

August 2005

Factoids

- Jane Garrett is the ALLA President for 2005/2006.
- When was the ALLA annual conference last held in Florence, AL?
- ALLA
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Issue Topics

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"NAME ME"

The New CUS Division Newsletter College, University, Special Libraries Division

From the Editor

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the CUS Newsletter. We hope that this newsletter will be of interest and use to you, as we bring you news of our doings and information about our colleagues from across the state. We intend for this newsletter to offer practical help on a substantial topic of interest to all of us.

Our first order of business, however, is to solicit your help in naming the newsletter! We would like to come up with something memorable. If you have a suggestion, please send it to [Colleen Valente](#). The CUS board will make a decision in time for the next issue.

We would also like to feature

information about your library. This might be little known facts about your holdings or a special collection you might like to showcase. If your library or research center contains a large room which cannot be found on the architect's plan (as happened at a library I once worked at), that would be great news too!

Finally, we would welcome feedback from you. We are always interested in topics for programs, speakers that you can recommend and library or technology problems you would like for us to address with this newsletter.

Colleen Valente, Editor & Chair,
Public Relations Committee



Hope our newsletter doesn't put anyone to sleep!

The Shoals Convention "Jazzin' It Up"



The Convention Committee is hard at work "Jazzin' It Up" for the Florence, AL convention in April 2006. Can you remember when ALLA has had the opportunity to conference in the beautiful Alabama Shoals area. The Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa (pictured left) is a new facility. Make your plans now to attend.



Keeping up with favorite sites has gotten a bit easier with RSS.

"The \$6.2 million structure will be the first new building for the campus in over 21 years" Drake Tech



A little help; big rewards.

RSS Feeds by Deborah Barone (Air University Library)

One of the newest tools available is RSS Feed. RSS can stand for many things-Really Simple Syndication and Rich Site Summary are the two most often used. RSS feeds are created by website (and especially blog) authors as a way to let users know their site has been updated. Usually, a website will display an orange button that says "RSS" or "XML" to link to their feeds. To view a feed, a user will need an aggregator. Aggregators are either web-based or downloaded to a PC, and function as a 'feed reader'. Inside the

aggregator, users will compile a list of feeds that they want to monitor. The aggregator continually checks with this list of websites, viewing the RSS feed for changes. As the RSS feeds are updated, the aggregator will display the changes. When the users logs into the aggregator, it shows a list of all RSS feed subscriptions and highlights those that have been updated since the last visit. Instead of visiting 10, 20, or 100 websites to look for updates, a user can simply log into their account and have all of

the information in one place. RSS Feeds can also be produced without a website, simply as a way to send information to subscribers (e.g. newsletters, sales information, etc.). Software Garden has a great site giving details of RSS Feeds for "non-technical people" at <http://rss.softwaregarden.com/aboutrss.html>. (continued page 3)

Drake Tech's "S. C. O'Neal Sr., Library & Technology Center"

The new library is a three-story, 45,000 square-foot building. The facility will include a lecture hall and space for administrative offices. The \$6.2 million structure will be the first new building for the campus in over 21 years. The center will provide more internet accessibility for students. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for the Huntsville college in Fall 2005.



"Everyone Can Help", A Message from the CUS Chair

Every family has one person who takes on the responsibility of watching out for the well-being of each member. It could be a rich aunt or a big brother, but they are always there to protect, encourage and lend a hand when the problems of life creep in and pose challenges.

ALLA plays that role for the library and information profession. I know, you're thinking, I don't have time to participate,

I'm close to retirement, I have too much work to do, I'm tenured, and my dog can't travel. All of the above and more are absolutely correct, "BUT", as a profession we can't afford to let down our guard because we think we're in a comfortable position. In this digital century, although we're at the top of our game, our profession's library schools are under severe attack, intellectual freedom is being curtailed at

every legislative turn, cost of living is always an issue, and you need an advocate, a group who cares about all our library families.

Join ALLA today. Support your local library school. Donate some small change to the cause. Everyone can help. Ron Dial

Library News

Dr. Jeff Luzius will begin his appointment as library director at Gadsden State Community College on Sept. 1, 2005. Jeff's most recent position has been as Head of Document Delivery at Auburn University. He holds an MLS from Florida State and an MEd and EdD from Auburn in Higher Education Administration.

The move to GSCC is a particularly good fit in light of his background. Jeff has two associate degrees; one granted by Kellogg Community College and one by the Community College of the Air Force. As a product of the community college system, he is a firm believer in its mission.

Jeff looks forward to getting to know as many people as possible, perhaps everyone, during his first year: one of the very positive differences between a community college and a large university is the possibility of doing just that. In addition, he will be evaluating the programs and services offered by the library and working to market them to the community.



Jeff Luzius becomes library director at GSCC



"Instead of visiting 10, 20, or 100 websites to look for updates, a user can simply log into their account and have all the information in one place."
RSS Feeds



GSU will host the Georgia Conference on Literacy

RSS Feeds continued from page 2

An easy to use web based aggregator is www.bloglines.com.

RSS Feeds are especially useful for sites that want to convey news items. A library could have feeds that detail new acquisitions, policies, or technology updates. For example, the University of Alabama's libraries have over 300 RSS Feeds (<http://library.ua.edu/rss/>) that report on newly acquisitioned titles;

each feed deals with specific subject area, so that users will only be notified of new titles in the subjects they are interested in. The University of Wisconsin-Madison's Ebling Library (<http://www.hsl.wisc.edu/bjd/journals/rss/index.cfm>) has a website that lists the RSS Feeds available from a large selection electronic journals. In addition, ProQuest recently introduced "Curriculum Match Fac-

tor" (www.proquest.com/proquest/rss/rss.shtml), providing RSS Feeds that will deliver citations on chosen topics as they become available.

Deborah Barone, Co-op Librarian
 Air University

Upcoming Events

[Georgia Conference on Information Literacy](#). Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at Georgia Southern University, Statesboro.

[Charleston Conference](#). Nov. 2-5 in Charleston, SC. This is, for those who don't know, *the* conference for acquisitions librarians, vendors and publishers.

Alabama Library Association

CUS Division

Useful Links

[Network of Alabama Academic Libraries](#)

[NEA Foundation for the Improvement of Education](#)

The CUS Division promotes library services and librarianship among ALLA and constituent association groups.

The mission of the CUS Division is to support its member libraries' needs for ongoing information in four critical areas; information resources, education, leadership and innovative practices.

CUS Division members represent committed library and information professionals and technical staffs at approximately thirty-nine (39) universities and colleges, sixty (60) two-year and technical colleges, and numerous special libraries with interests in business, science, medicine, energy, art, sports, and more!

Any member of ALLA is welcome [to become a member!](#)

Your ALLA / CUS Division Officers

Chair: Ron Dial — Air University

Chair/Elect: Tyrone Webb— Beville State Community College

Secretary: Bethany Skaggs— Jacksonville State University

Immediate Past Chair:
Robert Burkhardt— Athens State University

Member-at-Large for Projects:
Jodi Poe — Jacksonville State University

Member-at-Large for Bylaws:
Jeffrey Luzius— Gadsden State Community College

Member-at-Large for Planning :
Margaret Alexander— Tuskegee University

Member-at-Large for Programs:
Paula Barnett-Ellis— Jacksonville State University

Committee Chairs:
[Colleen Valente,](#)

Public Relations

Bill Hubbard,

Publications

Amy Prendergast,

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