New UGA Special Collections Library building

The University of Georgia (UGA) recently broke ground for the Richard B. Russell Building, the new home of the university’s Special Collections Library. The groundbreaking ceremony took place January 28, 2010, and featured remarks from UGA President Michael F. Adams and University Librarian and Associate Provost William Gray Potter. The 115,000-square-foot building is projected to cost close to $46 million, with approximately one-third of that amount coming from private sources. The building will be named in recognition of an early pledge from the Richard B. Russell Foundation, which founded and continues to support one of the special collections libraries to be housed in the new facility.

“This building will allow the University Libraries to provide state-of-the-art storage and security for its most valuable collections,” Potter said. “It will provide galleries where students and citizens can view these treasures. An auditorium, classrooms and seminar rooms will allow students to directly use these materials in instructional settings, truly making history come alive.”

The new library will house the Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library, a repository on Georgia history and culture, the Walter J. Brown Media Archive and Peabody Awards Collection, and the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies. The building will be constructed around a 30,000 square-foot storage area with shelves that will be 30 feet high. State-of-the-art climate control will be used to provide an environment that will protect and preserve the materials for future generations. Construction is expected to take two years.

Register now for ACRL/LLAMA Spring Virtual Institute

Registration is now open for the ACRL/LLAMA Spring Virtual Institute, “Doing Well by Doing Good”: Entrepreneurial Leadership for Librarians. The institute will explore different models and aspects of leadership and management and their impact on academic librarianship in today’s challenged and flat economic environments. The institute’s online community will provide an environment in which groups of participants, both small and large, can gather electronically to learn, collaborate, and network. The institute will offer both synchronous and asynchronous sessions, and programs will be archived for viewing on-demand for one year after the institute.

The ACRL/LLAMA Spring Virtual Institute will be held April 21–22, 2010, with a registration deadline of April 19, 2010. Complete details on the institute program, along with registration information, is available at www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/springvirtualinstitute.cfm.

New home for New York Center for the Book

The Library of Congress has approved a proposal from the New York Library Association (NYLA) to become the new host of the New York Center for the Book. The New York Center for the Book is part of the Library of Congress Center for the Book’s network of centers in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These affiliates carry out the national center’s mission in their local areas,
Library Advocacy Day travel grants
To assist academic and research librarians in participating in the 2010 Library Advocacy Day, ACRL is providing ten $250 scholarships to attend the June 29 event in Washington, D.C. For one year only, Library Advocacy Day will replace National Library Legislative Day. Library advocates from all 50 states and Washington, D.C., will meet at Upper Senate Park on the U.S. Capitol grounds to hear speakers and cheer on libraries. After the rally, participants will meet with their elected officials and staffs.

Travel grant applicants must be ACRL Legislative Advocates and must not have attended previous National Library Legislative Day events. The deadline for grant applications is Friday, April 16. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Complete details and application information is available on the ACRL Web site at www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/washingtonwatch/nlldtravelgrants.cfm. Information on the ACRL Legislative Advocates Program is available at www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/washingtonwatch/acrladvocates.cfm.

UNC’s Southern Historical Collection now online
Eighty years after its founding in January 1930, the Southern Historical Collection (SHC) at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill’s Wilson Special Collections Library is inaugurating a program to digitize large segments of the collections. The Digital SHC debuted January 8 with 35 collections digitized in their entirety, plus two more that have been partially digitized. The 8,627 scans reproduce diaries, letters, business records, and photographs that provide a window into the lives of Americans in the South from the 18th through mid-20th centuries.

The program grew out of a two-year investigation funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to explore digitization possibilities for SHC. The first areas of concentration are collections documenting African American life and race relations in the American South. SHC will continue to enhance and build the Digital SHC, with several dozen collections to be added every year. The digital collection is available at dc.lib.unc.edu/ead/archivalhome.php.

Nature on the iPhone
Nature has launched a new iPhone application, allowing iPhone and iPod Touch users to search, browse, read, and bookmark full text content from Nature and Nature News. The mobile app will also work with the newly announced iPad, and Nature Publishing Group (NPG) will be producing EPUB files that can be read using Apple’s iBooks and other e-readers.

Users will be able to read full-text articles immediately or save them for later, search nature.com, set up saved searches, or browse the latest news and research. To ensure that research papers and news
ACRL announces the publication of a new title, *Librarians Serving Diverse Populations*. Written by Lori Mestre, associate professor of library administration at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, *Librarians Serving Diverse Populations* is a qualitative and quantitative assessment and research study examining the paths and experiences of librarians whose duties include serving diverse cultures.

Through surveys, interviews, and evaluation of documents, Mestre explores issues and challenges related to the duties and responsibilities of multicultural librarians. The title sheds light on the challenges faced in serving diverse population, including the organization and management of diversity services.

This groundbreaking study of diversity librarianship in academic libraries offers recommendations for libraries seeking to fill diversity librarian positions, provide follow-up training and support after hiring new librarians, and strengthen diversity efforts. Also included are two chapters providing guidance for academic librarians getting started as a liaison for diversity and crosscultural efforts. Mestre additionally provides suggestions for improvements to curricula and training in library and information science programs.

**Purchase** *Librarians Serving Diverse Populations* through the ALA Online Store (www.alastore.ala.org) and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the United States or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.
Self-service checkout at Odegaard Undergraduate Library

Students waiting to check out a book or open reserve materials now have a new option at the University of Washington’s (UW) Odegaard Undergraduate Library—a self-service checkout station installed in December 2009.

The new station was installed after a survey showed an overwhelming number of students in favor of a self-checkout option.

“Our main goal with the self-check machine, and the reason for its location, is to allow students to check out their own materials which are on open class reserve,” said Access Services Manager Ryan McCrory.

“Students are pressed for time as it is, and often just need to run in, grab their books, check out, and go. During our busy times, the self-check machine just gives students another option.”

The machine was funded by the Student Technology Fee, a yearly fee paid by UW students, with the wiring and the yearly maintenance agreement funded by the libraries.

Canadian publishing history online

The McMaster University Library, in partnership with Queen’s University Archives and the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto, recently launched a new scholarly Web site dedicated to the history of publishing in Canada.

Augmented with digital images, sound, and video, Historical Perspectives on Canadian Publishing contains 90 case studies covering a range of material from publisher archives.

The site features a variety of archival documents and imprints on the interaction of authors with their publishers and the promotion of their books, including Leonard Cohen, Marian Engel, Stephen Leacock, Margaret Laurence, and Alice Munro.

The project was funded by the Canadian Culture Online program of the Department of Canadian History. Visit Historical Perspectives on Canadian Publishing at hpcanpub.mcmaster.ca.

ALA Annual Conference 2011 preconferences proposals

Share your knowledge with a national audience. ACRL is now accepting proposal submissions for half-day or full-day preconferences to be held prior to the 2011 ALA Annual Conference, June 24, 2011, in New Orleans.

Preconferences should allow participants to develop skills related to a specific topic and should focus on interactive learning using a variety of presentation styles.

Programs that offer practical tips and cutting-edge techniques are especially encouraged.

Proposals should outline activities that will be incorporated during the session to enable attendees to achieve the session’s learning outcomes.

Proposals must be submitted via the online submission form by April 9, 2010.

The full text of the Call for Proposals is online at www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/.

ties for creativity and collaboration. Please consider applying to become an individual liaison.

Applications that indicate the supporting documentation requirements and additional information are available on the COL Web site at www.al.org/ALA/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/councilofliaisons/liaisons.cfm. Please read the instructions carefully when filling out the application. Only fully completed applications will be considered.

Send completed applications by the June 1, 2010, deadline to COL Chair Susan Kroll at kroll.susan@gmail.com and ACRL Program Officer Katie Coombes at kcoombes@ala.org.