



1831 Campus Celebrated: Kapp Lecture and Models of the Rotunda and the Lyceum Unveiled



Left, Dean Louis A. Pitschmann and visiting lecturer Paul Kapp, associate professor of architecture at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and historic preservation architect.

Faculty, staff, students, and members of the public gathered April 3 to hear a lecture by Paul Kapp to discuss the work of William Nichols, the designer of the original 1831 University of Alabama campus.

The lecture was held one day prior to the sesquicentennial of the burning of the campus by the Union cavalry during the Civil War.

Kapp is an associate professor of architecture at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and a historic preservation architect.

Kapp's recent book, *The Architecture of William Nichols: Building the Antebellum South in North Carolina, Alabama, and Mississippi* chronicles Nichols' work across the Southeast. Nichols served as the state

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President Judy Bonner, left, and Dean of Libraries Louis A. Pitschmann unveil a model of the Rotunda. The building served as the centerpiece for the 1831 campus. Housing the library, the Rotunda was destroyed during the Civil War when Union forces burned the campus on April 4, 1865.



Interior design students, from left, Amber McKinley, Danielle Maros and Jade Scherb unveil a model of the Lyceum. Serving as a multipurpose building housing classrooms and laboratories, the Lyceum was located north of the Rotunda.



From left, Dean Louis A. Pitschmann, the Rev. Wylheme H. Ragland and his son, Frederick Kennedy, hold a portrait of an unknown mid-19th century African-American woman. The portrait was presented to the Libraries' Division of Special Collection and will be added to the Schaudies-Banks-Ragland Collection.

A North Alabama's Clergyman's Passion for History

The Rev. Wylheme H. Ragland first found his way to University Libraries through an article on sweet potato pies written by a former faculty member of Hoole Special Collections Library.

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Message From the Dean –

Over the years much space in this column has been devoted to describing the various technology-driven services librarians and staff have introduced in the University Libraries. Although the number of books students borrow from our collections each year continues to decrease, our libraries remain popular destinations, with the number of visitors increasing at rates greater than annual increases in enrollment.

More than at any time in the past, students and faculty members alike look to the Libraries for individual study space, as well as for group space where they can collaborate with other students and faculty colleagues. But it is not traditionally designed spaces they are seeking. The majority of our users turn to the University Libraries in search of spaces equipped with the latest technology and staffed with librarians who provide an array of support services.

Unfortunately, space in the University Libraries remains limited. Library space has not grown in response to increased enrollments, which have nearly doubled since an off-site library facility was built in 2003 to store volumes with low circulation rates. Collections there cannot be browsed, and there is no space for users.

Repurposing existing library space by transferring low-use materials to the Library Storage Annex is no longer viable. Indeed, some faculty members, especially those in the humanities and history, are asking that our transfer policies be reversed. They would like to see many stored volumes returned to our open stacks.

Additional library space is long overdue. Students and faculty members at the Capstone need not merely more space for study and research; they need space that is specifically designed to provide contemporary library services. They need library facilities like those at peer institutions that are



*Dr. Louis A. Pitschmann,
Dean of Libraries*

designed and equipped for learning and research commensurate with today's needs and expectations.

Thanks to University administrators' longstanding commitment to funding the Libraries' collections and electronic resources, librarians have acquired information resources that are now among the best in the Southeast. Ironically, while providing access to exceptional 21st-century collections and services, the University Libraries' 20th-century facilities are inadequate and no longer commensurate with current teaching, learning, and research priorities at The University of Alabama.

Our print and electronic collections, as well as our librarians, are recognized for their excellence. Indeed, some campus librarians are honored nationally and internationally for their contributions to reshaping library services for the 21st century. Yet, continued delays in expanding the University Libraries' public spaces seriously hampers our students from experiencing the learning opportunities increasingly being offered at peer institutions.



Current News and Events



In January the Office of Library Technology assisted Professor Heather Kopelson, history department, in demonstrating the Oculus Rift, a new virtual reality headset, to members of their department. Professor Michael Jarvis, guest presenter from the University of Rochester, was on campus to demonstrate the latest teaching technology. The Rift uses custom tracking technology to provide ultra-low latency 360° head tracking, allowing the wearer to seamlessly look around a virtual world. Due to the reaction of both departments and the potential for unlimited applications and learning possibilities, the Libraries has purchased two headsets for faculty and students to use.

STEM Path to the MBA Business Research Academy Angelo Bruno Business Library

In Fall Semester 2014, the Angelo Bruno Business Library began supporting the STEM Path to the MBA (STEM-MBA) program through an innovative new initiative, the Business Research Academy. The purpose of the initiative is to develop a high level of business information competency in STEM-MBA students. STEM-MBA is a program of the Culverhouse College of Commerce for undergraduates majoring in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, or mathematics), in which they take one-hour Business Honors courses throughout their undergraduate years, potentially culminating in completing their MBA in the fifth year. Through the Business Research Academy, these high-achieving students will be exposed to a range of premium digital business databases and information sources not freely available over the Internet. They will learn about

basic business information sources, such as articles from academic and professional journals and company and industry reports, as well as more advanced data types, such as market and demographic data, international country intelligence, consumer use data, analyst reports, and macroeconomic data.

Business librarians provide incoming freshman STEM-MBA students with a Business Research Unveiled presentation followed by online training tutorials embedded in the Blackboard Learn course-management shell for their Business Honors course. Each semester, as the students move to the next Business Honors course, a new series of online modules will be offered following the sequence of

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architect in North Carolina, Alabama, and Mississippi and designed three campuses including the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, the University of Alabama, and the University of Mississippi as well the capitol buildings in the same states.

Nichols’ original UA plan incorporated 11 buildings, including residences for professors, dormitories, academic buildings, the Gorgas House, the Rotunda and the Lyceum. The campus was designed and built for \$56,000, Kapp said. The Gorgas House was the only Nichols-designed building to survive.

Closeup of the model of the Rotunda unveiled in honor of President Judy Bonner.



Following Kapp’s lecture, scale models of the Rotunda and the Lyceum created by artist Creighton C. “Peco” Forsman were unveiled in the J. Wray and Joan Billingsley Pearce Foyer in Gorgas Library. The models were made as part of a project to document the original campus and to assist artist and historian Dean Mosher as visual references for a painting he is creating of the original campus.

President Judy Bonner unveiled the Rotunda model which was donated in her honor by Mosher. Assisting her was Dean of Libraries Louis A. Pitschmann.

“This is a beautiful and wonderful way to honor Dr. Bonner,” Pitschmann said.

Bonner asked three students attending the event to unveil the Lyceum model. The Lyceum was donated by Mosher in honor of all UA students, past, present and future.

The models and Mosher’s painting, scheduled to be finished by August or September, will be displayed in the Pearce Foyer and will eventually be moved to the historic Bryce main building which is currently being renovated and restored as a museum.

--Donna Adcock
Director, Public Relations

“STEM” continued from page 3

business disciplines used in the STEM-MBA program, i.e., leadership and organizational behavior, marketing, accounting, finance, etc. Each fall semester, a new class of incoming STEM-MBA students will begin the program and the Bruno Library will begin the Academy anew with the incoming students.

Students who successfully complete the Business Research Academy modules each semester will earn a digital badge, such as the Leadership and Organizational Behavior Badge. As students accumulate badges they will reach levels of accomplishment, such as becoming a Business Research Intern, Business Research Apprentice, and ultimately Business Research Master. STEM-MBA students will have an electronic credential to enhance their resumes. The students who choose to complete the MBA program will have a competitive edge by being business information competent. They will also have gained a knowledge of premium commercial business information and data sources that is transferable and will assist them in applying classroom knowledge to research applications they may encounter in a corporate and professional setting.

--Lee Pike, head, Angelo Bruno Business Library



“Passion” continued from page 1

One of the seven display cases which held the diaries of Mrs. J.B. (Jennie) Scott. One diary included her entry about the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

“I called the library and said, ‘I love the article. My mother made some of the best pies in the United States and was an avid collector of cook books,’” he said. “I told them that I would love to meet with them and donate those, and that was the beginning of a great relationship.”

Rev. Ragland and his son, Frederick Kennedy, have continued to donate items from families primarily from north Alabama to now create the Schaudies-Banks-Ragland Collection. Their aim is to reconstruct a more realistic understanding of the significant contributions of people of color in Alabama through their donations of cookbooks, scrapbooks, letters, photographs, wills, journals and funeral bulletins.

Beginning in February and celebrating Black History Month, artifacts from the most recent of three donations went on display in the J. Wray and Joan Billingsley Pearce Foyer in Gorgas Library. Seven display cases and 21 wall hangings, including family photographs, make up the exhibit.

Of special interest to many visitors to the exhibit is the case holding the scrapbooks, commonplace books, and diaries of Mrs. J. B. (Jennie) Scott. Scott was born in Mississippi in 1880; she married, lived, raised two daughters, and worked as a teacher in Memphis, Tennessee. Scott kept daily entries

chronicling her daily activities and thoughts including events of local and national importance, including the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, and the march from Selma to Montgomery. She moved to Tuskegee, Ala., in the late 1950s to live with her younger daughter until her death in 1965.

“Our collection says there weren’t [just slaves or poor], there were free blacks in Civil War times, [and throughout history] there were educated, middle class citizens who owned businesses and were elected to public office,” said Ragland.

While the Schaudies-Banks-Ragland Collection is a vast one, Ragland said he hopes for it to grow through other families donating their own inherited histories to the Libraries. Most of all, Ragland hopes to build a new understanding of Alabama’s rich cultural past by taking “an appreciative, truthful, and celebratory look at our history.”

The exhibition was curated by Martha Bace, processing archivist, Division of Special Collections, and will be on display until the end of May.

-- Excerpts from this article were written by Margaret Wilbourne and appeared in *The Crimson White*



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PLEDGES 2014

Larry W. O’Neal

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Library Staff,
Thank you so much for all that you do! The library is one of my favorite places in the world
and I appreciate your dedication to maintaining these incredible learning resources!
-Jocelyn



Two Inge family portraits, William Bullock Inge and Elizabeth Herdon Inge, have now been restored thanks to the generous contribution from Dr. W. Russell Holman III from Birmingham. William Inge was in the initial class of 52 students attending the University and can be argued the first student enrolled. He married Elizabeth Brock Herndon in 1839. Dr. Holman and his father, Wilton Russell Holman Jr, are decedents of the family. The Holmans attended the Libraries' Benefactors Luncheon in April and saw the recently restored portraits. From left, Wilton Russell Holman Jr and his wife, Debbie, from Headland, Ala., and Dr. Holman III stand alongside the refurbished portraits.

Retired Dean of Nursing Sara Barger, left, and Dean Lou Pitschmann hold a framed portrait of a cigar roller by the Cuban artist Raymin Velez Gonzales. Dean Barger recently donated the portrait to the Libraries. Barger purchased the portrait on a University of Alabama-sponsored trip to Cuba.



From Left, Library Leadership Board Membership Chairman J. Wray Pearce, Joan Pearce, Honorary Board Member Linda Bachus, Spencer T. Bachus III, and Dean Louis A. Pitschmann gather before the Benefactors Luncheon in April.



News from the Faculty and Staff



Edward Corrado joined University Libraries in April as the new associate dean for Library Technology Planning and Policy. Corrado recently served as director of Library Technology at Binghamton University in Binghamton, N.Y., where he provided senior-level leadership and vision for information technology within the Binghamton University Libraries. He also served as a member of the Libraries' Executive Council, providing strategic direction and administrative oversight for all library operations.

Corrado holds a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from Caldwell University and a master of library service degree from Rutgers University.



Erica England joined Gorgas Information Services on Jan. 7, 2015, as research and instructional services librarian. England holds a bachelor of arts degree in English from New Mexico State University and a master's degree in arts, library and information science from the University of South Florida. She previously worked at the University of Central Florida as an adjunct librarian.



James Gilbreath joined Gorgas Information Services on Dec. 1, 2014, as research and instructional services librarian. Gilbreath served as library director at Brown Mackie College in Birmingham. He holds a bachelor's degree in Russian and anthropology, and a master's of library science, both from The University of Alabama.



Fran Jecen, library assistant II, retired April 30, 2015, after 11 years of service with University Libraries.

Melissa Green, academic technologies instruction librarian, was selected to attend the Accessible Future workshop at Emory University in April. Funding was provided by the Office of Digital Humanities at the National Endowment for the Humanities. The project engages humanists, librarians, information scientists, and cultural heritage professionals with technologies, design standards, and accessibility issues associated with the use of digital environments. Following the two-day workshop, Green led a session in the University Libraries' Alabama Digital Humanities Center sharing lessons learned and led attendees in an online resource evaluation and discussion.

Cynthia Miller, Music, Fine & Performing Arts Collections coordinator, was promoted and granted tenure in April.

Andrew Parker, web services librarian, joined University Libraries on Feb. 16, 2015. Parker recently held the position of digital initiatives project specialist, digital research and publishing, at the University of Iowa Libraries. He holds bachelor's degrees in informatics and history, and a master's degree in library science from the University of Iowa.



Vincent Scalfani, science and engineering librarian, was selected as a recipient of the President's Faculty Research Award. Dr. Scalfani was one of only 13 UA faculty members to receive this award. The President's Faculty Research Award is a new honor intended to recognize excellence and to encourage an increased emphasis on research in all colleges and divisions of the University. Scalfani is the editor of the *American Chemical Society Chemical Information Bulletin* and an active researcher in the areas of chemical information literacy, cheminformatics, and 3D Printing.



Library Leadership Board presents 2015 Faculty and Staff Awards



The Library Leadership Board presented the 2015 Faculty and Staff Awards at the Libraries' Benefactors Luncheon April 17. Pictured are, from left, Dean Louis Pitschmann, faculty award winner Mangala Krishnamurthy, her husband Dr. Narayan Krishnamurthy, and Susan Tolbert, Program Committee chair of the Library Leadership Board. Krishnamurthy is a reference librarian in the Rodgers Library for Science and Engineering.

Scott Barnes, digital media specialist in the Sanford Media Center, was presented the 2015 Staff Award.

Pictured are, from left, Dean Louis Pitschmann, Scott Barnes, and Susan Tolbert.



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