



# EDITH GARLAND DUPRÉ LIBRARY

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YEAR IN REVIEW  
2015 | 2016

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# A Message from the Dean



**Dr. Charles W.  
Triche, III**

Edith Garland Dupré Library has had yet another exciting and successful year. I am happy to report that despite significant budget concerns, we were still able to grow our collections and expand our services through diverse outreach programs.

One important project begun this year is a comprehensive review of our journal and database holdings to ensure we are meeting the research needs of the university community. Library faculty are working closely with faculty across campus to make certain our collections are current, relevant, and support their research.

I end this message on a sad note. Dr. I. Bruce Turner, our Assistant Dean for Special Collections Services, passed away on August 9, 2016. Dr. Turner served the university for 33 years and had planned to retire on August 31. For his service to the library, the university community, and to the archival community throughout not only the state but at the national level, we will always be grateful.

## A Message from the Associate Dean

Edith Garland Dupré Library faculty and staff support and enrich the educational, research, and public service needs of our users. Each year we honor our employees with 25, 20, 15, and 10 years of service. On October 22, 2015, three library employees were honored at the annual Staff Appreciation Reception. During the ceremony, Ann Breaux (25 years), Carol Baudoin (15 years), and Heather Plaisance (10 years) were recognized for their service.



**Susan Richard**

The Library welcomed several new faculty and staff members this year. In November, Sabrina Spears returned to the Library as Executive Assistant to the Dean of Libraries. Kelsye Davis Baudoin, Denise Collins, Whitney Collins, Daniel Falcon, Christa Fowler, and Elaine Martin, all library specialists, joined the Library. With the retirement of Sandy Castille, Jenna McDaniel was promoted to Head of Circulation Services. Jennifer Hamilton joined the Library as Interim Head of Instructional Services, and Cheylon Woods joined the Library as the new Archivist and Head of the Ernest J. Gaines Center.

This year Sandy Castille, Head of Circulation Services, and Carole Massey and Jeanette Wickham, both Library Specialists, retired from the Library. We extend our appreciation for everything they have done for UL Lafayette and for Dupré Library over the years. We wish them much happiness in their retirement.

# Archives Celebrates Fifty Years



**Dr. Henry Dethloff**

On October 13, the University Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection observed the semi-centennial of its founding with a panel discussion and reception. We were delighted that Dr. Henry Dethloff, the University's first archivist, was able to return for the occasion. In informal remarks before the panel discussion he reminisced about his experiences in the 1960s when he was a newly-hired faculty member in the Department of History. There were some manuscripts stashed around the library that he volunteered to organize, leading to the creation of the Southwestern Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection, now known as the University Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection. He also worked with Ambassador Jefferson Caffery to acquire his papers, and solicited papers from others to build the archives.

Tara Laver, Curator of Manuscripts at Louisiana State University, Lee Miller, Head of the Louisiana Research Collection at Tulane University, and Dr. Michael Wade, Professor of History at Appalachian State University (who received his doctorate in history from the University of Southwestern Louisiana), participated in the panel discussion on "The Past, Present and Future of Archives and the Changing Nature of Historical Research."



**Panelists discuss "The Past, Present and Future of Archives and the Changing Nature of Historical Research"**

The panelists described how the internet has changed the nature of historical research by making it easier to identify relevant collections now that repositories are putting their collection guides online. But the immense volume of archival material means it will likely always be necessary to visit the repositories to view many documents.

The program was organized and moderated by Dr. I. Bruce Turner, Assistant Dean for Special Collections, who has been the University Archivist for 33 years.

# Ernest J. Gaines Center

It was an active and eventful year for the Ernest J. Gaines Center and its new Head and Archivist Cheylon Woods, culminating in a four-week summer institute, “Ernest J. Gaines and the Southern Experience,” funded by a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities.

Woods arrived at the Center in summer 2015, and immediately set to work planning events for the upcoming year. In November, Dr. Keith Clark of George Mason University delivered the third annual Ernest J. Gaines Lecture, “‘This gon’ be my place’: Ernest J. Gaines and the Manifold Meanings of Home.” Authors T. Geronimo Johnson and Attica Locke, both recent recipients of the Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence, also visited the Center during the spring semester to give book talks and read selections from their award-winning novels.



**T. Geronimo Johnson**



**Institute participants meet  
Ernest J. Gaines**

In June, twenty-five scholars from around the country arrived at the Center to participate in its summer institute. The institute provided a framework for participants to engage with Gaines’s work through attending lectures and field trips, and by working directly with the Center’s archival collections.

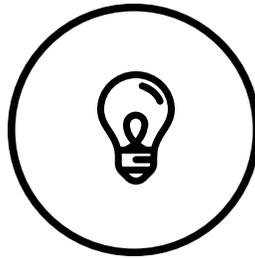
“The institute was meaningful for all who participated because it gave them the opportunity to engage with other academics about the works of Ernest J. Gaines and the many topics that he and other southern writers explore,” said Woods. “All of the participants were college professors, instructors, and doctoral students who were interested in exploring ways to introduce complicated topics to their undergraduate students.”

In the upcoming year, Woods says she is most excited about serving as a new library liaison for the departments of history and English. “I look forward to working with professors and getting to know the student body more,” she said. “It is my long term goal to increase use of the collection by encouraging student and faculty interest in the multifaceted themes in the works of Gaines and southern literature.”

# Public Services by the Numbers



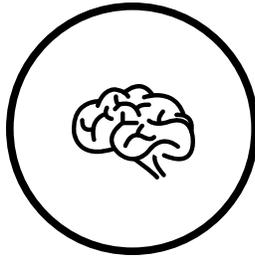
**753,252:**  
Gate count



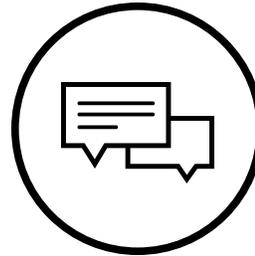
**6,482:**  
Reference questions  
answered



**13,003:**  
Items circulated



**3,765:**  
Students receiving  
library instruction



**80:**  
Percentage of virtual reference  
survey respondents who rated the  
librarian's answer to their question  
as "excellent" or "very good"

## Study Cubicles for Undergraduates

YOU ASKED.  
↳ WE LISTENED.

Individual study cubicles are now available for undergraduate students. Ask at the Circulation Desk for a key.



In response to student requests, this year Dupré Library began offering individual study cubicles to undergraduate students who need a quiet, secluded space to study in the library. The cubicles are available to students on a first-come, first served basis, and have a two-hour time limit as demand requires.

# Technical Services



**New outlets with USB ports**

Over the past year, the Technical Services Department continued to make new advances and improvements to better serve the Library's users, including the continued evolution of the Library's website. To provide greater remote access to the Library's unique collections, an additional 150 pages were added to the Special Collections manuscripts section of the website, representing many papers, photographs, and other historic collections.

The library system was converted to a new remote management environment, allowing for added features and security, and a new online system for Textbook Clearinghouse was implemented, resulting in a more user-friendly experience. Another project that quickly proved popular with students added 52 electrical outlets with USB ports to the quiet study areas on second and third floors of the Library. The Collection Development Department purchased 9,000 new print books, and over 2,000 more books were acquired as gifts, some of which were also added to the collection.

The E-Resources and Serials Department initiated a project to convert print journal subscriptions to electronic, which resulted in substantial savings that were reallocated to increase subscriptions to key journals such as Science, and to subscribe to new databases frequently requested by faculty, including Early English Books Online and ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Global. The department also purchased \$80,000 in new eBooks and a new eBook collection, EBSCO's University Press Collection.



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# Celebrating Shakespeare



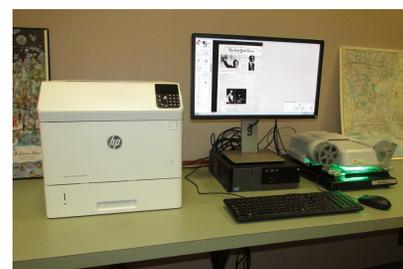
**A costume from A Midsummer Night's Dream, courtesy of the UL Lafayette School of Music and Performing Arts**

Throughout the month of April, Dupré Library, in collaboration with the Friends of the Humanities, university departments, and private individuals, provided a visual, oral, print, and electronic exploration of the world of Shakespeare. An extensive exhibit in the Grand Hallway featured costumes from the UL School of Music and Performing Arts, as well as books, posters, mugs, artwork, photographs, and unique items including a model of the Globe Theatre. Grant funds were used to purchase new print and eBook titles for the library's collection.

A highlight was the performance of Shakespeare monologues by UL School of Music and Performing Arts advanced theater students. Against a vivid background of Shakespeare artwork, actors captivated students and faculty with stirring speeches from Hamlet, Othello and other plays. The month-long celebration helped mark the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. Librarian Sheryl Curry served as project director.

## Microfilm Reader Grant

In recent years, technology limitations have caused much of the Library's substantial microforms collection to be underused by students and library patrons. To improve access to the library's microform holdings, Andrea Flockton, Head of Collection Development, and Heather Plaisance, Head of Reference & Research Services, received a Student Technology Enhancement Program (STEP) grant for a ScanPro 3000 digital microfilm scanner, along with enhancement software and accessories, desktop computer, monitor, and printer.



**New microfilm equipment**

The ScanPro 3000 has numerous scanning and enhancement features to dramatically improve students' learning and research experiences, as the equipment enables them to use microfilm that was previously inaccessible. The Library can also use the equipment to pursue critical preservation and digitization projects for film that is susceptible to damage.



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Dupré Library**

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