

SGA Newsletter

A newsletter of the Society of Georgia Archivists

SGA mourns the loss of two of our members

Taronda Elise Spencer



Taronda Spencer in Sisters Chapel at Spelman College. Photograph courtesy of Spelman College Archives

By Karen L. Jefferson

A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Taronda Spencer was an engaging archivist who brought history to life with captivating stories, an engaging smile and infectious laughter. She proudly proclaimed that she was a second generation archivist. Her mother, Mrs. Emanuella Julien Spencer, was a long-time archivist at the Amistad Research Center in New Orleans. During her high school years, Taronda would go to the Amistad Center after her classes ended and help her mother process collections.

Taronda attended Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, where she majored in history. During her matriculation at Spelman she helped in planning for the centennial celebration of the college, during which numerous documents, publications, photographs and artifacts were assembled. These materials were the foundation of what would later become the Spelman College Archives. Taronda vowed to become the college archivist.

She graduated from Spelman College in 1980 and continued her education at the University of New Orleans, receiving a master's degree in history and archives administration in 1985. She began her professional archival career as a Processing Archivist at The Historic New Orleans Collection, New Orleans, Louisiana, from 1985 to

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Mary Evelyn Tomlin



Mary Evelyn Tomlin. Photograph courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration.

By James McSweeney

Mary Evelyn Tomlin, Public Programs Specialist, National Archives at Atlanta, passed away on March 24, 2013. The obituary that she penned several months before her death reflects the great pride that she had in her family and her uniquely Southern heritage.

Mary Evelyn day was born in Wilkinson County, Mississippi, just south of Natchez. Her parents were Viola and Delos Day. They, and their ancestors, have lived in this area since the early 1800s — before Mississippi became a state. She was educated in the public schools in Wilkinson County and Natchez. She graduated with a degree in history and received a master's degree in 1971.

In 1971, she moved to Jackson, Mississippi, where she began her archival career. Except for a brief stint as Assistant Director of the University Press of Mississippi, her entire career was spent in archives and records management. In Jackson she met her future husband, Ronald E. Tomlin. They were mar-

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**The Society
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Taronda Elise Spencer

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1991. She moved to Detroit where she held the position of Archivist II at the Walter P. Reuther Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University, from 1991 to 1997. While at Wayne State Taronda became involved with the Cooperative HBCU Archival Survey Project, a bibliographic survey of archives and manuscript collections at historically black colleges and universities. Taronda served as the Project Archivist and visited many of the 95 colleges selected for the survey. She would stay at locations for up to two weeks inventorying collections and writing descriptions. When there was no archives staff, she would sort, box and label the materials too. Taronda published an article about the project, "The Evolution of the Cooperative Historically Black Colleges and Universities Archival Survey Project" in *Provenance* (Volume XVII, 1999). She established a strong network with the librarians, archivists and other staff responsible for caring for the archival materials at HBCUs. Taronda continued to be a mentor, offering advice, assistance and support when needed.

In 1997 the project relocated to Spelman College and Taronda's dream was realized when she was hired as the Spelman College Archivist. She received the additional appointment as College Historian in 2000. The Spelman College Archives is a component of the Women's Research and Resource Center. In addition to documenting the history of Spelman College, the Archives collects papers of alumnae and black women as leaders, feminists, and participants in the women's movement. Under Taronda's leadership, the College Archives was recognized as a valuable resource for administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumnae, as well as to the broader community of researchers and scholars, nationally and internationally.

Taronda had a great passion for her alma mater and was an authority for information on Spelman College history and traditions. She worked with the alumnae and development offices and served on numerous college committees and projects. She was a regular participant for implementing freshman orientation and other student activities and for college celebrations of anniversaries, convocations, and graduations.

Taronda was equally passionate about the archives profession. She joined the Society of Georgia Archivists soon after her appointment as college archivist and was a member for 15 years. She regularly attended SGA annual meetings and workshops, served on the 1999 Awards Committee and directed the annual meetings in 2005 and 2006. She arranged for the 2006 annual meeting to be held at Spelman College. Taronda was also active in the Society of American Archivists, serving on the Committee on the Status of Women, 1994 to

1997; Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award Committee, 1997 to 1998; and Chair of the Archivists and Archives of Color Roundtable, 2000 to 2001. She was a founding member of the Academy of Certified Archivists. Taronda also shared her expertise as an archival consultant for the UNCF/Mellon Archival Research Institute, Spelman College, July 2010; the Children's Defense Fund, Washington, D.C., 2009; and the Bennett College for Women, 2005.

On May 19, 2013, Taronda Spencer suffered a massive heart attack. She was 54 years old. Taronda was preceded in death by her father, Albert Spencer Jr. Living to celebrate her life and legacy are her mother, Emanuella Julien Spencer; three brothers, Rodney A. Spencer (Saundra), Royzell D. Spencer (Ivelynn), and Russell J. Spencer; and a host of other family, friends, classmates, and colleagues. She was a member of Elizabeth Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, where her funeral services were held on June 1, 2013. A memorial service was also held on June 4, 2013, at Spelman College's Sisters Chapel. Her homecoming was a testament to the many lives she touched and the deep love, affection, and high esteem to which she was held. Through laughter and tears, heartfelt tributes were given in prayer, music, stories, and dance. Her ashes were scattered on the grounds of the Alumnae Arch at her beloved Spelman College. Doves were set in flight and soared across the skies. Spelman alumnae led the traditional New Orleans "second line" across the campus in her honor. She was a blessing in our lives and will be long remembered.

To honor the work of Taronda Spencer in encouraging students at HBCUs and students of color to consider careers in the archival profession, the Society of Georgia Archivists has established a Taronda Spencer Award to support a student's attendance at the Annual Meeting in October 2013.

The award will go to a student who

- Is enrolled as a junior or senior at an HBCU and has a demonstrated interest in archives
- Is a student of African-American, Asian/Pacific-Islander, Latino, or Native American descent enrolled in a graduate program with a component in archival studies

The recipient would receive full registration to the 2013 annual meeting, hotel registration, and \$300 for travel expenses.

Please visit the SGA website for more information and to donate to the Taronda Spencer Award:

<http://www.soga.org/scholarships/spencer>



Mary Evelyn Tomlin

(Continued from page 1)

ried for 31 years before his death in 2005. A special blessing in their lives was the adoption of a beautiful daughter, Emily Elisabeth. She is and was a pride and joy and a delight.

She is survived by a daughter Emily Elizabeth Tomlin, a brother James D. Day of Tampa, Florida, and a sister-in-law, Peggy Paulding, in Columbus, Ohio.

While an intensely private person, Mary Evelyn was anything but that during her career with the National Archives. From her time as an Archivist assigned to the holdings of the U.S. District Courts throughout the South (2001) and as a Public Programs Specialist (2005 to 2012), Mary Evelyn served as a leading advocate for the holdings, services, and programs of the National Archives. Whether one was a Pulitzer Prize winning author, a college professor, an experienced researcher, or a beginning genealogist, Mary

Evelyn engaged that individual in a heartfelt dialogue about family and community, and all the associated joys, sorrows, and secrets. Her commitment to these patrons and partners resulted in hugely successful exhibits, symposia, and conferences, as well as regional and national notoriety for the National Archives at Atlanta. Mary Evelyn received numerous *Archivists' Achievement Awards* and two *Employee of the Year Awards* from the Atlanta Federal Executive Board.

During her career with the National Archives, Mary Evelyn touched hundreds, if not thousands, of individuals, and did so with grace, dignity, and patience. Her everlasting legacy is that she helped countless individuals give voice to their own stories and families. William Faulkner, her favorite author, summed it up best: *The past is never dead. It's not even past.*

In loving memory of Mary Evelyn Tomlin,
January 3, 1948 to March 24, 2013

2013 Spotlight Grant Winner: Macon County Historical Society

By Laura Starratt

The Georgia Archives Month has announced the winner of the Georgia Archives Month Spotlight Grant for 2013. The winner is the Macon County Historical Society. The society was created in 1979 as a nonprofit corporation organized to bring together people interested in the history of Macon County and to make that information available to the public.

Their proposal focused on highlighting a new exhibit showcasing the Montezuma Music Lovers' Club, which was a Macon County institution for almost 100 years. The club was organized in 1969 by Mrs. A. C. Richardson, formerly Miss Claude Davis. Mrs. Richardson served as President from 1916 to 1917 and from 1934 to 1936. She wrote the "Collect," a prayer thanking God for the beautiful gift of music. It was recited before each meeting of the Montezuma Music Lovers' Club and is still used by music clubs throughout the state. The club itself was probably best known for its annual Christmas Carol Service which began in 1920. Originally it consisted of Christmas Cantatas and was known simply as the

"Cantata." After World War II the carol service adopted a format of nine lessons and carols. It brought a special inspiration and joy to Macon County during the holidays.

Due to declining membership the club disbanded in February 2012, voting that money remaining in the organization's bank account should be used to create a display at the museum which will be scheduled to open on October 1, 2013. It will include a new display case with memorabilia, including the sign that sat outside each meeting. There will also be photographs and music used by the Montezuma Music Lovers' Club.

The Georgia Archives Month Spotlight on Archives Grant is meant to help archives, museums or heritage institutions in Georgia to promote public awareness of their archives and manuscript collections. During Georgia Archives Month in October.

For more information about Georgia Archives Month, please visit the SGA website:

<http://www.soga.org/archivesmonth>

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Evolution of the SGA Mentoring Program

By Luciana Spracher and Lynette Stoudt, Program Coordinators

After a proposal at the 2009 Annual Meeting by the SGA Membership Committee, SGA's Mentoring Program was established in 2010 to enhance the success of SGA members by encouraging individual growth, promoting thoughtful and meaningful engagement with issues, and creating a sense of community within the profession. The first year of the program was largely modeled after the Society of Northwest Archivists' mentoring program. In the program's original format, mentor and mentee applications were reviewed by the Mentoring Program Committee at the beginning of an annual cycle and pairings were made by the committee based on interests and geographical location.

Based on participant evaluations and committee feedback, the program was restructured in 2011 to better meet the needs of our membership. An on-demand format was adopted and a twelve month cycle based on join date replaced the calendar year cycle. Rather than pairing committee members, mentees now request a mentor from a standing Mentor Pool based on biographical information provided by the mentors, including skills, experience, and expectations. Requested mentors then have the opportunity to accept or waive a partnership after reviewing the mentee's needs and expectations. This change has increased the longevity and quality of the mentoring partnerships. At the 2011 and 2012 SGA Annual Meetings, meet-and-greet sessions were held to give prospective mentees an opportunity to interact with mentors face-to-face and to identify those with whom they felt a connection. The on-demand format allows us to accept new mentees and mentors into the program at any time, on a rolling basis, better fitting the schedules and changing needs of our members.

The Mentoring Program Committee was established in 2010 on an ad-hoc basis to implement the Mentoring Program. After two years working within a committee structure, the management of the program was restructured to two program coordinators that share the administrative duties of maintaining the program, including recruiting and registering new mentors and mentees, facilitating and monitoring the twelve-month partnerships, and evaluating the program as partnerships close out. After three years of evaluating and adjusting the program, earlier this year the coordinators recommended to the SGA Board that the Mentoring Program be made permanent with Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator positions which rotate out every other year. The Board is expected to bring this final decision to the membership later this year.

From 2010 through the present, the SGA Mentoring Program has facilitated 22 mentoring partnerships. There are currently 5 active partnerships with 6 additional mentors available for pairing in the Mentor Pool.

If you are interested in being a mentee or mentor, please fill out the registration forms available on the SGA website at

<http://www.soga.org/involvement/mentoring>

Mentors serve as volunteers and must be SGA members with at least three years of professional archival experience. The only requirement for mentees is that they are an SGA member and have a desire to grow and to improve professionally.

If you have additional questions about the program, please contact one of the program coordinators: Luciana Spracher (lspracher at savannahga dot gov) or Lynette Stoudt (lstoudt at georgiahistory dot com).

What Mentees Have to Say:

- "It has been a good experience for me ... [My mentor] has encouraged me to pursue several workshops ... supported me in several applications for scholarships ... encouraged me [to] present at SGA and SAA"
- "This mentor program is great. Thank you."
- "Thanks for the opportunity to check in ... we have been in contact via email since we started. I visited her place of work and we talked about career issues. She shared a lot of information especially pertaining to professional development opportunities"
- "Mentor is really great. Thanks!!!"
- "...everything is going very well! ... [My mentor] has been very supportive in giving me a lot of sound advice on a number of various topics."



Internet Corner: Archives and Classroom Curriculum

By Pamela Nye

Part of the fun of working in an archives is sharing information with others — what you have in your collection, the importance of what you do in the archives, providing services to your community — but for some archivists, teaching within a classroom setting might be a bit daunting, especially if for those who have never done so before. The audience will be students (K-12, college, or perhaps adult learners) who typically know little to nothing about the archives world.

Creating a curriculum doesn't have to be intimidating. There are websites out there which can provide the feel and structure of a lesson plan, as well as tried and tested content. These frameworks can guide the user to create original lesson plans (either subject-based or about archives) around their institution's primary sources. For those who get stuck, seasoned archivists who teach on a regular basis may provide some guidance to the process.

The website list below is not intended to be a comprehensive list; rather, it is a starting point for archivists venturing out into the teaching field, and who may be unfamiliar with lesson plans and what types of topics are usually covered. This list is also intended for those archivists who haven't yet reached out directly to the faculty at their institutions (or local ones, if not attached to a school). Fostering partnerships with teachers is a great way to get more primary sources into the classroom.

National Archives Teachers Resources:

<http://www.archives.gov/education/>

This is the main site for educators to go on the National Archives website. Not only does it have links to DocsTeach, it has references to new ebooks available, professional development opportunities, how to set up a school tour and other activities, using primary sources, and state and regional resources. A similar portal for teachers and students could be created at the local level.

DocsTeach:

<http://docsteach.org/>

DocsTeach.org, available through the National Archives, is a resource to make it easier for teachers to use primary sources in their classroom. From the home page, users can search for ready-made activities, begin to explore the original documents featured from the holdings of the National Archives, or even create original activities. Users can keep up with the latest developments of DocsTeach through their YouTube account, Twitter, Facebook, and blog. NARA also has created training for teachers through videoconferences, summer institutes, and collaborations with educators.

Library of Congress — Teaching with Primary Sources:

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/tps/>

The Teaching with Primary Sources Program works with colleges and other educational organizations to deliver professional development programs that help teachers use the Library of Congress's digitized primary source materials to design challenging, high-quality instruction. Available on this site is information about the overall program, upcoming events, the latest TPS Journal (the theme for Spring 2013 is "Assessing Historical Thinking Skills Using Library of Congress Primary Sources"), and a showcase of consortium members.

Teaching with Primary Sources Bibliography:

<http://www2.archivists.org/groups/reference-access-and-outreach-section/teaching-with-primary-sources-bibliography>

The SAA Reference, Access, and Outreach Section's Teaching with Primary Sources Working Group disseminated a bibliography that compiles resources focusing on the use of primary resources in elementary, secondary, and collegiate classrooms. This bibliography is an ideal resource for archivists who wish to learn more about utilizing primary sources in interactions with teachers, faculty, and students. Teachers at all levels will also benefit from this bibliography as the works included offer theoretical and practical information on using primary sources as pedagogical resources and how archivists can assist with maximizing student learning.

Primary Sources from State Archives Designed for use in the Classroom:

http://www.statearchivists.org/arc/education/primsources_states.htm

This resource, provided by the Council of State Archivists, is a collection of links from all the various state archives which deal directly with using primary sources in the classroom. Please be aware that this list is from 2010 and some of the direct links no longer work.

Simmons Digital Curriculum Classroom:

<http://calliope.simmons.edu/dcl/public/home>

The Digital Curriculum Laboratory (DCL) is a collection of resources by the Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science, with funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). It has three principal components: 1) exercises and scenarios designed to illustrate the principle challenges of managing digital objects; 2) installations of

digital library, digital archives, and other relevant open-source applications; and 3) digital content for use with these applications. The DCL also includes documentation for using the applications; links to technological and other resources; and exemplars of student work completed using the DCL. The DCL is not intended to replace a learning management system (LMS), such as Blackboard's Learn or Moodle. Ideally, instructors will use the DCL to supplement their LMS by providing access to rich content independent of a current course or syllabus. Currently the only registered users are those from the Simmons community or one of their Partner Universities. However, the publically available "Publications and Presentations" compilation is a great bibliographic resource for those wanting to learn more about this subject.

LibGuides:

<http://springshare.com/libguides/>

Many universities and colleges are already using this application within the library, typically for subject based informational guides. Some archives are using LibGuides to not only provide a more detailed portal into their collections, but as user guides into primary sources and research at an archives. There is a free trial available if your library currently does not have this program. Just searching for "libguides" and "archives" online will provide a plethora of examples.

- Brandeis University (Massachusetts): <http://brandeis.libguides.com/archives>
- McNeese State University (Louisiana): <http://libguides.mcneese.edu/archives>
- Purdue University (Indiana): <http://guides.lib.purdue.edu/ASCPPrimarySources>
- San Jose State University (Arizona): <http://libguides.sjsu.edu/specialcollections>
- The Westminster Schools (Georgia): <http://westminsterschools.libguides.com/primarysources>

If you have a particular topic you would like to see covered here, please email Pamela Nye at pamelanye@westminster.net.




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Documenting African American Education: The Auburn Avenue Research Library and the Digital Library of Georgia NHPRC Digitization Project

By Kerrie Cotten Williams

In 2010 the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History (AARL), a special library of the Atlanta-Fulton County Public Library System (AFPLS), and the Digital Library of Georgia (DLG) received funds from the National Historical Papers and Records Commission (NHPRC) to digitize and make Web-accessible late nineteenth and mid-twentieth century manuscript collections that document the historical development of education for African Americans, primarily in the South, from the early 1860s to the early 1950s. These materials, owned and housed at AARL, are of great national significance as they were created during the near century long struggle to improve educational opportunities for African Americans in the United States, as period when "separate but equal" was the standard rule of U.S. law and racial segregation drove black and white race relations.



Mrs. Selena Sloan Butler

The collaborative project, which ends this summer, will result in the creation of approximately 17,500 digital items made available through AARL and the DLG. The eleven archival collections include the Selena Sloan Butler Papers, the Records of Atlanta University and the William B. Matthews Papers, to name a few. The Selena Sloan Butler Papers, in particular, highlight the professional, civic and personal life of one of the most influential and professionally active African American educators in the early nineteenth century. The collection includes professional and family correspondence, cards, newspaper clippings, and scrapbooks that document daily life and relationships and various community activities. At just over eleven linear feet, the collection includes photographs and photo engravings that portray the Butler family and other African American men, women and children in social settings. An 1888 Spelman College graduate and native of Thomasville, Georgia, Butler was involved in several civic organizations including American

Red Cross, the Georgia Commission on Interracial Cooperation, and the Phyllis Wheatley branch of the Young Women's Christian Association. She was an organizer of the Atlanta Women's Club and Atlanta's Ruth Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. She also published *The Woman's Advocate*, a monthly paper devoted to the concerns and interests of African American women.

Butler's papers also contain primary materials related to her husband, Henry Rutherford Butler. Dr. Butler was the founder of the Association of Physicians, Pharmacists and Dentists of Georgia and was one of the founders of both the Atlanta Medical Association



Henry Rutherford Butler Sr. and son Henry Rutherford

and the National Medical Association. A noted civic leader, he was involved in the colored branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, Boy Scouts of America, and the Atlanta Interracial Commission. Butler served as Grand Master of the Prince Hall Masons for thirty years.

Providing online access to these eleven archival collections will expand AARL's institutional reach. The research library provides access to the digitized materials through its finding aids, database, DLG Web site, and via Web search engines. DLG personnel will add digital archival object (dao) links to the EAD inventories for each digitized folder of archival material. In viewing the container list for a given collection, users will discover which folders are available online, as well as those available only at AARL. The finding aids also communicate the content, context, and structure of AARL's collections. The comprehensive scope of the collections will allow researchers to conduct cross-collection research in an easily accessible format.

For more information, please visit the AARL web-site:

<http://www.afpls.org/aarl>

Membership Spotlight: Rebecca Landel-Hernandez

By Mary Katherine Barnes



Rebecca Landel-Hernandez

Name: Rebecca Landel-Hernandez

How long have you been an SGA member?

Since 2007

What attracted you to the archives profession?

I've always loved the process of making information accessible. I worked as an antitrust litigation paralegal for many years and in that capacity I dealt with records management on a variety of levels. The experience taught me a great deal about how records are created and used. Assessing, organizing, processing, and converting analog materials to digital records were a day-to-day part of my job as a paralegal and later as a database consultant for a practice group. I enjoyed the challenges of designing and creating databases and cataloging to create access. Maintaining the integrity of original metadata was dictated by court orders and discover requirements. I worked on many cases involving computer forensics where we had to insure the preservation of born-digital media.

I had always been interested in returning to

school to seek a graduate degree in Library Science and my husband encouraged me to do so. In 2007 I went to the University of South Carolina in Columbia and in 2009 completed my Masters of Library & Information Science with a focus in Digital Archives. While at USC I was very encouraged that my advisor had been a paralegal in her past life. It is a natural fit for someone with a legal background. I have always loved history and was thrilled at the prospect of making historical collections digitally accessible.

Where do you work and what's your current position?

I currently work as a consultant and have just completed the processing, conservation, rehousing and cataloging of a collection of over 32 linear feet for a client. I have been working on this collection for several months. My client is a judge and he was interested in hiring me for his project because of my legal background. He had inherited a collection of materials from various family members and wanted to be able to decipher what was in the collection. The originals were stored in a variety of containers and had various condition issues for consideration. Some records were stored in grocery sacks, gift bags and moving boxes. The collection incorporated a combination of personal papers, legal records, writings and speeches, diaries, biographical materials, bound volumes, copyrighted and printed materials, photographs, photographic albums and ephemera for a variety of ancestors and family members.

There are several challenges: vermin damage; photographs that had been collected in "sticky" photograph albums; large scrapbooks with acidic crepe paper; rolled oversized photographs; vintage photograph albums and bound volumes with condition and binding issues. There were a variety of conservation needs. I have a small lab and I was able to perform minor conservation treatment within limits and to create some custom storage for items. I made recommendations for a conservator for those items which had conservation treatment needs beyond my capabilities.

While I love working one on one with clients,
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Membership Spotlight: Landel-Hernandez

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my background and primary interest have always been in working with digital collections and accessibility. I am currently seeking a permanent position with an institution.

How long have you been at your institution and what roles have you had there?

I have worked as a consultant since October 2012. Prior to consulting work, I was at the Georgia Archives part time as an intern from 2008 to October 2012. At the Georgia Archives, I worked on Taylor Foundation Grant projects which included the processing and conversion of originals to digital format. I also cataloged records in CONTENTdm® for uploading to the Georgia Archives Virtual Vault. I primarily worked with early eighteenth and nineteenth century court records which were often not in any order. I was able to use my legal background and understanding of court records to assist with processing these records.

While at the Georgia Archives, I was able to get some conservation training in the lab working with Tina Seetoo by volunteering in the conservation lab. While I attended the Georgia Archives Institute in 2008, volunteering in the lab was a great opportunity to learn more about conservation from a very knowledgeable and experienced conservator. The conservation lab in the Georgia Archives is a state-of-the-art facility and there is not another archival conservation lab of its caliber in Georgia. The Georgia Archives requires and deserves the appropriate funding for trained and knowledgeable professional staff to insure its amazing collections and are preserved and accessible.

What is your favorite part of your job?

There are so many different things that I love about my job. Each day brings discovery of some aspect of my profession or of the collections with which I am working. I think the favorite part of my job is always the discovery of the stories contained within the records. I find it important to insure the context of the records remain as complete as possible. Sometimes the process requires research in order to gain some level of understanding of the creator. I like being part of the preservation of the original while creating a new opportunity for accessibility. It's about making sure that material is always there and easily discoverable.

What's the most interesting piece that you have come across while processing?

The most interesting records I have seen while processing are the Wilkes County Court records at the Georgia Archives. Without a doubt, the eighteenth and nineteenth century court records are the most fascinating to me. I spent many long days locating the parties for affidavits and testimony from original depositions and interrogatories which had been long separated. There were also records I worked on from the Georgia Supreme Court cases where estates had been in dispute. There were pre-Civil War era cases where slave owners would deed over their property to their slaves and the children of slaves.

Did you have an alternative career path (if so please elaborate)?

No, not really. I have already had an alternate career path in the legal field and enjoyed the years I spent working in litigation. After working many years in the law firm environment and for the Department of Justice Antitrust Division, I was not interested in pursuing a law degree or working as a law librarian. It was demanding and I learned a great deal from the experience. I knew that I would always enjoy working with records and access.

What are your hobbies or favorite past times?

I love hiking, most all kinds of music, reading and gardening. I find a great deal of joy in yard work and being outside. We like to go up to the mountains and especially love hiking around the Blue Ridge in North Carolina. I enjoy hunting through antique shops and estate sales. I love visiting historic places and properties and always love to see how historic buildings are being conserved and preserved.

What advice do you have for new members just coming into the profession?

I would advise new members to get involved in the archival community in every way they can. The best way to grow and learn is through constant interaction and making contributions to our professional society. Anyone coming into this field should undertake every opportunity to continue and grow their archival education with as many seminars, training workshops and classes that they can possibly afford. Technology is constantly changing the

(Continued on page 9)



Membership Spotlight: Landel-Hernandez

(Continued from page 8)

way records are being created and used. There are new, ever-changing roles for archivists to understand the importance of preservation and conservation while being able to work with new technologies, including a variety of open source tools. Coming into this profession requires patience, perseverance and the ability to think outside the box and see the future.

Education

- Bachelor of Arts, English, Folk Studies Minor, Georgia State University, Atlanta, 1991
- Paralegal Certificate, National Center for Paralegal Training, 1992
- Master of Library & Information Science, MLIS program, University of South Carolina, Columbia, May 2009

Work Experience

- Consulting Archivist, July 2012-Present
- Intern, Georgia Archives, November 2008-October 2012
- Graduate School Internship, Southeast Region National Archives, August 2008-November 2008

- Archives Volunteer, Dekalb History Center, March 2008-July 2008
- Litigation Support Consultant, Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, December 2003-April 2006

Professional Memberships and Activity

- Society of Georgia Archivists (SGA), 2007-Present, Administrative Assistant: 2012-2015
- Society of American Archivists (SAA), 2007-present
- Heritage Emergency Response Alliance (HERA), 2009-Present
- American Library Association (ALA), 2007-2010

Professional Training

- Georgia Archives Institute, June 2008
- SAA Workshop, "Applying DACS to Single-Item Manuscript Cataloging," May 2008
- HERA-FEMA workshop, "Incident Command Center Training," January 2009
- CCAHA workshop, "A Race Against Time: Preserving Our Audiovisual Media," October 2009

- HERA program, "Disaster Recovery & Insurance," February 2010
- IPER training, "Essential Records," July 2010
- Clayton State University workshop by Richard Pearce-Moses, "Technology Bootcamp for Archivists," April 2011
- SAA Webinar, "Privacy & Health Information," August 2011
- THATCamp MCN, November 2011
- THATCamp Southeast, March 2012
- SCAA workshop, "Basic Electronic Records," April 2012
- SGA workshop, "Archives Advocacy Training," St. Simons Island, Georgia, November 2012

Thomaston-Upson Archives Receives Award

By Penny Cliff

The Georgia Historical Society has announced the Thomaston-Upson Archives has been selected to receive the society's Roger K. Warlick Local History Achievement Award in the category of Archival Excellence for the project, "Finding the Greatest Generation Across the Ocean," by Archivist Claude Burgess.

The project involved locating WWII veterans predominantly from Upson County who fought overseas and whose remains are buried in foreign soil. Burgess was contacted by 11 cemeteries in seven countries who requested information from the Thomaston-Upson Archives on 34 Upson County men buried in their soil.

Claude has been in communication with not only the caretakers at the cemeteries, but also with the American Battle Monuments Commission. He has used the resources of the Thomaston-Upson Archives to answer their questions. Correspondence with the cemetery caretakers from other countries opens up a doorway for international good will.

In the near future, the Georgia Historical Society will present a certificate recognizing this accomplishment to Claude Burgess at the Thomaston-Upson Archives.

This is the third Roger K. Warlick Award given to the Thomaston-Upson Archives



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SGA Spring Tour: Manuscripts and Rare Books Library (MARBL)

By Courtney Chartier

On Friday, May 17th, 11 SGA members enjoyed a fun and informative tour of the Manuscripts and Rare Books Library (MARBL) at Emory University and their newest exhibit, "And the Struggle Continues: The Southern Christian Leadership Conference's Fight for Social Change."



Tour attendees (left to right), Back row: Fred Mobley, Michael Nagy, Marie Force, Courtney Chartier, Trish Vlastnik, Sybil McNeil, Jill Sweetapple, Rebecca Landel-Hernandez. Front row: Rosa Dickens, Christine Wiseman, Tina Seetoo, Susan Potts-McDonald, Sarah Quigley.

MARBL has recently undergone a renovation of their stacks and workspace, which required some moving of the collections. Archives staff were able



MARBL's new processing space is separate from office areas. It includes "pods" for specific processing teams/projects and plenty of temporary storage for work in process. Susan's lesson learned: "Don't pick white for

to have input on the functional and aesthetic design of their new desk and workspaces and the collections were consolidated. The tour was led by Susan Potts-McDonald, Coordinator for Arrangement and Description Services.



MARBL's renovated stack space includes plenty of space-saving mobile shelving, allowing for the consolidation of collections



MARBL's got room to grow!

(Continued on page 11)

SGA Spring Tour: MARBL

(Continued from page 10)

MARBL was able to process the records of the Southern Christian Leadership Confer-



Sarah Quigley shares stories about SCLC leaders honored in the exhibit.

ence after receiving a grant from the CLIR Hidden Collections program.

Sarah Quigley, who worked as Project Man-

ager on the grant project and is now a Manuscript Archivist on staff at MARBL, led a tour of the exhibit, explaining the history of SCLC, the types of materials found in the collection, and highlighting a few of her favorite things.



The exhibit space is on Level 2 of the Woodruff Library at Emory University. The SCLC exhibit will be available until December 1 and is free and

Special Collections Marks Opening of Barr Congressional Papers

By Suzanne Durham

The Annie Belle Weaver Special Collections opened the Bob Barr Congressional Papers this spring at the end of a two and a half year processing project. A reception to mark the opening of the papers of the former U.S. Congressman was held May 15 at Ingram Library at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton, Georgia.

Barr served four terms from 1995 to 2003 representing the 7th District. During his tenure, he was a senior member of the Judiciary Committee, vice chair of the Government Reform Committee, and member of the Committees on Financial Services and Veterans Affairs. His collection comprises 799 boxes or 301 linear feet. A PDF version of the finding aid for this collection can be found here:

<http://libguides.westga.edu/content.php?pid=33218&sid=272238>

One of Barr's lasting legacies came from his

activities on the Judiciary Committee in developing a case against President Clinton for impeachable offenses. More recently, Barr was spotlighted as the author of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, which was recently reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Barr donated his Congressional papers to the Annie Belle Weaver Special Collections in 2010. He recently announced his intention to run for the Congressional seat vacated by Dr. Phil Gingrey this year.

For more information, contact Suzanne K. Durham, Head of Special Collections, at sdurham@westga.edu or (678) 839-5350.

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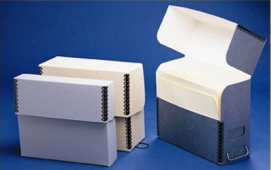
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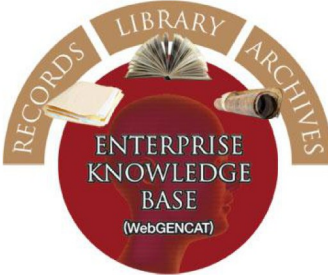
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Washington Beat

By James Edward Cross

NATIONAL ARCHIVES BUDGET: On April 10, 2013, President Obama requested \$385.8 million for the National Archives, a 1.5% decrease from the FY2012 funding level of \$391.5 million. The Archives has realigned some of its facility operations and information technology efficiency savings to increase public access to electronic records and modernizing federal records management practices. The Office of Inspector General budget will see a slight increase, while there is a 12% decrease in the funds for repairs and restorations for NARA-owned buildings. NHPRC will see a 40% decrease in funding for grants to \$3 million.

OTHER ARCHIVES NEWS: The Archives moved its 5,300 email accounts to Google Apps for Government on April 22, 2013. It is also moving its records management archive and e-discovery system to cloud storage and expects to complete that process by the end of June 2013. ... On May 22, 2013, the Archives announced the completion of the United States Colored Troops Service Records Digitization Project. The project included creating nearly four million images of documents such as bills of sale, casualty reports, correspondence, deeds of manumission, enlistment papers, final statements, muster rolls, orders, and POW memorandums. It was a joint project with Fold3 and non-subscribers can access the database on computers in National Archives research facilities. ... Archivist of the United States David Ferriero appointed Jay Trainer as Executive for Agency Services on June 4, 2013. Trainer, who holds a BA in History from the University of Dayton and an MA in History from George Mason University, started his career as a trainee at the Dayton, Ohio, Federal Records Center in 1988. In 1991 he moved to the Washington National Records Center in Washington D.C. and was a financial analyst and manager in the Federal Records Center Program. In 2004 he became the Assistant Director for the Federal Records Center Program. In his new position he will oversee the Offices of the Chief Records Officer, Information Security Oversight, and Government Information Services as

well as the Federal Records Center Program and the National Declassification Center. ... On June 13, 2013, the Archives publically launched the Founders Online website at <http://founders.archives.gov/>. The site is a cooperative venture between the NHPRC and the University of Virginia Press and provides access to the papers of John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and George Washington.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NEWS: On March 21, 2013, the Library of Congress announced new additions to the National Recording Registry. Among the sound recordings added to the list are "Begin the Beguine" (1938) by Artie Shaw; "You are My Sunshine" (1940) by Jimmie Davis and the official song of the state of Louisiana; George Hicks' D-Day broadcast on June 6, 1944; the original cast album of the musical "South Pacific" (1949); Van Cliburn's performance of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 in Moscow in 1958; "The Twist" (1960) by Chubby Checker; "Sounds of Silence" (1966) by Simon and Garfunkel; "Dark Side of the Moon" (1973) by Pink Floyd; and "Saturday Night Fever" (1977) by The Bee Gees. ... The Library acquired sportscaster Bob Wolff's collection of audiovisual recordings on April 26, 2013. Wolff's archives span seventy-four years and contain over one thousand hours of interviews with such notables as Babe Ruth, Jim Thorpe, Vince Lombardi, and Joe Louis, and play-by-play calls, including Don Larsen's perfect World Series game in 1956 and Jackie Robinson's last major league hit, which won Game 6 of the 1956 World Series. ... On May 24, 2013, the Library launched the fourth and last installment of a web series commemorating the Vietnam War. "Vietnam War: Looking Back" includes oral histories of veterans of various branches of the armed services, manuscript material, and photographs.

DECLASSIFICATION AND FOIA: H.R. 1211, the FOIA Oversight and Implementation Act, was introduced on March 14, 2013, by Representatives Darrell Issa of California and Elijah E. Cummings of Maryland. The bill

(Continued on page 13)



Washington Beat

(Continued from page 12)

would require the creation of a website where all FOIA requests could be submitted to all federal agencies. The bill would also place the burden on agencies to prove that “foreseeable harm” would result from the release of information rather than on the public to justify release. Finally, the bill requires agencies to post all of their releasable FOIA responses online at least three times a year. ... On April 29, 2013, the Supreme Court unanimously upheld the State of Virginia’s FOIA provision that allows state and local governments to deny requests from out-of-

state residents. Alabama, Arkansas, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Tennessee have similar restrictions.

OTHER NEWS: On April 16, 2013, Iron Mountain released a study on federal government records management. It found that although the government allocated \$29.4 million for records management, it actually spent \$34.4 million and predicts that by 2015 the government will be spending \$84.1 million on records management. On average, a single federal agency manages 209 million records and the government as a whole is managing more than 8.4 million records.

Those numbers are expected to more than double in the next two years. And while the bulk of new federal records are generated electronically, 41% of those records are printed out and managed in paper format. ... On May 29, 2013, the Medical Heritage Library announced that the U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Office of Medical History as a new contributor to its website. The main focus of the Bureau’s contribution has been its publications, *Navy Medicine* and *The Grog*, although some oral histories have also been placed on the site and more are planned.

IMAP Workshop: Making Sense of a Media Collection

By Xhenet Aliu, 2013 Brenda S. Banks Educational Workshop Scholarship winner

On Friday morning, the old VCR tossed aside in my attic was a castoff destined for the Salvation Army donation bins. By Friday afternoon, it was a vital tool for the preservation of our cultural heritage.

“Making Sense of a Media Collection,” presented by Jeff Martin of Independent Media Arts Preservation (IMAP) in conjunction with the Society of Georgia Archivists, elucidated what I considered a dense and impenetrable topic. In my lifetime I’ve witnessed the preferred audio format move from vinyl records to cassette tapes to CDs to digital files. I’ve seen *The Wizard of Oz* transition from an annual broadcast event on network television to a VHS cassette to a digitally re-mastered Blu-ray disc. For consumers, this reflects a natural evolution. For archivists, this presents a quandary: how do we preserve media materials — especially non-commercial media not preserved elsewhere — in formats that ensure usability for future generations?

While we learned that there are few cut-and-dry answers, especially for newer born-digital files, Jeff presented participants with a clearly defined workflow for processing and storing the type of media that public, private, and corporate archives are likely to acquire. The workshop began with an overview of various

formats, beginning with film and then moving to magnetic audio and video tape and digital formats. Because each format has unique challenges, identification is critical. We were instructed on how to identify materials by sight and sometimes smell. We learned which formats are most susceptible to deterioration by environmental factors (film and magnetic media) versus those at immediate risk due to obsolescence (magnetic and digital media). Jeff also guided us on how to conduct an assessment of the condition of the materials, emphasizing that we should cull item descriptions and metadata from labels and supporting print materials to preserve the integrity of degradable material.

While it seems fairly intuitive to prioritize items based on the importance and/or uniqueness of their content, Jeff emphasized that media type should also be a consideration when prioritizing collections for preservation. Certain videocassette formats, for example, require more immediate attention than film materials that may predate them by decades. This is due to the equipment used to view some videocassettes verges on complete obsolescence. If your collection holds ½-inch open-reel videotape, ¾-inch U-matic videocassettes, or any VHS tapes more than 10 years old, move those items to the top of the priority list! For those materials with less pressing preservation needs, properly re-

housing and storing based on the needs of the specific media type will ensure that the materials will survive until proper processing, cataloging, and re-formatting if possible.

The participants in the workshop ranged from students like myself to seasoned media professionals, but primarily consisted of professional archivists whose collections may contain, but are not necessarily focused on, media materials. As a novice in the archival field, my knowledge grew exponentially. It was clear from the discussions among workshop attendees that everyone learned something, such as the existence of a wire recorder. I was also reassured of the value and importance of media preservation. Echoing a refrain that I often hear from archive professionals, there certainly remains much work to be done.



Xhenet Aliu is currently pursuing an MLIS from the University of Alabama, where she is a fellow with Project ALFA, an IMLS-funded program designed to promote universal access in libraries and public repositories.



Annual Meeting Pre-conference Workshop Opportunities

By Heather Oswald

The SGA Education Committee has been collaborating with archivists from North and South Carolina to provide three exciting educational opportunities for this October's Annual Meeting. These pre-meeting workshops are taking place on Wednesday, October 16, at Furman University. Brief descriptions of each offering are below. Registration is now available for all workshops on the South Carolina Archival Association website (<http://scarchivists.org/component/content/article/38-events/169-2013-tri-state-preconference>). We look forward to seeing you in Greenville!

Digital Repositories (SAA DAS Workshop)

Participate in knowledge-building discussions and activities that focus on defining, selecting, and implementing digital repositories (DRs) and a review of basic decisions that must be made before and during the development of a digital collection and digital repository program. The instructors address the role of the archivist in DR construction and deployment; the standards, best practices, and realities of content and metadata deposit; the strategies for developing administrative structures; policies; the long-term preservation concerns; and marketing your repository.

Interactive activities throughout the course lead to a better understanding of your local institution and to a roadmap for program development.

Attendance is limited to 35.

Cost: SAA Member \$189 (early bird) / \$249 (regular); Employees of Member Institutions \$219 (early bird) / \$279 (regular); Nonmember \$249 (early bird) / \$299 (regular)



Archival Boot Camp

If you are responsible for historical records at your institution and don't know what to do with them, this workshop is for you. Archival Boot Camp has five main modules:

1. Records (what are "records" and what are "archives")

2. Collecting
3. Arrangement and Description
4. Preservation
5. Reference and Outreach

The goal of Archival Boot Camp is to introduce basic archival education to people who are on the front lines of caring for records but have not had the benefit of formal training. Past Boot Camp participants have included librarians, museum curators, and public historians associated with various clubs, religious institutions, businesses, and social organizations.

Attendance is limited to 20.

Instructors: Hal Keiner and Heather South

Cost: \$40



Beyond Preservation: Oral History as a Dynamic Archival Tool

Question: What do archivists need to know about oral history interviews, and why?

Answer: The more, the better. Archivists with a good working knowledge of oral history can be much more than preservationists: they can help to create dynamic, rich collections that have the potential to strengthen other archival holdings and to generate more public interest. In this day-long workshop, we will explore the process of creating and utilizing oral history interviews from conception to dissemination.

Questions we will ask (and attempt to answer) include:

- How can I find money to fund an oral history project?
- What equipment should I use to record the interview and under what conditions should I use it?
- What kind of research and preparation should be done before conducting the interview?
- What sorts of questions should I ask and how should I deal with difficult or

sensitive issues that come up during the interview?

- What are the legal considerations in managing an oral history project?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of oral history interviews as research tools?
- How can I use oral history collections to reach a broader public and/or more diverse demographic?

At the end of the day, you'll be ready to launch an oral history project of your own.

Attendance is limited to 30.

Instructor: Arwen Donahue

Cost: \$85

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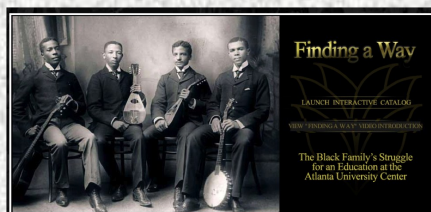
By Melanie Maxwell

Part 1: Collections and Virtual Tour

The Robert W. Woodruff Library at the Atlanta University Center (AUC) is famous for serving a quarter of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) in Atlanta. The institutions that comprise the AUC, the world's largest HBCU consortium, are Clark Atlanta University, the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College, and Spelman College. The archives at the Woodruff Library are known for their broad collections of the African Diaspora and African American culture and individuals. Examples include the Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection from Morehouse College and the Maynard Jackson Mayoral Administrative Records. The Archives also collects the records of African American organizations and documents the history of AUC and its students. There are also several unique book collections.

The Archives Research Center at Woodruff Library provides online access and keyword search capabilities for all finding aids. (<http://findingaid.auctr.edu/arc/search>).

The Archives at AUC also participates in the HBCU Library Alliance Digital Collection (<http://hbcudigitallibrary.auctr.edu/cdm/>), a digital repository partnership between all HBCU libraries and archives. It includes manuscripts, correspondence, alumni letters, campus photographs, and more. The Digital Collection of the Robert W. Woodruff Library includes photographs and early publications of the AUC consortium, such as the *Atlanta University Bulletin*, which is available online from 1883 to 1910.



"Finding A Way" online exhibit.

Equally interesting is the AUC's "Finding a Way" online exhibit, which features African American family history in Georgia (<http://www.auctr.edu/FindingAWay/index.asp>). The exhibit includes an interactive catalog that directs the researcher through different series in the collection. It focuses on education, family and community. The exhibit consists of wonderful images, as well as a video introduction.



Martin Luther King Jr. Collection website.

Finally, the Archives Research Center at the Robert W. Woodruff Library developed a separate website for the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection (<http://www.auctr.edu/mlkcollection/>), which is part of a collaborative project with the Howard Gottlieb Archival Research Center (HGARC) at Boston University and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute at Stanford University. The Morehouse College King Papers are a streamlined resource for researching the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The website announces new public releases of the collection, notable mentions, and relevant press material.

In addition to their rich collections, the Archives Research Center hosts exciting conferences, such as the 2012 Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection Conference, "Hip Hop, Education, and Expanding the Archival Imagination." The interdisciplinary aspect of the conference attracted a variety of speakers

and attendees, ranging from processors to artists. Session topics included bottom-up collection development, the evolution of drum beats, the prison industrial complex, black maleness, and cultural biases in middle school curriculums.



2012 Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection Conference, "Hip Hop, Education, and Expanding the Archival Imagination"

The Archives Research Center at the AUC offers an impressive variety of resources and experiences. Take advantage of this valuable resource.

The second part of this column will feature the Archives Research Center's analog collections.






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Preservation News: Queries Regarding Preservation of Family Treasures

By Alix Benrud

Many of you get phone calls and visits from individuals interested in learning more about how to take care of their personal historical family items. The following are some resources that you and your patrons may find useful.

What Do You Want to Preserve? National Archives

<http://www.archives.gov/preservation/formats.html>

NARA provides "expert yet practical advice" on preserving a variety of materials including photographs, negatives, and film; paper and parchment; books and scrapbooks; digital and electronic media; and audio and video tapes and motion pictures.

Collections Care Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov/preservation/care/index.html>

Basic information and simple steps to take for the good care, handling, and storage of various materials and formats found in library and home collections, including comic books.

Caring For Treasures American Institute for Conservation

http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page_viewPage&pageid=497&parentID=472

The AIC has created guides to "help you better care for your personal heritage" that include topics such as paintings, glass and ceramics, textiles, and furniture.

Much of what we are creating today to record our families' activities and memories is digital. If you have not yet been asked for information regarding the preservation of personal digital collections, you soon will be. The Library of Congress has put together resources that may assist your patrons with their digital collections. They may help you as well.

Personal Archiving — Preserving Your Digital Memories

Library of Congress

<http://www.digitalpreservation.gov/personalarchiving/>

Preservation Continuing Education Opportunities

Just a reminder:

SGA Education

<http://soga.org/education>

SAA Continuing Education Calendar

<http://saa.archivists.org/Scripts/4Disapi.dll/4DCGI/events/ConferenceList.html?Action=GetEvents>

LYRASIS Classes and Events

<http://www.lyrasis.org/Pages/Events.aspx>

Carroll Hart Scholarship Winner: Steve Armour

By Stacy Swazy Jones

Steve Armour is the recipient of the Society of Georgia Archivists' Carroll Hart Scholarship. The Carroll Hart Scholarship awards one recipient the opportunity to attend the Georgia Archives Institute, which is held each summer in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr.

Armour is currently a student at Valdosta State University, as well as an intern at the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies at the University of Georgia.

Congratulations, Steve!



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- March 18
- June 17
- September 16
- December 9

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<p>CONTENT & METADATA</p> <p>Describe with DACS, ISAD(G) or RAD and control authorized names with ISAAR. Rapid capture of digital content, including Email.</p>	<p>CLICK PUBLISHING</p> <p>Export EAD & MARC with return links for imports into other systems. Publish EAD, HTML, PDF, and RTF. Google Analytics for your statistics.</p>

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