

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

University Librarian's Letter

January – March, 2011

I am pleased to share the following information for the third quarter of FY11:

ADVISORY BOARD

The newest member of the University Libraries Advisory Board is **Daniel G. Fulton**. Mr. Fulton earned an MBA from George Mason University's School of Management in 1999. He is president of Fulton Research, Inc. In addition to focusing on new home research, the firm's areas also include urban infill, redevelopment projects, office, retail, and other institutional and commercial property uses.

The Spring meeting of the Advisory Board has been scheduled for April 29.

PUBLICATIONS, PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS & OTHER ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Steve Gerber (Liaison Librarian for the Performing Arts) presented a musicology paper, "Bigamy Scandal Sinks Sacred Music Group! The Rise and Fall of the Church Music Association, 1869–1874," at the fall conference of the Atlantic Chapter of the Music Library Association, hosted by American University, Washington, DC, in October 2010.

At the invitation of the Association of Nordic Music Academies, Steve traveled to Oslo, Norway, where on February 17, 2011 he presented a keynote address, "The Library in the Music Academy of the Future: Role, Challenges, Possibilities." This was part of the association's winter assembly, hosted by the Norwegian Academy of Music. The association consists of music conservatories in eight Scandinavian and Baltic countries.

Jen Stevens (Humanities Liaison Librarian) is serving as Series Editor for the *Author Research Series* of Libraries Unlimited (an imprint of ABC-CLIO), Santa Barbara, CA & Oxford, England. To-date four monographs have been published under Jen's editorship by various authors (Fantasy Authors: A Research Guide; Science Fiction Authors: A Research Guide; Women's Fiction Writers: A Research Guide; and Romance Authors: A Research Guide).

In January 2011, **LeRoy (Lee) LaFleur** (Head, Arlington Campus Library) was awarded a Master of Science degree in Organization Development and Knowledge Management, School of Public Policy, George Mason University.

At Drexel University's recent conclusion of winter term, **Leah Donnelly** (Research Services Coordinator, Special Collections & Archives) was awarded a Master of Science in Library & Information Science by the university's College of Information Science and Technology.

Sarah Sheehan (Liaison Librarian for the College of Health Sciences & Human Services) authored *Romance Authors: A Research Guide*. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited, 2010. xxiii, 193 p. (Author Research Series).

During the late March - early April 2011 biennial conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries in Philadelphia, George Mason University was well represented by a contingent of fifteen librarians in attendance, including six colleagues who were active contributors:

Chris Dixon (Assessment, Planning and Organizational Development Coordinator) and **Craig Gibson** (then Associate University Librarian/RIO) presented a referred contributed paper: "New Metrics of Engagement for Academic Libraries." An article providing highlights of the conference in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* devoted a paragraph to Craig's and Chris's presentation, See: <http://chronicle.com/article/College-Librarians-Look-at/126975/> Their paper in .pdf is also available in the conference's proceedings, See (3/31/11, 8:40-9:00 AM): http://s3.goeshow.com/acrl/national/2011/conference_schedule.cfm

Claudia Holland (Head, Copyright Resources Office) and **Joanna Lee** (Digital Repository Services Librarian) contributed a poster presentation: "Building RPM* with BibApp ... *Research Profiles @ Mason). See attachment.

Scott Watkins (Head, Educational Services Unit) and **Jackie Sipes** (Instructional Design Librarian) presented and demonstrated one of their on-line projects: "Library Jargon Translator." The live tool can be found at: http://library.gmu.edu/education/jargon_translator

Theresa Calcagno (Volgenau School of Engineering Liaison Librarian) and **Jessica Bowdoin** (Interlibrary Loan & Document Delivery Librarian) presented "Tackling Textbook Requests: Using ILL Data and Liaison Services to Serve Patron Needs" at the 2011 International ILLiad Conference, Virginia Beach, VA, March 24, 2011.

I would like to congratulate all of our colleagues for their academic, scholarly and professional achievements!

IN THE ASSOCIATIONS ...

Meghan Manahan (Director, Technical Service Group) was appointed to serve on the Transforming Collections Task Force, Association of Library Collections and Technical Services, American Library Association. The task force will work on ALA's 2015 strategic plan 3rd goal area (transforming libraries).

Jenna Rinalducci (Art and Visual Technology Liaison Librarian) was selected to participate in the Association of College and Research Libraries' Immersion Program (Teacher track), July 24-31, 2011, in Seattle.

As reported in the last University Librarian's Letter, **Betsy Appleton** (Electronic Resources Librarian) is serving as an American Library Association Emerging Leader for 2011. See ALA's official announcement at: <http://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/news/ala/betsy-appleton-2011-alcts-emerging-leader>

Margaret Lam (Physical Sciences Liaison Librarian) received a competitive grant of \$1,000 (one of four awarded) by the Physics, Astronomy and Mathematics Section of the Special Libraries

Association (SLA). Margaret plans to apply the grant toward her attendance of SLA's conference in June 2011 in Philadelphia, PA.

Congratulations to Meg, Jenna, Besty and Margaret for their selection and participation in these nationally visible endeavors!

ITU EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Jamie Coniglio (Head, Fenwick Library Reference Department) was named the February 2011 ITU Employee of the Month. At a ceremony on February 10th in Mason Hall, Vice President Joy Hughes presented Jamie with the award denoting this ITU-wide distinction.

Congratulations to Jamie, along with our thanks and appreciation for her creativity, innovations, and notable contributions to our services!

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES ... HIGHLIGHTS

A *ManassasPatch* article, "Theater of the First Amendment Presents Live Wire," includes information about the Federal Theater Project (FTP) collection, and notes that while "... [it] was on loan at GMU from the Library of Congress until its partial return to the Library in 1994 ... [parts] of the collection currently is housed in GMU's Special Collections in Fenwick Library." The work of the now deceased Mason faculty member Lorraine Brown on the FTP, along with current work of Mason College of Visual and Performing Arts faculty members Rick Davis and Howard Kurtz are highlighted in the article as well. See:

<http://manassas.patch.com/articles/theater-of-the-first-amendment-presents-live-wire>

The *Mason Wire* (for Members of the Proud Patriot Society), a Web publication of the George Mason University Alumni Association in its January 2011 issue highlighted **Robert Vay**, Digital Collections and Exhibitions Coordinator, and his ongoing work documenting Mason's history. See:

<http://www.icontact-archive.com/hebB53wE3nTQAqeDwdOUpIX3bQI4KyTx>

Mason Spirit's online blog on February 16, 2011, featured a story, "Hot Shoppes and the Mighty Mo Live! (In Photos, At Least)," about the J. Willard and Alice Marriott (yes, of the Marriott Hotels fame) founded Hot Shoppes restaurant chain in Washington, DC metro area. The rise and the fall of Hot Shoppes are photographically documented in the Oliver Atkins and Charles Baptie collections in SC&A. See:

<http://spirit.gmu.edu/2011/02/hot-shoppes-digital-scrapbook/>

UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA VISITOR

As noted in the last University Librarian's Letter, **Cristina Bibian Mateo**, Technical Services Librarian, Biblioteca de Filosofia, Geografia i Història, Universitat de Barcelona, arrived at Mason on March 15 and will be at the George Mason University Libraries until the end of April. During her visit, Cristina will work with librarians and staff in Technical Services, Collection Development, as well as Digital Programs and Systems on projects, and explore topics relating to the development of digital libraries. Cristina's training exchange at Mason Libraries is underwritten by the regional government of Spain (Catalonia) as part of a program to promote the agenda of the European Union on mobility of workers of public institutions.

Already Cristina has had a busy schedule, attending state-level meetings (SCHEV-LAC and VIVA Steering Committee) and a meeting in Austin, TX (International Coalition of Library Consortia), as well meeting with many library departments and visiting the libraries in the Mason library system.

Bienvenida, Cristina!

NEWS FROM OUR STUDENTS

Truman Scholarship Award:

Alexandra (Alex) Tyson, former student assistant in the Collection Development and Preservation department (January 2010 - January 2011), was selected to receive an award by the Truman Scholarship Foundation. The scholarship award, up to \$30,000 in funding, is for students who plan to pursue graduate studies in a public service field. Alex, a junior majoring in global affairs and government and international politics, won this national competitive and prestigious award from a field of more than 600 applicants; some 65 are selected annually. Alex's award is the fourth ever given to a Mason student by the Truman Scholarship Foundation. See Mason Gazette story at: <http://news.gmu.edu/articles/5878>

Bound for doctoral studies:

Eron Ackerman, Graduate Research Assistant in Special Collections & Archives, will be studying in the Ph.D. environmental history program at the State University of New York - Stony Brook in September 2011.

Sean Tennant, Graduate Research Assistant in Special Collections & Archives, was accepted in the Ph.D. classical archaeology program at the University of Virginia for Fall 2011.

Our warmest congratulations to Alex, Eron and Sean, along with our best wishes for continued success!

John Zenelis
April 12, 2011

Building RPPM* with BibApp

*Research Profiles @ Mason

Claudia Holland Joanna Lee

Mile Zero

As part of its mission and goals, the Libraries' Scholarly Communications team is piloting a new library service to:

- highlight institutional scholarship
- increase deposits into our Dispace repository, MARS
- consolidate the static, incomplete information on faculty research scattered throughout the university's web domain

The team selected BibApp, open-source software designed by University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and University of Wisconsin-Madison to build RPPM (Research Profiles @ Mason).

Why BibApp?

- Open-source software
- Emphasizes research connections among faculty
- Allows batch-importing of content
- Assigns various permission roles to allow distributed maintenance of profiles
- Links to local catalog record and full-text content in databases or institutional repository

RPM drivers

The team:

- 6-8 library assistants working up to 5 hrs/wk
- 1 admin assistant serves as profile reviewer
- 2 librarians as project managers
- 1 librarian as technical support

The tools:

- wiki to track profile-building and review, troubleshoot issues, foster team framework, and develop guidelines

The training:

- introduction to BibApp software via presentations
- regularly-scheduled group work sessions



Batch load works using ZOTERO

BibApp can accept citation-building formats such as Medlans, Networks XML, and RIS. We used Zotero, a research management tool built by The Center for History and Digital Scholarship at CMU, to generate batch files of faculty publications.

Identify department interested in RPPM service

The Scholarly Communications Team and liaison librarians work together to identify a department or group interested in having profiles created.

Maintain profiles

The team provides training and online guidelines to department staff who are responsible for adding content to faculty profiles.

Verify and publish records

Once all relevant fields are complete and reviewed, the record is verified and published to RPPM.

Review records

New records are held in a queue until reviewed and verified by a team member. Records imported by batch may require more attention at this stage. Profiles are approved, the content and add missing information, such as ISBN.

Add works manually

Some works, such as book chapters, cannot be captured using Zotero. These citations are entered manually and require less review than batch loaded citations.

Push content to MARS, our institutional repository

RPPM will push content to our Dispace repository via SWORD*. As faculty users add content to their RPPM profiles, they can select works for deposit in MARS, such as gray literature.

*Single Web-Source Object Repository Deposit

Miles to Go for RPPM

- integrate as a regular service of the library
- establish as the primary interface to deposit works in MARS* and highlight its content
- used by librarians to engage with faculty and stay updated on scholarship
- offer as a CV generator to facilitate annual reviews
- develop API to allow RPPM content to be embedded in department and personal websites

*Mason Archival Repository Service

Road Blocks

Logistical challenges

- working with library supervisors to identify staff who can easily integrate RPPM tasks into their existing responsibilities
- developing a smooth workflow
- communicating shifts in priorities to the team
- setting boundaries for content
- sorting through messy data from batch imports
- establishing consistency in citation format

Technical challenges

- SWORD implementation
- optimal connection with the catalog and databases
- meshing with existing departmental websites

Presented at Oct 2011
 The 2011-2012 Mason Scholarly Profiles and Zotero User Conference