

LIBRARY LINKS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

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Ragtime is a Good Time at Mississippi State University Libraries

The Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival returns to MSU's campus on March 26 & 27, 2010.

Music will once again float through the air at Mississippi State University Libraries and Lee Hall Auditorium when the glorious sounds of ragtime return to MSU's campus for the 4th Annual Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival. Fast becoming a one-of-a-kind musical celebration, this Mississippi State University-based festival – sponsored by MSU Libraries and the Charles H. Templeton, Sr. Music Museum – features some of ragtime's most accomplished performers.

Concerts, mini-concerts, and lectures center around the unique Charles H. Templeton, Sr. Collection housed in the MSU Libraries. The Collection – comprised of 22,000 pieces of sheet music, 15,000 playable musical items, and almost 200 musical instruments ranging from the 1880s to the 1930s – documents a distinctly American approach to the "business of music." The Collection's sheet music, phonographs, Victrolas, memorabilia, and other artifacts will transport Festival attendees back to the



Ragtime performer, Carl Sonny Leyland, will entertain crowds during the 2010 Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival.

late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Participants in the 4th Annual Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival will enjoy concerts in historic Lee Hall Auditorium, and they will experience intimate artist performances and lectures in MSU Libraries' John Grisham Room. Complementing the music, the Festival also highlights the

rollicking culture of the times through tours of the Charles H. Templeton, Sr. Music Museum. Noted collector and historian, David A. Jasen, author of definitive reference works on ragtime, puts the music, the composers, and the culture into lively perspective.

Those who love music—and those who love a good time—will not want to miss this signature musical experience. Join the Festival for a day's events, for a single evening's concert, or for the entire two-days.

A gift shop will be open with plenty of the performers' compact discs to purchase, and a full schedule of spirit-lifting musical performances will keep the Festival moving.

Sponsored in part by grants from the Mississippi Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Starkville Area Arts Council, and additional support from Friends of the MSU Libraries.

For more information on the 4th Annual Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival, please visit the Festival website at <http://library.msstate.edu/ragtime/festival/> or contact Lyle Tate at 662-325-2559 or ltate@library.msstate.edu.



Christmas came to Mitchell Memorial Library a little early this year with the annual lighting of the Christmas tree. MSU President, Dr. Mark E. Keenum (top photo, center) lit the Christmas tree and shared holiday wishes with students, staff, and faculty. Holiday music filled the Library as MSU Department of Music's Dr. Bruce Lesley (top photo, left) led the MSU Chamber Ensemble in Christmas carols. MSU Libraries' Administrator of Systems Stephen Cunetto (top photo, right) served as master of ceremonies.



MSU Libraries Meets Patrons Online

MSU Libraries is at the forefront of the research and technology worlds, right next door and at its users' fingertips. Via online media, social networks, and even mobile phones, MSU Libraries is reaching out to its patrons wherever they may be. The Libraries' Facebook page currently boasts over 400 fans who find information daily on workshops, hours of operation, special events, contests, and more. Facebook is arguably today's most popular Internet site for social connections, and its academic applicability is steadily on the rise.

"We answer questions from the MSU community all the time through our individual Facebook profiles, as well as from the Libraries Facebook Fan page," said reference librarian Amanda Clay Powers. "Faculty, students, staff – lots of people at MSU use Facebook to communicate daily, so that's naturally one of the places we're going to be. Our goal is to be where our patrons are, when they need us."

Photographs galore are on display at the Libraries' Flickr site. Patrons who may have missed a Collins Speaker Series or who couldn't attend the latest MegaResource Workshop can still feel a part of these events and many more by viewing page after page of photos from MSU Libraries events. Additionally, photographs from select University Archives collections are featured throughout the year.

For quick, concise answers to the question



"What's happening at MSU Libraries?," patrons can visit the Libraries' brand new Twitter site. Students, staff, faculty, and community members can follow the MSU Libraries' tweets to stay abreast of the most current services being offered.

The Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival is gearing up for its 4th annual event in March, and one virtual way the Libraries advertises the event across the country is via its MySpace page. Ragtime enthusiasts can visit the page to view footage from previous years' Festivals and to find information on the artists and dates of forthcoming events.

The Libraries' YouTube and Google video sites currently feature over 100 videos highlighting Libraries events, news, software applications, and more. Patrons can take a

virtual tour of the Libraries' Instructional Media Center, enjoy performances from the Templeton Festivals, and even pick up tips via tutorials on Microsoft applications.

"I just recently received an email from a lady in London who found our Microsoft mail-merge tutorial on our YouTube site," said Thomas La Foe, Instructional Technology Specialist with the Libraries' Instructional Media Center. "She'd struggled with the application for months, but after viewing our tutorial she said she felt much more confident – confident enough, even, to teach it to her co-workers!"

Patrons can also stay up to date with what's happening at MSU Libraries by subscribing to its This Week @ Your Library podcasts. These short audio/video files are distributed on the Internet via RSS feeds which let patrons stay informed about an array of services, resources, and events.

Patrons can even view popular MSU Libraries webpages on their mobile devices via the Libraries' mobile-optimized website. With the mobile-optimized website, patrons can utilize countless resources via their phones to assist in research needs, and if questions arise the Ask-a-Librarian service is built in.

For more information on MSU Libraries and all the ways they are reaching out to patrons on and off campus, including links to the resources mentioned above, please visit <http://library.msstate.edu/>.



Commissioner Visits

MSU Associate Provost Dr. Jerry Gilbert (left) poses for a photograph outside of MSU Libraries' Congressional and Political Research Center with Institutions of Higher Learning Commissioner of Higher Education Dr. Hank Bounds during Dr. Bounds' recent visit to campus and Mitchell Memorial Library.

EndNote X3 Available

When working in a word processor such as Word, EndNote users can pull in citations from EndNote and format them in whichever citation style is required for their project. The latest version of the software, EndNote X3, provides several enhancements over previous versions, including:

- More ways to organize citations
- Integration with OpenOffice.org Writer
- Ability to create multiple bibliographies in a paper
- Improved functionality with chemistry citation styles

EndNote is available for purchase at MSU Libraries' Access Services desk at a discounted cost of \$50 for students and \$75 for faculty and staff. Those who purchased previous versions of EndNote from MSU Libraries are entitled to free upgrades for as long as they are students, faculty, or staff at MSU. For more information, visit the Libraries' EndNote Resource page at <http://guides.library.msstate.edu/endnote>.

Get Your Copy of EndNote Today!

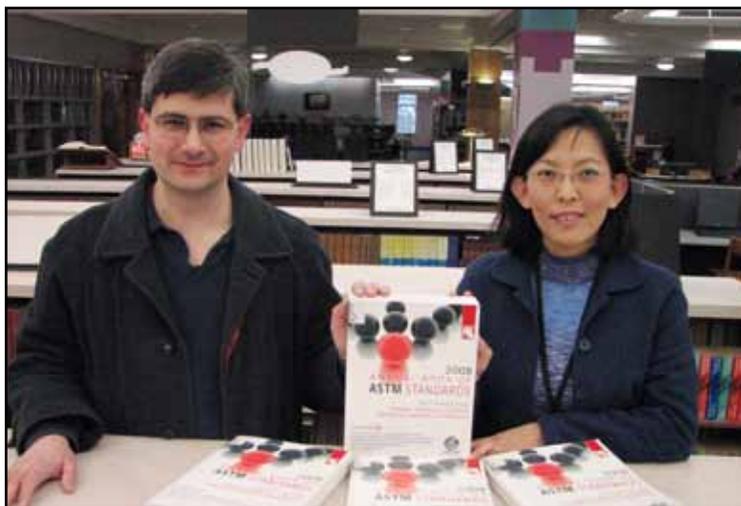
Academic Departments and Library Collaborate In Building Collections

Collection development at the MSU Libraries is a strong collaborative effort between the academic departments across campus and the University Libraries.

The foundation to this collaboration is built on the work of the Library Representatives appointed from the academic departments and the Library Liaisons assigned to each of the academic departments from within the University Libraries. The complete Library Liaison & Representative Directory may be found on the Just For You page for Faculty under Research Support: <http://library.msstate.edu/vitaportal/liaison.asp>.

All academic department faculty are encouraged to become familiar with both their Department's Library Representative and their Library Liaison in order to communicate not only book order requests but other library needs they may have.

The Library Liaison works directly with the Library



Library Representative and interim Chair for Aerospace Engineering, Professor Pasquale Cinnella and Library Liaison for Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Reference Librarian, Assistant Professor Julie Xu review the complete 2008 ASTM standards collection recently added to the Reference Collection in Mitchell Memorial Library. Dr. Cinnella is one of our longest serving Library Representatives and Julie Xu is one of our newest liaisons and reference librarians.

Representative regarding budgets, deadlines for submitting requests, and the selection of titles recommended by faculty in the individual departments.

The Library Representative,

in coordination with the departmental faculty, chooses titles the department would like to see added to the collection.

Titles receiving approval by the Representative are also evaluated

and approved by the Liaison to verify that the book is not already owned and is appropriate for the collection.

Book Orders Online (BOO) is the online system which the Representative and Liaison use to manage the selection of titles. The system is managed and coordinated by the Acquisitions and Collection Development Department of the University Libraries in Mitchell Memorial Library.

This department actually purchases, receives, and processes the material all the way to the shelf for patron access and use.

The University Libraries are very appreciative of the work and collaboration of the Library Representatives with the Library Liaisons and University Libraries. On a yearly basis, the Dean of Libraries and Library Administrators meet with each academic department's chair, representative and liaison to review library services and needs.

Graphic Novel Use Expands at Mississippi State

Graphic novels, comic books and "manga" are becoming increasingly popular materials in libraries, and the MSU Libraries are no exception!

The Libraries have expanded their collections of these popular and timely works to support many programs on campus, including art and education.

Some of the titles in the Libraries' catalog include critical favorites like Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*, Gene Yang's *American Born Chinese*, and the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Maus: A Survivor's Tale* by Art Spiegelman. With the addition of these materials have come requests for instruction on what graphic novels are and how they are useful for drawing in "reluctant readers"

and engaging visual learners. Library faculty members are also writing articles on the format and creating research tools for interested patrons.

The "Graphic Novels in Education" research guide was created for faculty, staff and students who are interested in using the graphic novel format in the classroom, are looking for specific information on a novel, or simply want to know more about graphic novels, comics, manga and other "illustrated narratives."



Downey

The guide includes a featured graphic novel each month, links to online resources including reviews and lesson plans, links to journals that publish regular reviews, as well as current research on the format and its uses, and print resources that discuss graphic novels in education, literacy programs and libraries.

The guide is available at <http://guides.library.msstate.edu/graphicnovels>.

Future plans include another graphic novel guide with an art and graphic design emphasis. For more information on graphic novels in MSU's collections, contact Instructional Services Librarian Elizabeth Downey at edowney@library.msstate.edu.

Information Fair Held for New International Graduate Students

"Find Your Feet at MSU" was held on September 2, 2009, at Mitchell Memorial Library as the 1st annual Information Fair for New International Graduate Students.

The Fair was co-sponsored by MSU's Office of the Graduate School and the MSU Libraries as an opportunity for new international graduate students to learn more

about resources available at MSU and in the Starkville community. A large crowd attended the event and organizers deemed the first "Find Your Feet" a success.

Representatives from MSU Libraries, Cadence Bank, Longest Student Health Center, Parking Services, Aramark, Student Counseling Services, and MSU's

International Education educated and entertained international students in the Libraries' auditorium. The evening was wrapped up by a presentation and cooking lesson from Department of Food Science, Nutrition, and Health Promotion professor Dr. Sylvia Byrd, who served a sampling of old-fashioned southern grits to the students.

EMCC Joins MSU-Led Regional Library Consortium

Administered and maintained by Mississippi State University, the Golden Triangle Regional Library Consortium is adding East Mississippi Community College as its newest member. EMCC President Rick Young joined MSU President Mark Keenum recently in making the announcement. Established in 1993 with initial participation from MSU and Mississippi University for Women, the Consortium provides a central database that allows patrons to access resources available at participating libraries in the Golden Triangle area.

Starkville High School, Armstrong Middle School, the Tombigbee Regional Library System, and the Oktibbeha-Starkville Public Library all are members, and each has added bibliographic and patron databases to the comprehensive computer server used for its circulation, online catalog, acquisitions, and serials system needs.

In August, the databases for both Mayhew and Scooba EMCC campuses were integrated into the library server housed at Mississippi State University Libraries.

"This consortium is a wonderful example of sharing resources and creating efficiencies that benefit students in area schools," said MSU President Mark Keenum. "We're pleased that EMCC has become the newest member."

Donna Ballard, EMCC's district librarian, said the Consortium "provides an opportunity to work with other libraries in the area and offers easy access to resources throughout the Golden Triangle." She added: "Our patrons not only will have access to the collections at the other member libraries, but we also will



EMCC President Rick Young (left) shakes hands with MSU President Mark E. Keenum. Also pictured are EMCC's Donna Ballard and MSU Libraries' Stephen Cunetto.

be able to share our collection with others."

Stephen Cunetto, MSU Libraries' Administrator of Systems, said one-stop searching is a key advantage of the consortium.

"One of the goals always has been to provide seamless access to resources throughout the Golden Triangle," he noted.

"No longer does a student have to search

multiple databases to identify a library in the area that has the materials they need. During these economic times it makes even more sense to work together and to share our materials and our technical expertise."

For more information on the Golden Triangle Regional Library Consortium and on MSU Libraries, please visit <http://library.msstate.edu/gtrlc>.

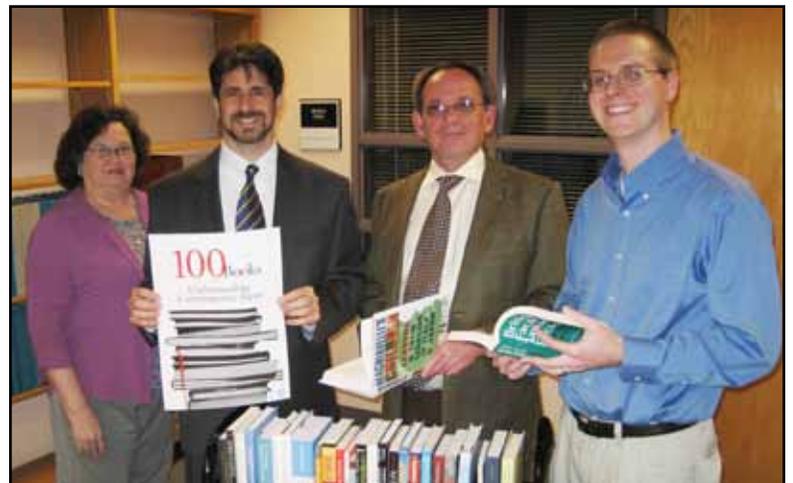
MSU Libraries joins contemporary Japan program

Want to learn about Japanese history, art, culture, politics, and more? Come to Mississippi State University Libraries.

MSU Libraries was recently named a recipient of the Nippon Foundation's "100 Books for Understanding Contemporary Japan," a collection of books written by experts in their respective fields chosen specifically to help non-experts gain a basic understanding of Japan.

Donated free to select university libraries, this prestigious collection contains works such as Kenneth Pyle's *Japan Rising, the Resurgence of Japanese Power and Purpose* and *Tsukiji: The Fish Market at the Center of the World* by Theodore Bestor. It is intended to expand international knowledge of Japan and to craft a clearer, more comprehensive understanding of contemporary Japan that transcends stereotypes and out-dated ideas.

"The interdisciplinary nature of these books will benefit many programs from a variety of departments across MSU's campus," said David Nolen, MSU Libraries' Humanities Reference Librarian. "Being able to provide access to these great resources will greatly help us support MSU's educational and scholarly goals."



Pictured here with a portion of the Nippon Foundation donation are (left to right) Pat Matthes, MSU Libraries' Associate Dean for Technical Services; Brian Watkins, MSU's Director of International Business; Jack Jordan, Head of MSU's Department of Foreign Languages; and David Nolen, MSU Libraries' Humanities Reference Librarian.

Libraries Hosts Commemoration of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

On Monday, November 9, 2009, Mississippi State University Libraries celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall. The event, "Remembering the Fall of the Berlin Wall, 1989 – 2009," was held in the Grisham Room and was sponsored by MSU Libraries, the Department of Political Science, the Department of History, and Shackouls Honors College.

Dr. Rick Travis, Dr. Dagmar Radin, and Dr. Jeff Cavanaugh from the Political Science Department and Dr. Stephen Brain and Dr. Alexandra Hui from the History Department discussed and analyzed the history of the Berlin Wall, the reasons it fell, and the significance it has on today's international environment. Accompanying the event was



Dr. Nancy McCarley (from left), Dr. Stephen Brain, Dr. Rick Travis, Jason D. Phillips, Dr. Dagmar Radin, Dr. Alix Hui, and Dr. Jeffrey Cavanaugh all took part in the successful commemoration program.

a display outside the Grisham Room featuring a piece of the Berlin Wall, which is part of the University Libraries' Gilbert E.

Carmichael Papers.

The Government Documents, Microforms, and Current Journals Department is hosting a semester-

long display, featuring pictures and information about the Berlin Wall and its history. Included with this display are books, pamphlets, and posters from the German Missions in the United States as part of their "Freedom Without Walls" campaign to promote awareness among current college students. Additionally, Jason D. Phillips, Government Documents and United Nations Reference Librarian and Christine Fletcher, Government Documents and Microforms Reference Librarian, created a Berlin Wall Research Guide, to highlight resources available from the University Libraries as well as quality information from the Internet. The guide is available at http://guides.library.msstate.edu/Berlin_Wall.

'Help' on Reserve at MSU Libraries

Tired of making copies and spending valuable lecture time passing out handouts? Let MSU Libraries' Reserve Desk help!

The Libraries' Access Services Reserve Desk is an easy and exciting tool for providing students with access both to traditional reserve materials such as class notes, homework, old tests, articles and books and to electronic reserves such as articles, syllabi, notes, tests, and more. Electronic reserve materials are password-protected to ensure that only MSU faculty, staff, and students have access to the materials. These electronic files may be viewed and printed from any computer via the Libraries' online catalog. Also, reserves can be linked directly to instructors' My Courses pages for students' easy access.

All materials placed on reserve must fit the guidelines stipulated by copyright law, and the Reserve Desk staff will be glad to assist professors by taking care of all copyright needs.

With questions and for more information, please contact Access Services' Tess Graham (tgraham@library.msstate.edu) at 325-8706 or Lee Dempsey (ldempsey@library.msstate.edu) at 325-9348.

Libraries' Faculty Honored

Rachel Cannady, Assistant Professor & Education Reference Librarian, was elected to the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Poster Sessions Committee and was nominated to join Phi Beta Mu, the international library and information sciences honor society.



Cannady

Amanda Clay Powers, Assistant Professor & Reference Librarian, was appointed to the American Library Association's RUSA MARS/RSS (Reference and User Services Association, Machine Assisted Reference Section/Reference Services Section) Virtual Conference Committee and was appointed as secretary of the ALA MARS Virtual Reference Discussion Group.

Laurel Sammonds, Assistant Professor & Coordinator of Collection Development, was nominated to join Phi Beta Mu.

Bob Wolverton, Associate Professor &



Powers

Database Maintenance/Authority Control Librarian, was selected as a participant in Mississippi State University's 2009/2010 Faculty Leadership Program and was appointed to a two-year term on the American Library Association's ALCTS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access.

Earlier this year, the MSU Libraries' *Library Links* newsletter was selected as Best Newsletter submitted by a Library Group at the 2009 Mississippi Library Association Annual Conference.



Wolverton

Interim Session and Christmas Holiday

December 14 – 18 – 7:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The Libraries will be closed December 19 & 20.
December 21 – 7:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The Libraries will be closed December 22 – January 3.
January 4 – 5 – 7:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

For information on the Libraries' departmental hours and branch libraries' hours, please visit <http://library.msstate.edu/aboutus/hours.asp>.



RAVE on!



Mississippi State students organized the first Rave at Mitchell Memorial Library. After weeks of planning, thousands of students piled into the Library to show their school spirit and let off some steam as they finish finals.



MSU Libraries' Reference Services is organized around a team of subject specialists who provide information and consultation services by colleges and disciplines. Pictured above are the Library faculty and their areas of expertise: Front row left to right: Brad Brazzeal, Forest Resources; Julie Xu, Engineering; Susan Hall, Architecture, Art and Design; Judy Li, Business; Li Zhang, Sciences; Gail Peyton, Social Sciences; Back row left to right: Ron Novy, Veterinary Medicine; David Nolen, Humanities; and Rachel Cannady, Education. Not Pictured: Amanda Powers, Agriculture and Life Sciences.



All Dressed Up...

MSU Libraries faculty members queue for MSU President Mark E. Keenum's Investiture in October. Pictured are (left to right) Melanie Thomas, Amanda Price, Ryan Semmes, Karen Davidson, Lynne Mueller, Elizabeth Downey, Gerald Chaudron, Deborah Lee, Ron Novy, June Garner, Laurel Sammonds, Gail Peyton, Rachel Cannady, Mary Ann Jones, Judy Li, Robert Fowler, Bob Wolverton, Harry LLull, and Brad Brazzeal.

Libraries Activities for MSU's Maroon Edition

MSU began its Maroon Edition common reading program in Fall 2009 with the novel *A Painted House* by Mississippi native John Grisham.

As stated on the Maroon Edition Web site, the project is "an initiative to engage all freshmen and the MSU campus in reading the same book each summer and fall. It is intended to serve as a basis for intellectual and cultural discussion as students come to campus and enter into dialogue with other students and with the administration, faculty, and staff."

With its collection of Grisham papers and memorabilia, the MSU Libraries were in a fortuitous position to participate in activities for this year's Maroon Edition.

The Fall 2009 lineup of Movie Nights at the Library featured two showings of the Hallmark Hall of Fame production of *A Painted House* where Harry Lull, Associate Dean for Public Services, led discussions. Dr. Deborah Lee, Coordinator of Library Instructional Services, and Dr. Linda Morse, Professor in the Counseling and Educational Psychology Department and Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, conducted a workshop entitled "Teaching Ideas For *A Painted House*."

The session featured ideas for classroom activities and discussion questions. Dr. Lee and Christine Fletcher, Government Documents and Microforms Reference Librarian, created the research guide *Maroon Edition 2009: A Painted House* (<http://guides.library.msstate.edu/maroonedition>). The guide features interdisciplinary resources for students and faculty who want to further explore the themes and historical background of the novel, find information about the author, or find resources for integrating the book into the class curriculum.

Two displays in Mitchell Memorial Library focused on *A Painted House*. Materials from the John Grisham Papers were on display in Special Collections and included manuscripts, a sample of the author's research materials, marketing and media memorabilia, photos from the set of the film adaptation, and issues of the *Oxford American* in which the story was first published as a serial.

An exhibit of a period, rural house dress and a sack used by farm laborers for cotton harvesting (contributed by Becky Hill, Library Associate) was displayed outside the John Grisham Room. Already a local attraction, the room also served as an appropriate venue for several Maroon Edition lectures, giving the MSU public the opportunity to again view the extensive display of materials related to the author, including original manuscripts, correspondence, fan mail, promotional materials and news clippings. Also on display are international editions and translations of Grisham's novels, including *A Painted House*.

The room is open Monday-Friday 8:00am -5:00pm for touring the exhibits. For questions about the John Grisham Papers, contact Mattie Sink, Manuscripts Division Coordinator, msink@library.msstate.edu.

In cooperation with MSU Service Dawgs program, several Library faculty volunteered their time for the Maroon Edition Habitat for Humanity house. Amanda Powers, Reference Librarian, and Bob Wolverton, Database Maintenance/Authority Control Librarian served as faculty chaperones or helped with construction. Photos and information about the Maroon Edition house can be found at <http://www.maroonedition.msstate.edu/events/> and <http://www.starkvillehabitat.com/msu-house>. Dean Coleman also served on the Maroon Edition Steering Committee.

The faculty and staff of the MSU Libraries appreciate the opportunity to participate in the 2009 Maroon Edition experience, and look forward to being a part of Maroon Edition 2010.



MSU Libraries created a display featuring cotton scales and weights, a *Painted House*-era dress, and a cotton sack and cotton outside of the John Grisham Room as a part of the Libraries' Maroon Edition involvement.

MSU Libraries Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars
for these upcoming events at MSU Libraries!

February 19, 2010
MegaResource School Librarian Workshop

March 24, 2010
John F. and Jeanne A. Marszalek
Library Fund & Lecture Series

March 26-27, 2010
4th Annual Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival

MSU Alum Herring Donates Collection to MSU Libraries

In October, MSU Libraries celebrated National Archives Month with the acceptance of MSU alumnus Dr. Todd Herring's collection of historic documents, photos, and artifacts.

Dr. Herring's collection, entitled "A Historian Collects: Selections from the Todd A. Herring Collection," consists of some 18 cubic feet of traveler's accounts; estate, military, and business records; religious materials; photographs, letters, and pamphlets; rare books; newspaper articles and journals; artifacts; and more. On Friday, October 9th, the Libraries welcomed Dr. Herring with a program in the Charles H. Templeton, Sr. Music Museum Conference Room celebrating his presentation.

Dr. Herring is a former Starkville resident and is currently a professor of history at Pennsylvania's Lincoln University. Dr. Herring, who earned both his master's and doctoral degrees from MSU, collected his first document in 1977 at the age of 11 and, for the next 30 years, added to his collection a variety of historical materials from stoneware jugs used to hold liquor to thousands of documents and rare books, publications, and artifacts.

Herring's strong interest in the Natchez and lower Mississippi Valley area is reflected in the in-depth focus of his Collection on those areas. That interest led to his 2000 doctoral dissertation, *Natchez, 1795-1830: Life and Death on the Slavery Frontier*. Herring's Collection also features documents and artifacts from other areas of Mississippi, the South, and other regions of the United States and from his extensive travels to 26 countries.



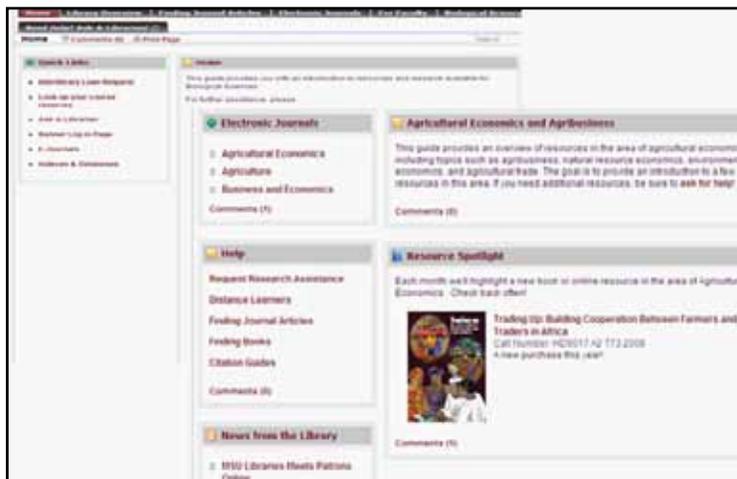
Dr. Herring visited with the staff and faculty of MSU Libraries' Special Collections Department prior to the official presentation of his Collection. Pictured here (left to right) are DeeDee Baldwin, Donisha Smiley, Herring, Gerald Chaudron, Mattie Sink, Lynne Mueller, and Jana Hill.

Library Research Guides for Teaching, Learning, and Research

Research guides provide easy access to library resources in a particular subject. Each guide lists core electronic databases, important books, authoritative Web resources, and other relevant research materials on a specific subject. To better serve our users and deliver library resources and services beyond the library portal, the MSU Libraries has integrated interactive and useful features into existing research guides. The new generation of research guides, also called LibGuides, is an ideal solution for librarians to share information and knowledge.

Library users want ease of access to library resources, and LibGuides provides one-stop shopping from a single access point. These guides allow users to search the library's electronic journals and databases, the online catalog, and other digital collections.

While each research guide is



unique, the following examples demonstrate some of the content and features found in various guides:

- Embedded RSS feeds, podcasts, and videos assist researchers in gaining knowledge and accessing information through diverse media.
- Information about setting up alerts to stay up-to-date on new

materials, the latest developments in a research area, as well as other important scholarly resources.

- Links that can be used to place interlibrary loan requests and check out course materials.

The new generation of research guides connect the library to our users wherever they are by incorporating features

of social applications, such as Facebook, MySpace, wikis, and blogs. Thanks to ever changing technology, the fully featured research guides enable remote users to interact directly with librarians. Without having to come to the library, users can receive assistance in a timely manner.

By publishing high quality resources and expanding awareness and use of library services, our goal is to continually increase user satisfaction and better meet their information needs. Many of the research guides include feedback boxes, inviting users to make suggestions and comments. This feedback helps the library to make the guides more useful in supporting the university's teaching, learning, and research.

To access the library's research guides, visit <http://library.msstate.edu/research/researchguides.asp>.

United States Research Guide – Updated, Revised, and now a LibGuide!

Check it out ... http://guides.library.msstate.edu/United_States



MSU President Dr. Mark Keenum (right) stands with U.S. Grant Association President and Rhode Island Chief Justice Frank J. Williams at a portrait of Grant during the Association's annual meeting at MSU Libraries.

Grant Association Annual Meeting At MSU Libraries

For its annual meeting May 3-5, 2009, the Ulysses S. Grant Association visited Mississippi State University for the first time.

Mitchell Memorial Library – the recently named new home of the Presidential Papers of America's 18th president, Ulysses S. Grant – welcomed the Association's members and directors, including Association President and Rhode Island Chief Justice Frank J. Williams, for dinners, special presentations, business meetings, and more.

"The Association's relocation to Mississippi State University has received coverage in newspapers around the nation," said Executive Director for the Association, MSU's Dr. John Marszalek, "and we are moving forward to continue the mission of our organization."

At the Association's Monday evening dinner, MSU President Dr. Mark Keenum shared his excitement about the Grant Collection's coming to reside at Mississippi State and said that he has spoken about the Collection's acquisition with numerous groups across the country over the past months. Chief Justice Williams expressed his appreciation to Dr. Keenum and to Mississippi State University and the Libraries for moving stridently forward with the Collection to make it accessible to researchers and scholars here at MSU and beyond.

During the Association's board meeting on Tuesday, MSU Libraries' Dean Frances Coleman was elected to the U.S. Grant Association's Board of Directors. Dean Coleman extended an invitation for the Association to continue meeting at MSU Libraries, which the group will do in 2010 and then, subsequently, every other year.

In addition to a trip to the Civil War Museum in Corinth, Miss., and to Shiloh Battlefield, the Association's meeting featured Grant scholar Jean Edward Smith's lecture on myths and realities about Grant's presidency, MSU history professor Jason K. Phillips' presentation entitled "Confederate Rumors about Ulysses S. Grant," and a panel discussion and book signing with Grant and Civil War authors.

For more information about the Ulysses S. Grant Collection at Mississippi State University Libraries, please visit <http://library.msstate.edu/USGrant/> or contact Dr. John Marszalek at 662-325-4552.



MSU Libraries' graphic designer Jim Tomlinson (left to right), Long, and MSU Libraries' Administrator of Systems and co-coordinator of the Templeton Festival Stephen Cunetto pose with Long's winning poster design.

Long Wins Contest

Ragtime at MSU Libraries has a new look thanks to Rebecca Long.

Long, a MSU senior majoring in art with an emphasis in graphic design, is the winner of Mississippi State University Libraries' poster design contest for the upcoming 4th Annual Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival to be held on MSU's campus March 26 & 27, 2010. Long's winning design will be seen locally, throughout the state, and nationally as it will be featured on the Festival's posters, flyers, brochures, and advertisements.

"My coworkers encouraged me to take part in the contest," said Long, who works as an intern with MSU's University Relations. "I'm really pleased the Festival coordinators chose my design. It's refreshing to do something different, and it was fun getting to design for a project that wasn't assigned as class work."

Long, a Brandon, Miss., native graduating in May of 2010, says she looks forward to including the Ragtime Festival design in her portfolio.

For more information on MSU Libraries and the 4th Annual Charles Templeton Ragtime Jazz Festival, please visit <http://library.msstate.edu/ragtime/festival/index.html>.

Netbooks Available for Checkout

In efforts to continue meeting its patrons' needs in today's tech-savvy world, the MSU Libraries now offers NetBook computers for checkout to students, staff, and faculty.

Fourteen new Dell Latitude 2100 NetBooks are available for checkout via the Libraries' Instructional Media Center.

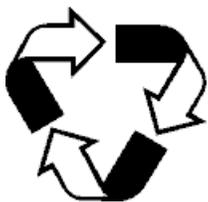
Four of the NetBooks are available for a week-long checkout, and ten are available for overnight checkouts.

A \$2.00-per-checkout fee for all NetBooks and laptops is

necessary and may be applied to students', staff and faculty accounts.

The Libraries' NetBooks do not have a built-in optical drive (CD/DVD), but two external CDr/DVDr drives are available for checkout if needed.

For more information on the Libraries' new NetBooks and on Instructional Media Center checkout policies and procedures, please contact Dorothy Johnson at 662-325-3267 or visit us online at <http://library.msstate.edu/imc>.



LIBRARY LINKS

Library Links Staff and Contributors...

Library Links is designed and published for faculty, staff, and students of Mississippi State and the general public by the Instructional Media Center at Mitchell Memorial Library.

Editorial material should be sent to Brad Brazzeal, bbrazzeal@library.msstate.edu, Lyle Tate, ltate@library.msstate.edu, or Bob Wolverton, Jr., bwolverton@library.msstate.edu.

Co-Editors:

Brad Brazzeal

Assistant Professor and Instructional Services Librarian

Lyle Tate

Special Projects Coordinator

Bob Wolverton, Jr.

Associate Professor/Database Maintenance/Authority Control Librarian

Layout:

Bobbie Huddleston

Instructional Media Center Specialist

Editorial Board:

Frances Coleman, Dean of Libraries

Stephen Cunetto, Administrator of Systems

Harry LLull, Associate Dean for Public Services

Pat Matthes, Interim Associate Dean for Technical Services

Additional contributors to the Spring 2009 edition of Library

Links include:

Debra Fairbrother

Thomas La Foe

Deborah Lee

John Marszalek

Summer Mord

Jason D. Phillips

Julie Shedd

Microsoft Office 2007 Bully-ing You? We Can Help!

Call Stephanie Agnew or Thomas La Foe in the Instructional Media Center (325-7676) to book a workshop!