



SIMMONS COLLEGE LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

Spring 2005

Online: <http://www.simmons.edu/libraries/newsletter>

Sources On Black History In The Simmons College Archives

By Donna Webber

Inside this issue:

Construction Updates	2
Disability Resources Workshop	3
Book Displays	3
GSLIS Fellows Internships	4
Libraries Welcome Staff	5
New Service: ArticleNow	5
Workshops for GSLIS Students	6
Upcoming DIR	6

In February, the Library greeted visitors at the entrance of the second floor Information Commons with exhibits celebrating Black History Month. In addition to books from the Simmons Libraries' collections, three exhibits containing photographs and information from the College Archives were displayed. The Simmons College Archives collections document all aspects of the College's history.

The first exhibit described the accomplishments of Dorothy Ferree '20 who graduated from Simmons with a degree in Medical Secretarial Studies, obtained an MD from Tufts Medical School, and spent her professional career at Howard University in Washington D.C. The second exhibit told brief stories of five black women at Simmons: Lydia Grinnell Brown '15; Leanna Frances Johnson '15; Marion Reid '15; Mary E. Rogers '16; and Mary Frances Parker '17. The third exhibit provided highlights of the remarkable life of Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman to be elected to the United States Con-

gress and to seek the presidency of the United States. The exhibit described her 1977 visit to Simmons College where she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters and addressed students as part of the Influencers series of guest lectures.



Image from the Archives of Dorothy Ferree '20

The exhibits represent a small sampling of the wealth of material available at the Simmons College Archives about the history of black students at the College. These include College yearbooks that document the attendance of black women at Simmons since the earliest days of the College; the records and memorabilia of the Black Student Organization; the Little Black Book (yearbooks of black student graduates);

and records of the African-American Alumnae Association.

This month, April 2005, the African-American Alumnae Association sponsored a symposium on campus celebrating the AAAA experience at Simmons. The College Archives worked closely with the organizers of this event to assist in its preparation, planning, and execution. Among other projects, the Archives oversaw the digitization of 2000 photographs depicting black students and their lives at Simmons. These images were used for calendars and posters celebrating the event. Also, reproductions of archival materials were on display at the symposium. All photographs and digitized copies, as well as yearbooks, the records of the Black Student Organization, and information on past African-American Alumnae Association events are available to anyone seeking to learn about black history at Simmons College. Come and visit us in L-301, email us at archives@simmons.edu, or give Donna Webber and Jason Wood a call at x2440 and x2441.

Library Construction: Latest Project Updates By Daphne Harrington

We have reached an important milestone in the construction of the new library: the final steel beam has been placed atop the new building!



The structure for the new library building is completed in the "topping Off" ceremony

On March 25, 2005, members of the Simmons community joined the Lee Kennedy Construction Company to celebrate the completion of the building structure with a traditional "Topping Off" ceremony. This includes the placement of a small tree on the final steel bar, which is the traditional construction symbol that the construction proceeded well, without injury, and in appreciation for the various natural resources contrib-

uting to the project.

Interior design planning is almost finished. We are in the final stages of selecting furniture, fabrics, lighting, carpeting, and paint colors. Students have been trying assorted lounge chairs, desks, carrels, seats and footstools, and providing abundant feedback on their recommendations for what will provide the most comfortable and study-conducive environments.



Students assist interior design planning by sampling potential furnishings

There is extremely good news about the timeline for the project. While the new building project is still on track for comple-

tion in early winter '06, we have received approval to empty and gut Lefavour in order to accelerate its renovation. This means the interior of Lefavour, and the final complete library, will be done by approximately May '07, instead of mid '08 as originally projected. While Interim II will be tight (fitting most existing library functions into our two floors of the new building), it will be well worth it to get the whole project completed so much faster. When Lefavour renovations are completed, portions of the Technology department and all of Modern Languages will join the Communications department and Photo Lab as tenants on the fourth floor of the new space.

As always, thank you for your patience during the construction, especially the recently disruptive removal of the Lefavour facade, and for your continued input and contributions towards envisioning the final library.

What's Being Built Next to the Science Center?

As part of the construction of new buildings, the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) requires that a **mock-up** be provided for public viewing. The mock-up is a small slice of what the actual new building will be. It includes the actual brick, limestone, granite, window glass and other materials that will be used. Be sure to stop by and take a look for a preview of what the new library exterior will look like in Jan 06.

Career Workshops for People with Disabilities

By Deborah Kaplan

The Miller/Knopf Career Resource Library, the Career Education Center, and the Office of Disability Services have teamed up to create a collaborative workshop series giving career advice to Simmons community members with disabilities. Fourteen students, alumnae, and parents attended the workshops which were hosted in the Miller/Knopf Career Resource Library.

The first workshop, "Job Search Skills for Students with Disabilities," was offered on Wednesday, February 9. The workshop participants learned about writing good resumes and cover letters; what resources are

available to help job seekers with disabilities find jobs; and when and whether to disclose a disability to a prospective employer. The workshop stressed that job seekers with disabilities are job seekers like any other first, and individuals with disabilities second.

The second workshop in the series, "Job Survival Skills for Workers with Disabilities," was offered Wednesday, February 23. This session focused on strategies for succeeding at work, as well as on disclosure, privacy, and the law. Disability specialist Todd Herriott offered detailed information about the

rights afforded to disabled employees. The workshop participants discussed the best ways to show employers that providing accommodations increases employee productivity and is good for the bottom line.

Career Resource Library Assistant Deborah Kaplan, Career Education Center counselors Meri Cayem and Elaine Goldman, and Todd Herriott of the Office of Disability Services led the workshops and discussions. We hope the exciting collaboration among the offices will lead to many more such services offered to students and alumnae/i.

Celebratory Months of April and May:

Book Displays in the Libraries

By Kate Price

National Poetry Month arrives in April. Celebrate by picking up work from iconic poets Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, William Carlos Williams, Langston Hughes, Adrienne Rich, Audre Lorde, Pablo Neruda, Maya Angelou, Anne Sexton, and Sylvia Path in either their individual works, or in collections, such as the Norton Anthology of Poetry. If you prefer contemporary work, poets Ntozake Shange, Mary Oliver, Ha Jin, Marilyn Chin, Shel Silverstein, Chrystos, Jorie Graham, and Robert Pinsky are sure bets. Biographies give readers a glimpse into the lives that inspired the poems, such as T.S. Eliot: An

Imperfect Life, by Lyndall Gordon, which explores Eliot's controversial life, including his committal of his first wife, born with a hormonal imbalance, to an insane asylum. Check out www.poets.org for more National Poetry Month information and resources.

Get your blood flowing in May with National Physical Fitness and Sports Month. Take these books to Holmes with you while you're walking on the treadmill or riding the bike: Nike is a Goddess: The History of Women in Sports, edited by Lissa Smith; Eat, Drink, and Be Healthy, by Walter Willett;

and Making Peace with Food: Freeing Yourself from the Diet/Weight Obsession, by Susan Kano. And when you're done with that workout, watch In the Game, a behind-the-scenes look at Coach Tara VanDerveer and the Stanford Women's Basketball Team as they go for a national championship. Get more fitness and sports ideas from Get Moving America at www.fitness.gov/getmovingamerica.html and the Women's Sports Foundation at www.womenssportsfoundation.org. And don't forget to support our Simmons athletic teams!

New Internship Opportunity for GSLIS Dean's Fellows

By Linda Watkins

Three Dean's fellows, Michele Mizejewski, Mimi Kolosseus, and Carla Magenheimer, are the first participants in a new internship opportunity in the Libraries this semester. The Dean's Fellowship program, begun in the summer of 2004, offers a limited number of fulltime fellowship positions that provide tuition and financial support for GSLIS students. Appointments are typically one year, with the expectation of re-

newal for a second appointment. As part of their Fellowship, each of the fellows are working 3-5 hours a week in library departments to gain practical experience. The internships will complement their GSLIS courses and fellowship work as they explore career options. This semester, Michele is working with Rex Krajewski at the Reference Desk, Mimi with Carol Demos in Interlibrary Loan, and Carla with Anne Meringolo in Periodicals.

Carla Magenheimer is the Dean's Fellow for international initiatives. Her responsibilities involve assisting with GSLIS international projects, including the NEH-funded program, "Current Trends in Library and Information Science" for Iraqi librarians and ar-

chivists, and the Simmons College GSLIS 10th Anniversary Conference for Vietnamese Librarians. She taught at the elementary



L to R. Front: Linda Watkins and Daphne Harrington. Rear: Michele Mizejewski, Mimi Kolosseus, and Carla Magenheimer

school level for 17 years in Poland, the Netherlands, Egypt and Reno, Nevada. In March she traveled with Dean Cloonan to Lebanon and Jordan to prepare for the GSLIS program for Iraqi librarians later in July. Carla is focusing on academic libraries and would like to work abroad again when she finishes her degree.

Mimi Kolosseus is the Dean's Fellow for special projects. Her responsibilities in the GSLIS Tech Lab include WebCT support for GSLIS and technology support of the GSLIS Continuing Education Program. She is working on an online exhibit that features library and information professionals of diverse and minority backgrounds. She is from the great South-

west, where she worked in a public library. Mimi is also interested in an academic library career which includes an international focus. Together, Mimi and Carla started the first GSLIS student group for international librarianship.

Michele Mizejewski is the Dean's Fellow for teaching assistance and support in the GSLIS Tech Lab. She is responsible for network sup-

port and technology curriculum support, including lab software updates and development of instructional materials. She's also working on a website re-design for the Massachusetts Center for the Book. Michele is very interested in reference and electronic resources and hopes to work in either an academic or special library after graduation. She comes to Simmons from San Francisco, where she worked as a district technology manager for FedEx Kinko's.

The Library staff welcomes the Dean's Fellows. We are very excited about this new GSLIS/Libraries collaboration. Linda Watkins, GSLIS Librarian, is serving as internship liaison, working closely with GSLIS and the Libraries to ensure its success.

Libraries Welcome New Staff

By Kate Price

The Libraries are pleased to welcome new staff member, Jeff Kosokoff, and to recognize current Libraries staff member Vivienne Piroli in a new position. Kosokoff is the new Collection Development Librarian. He received a B.A. in Philosophy from the University of California at Santa Cruz, and an M.A. in History and Philosophy of Science as well as an

M.L.S. from Indiana University-Bloomington. Kosokoff comes to us with library experience at Harvard University, DePaul University and Connecticut College. Piroli has begun her new position as the School for Health Studies Librarian, after serving as Reference and Instructional Services Librarian for more than four years. She received her B.A. in History

and English at University College Dublin in Dublin, Ireland, an A.L.M. in History at Harvard University, and M.S. in Library and Information Science from Simmons College. We are very happy to acknowledge them both.



Vivienne Piroli and Jeff Kosokoff

Announcing a new service from the Simmons College Libraries: Article Now!

By Megan Fox

Simmons College Libraries

Check for fulltext online availability of an article

Article Now!

We are currently beta testing ArticleNow, a service that provides automatic links between citations and abstracts in one database to fulltext content in another database. While searching in a database, if you find only a citation or abstract online, look for the

Article Now!

button to check for fulltext online availability through another Simmons Libraries resource. Instead of having to manually check through many different databases individually to find a fulltext article, ArticleNow checks them all automatically!

How Does This Work?

ArticleNow uses an OpenURL Link Resolver from SerialsSolutions. An Open-URL is a standardized syntax for transferring meta-data – that is, a uni-

form way of creating a link that includes information about an article, such as title, author, source, date and page numbers. The standards for OpenURL are being created by a committee of NISO (the National Information Standards Organization). For more information on OpenURLs, see:

<http://library.caltech.edu/openurl/default.htm>

OpenURL Link Resolvers

An OpenURL Link Resolver is able to match information from all possible sources to which the library has access with all possible “targets.” That is, it can match any place a patron might search and find a citation (sources), with all databases the library owns that have the full text of that item (targets). It is neither database nor vendor dependent, but works seam-

lessly across all library resources. If fulltext of the article is not available online, ArticleNow will provide a link to the online catalog so you can see if Simmons owns the print version of the journal. If Simmons does not subscribe to the journal in either print or electronic format, you can use the link to InterLibrary Loan to request that the item be ordered for you, one of the many free services you get as a Simmons student, faculty or staff member.

Seeking Your Feedback

As this service is still in beta, we are very curious about your reactions and suggestions. To provide feedback or for additional questions or assistance, contact staff at [AskNow](#). See the sidebar for more information on contacting us. Thanks!

AskNow!

in person at the Reference Desk, over the phone at 617.521.2874, via email or live online at www.simmons.edu/libraries/asknow

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Please direct comments to the Libraries:
library@simmons.edu

**Online Version:
[www.simmons.edu/libraries/
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Watch for the Upcoming Simmons College Digital Institutional Repository (DIR) Pilot Project!

In late spring the libraries will pilot an online repository for scholarly research and output. The library staff is working with Jon Kimball, Sponsored Programs and others to develop a DIR for Simmons. A DIR will give students, faculty and staff an open-access environment in which to distribute and publicize their scholarly work. Among the works to be considered are student theses and dissertations, faculty presentations, research, and scholarship, and college publications.

Check your Campus Announcements for updates and look forward to an article on the Digital Institutional Repository in the next Libraries Newsletter!!

Support for GSLIS Students: Hands-On Workshops

By Bridgette Capobianco

Gone are the simple days where coming to the library meant searching the card catalog and working with print indexes. Today, users are challenged with a variety of sources that typically involve utilizing some sort of technology such as searching online catalogs or online databases. In addition to the new sources and technology, users also have to think critically, choose between appropriate sources—scholarly, trade, websites, blogs—and evaluate those sources. Fortunately, graduate students enrolled in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS) have a little extra help from Linda Watkins, the GSLIS Librarian, and Bridget Capobianco and Gary Atwood, the GSLIS Library Assistants.

During the first few months of every semester, Linda, Bridget and Gary offer a series of library

workshops: *OPAC & Beyond*, *Journal Searching*, *Library Literature*, *LISA*, *ISTA*, *InfoTrac – Expanded Academic*, *Dialog*, and *RefWorks*. The content of each workshop varies but the goal is always the same: demystify the resource or resources in question. The library workshops focus on the resources GSLIS students typically use during their studies with a strong focus on advanced searching skills.

One particularly useful workshop for GSLIS students is *Dialog*. *Dialog* is a service that provides access to over 470 databases. In the core course LIS 407, “Reference and Information Services,” GSLIS students spend a portion of their semester working with *Dialog*. Most students are a little nervous about using *Dialog*, primarily because it is a search service that accrues charges based on the time and nature of the search and results,

and requires use of a command language. In the *Dialog* workshop, we try to alleviate some of this anxiety by breaking down *Dialog* into digestible pieces of information. Students typically leave this workshop feeling confident and enthusiastic about searching *Dialog*.

Workshops run approximately one hour and are taught in computer labs and classrooms, which allows students to obtain hands-on training. Each workshop is usually offered for one week, three times per day, including Saturdays. If students cannot attend any of the scheduled workshops or feel they need individualized instruction, they always have the option of contacting a staff member to arrange a one-on-one meeting. Attendance at last year’s workshops reached nearly 500—a good gauge of their popularity.