Special Collections receives national preservation grant award

by Bess de Farber
Grants Manager

The Smathers Libraries has received a grant award of $72,650 for "America's Swamp: The Historical Everglades Project" to digitize material from six historical collections relating to the exploration, development and conservation of the Everglades from 1878-1929. Total awards of $2.15 million for documentary editing and archival projects were allocated by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Over a three year period, staff from Special Collections led by John Nemmers, and the Digital Library Center led by Laurie Taylor, will digitize its most important historical record collections documenting the despoiling of the Everglades and the development of South Florida in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The project’s results include free global access to 99,690 pages from the collections of six prominent Floridians.

The papers of Governor Broward (http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/Broward.htm) and Governor Jennings (http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/JenningsWilliamS.htm) form the nucleus of the project as they were the primary architects for the drainage and reclamation project. The May Mann Jennings Papers (http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/JenningsMayMann.htm) complement those of the two Governors because of her advocacy of the drainage project, and marriage to Gov. Jennings. However, the real strength of the collection is that it documents the conservation movement that developed at the start.

(Continued on page 3)
In spring 2009, the George A. Smathers Libraries and the Florida Museum of Natural History presented a series of free public talks on topics in Florida's history and natural history. The Library-Museum Sunday Talk Series featured presentations by Leslie Poole (Rollins College) on the origins of the Florida Audubon Society, Frederick Rowe Davis (Florida State University) on UF professor and famed naturalist Archie Carr, and Jackson Walker (Museum of Florida Art, DeLand) on his oil paintings depicting key people and events in Florida's history. Funding was provided by the Stewards of Florida History, a support organization for the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History, and hosted at the Florida Museum of Natural History classroom.

Held once a month in February, March and April, the talks included an informal get-together with presenters beforehand, followed by a PowerPoint presentation and question and answer period. Leslie Poole, adjunct professor in Environmental Studies, Rollins College, and a history doctoral student at UF, spoke on the devastating effects the plume trade had on Florida birdlife during the first decades of the 20th century. Using historic photographs and her extensive research in archives, she covered the creation of Florida Audubon and its crusade to stop the plume hunters.

Fritz Davis, associate professor of history at FSU, holds advanced degrees in both history of science and biology. He spoke to a packed house of 150 people on his popular book *The Man who Saved Sea Turtles: Archie Carr and the Origins of Conservation Biology*. Archie and Marjorie Carr are icons of the conservation movement – Archie for his scientific work on sea turtles and his efforts to save them from extinction and Marjorie for her leadership in creating Alachua Audubon and stopping the Cross-Florida Barge Canal. In his presentation, Davis traced Archie Carr’s career from his early research into the lifeways and especially the reproduction habits of the ridley, green, hawksbill, loggerhead and leatherback sea turtles and on into his application of science to protecting species. In particular, Carr was a pioneer in discovering the nesting habits of green turtles around the Caribbean. In conjunction with the Caribbean Conservation Corp and the government of Costa Rica, he worked to establish Tortuguero National Park as a protected habitat for turtle nests. Carr’s legacy is carried forward today through the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research.

The series concluded with Jackson Walker, noted Florida artist and fifth generation native of Florida, who talked the audience through some of the back story on his paintings of Francis Drake’s raid on St. Augustine in 1586, the East Florida Rangers during the American Revolution, Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders at Tampa, the Ma Barker shootout, his portrait of Zora Neale Hurston, and other works. Jackson’s work has been featured on the History Channel and the A&E Network, and has been displayed around the state, including at the state capitol, the Appleton Museum (Ocala), the Elliot Museum (Stuart), the National Guard Headquarters and other venues. Examples of his works for the “ Legendary Florida” collection in DeLand can be seen online at http://www.museumoffloridaart.org/legendaryflorida/

The Smathers Libraries expresses appreciation to Kendra Lanza-Kaduce, Amanda Arner and Tiffany Ireland of the Florida Museum of Natural History for helping to coordinate and run the series.

Special thanks goes to the Stewards of Florida History for making this program possible: Bessie R. Proctor, Alan L. Proctor, Michael Gannon, Bruce M. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Harris, Cromwell and Shirley Anderson, Mary Ellen Burnett, Allen and Delores Lastinger, Mr. & Mrs. John Owen Clark, Ted C. Prosser, Jr., Robert W. Ganger, J. Thomas Touchton, Wendy and Lester Abberger and Judith C. Russell.
Libraries receive Chinese antiquities

The Smathers Libraries has received a generous gift of a selection of Chinese antiquities from the private collection of Dr. and Mrs. David Owens. A massive Kuan Yin stucco head with gilt crown is on display in the library administration suite in Library West.

The Kuan Yin, known as the Goddess of Mercy and the Protector of Children, was a highly revered figure in the Chinese culture. The gilt crown shows the sacred fungus, the plant of long life. This incredible Kuan Yin is from the Yuan Dynasty, 1279-1368.

In addition, the libraries also received a pair of wooden horses, carving of a nobleman, ancestral portrait, door chest/cabinet, altar coffer, altar table, scholar’s table, “doctor’s” arm chair/recliner, desk/scholar’s table, a pair of “yoke back” chairs, Kang table, “ladder” chair, a pair of stools, and an official hat box. Most of these items are from the early and late 19th century.

Items from the collection will be on display in the Smathers Library exhibition gallery beginning June 4, 2009.

Elegance of Science contest winners announced

Winners of the first annual “Elegance of Science” art contest were announced and on display at a reception on February 19 at Marston Science Library. The winning artworks will be hung in Marston Science Library and the Health Science Center Library. All of the entries can be seen at http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/msl/art/slideshow.html

1st place: Urания Kaleidoscope by Andrei Sourakov

2nd place: Discovering Connections in the Brain by William Conte and Roger Reep

Historic Everglades grant award (Continued from page 1)

of the 20th century and the role of disenfranchised women in developing and lobbying for legislation to protect the environment.

The Papers of Thomas E. Will (http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/Will.htm) provide yet another perfect complement to the papers of the two Governors by documenting the early failures of the reclamation project, both in terms of unrealized development and destruction of ecological systems. The Arthur E. Morgan Papers (http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/morganae.htm) provide a revealing view of the often questionable practices of real estate sellers and members of both state and federal governments as enthusiasm for the drainage of the Everglades swept the country. The sixth collection, the James E. Ingraham Papers, (http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/Ingraham.htm) includes Ingraham’s manuscripts regarding the Flagler and Plant railroads and their role in developing South Florida.
National Library Week celebrated with Read-A-Thon, Edible Book Contest and sidewalk book sale


“I’ll be coming back every year for these Read-A-thons while I’m here at UF. Keep them going. I love them.”
– Corbin Schneider (student)

Patrons browse the Smathers Bookstore sidewalk sale held in front of Library West during the Read-A-Thon.

The libraries held a homecoming parade social last fall for library leadership board members and donors to watch the parade from Library West’s third floor. Some of the attendees are shown above. Left to right: Gail Crawford, Alicia Antone, Michael Slicker, John Ingram, Samuel Huang, Tom Woodell, Charlotte Porter, Susan Smathers, Anne Haisley, Bruce Smathers, R.J. Wiltshire, Doyle Taylor and Samuel Davis.

Book Talk

Paul Harris, a former library employee at the University of California at San Diego, discussed his book Diary from the Dome on April 2 in Smathers Library. Diary from the Dome is a personal chronicle of two very different trips to New Orleans – “America’s Most Soulful City.” The first chronicle is the author’s 1977 trip, recorded in his journals as “a naive twenty-one-year-old discovering himself.” The second trip finds the author caught in the vicious storm, Hurricane Katrina, and eventually becoming trapped as a tourist inside the New Orleans Superdome – with 20,000 other helpless people. This incisive and opinionated story presents Harris’s observations of human behavior at its best and at its worst and also serves as an eloquent tribute to “the incredible citizens of New Orleans.” The lecture was followed by a book signing.
The Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Society held its annual meeting at the Gainesville Hilton and the Smathers Libraries hosted a reception on March 20 in Smathers Library. Conservationist John Freund spoke to the group about preserving Ms. Rawlings manuscripts and papers.

**Alternative UF exhibit**

“Alternative UF: Counterculture Through the Decades” is on display in the Special Collections exhibit gallery in Smathers Library through May 31, 2009. The exhibition was created by students enrolled in HIS 4944 Preserving History class and worked as undergraduate student interns in Special Collections during the spring 2009 semester. Covering three decades of UF history and culture, the exhibit features photographs, UF yearbooks, letters, newspaper articles, graphic materials, artifacts and other items from the holdings of the University Archives, the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History, and the Department of Special and Area Studies Collections. The exhibition covers political activism, sit-ins and other Civil Rights demonstrations, protests against the Viet Nam War, the alternative press at UF, women on campus, student life and the hunt for homosexuals and other “subversives” on campus. An online exhibition, featuring selections from this exhibition, is available at [http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/exhibits/alternativeUF.htm](http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/exhibits/alternativeUF.htm)

**Cuba: past, present and future exhibit**

*by Richard Phillips*
*Head Librarian, UF Latin American Collection*

Drawing from the extensive UF collection of rare books and fine Cuban imprints, the exhibit in January was a first-ever presentation by the libraries. Some 175 books, manuscript items, maps, posters, objects and miscellanea spanning over 200 years of Cuban history and culture were presented to offer glimpses and insights into early European settlement, colonial tensions, agriculture, slave life, efforts for national identity, women’s issues, investment and other such dynamics.

Notable materials exhibited were rare slave “life insurance policies” from the 1850s, recently purchased with the generous financial support of the Center for Latin American Studies’ Manuel Pedro González Endowment Fund. Also on display were a signed copy (1891) of José Martí’s *Versos sencillos*, a note from then U.S. Vice President Richard Nixon commenting on his meeting with Fidel Castro in 1959 and a very fine, first edition (1550) of *Brevissima relación de la destrucción de las Indias* by Las Casas.

Personal items and dramatic photos from the papers of the late Dr. Neill Macaulay (UF Dept. of History) lent stark emotion to the exhibit. A U.S. Army veteran who fought with the 1959 Revolutionary army, Dr. Macaulay went on to be an early critic of the political turn of the new regime, leaving Cuba in 1960.

A reception and panel discussion featured Dr. José Álvarez (UF) and Dr. Lisandro Pérez (FIU) commenting on the events of 1959. Traditional food and music added to the festivities.

*Right: Nancy Macaulay, widow of Dr. Neill Macaulay, has placed his papers on the Cuban Revolution with the George A. Smathers Libraries.*

*Left: This photo from the Alternative UF exhibit was taken on April 15, 1971 when UF students staged a sit-in at Tigert Hall. The goal was to force the university to recruit and support more African American students and faculty.*
Welcome new Library Leadership Board members

**Shirley Anderson**
Shirley and her husband Frank Marston lived in Miami and raised two daughters while Frank practiced law and Shirley toiled in interior design and painting. She was active in the Coral Gables Junior Women’s Club, the Patrons of the Museum of Science and Beaux Arts, which is associated with the Lowe Art Museum at the University of Miami. They retired to Tallahassee, Florida in 1996 and Frank died in 1999.

Upon moving to Sarasota, she took art classes at Ringling School of Art and Design. In 2005 she married Cromwell Adair Anderson and between them have five children, thirteen grandchildren and one great grandchild. The couple enjoys spending time at the hunt club and back country fishing in the Florida Keys.

**Richard Carris, MBA, CPCU, CLU, CIA, CFE, CIPA, CSRP, FCLS, APA, AIC, ARM, ARE**
Carris is currently the vice president of internal audit and enterprise risk management divisions at QBE the Americas in New York, NY. He was previously the senior manager for insurance consulting at Ernst & Young LLP in New York.

He is a member of numerous professional organizations and has published in the areas of underwriting/premium auditing, claims management, risk management and international insurance. Carris has a master’s of business administration, financial management from Pace University and a bachelor’s of science, business administration (economics) from the University of Florida.

**Bruce Harris**
Bruce Harris is a successful attorney at Harris Harris Bauerle & Sharma, the law firm he founded in 2004. Bruce and his partners represent people whose property is being taken by eminent domain. He is married to Medea Harris, and they have four children, Lilley (8), Graham (6), Emerson (4) and Sarah (1). Avid readers and book lovers, Bruce and Medea own Urban...
Think! Bookstore, Orlando’s only independent bookstore. They recently opened Urban Think! Kids, a children’s bookstore, which Medea runs.

Born in Bartow, Florida, Bruce was raised in Orlando. He graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor’s degree in history and received his J.D. from the University of Florida College of Law. Bruce is an adjunct professor at both the University of Florida and Florida A & M University’s College of Law, where he has taught classes on eminent domain.

**Elizabeth Mann**  
Professor Emerita  
Florida State University  
Mann taught for eleven years at FSU’s School of Library and Information Studies. She served as president of three Florida library organizations: The Florida Association of School Librarians; The Florida Chapter of the Special Libraries Association; and the Florida Library Association. She was organizer and president of the Capital Women’s Network and president of the Florida Women’s Alliance and a member of the Board of the International Alliance of Women. After retirement in 1989 she and her husband moved to Tarpon Springs. She served as chairman of the newly-created Pinellas Public Library Cooperative and chairman of the Pinellas County Arts Council.

Mann moved back to Gainesville in 2006 and lives at Oak Hammock. She is a member of the Gainesville Women’s Forum, Chapter AF PEO Sisterhood and the Advisory Board of the University of Florida Performing Arts Center. Her husband Judge Robert T. Mann died in 2006. Their children are Robert, who lives in Stone Ridge, NY and Margaret, who lives in Vila do Conde, Portugal.

**Rachel A. Schipper** named Associate Dean for Technology and Support Services

*by Barbara Hood  
Public Information Officer*

Rachel A. Schipper joined the Smathers Libraries on March 30 as the new Associate Dean for Technology and Support Services. She will lead seven diverse units within the library system including acquisitions, metadata and cataloging, access support, digital services, preservation and conservation, information and technology, and facilities and security departments.

Schipper says she will serve to bridge communication with the seven units she coordinates through collaboration and cultivation of communities of practice. Dr. Schipper developed her interests in communities while training in Georgia in mediation and serving on the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee for ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution).

For the past five years she was the Dean of Library and Instructional Technology at Georgia College & State University. Throughout more than 20 years in public and private higher education settings, she has also worked for libraries at Pennsylvania State, Johns Hopkins, the University of Maryland, Florida Institute of Technology, and Shepherd University in progressively increasing technology leadership roles.

In 2007 she was named the Liaison of the Year by the Consortium of Negotiation and Conflict Resolution and received the Governor’s Silver Medal Team Award for Customer Service for 2007/2008 in Georgia. In 2004, she completed the Harvard/ACRL Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians, and in 2007 was awarded a full IMLS scholarship to Vanderbilt’s Peabody Professional Institute for Library Leadership.

Schipper received both an Ed.S. and Ph.D. degree in Science Education/Computer Science from the Florida Institute of Technology. She earned a master’s degree in library science from the University of Maryland, a master’s of education degree in Education/Art/Museum Studies and a bachelor’s degree in Art Education from The Pennsylvania State University.

She has received numerous awards and honors, grant funding, served on a variety of professional committees, had her artwork featured in exhibits, was a founding member of several Friends of the Library groups, and has volunteered in many service organizations. Known for her experiences in construction and renovation of libraries, academic buildings and museum galleries, Schipper lead projects that resulted in Senatorial libraries for Robert C. Byrd (WV) and Paul Coverdell (GA).

“In conjunction with transformative and organizational change on campus, the libraries are seeking to provide an ever-increasing commitment to successful educational outcomes. As we continue to support the research focus so important to all disciplines at the university, we focus our efforts in providing access to information in an increasingly digital environment. I look forward to collaborating with so many skilled and knowledgeable people here at the University of Florida, and am very grateful for the opportunity to support this very complex organization.”
Smathers Libraries Reorganization

This past year the libraries have faced many important issues, both internal and external. We have undergone a reorganization that has streamlined our structure and will help us be even more effective in serving the faculty, staff, and students who rely on our information services. The process involved the plan being accepted by the University Libraries Committee, the Academic Infrastructure Council, the Faculty Senate – and most importantly, our own faculty and staff.

Integration of the Health Science Center Libraries into the Smathers Libraries

On October 13, 2008, University of Florida President Machen directed that Health Science Center Libraries (HSCL) and Smathers Libraries “integrate their budgets and reporting structures, … [while] HSCL retains autonomy to serve the needs of its clients.” The integration will take place by July 1, 2009.

An overriding goal of the HSCL-Smathers integration is to ensure that services to our users are not compromised. Moreover, it is hoped that work efficiencies and service quality will improve as a result of integration. Our common goal is to assure that integration is a positive step toward improving the ability of HSCL to meet the growing information and research needs of Health Science Center students, faculty, researchers, and clinicians. In the short term, this means assuring that there is some improvement and certainly no diminution in service due to integration, and in the long term, this requires a commitment to bringing funding for HSCL up to both campus and peer standards.

University of Florida Budget Cuts and the Libraries

The current economic situation nationally and in the state of Florida clearly makes it difficult for the university to provide additional resources to the libraries, no matter how much those resources may be needed. In fact, the university may not be able to sustain the current level of funding for the libraries.

Over 90% of the libraries’ budget comes from the State appropriation to the university, and as we go to press, we are waiting to learn about the funds that will be provided to the university and how those funds will be allocated. The libraries were asked to identify potential budget cuts of $387,799 from HSCL and $2.278 million from Smathers, for a total of $2,665,799.

At its January 2009 meeting, the University Library Committee passed the following resolution in support of the UF Libraries’ budgets:

The University Library Committee strongly supports the retention of the budgets of the Smathers, Law and Health Science Center libraries at no less than the July 1, 2008 level. We are making this recommendation because the libraries are integral to the research and educational mission of the university, as stated in the Strategic Work Plan. A cut in library budgets would have a detrimental effect on every educational and research program at the university.

We certainly hope that the university will have the financial resources to follow this recommendation, but we are prepared to do whatever is required to continue to deliver essential services to our users with whatever resources we receive.

Judith C. Russell
Dean of University Libraries