In 2010, George Mason University and Georgetown University have come together to offer a specialized educational experience called George Squared (G²). According to its website, the programs are designed to provide biomedical education for applicants needing to augment their academic background in different ways. The Advanced Biomedical Certificate Program (ABS) is an eleven-month, twenty credit hour certificate that provides excellent preparation for health professions including medical, dental, and other healthcare-related advanced studies. It also includes preparation for professional school entrance examinations like the MCAT and the DAT. The program offers outstanding advising and support towards a student’s goals. The rigorous graduate curriculum is designed to increase the science background for those with fewer undergraduate science credits, or alternatively, to boost science GPAs for application to professional schools. ABS Program’s student Tina Safavie chose this program in hopes of applying to the Georgetown Medical Program. She stated “I chose this particular program because it was a lot more structured as far as classes specifically designed for medical students with med school focused classes, and staff designed to help you get into your desired program.”

Another option for students applying to medical school is the G² Special Master’s Program (SMP). It is an eleven-month, thirty-four credit MS in Physiology designed for students interested in enhancing their academic science standing for direct entry into medical school. This rigorous MS program is the sister program to the Georgetown SMP. The curriculum includes six Georgetown Medical School first year medical courses, as well as graduate courses that have an emphasis on systems biology and systems medicine. In addition, there are facilitated learning sessions and outstanding support for medical school application. Though it does not ensure admission to Georgetown University School of Medicine, or other medical schools, the G² students will be interviewed on the same basis as students from the Georgetown SMP. Students performing in the upper half of the MS class are typically considered for an interview. Selection for the interview is based mainly on performance in the program, but also on the student’s record and their recommendations. This (Continued on page 2)
aspect is something ABS student Christina Page is hoping for. She states “I have an undergrad degree in the humanities field. I needed the transition year that G² offers, and because I’m from this area, it made sense for me to attend this program.”

The Mercer Library is a hub for many of the G² students. Christina remarks that the library has “a good group environment, because so many of the people from our program study here. We are able to help each other out and offer each other support.” Tina Safavie agrees with that sentiment and likes studying in the Mercer Library because “the Mercer Library has the books for our program which helps. The white boards in the study rooms are also a big help when we are working as a group to visualize problems.” Whether students are looking for a quiet place to study or a resource for research, the Mercer Library has a lot to offer to all students but especially those in the G² program. For more information on the G² program, please visit the libraries’ infoguide at infoguides.gmu.edu/GeorgeSquared.

G² CONTINUED...

COURSE RESERVES

With the updated George Mason University page, Print and E-Reserves have under gone a small change. The easiest way to access both systems now is from the Reserves tab on the library home page. For students, the Electronic Resources section is easy enough, as the professor should provide the password required to access any E-resource documents. The link for Print Reserves is located in the same Reserves tab as you can see in the image on the left. An alternate way to access Course Reserve materials is from the Find tab along the top of the home page.

For professors that wish to add any E-resources or Print materials for their class, a Request Reserves Online form must be filled out here: furbo.gmu.edu/OSCRweb/

Further questions should be directed to the Course Reserves coordinator on this campus, Richard Plaskus (rplaskus@gmu.edu).

zotero

Zotero is a free, easy-to-use tool to help you collect, organize, cite, and share your research sources.

If you would like to learn how to use Zotero or need a refresher, please sign up for one of our workshops or contact Judy Bowes for a one-on-one session. (JBowes2@gmu.edu/703-993-8357)

Learn more about Zotero by visiting www.zotero.org
JOURNAL OF MASON GRADUATE RESEARCH

Mason’s Graduate and Professional Students Association (GAPSA) are working with current George Mason University graduate students to produce an annual journal of graduate work and research. The student-run journal has aptly been named Journal of Mason Graduate Research. This publication will be open to representations from Masters and PhD students from all colleges within George Mason University. Students interested in seeing their work considered for publication within the journal should contact Micaela Thurman at mthurma2@masonlive.gmu.edu.

GAPSA was established at George Mason University in 2009. According to their website, their goal is to unite graduate students and establish a forum through which graduate and professional students are able to address issues, advocate for the greater good, grow professionally, and socialize with one another. They wish to create a stronger graduate community that promotes personal, professional, and academic success. GAPSA recognizes that enriching graduate student life at George Mason University can improve the prestige of the university as well as a balance between school life for all graduate and professional students. Their main goal is to enrich the academic and social life for all graduate and professional students thereby enriching Mason as a whole.

“The library feels like home, especially with the plants. I feel like I’m in my living room while I study.” - Mercer Library Patron

MERCER LIBRARY FACEBOOK PAGE

Check out our new Facebook page for updates about upcoming Mercer Library workshops and announcements. You can like us by going to facebook.com/MercerLibrary.GMU

inPrimo USABILITY TESTING

George Mason University Libraries has added a new search engine inPrimo, which searches hundreds of millions of scholarly items simultaneously, including Mason’s library catalog and digital collections. Usability tests will be conducted on the Prince William Campus to adjust inPrimo’s search features to better fit our patrons’ needs. If you’d like to be part of the testing during Fall 2012, please contact Judy Bowes by email (JBowes2@gmu.edu) or phone (703-993-8357).
LIAISON LIBRARIANS CORNER

Students within every discipline at George Mason University are required to do research for their classes. A portion of this research can be done by accessing information from the databases listed in the George Mason University Libraries Database Portal: furbo.gmu.edu/dbwiz/SPT-BrowseResources.php

Mercer Library’s Social Sciences Liaison Librarian Janna Mattson recommends that RHT students search the databases CINAHL, SPORTDiscus, and Hospitality & Tourism Complete when beginning research. Criminology students will find that the databases Oxford Bibliographies - Criminology, Legal Collection, or Criminal Justice Abstracts are good starting points for researching. Finally, education students will find ERIC, Academic Search Complete, and ProQuest Research Library databases invaluable to their research.

Victoria Martin, Life Sciences Liaison Librarian, recommends the following databases for bioscience literature research - Biological Abstracts, BIOSIS, Medline, and Web of Science. The George Squared students might find the following biomedical resources particularly helpful: Anatomy.TV, MDConsult, and Net Anatomy.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

NOVEMBER 12TH: DISSERTATION/THESIS WORKSHOP

Time: Part 1: 4:00—5:30 p.m.
Part 2: 5:45—6:15 p.m.
Location: Bull Run Hall, Room 252

NOVEMBER 15TH: BIOSCIENCE INFORMATION RESOURCES
(A required workshop for new MS students taking BIOL690.)

Time: 5:00—6:00 p.m.
Location: Mercer Library

DECEMBER 4TH: ZOTERO WORKSHOP

Time: 2:00—3:00 p.m.
Location: TBA

DECEMBER 16TH: BIOSCIENCE INFORMATION RESOURCES
(A required workshop for new MS students taking BIOL690.)

Time: 5:00—6:00 p.m.
Location: Mercer Library

To register for any of the above workshops, please visit: library.gmu.edu/education/classes.html

ASK A LIBRARIAN

To help our patrons access the library resources via their computers, George Mason University Libraries are extending our reference service to include virtual reference. Patrons can chat with or text to the librarian on duty. To use this service, please visit the Ask Librarian page (library.gmu.edu/mudge/IM/IMRef.html) by clicking the box below.
NEW BOOKS

ARTICLES BY:
Ty Chadwell
Richard Plaskus

EDITORS:
Judy Bowes
Ty Chadwell
Teresa Kan
Emily Shevlin

DESIGN:
Judy Bowes

MERCER LIBRARY CONTACTS

Circulation Desk:
703-993-8940
Reference Desk:
703-993-8342
Website:
library.gmu.edu/libinfo/pwl.html

QK1. A353 2012

QK46.5.D58 S88 2012

RB 155 .C58 2012

REF QH540.4.E526 2012

REF R121.D73 2012

SH456.S238 2011