

# Edith Garland Dupré Library

## YEAR IN REVIEW

### 2013-2014



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## A Message from the Dean

Inside this issue of the *Year in Review* you will read about the many and varied activities of the Edith Garland Dupré Library's faculty and staff. Whether you are reading about the faculty's many outreach activities designed to promote the Library's services or about our new web page design giving the Library a more user-friendly, modern look, you will find lots of helpful, fun and exciting things going on here.

Just in case you have not noticed, the Library has a new back door. Students, faculty and staff can now enter the building near the Library's coffee shop, Jazzman's Café! Everyone wishing to come into the Library from the Engineering, Computer Science, Arts and Humanities buildings may now enter without having to walk around to the front doors.

Dr. Bruce Turner, Assistant Dean of Special Collection Services, received a grant to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Civil War through a series of lectures. Scholars from the University, the surrounding area and throughout the state spoke on a variety of topics related to Louisiana and the American Civil War.

The Ernest J. Gaines Center continues to present programs and conduct workshops related to both the works of Gaines and to the creative writing process. Additionally, you will read about a new lecture series that focuses on works authored by Gaines.

You can also learn about the Library's recent faculty hires, Allison Gallaspy as Assistant Professor of Library Science/Head of Cataloging and Jeremiah Paschke-Wood, Assistant Professor of Library Science/Instructional Services Librarian. These two recent hires are welcome additions to the Library's faculty.

I hope that you find this edition of our *Year in Review* to be helpful and informative.

Dr. Charles W. Triche III  
Dean of University Libraries



## Connect with Us





## Around the Library



*The Library gained a new back entrance this year.*



*National Novel Writing Month write-in participants*



*Provost James Henderson spoke at one of the events sponsored by the Staff Development Committee.*

## A Message from the Associate Dean

Greetings!

Edith Garland Dupré Library welcomed several new faculty and staff members.

The library faculty members started work in 2013. Allison Gallaspy began as the new Head of E-Resources & Serials Management and then became Head of Cataloging in January. Allison holds a Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Jeremiah Paschke-Wood is Instructional Services Librarian. Jeremiah holds a Master of Arts in Information Resources and Library Science from the University of Arizona. Matthew Teutsch became the interim director of the Ernest J. Gaines Center. Matthew is a recent graduate of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette with a Ph.D. in English. He worked with the Center over the past two years as a graduate assistant.

Laura Truxillo, Jessica Theriot and Terri Carrier, all Library Specialists, joined the Cataloging Department during 2013/2014.

Casae Hobbs, Library Specialist, moved to Special Collections. Casae is the contact person for the University's Records Management Program.

One of our long-time Library Specialists, Kim Doucet, retired from the University on July 19, 2013. Kim worked at Dupré Library for 15 years.

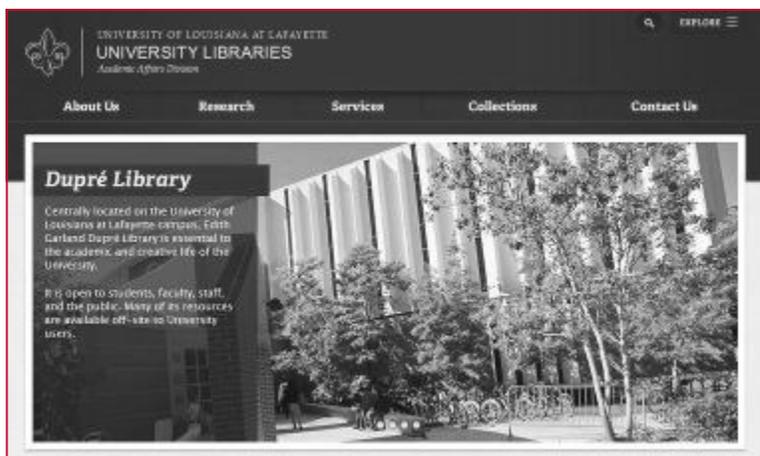
The Library's new faculty and staff (as well as all of our personnel) are enthusiastic, motivated and eager to provide the best possible service to the students, faculty and staff of the University and to the Acadiana community. We invite you to visit the Library often, and we encourage you to ask for assistance from any Dupré Library employee. We are here to help you!

Susan Richard  
Associate Dean



## Library Debuts New Website

This year, the Library debuted a new look for its website. After completing training in the Drupal content management system, the web team began converting the Library's website from its old format to the University's new, branded design. The web team, headed by Sherry Curry, consisted of Cara Chance, Emily Deal, Sandy Himel, Duane Huval, Deborah Johnson, Jean Kiesel, Derek Mosley, Jeremiah Paschke-Wood and Heather Plaisance.



Similar to other new campus websites, the Library site features large images and slideshows that depict the library and its services. It also includes a focus on a unified search system called EBSCO Discovery Service that searches multiple databases plus the catalog, as well as featuring news and events on the Library's home page. The Library's Reference Online Center still offers links to individual databases, the catalog and research guides. The chat box for Ask a Librarian, a web-based service allowing users to ask questions and receive reference answers whenever the Library is open, is available on all research-based web pages. The new home page highlights news and events information, hours for the current day and a "Did You Know?" feature. Drop-down menus at the top of each web page direct users to more information under five categories: About Us, Research, Services, Collections and Contact Us. The Library hopes to provide an easy and informative experience on the new website.

## Outreach and Events

Edith Garland Dupré Library's new Outreach & Events Committee stayed busy throughout its first year. Co-chaired by Jeremiah Paschke-Wood, Instructional Services Librarian, and Emily Deal, Distance Learning & Virtual Services Librarian, the committee is responsible for planning and coordinating the outreach efforts of the Library, including developing a wide range of programs that promote the Library's services, resources and personnel.

Among the most popular events of the year were visits from certified therapy dogs and their handlers during finals week, where students were invited to take a study break and pet the dogs for some much-needed stress relief and relaxation. Student response was enthusiastic, and the events received media coverage from University and local news outlets. Other popular events included National Novel Writing Month write-ins, participation in the campus-wide Welcome Week Block Party and a "Blind Date with a Book" display during the week of Valentine's Day.

The committee will stay active during the summer planning new events and activities for the 2014-15 academic year, which include promotional social media campaigns, a "Meet Your Librarians" reception, and a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Ernest Gaines's first publication.



*Therapy dogs visit during finals.*

## Gaines Center Programs

On September 25, Writer in Residence Emeritus Ernest J. Gaines gave a reading from his work in progress, telling the story of a young African American who returns to Louisiana after years of living away, in an attempt to find his voice as a writer. A question-and-answer session followed the reading, and Dr. Gaines also signed copies of *This Louisiana Thing That Drives Me: The Legacy of Ernest J. Gaines*, published by the University of Louisiana Press in 2009.

The Gaines Center also held its inaugural Ernest J. Gaines Lecture on November 13. Dr. Marcia Gaudet, Professor of English Emerita and former director of the Center, spoke on “Gumbo as Metaphor: Foodways in the Work of Ernest J. Gaines.” The lecture series will be an annual event.

Two poetry readings highlighted Gaines Center events in the spring. Dr. Reggie Scott Young, Associate Professor of English at UL Lafayette, read selections from his poetic works on February 19. On May 15, Dr. Darrell Bourque, Professor of English Emeritus and former Poet Laureate of Louisiana, read from his latest work, *If You Abandon Me, Comment Je Vas Faire*, an exploration of the life of iconic Creole musician Amédé Ardoin.

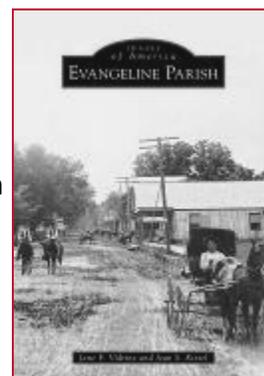


Dr. Ernest Gaines reads from his work in progress.

## Vidrine and Kiesel Publish

### *Evangeline Parish*

University Archives Specialist Jane Vidrine and Louisiana Room Librarian Jean Kiesel collaborated to celebrate Vidrine’s home parish with their book *Evangeline Parish*, released by Arcadia Publishing in May. It is part of the Images of America series, which features approximately 200 historical photographs depicting the topic of each title.



Vidrine said *Evangeline Parish*, an area that hasn’t had a plethora of books published about it, was an ideal choice to be highlighted by Images of America. “Residents of Evangeline Parish love their history and culture – they deserve to have a book,” she said. Kiesel echoed that and said “It’s a small, rural parish. Many of the families have been there for centuries, and their history and culture are very personal to them.”

For her research, Vidrine spent much of her waking time away from work during the previous summer conducting interviews and making contacts for the book. “I met a lot of great folks, heard a lot of great stories – it was great just to hear them,” she said. For Vidrine, Kiesel, who authored an Images of America book on Lafayette in 2007, was an ideal choice as partner in the project. “I saw how much work she put into the Lafayette book. She did such a wonderful job with it,” Vidrine said.

*Evangeline Parish* is available through bookstores, shops and local pharmacies as well as online through sites like Amazon. Vidrine and Kiesel donated two copies to Dupré Library and to the public library in Evangeline Parish.



The Cajun and Creole Music Collection was featured in *Bringing the Arts into the Library* (American Library Association Editions, 2013). Sandra M. Himel, Head of Government Information Services & Cajun and Creole Music Collection Librarian, and Lance R. Chance, former Instructional Services Librarian, contributed the chapter “Developing Regional Heritage Music Collections” to the book.

## Civil War Commemorations

One hundred and fifty years ago the American Civil War raged across the South. In a series of exhibits beginning with “Louisiana on the Eve of the Civil War” in 2010, Special Collection Services of Dupré Library has been exploring the impact of the war on the state of Louisiana. Last summer the exhibit in the Library’s main hall focused on events in 1863, while the spring 2014 exhibit in the Jefferson Caffery Reading Room covered the war in 1864. Acadiana suffered the effects of war both years, as federal troops marched through the area and Confederate forces tried to resist. Material in the displays, drawn from the holdings of the Louisiana Room, the University Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection and the Rare Book Collection, included official reports, personal letters and diaries, artists’ drawings published in northern illustrated magazines and an Opelousas newspaper printed on wall-paper.



*Civil War exhibit*

Further commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, Dr. Bruce Turner, Assistant Dean for Special Collection Services and Derek Mosley, former Director of the Ernest J. Gaines Center, received a grant from the Gilda Lehrman Institute of American

History to support a series of lectures. In March, Dr. Judith Gentry, retired Professor of History at UL Lafayette, spoke on the career of Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith. On April 15, Jim Bradshaw, a renowned journalist and local history author, spoke on the Civil War in Acadiana. The series will conclude on September 9 with a talk entitled “The Clash of Titans: Robert E. Lee vs. Ulysses S. Grant” by Dr. Harry Laver, history professor at Southeastern Louisiana University.

## Allison Gallaspy, Head of Cataloging



*Allison Gallaspy  
Head of Cataloging*

The Cataloging Department saw big changes in 2013-14, with Allison Gallaspy, hired initially as the Head of E-Resources & Serials Management at Dupré Library, promoted to the Head of Cataloging position.

Gallaspy, a native of Lafayette, received her Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh. She is also a 2010 graduate of Tulane University. She said she was excited to begin her new adventure.

“My first job as an undergrad involved cataloging cookbooks, and it was something I immediately took to,” she said. “Cataloging is something I’ve always been interested in.”

In a department with two new workers, Gallaspy said training and cross-training are two of her most important duties. “Cataloging isn’t necessarily intuitive if you haven’t done it before,” she said.

Other projects on tap for the department include finishing the cataloging for the Enterprise Sugar Library collection and working with the Government Documents department to identify documents that are not in the Dupré Library system.

Gallaspy said she is excited for any challenges 2014-15 might bring and looks forward to working with the rest of the staff in the coming year.

“I feel very welcomed by everyone in the building, and I appreciate the opportunity to work with such fabulous people,” she said.

## Instructional Services

In his first year as Instructional Services Librarian, Jeremiah Paschke-Wood helped increase the total number of sessions taught, as well as update the content of classes and the methods of library instruction. Paschke-Wood said, "I'm trying to streamline the library instruction provided to freshmen by ensuring students receive instruction at their specific point of need, as opposed to just receiving a generic, nonspecific library lesson."

Overall, Instructional Services saw a 12% increase in the number of sessions taught during the 2013-14 academic year over the previous year, with a 38% increase in the spring semester alone. Paschke-Wood attributes the increase in sessions taught to expanded efforts to recruit more upper-level classes to instructional sessions, as well as efforts to heighten visibility of the Library's services on campus to students, faculty and instructors.

Paschke-Wood's goals for the coming year include increasing outreach to departments that have historically underused the Library's instructional services, creating online tutorials for the Library's resources and services, and finding active and interesting ways to introduce new students to the library, its services and personnel.



*Jeremiah Paschke-Wood  
Instructional Services Librarian*

## Federal Depository Library Celebration

Dupré Library celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a designated Federal depository in November. Since 1938, the Library, which received its designation from Congress, has received and provided access to U.S. government publications made available to the public through the Federal Depository Library Program of the U.S. Government Printing Office. The GPO distributes these materials in varying formats, including print, online, audio-visual and microform publications. Legal resources, technical reports, maps, periodicals, informational pamphlets, educational kits and posters are all types of materials that have been made available by the Government Printing Office.

Sandy Himel, Head of Government Information, curated a month-long exhibit and planned the open house celebration, which 100 people attended. It included a slideshow presentation and displays about current and historical Federal depository library resources and services. The anniversary was also an opportunity to promote the depository library to the University and general public and to encourage the exploration and use of depository services and resources. The exhibit displayed interesting examples of collection pieces including annual reports from the 1930s and a photograph of Dupré Library's second Government Documents Librarian. The slide presentation focused on newer media publications like the popular .gov websites and the fact that most of the publications now published by the Government Printing Office are delivered digitally. Himel and the Government Information staff strive to ensure that newer types of media and publications are advertised to potential users and integrated into the existing Federal depository collection.



*Staff celebrates the 75th Federal Depository  
Library Anniversary.*

## University Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection Update

The University Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection (UAAMC) was delighted to receive many interesting donations during the 2013-2014 academic year. Dr. Bruce Turner, Assistant Dean of Special Collection Services, shared details about these items, which included archival materials from University affiliates and others of regional significance.

The papers of Routh Trowbridge Wilby include family letters and financial records of Murphy J. Foster, the 31<sup>st</sup> governor of Louisiana. These were mainly research materials Wilby used in preparing her book on Rose Ker Foster, Murphy J. Foster's wife.

The records of Cajun folkloric troupe Renaissance Cadienne are a valuable addition to the Archives. May Waggoner, former French Professor and director of the troupe, researched and revived many forgotten Cajun dances, including some dating to the 19th century.

Fifteen volumes of record books created by Robert Martin were also added this year. Martin was a St. Martinville attorney who sponsored the legislation that originally created UL Lafayette, then known as Southwestern Louisiana Industrial Institute. Edwin Lewis Stephens, the Institute's first president, viewed Martin's contributions with such respect that he called him the "Father of Southwestern."

The A.J. LeBlanc Collection includes incredible resources on Acadian and Cajun culture, music, folklore, arts, crafts, history and activism. LeBlanc was the long-time director of Acadian Village and a lifelong advocate of the Cajun way of life.

Other significant donations were received from Frans C. Amelinckx, Jack LaBauve, Bellevue Plantation and the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Indexing projects currently underway in UAAMC include scrapbooks of news clippings, pamphlets, flyers and other materials collected by Stephens during his presidency (1900-1938); the records of the Office of the President during the Stephens years; the John Fontenot land abstracts that mainly cover Evangeline Parish; the Congressional Papers of Robert F. and Edwin S. Broussard (1897-1935); the University alumni magazine; and *The Vermilion*, the student newspaper. Other projects include processing and digitizing the Johnnie Allan Collection and creating a finding aid for the extensive digital and physical items in the collection of Morris Raphael. The UAAMC staff has also placed many collection guides on the website, and they are starting to enter information about the collections into the Library's online catalog. These projects will be vastly beneficial to researchers interested in the cultures of the University and Louisiana at large.

## Around the Library



*In February, Michael Doucet donated items to the Library's Cajun and Creole Music Collection from his recording sessions and performances and those of the Cajun band Beausoleil. The donation includes studio recording master tapes, as well as autographed concert and festival posters featuring Michael Doucet avec Beausoleil.*



*Dr. Bruce Turner congratulates 2014 Caffery Award recipient Tim Landry.*



*Blind Date with a Book selections*

**Thanks to everyone who contributed to this publication.**

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