent the Technical Services Department of the Library on the Faculty Senate.

2008 Faculty Awards

Houston Cole Library was well-represented at the Annual Faculty Awards Program on May 27, 2008. Librarians receiving Faculty Research Awards included Paula Barnett-Ellis, Mary Bivis, Laurie Charnigo Phillips, John-Bauer Graham, Bethany Latham, Charlcie Pettway Vann, Jodi Poe, Kimberly Stevens, Carley Suther, and Hanrong Wang.

Ms. Stevens received her ten-year service pin, and William Hubbard was recognized for his retirement from the position of University Librarian.

Publications and Presentations...

Once again the librarians at the Houston Cole Library were busy publishing and presenting papers. Here is a list of a few of their accomplishments:


New Look for Library Website

As a member of one of the University’s two pilot teams for the Luminis project, the Library completed its planned web page migration in April. All aspects of the Library’s website, totaling several hundred pages, were revised, updated, and the current content moved into the University’s new Luminis Content Management System.

The new design features an “Ask a Librarian” form which can be used to contact a librarian via email for comments or answers to questions. Faculty and staff biography pages are another new element of the redesign, providing information on all Library employees. The new design also highlights the Library’s digital collections, which include the Strange Collection of Alabamiana, The Life and Times of Houston Cole, the Jacksonville Times newspaper, the Glen Browder Collection, the JSU Oral History Collection, the Chanticleer and The First Hundred Years history of JSU. Future additions to the website will include an interactive virtual tour of the Library.

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