



# HIGHLIGHTS



## From the Dean of Libraries

Bonnie MacEwan

### Changes - Seen and Unseen



Auburn University Libraries is gearing up for another busy year. Much of what we do is easy to see – like the new home for the Discover Auburn lecture series, the Caroline Marshall Draughon Auditorium.

The Discover Auburn lectures always have much of interest to faculty, students, staff, and community members. In the past they have been offered in a section of Special Collections and

Archives, but with the start of the fall 2014 series they will be offered in a space designed for lectures and programs. Plans are in the works for some other programs, including presentations on information cybersecurity and changes in the scholarly communication system.

These lectures are free and open to the public. This year's lectures will feature many topics related to the American Civil War presented by Auburn faculty. This will be a great way to get a new perspective on the conflict as the nation marks the sesquicentennial of the end of the war. We hope you and your students will attend and experience our new facility.

On the other hand, some of the changes at the library are not so easily seen.

Over the past year the AUL's Systems Department, working with the subject specialists, has made public Auburn's institutional repository. Known as AUrora, the acronym stands for Auburn University Repository of Research Assets.

AUrora's purpose is to showcase research by Auburn University faculty, students, and staff in order to make it accessible to Alabama residents, the general public, and research communities.

Using AUrora to provide open access to research and other work produced by the university increases global visibility of Auburn's achievements is a part of fulfilling the university's mission as a land-grant university. It also satisfies a growing number of federal requirements concerning the dissemination

and preservation of research funded with public money. Further, by removing the normal gatekeepers of information, such as academic publishers, works that are unpublished or otherwise easily lost can be preserved and archived.

AUrora accepts submissions from people who are formally associated with the university. This includes faculty of all types, as well as graduate students, academic professionals, and staff. Each department may choose to include other categories of users, such as undergraduate students. The repository is organized into communities that correspond to the university's colleges, departments, and research centers and institutes. Each department may determine the criteria for the scholarly output to be included in its collection.

The most common types of content are pre- or post-prints of journal articles or books; conference papers, presentations, or poster sessions; technical reports or working papers; learning objects or lesson plans; and datasets. The repository can accept a variety of formats, including text files, PDF files, images, videos, and datasets. The files can be searched by keyword or browsed by college, submission date, author name, and other criteria. AUrora is indexed by Google and Google Scholar, which means that Auburn researchers can count on their research getting wide exposure.

AUrora is designed to be faculty-driven and easy to use. Participation is voluntary and faculty members decide what to contribute and deposit using a web-based work form. Researchers are encouraged to check publisher's policies on copyright and self-archiving through the SHERPA/RoMEO database at [www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/](http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/). If the subject librarians identify any problems they will contact you, and you are encouraged to work with your subject specialist librarian as you become familiar with this new service.

A vibrant community is already evident on AUrora. We hope you will check it out at [diglib.auburn.edu/openaccess.php](http://diglib.auburn.edu/openaccess.php) and be a part of bringing even more of the fine work of Auburn to the world.

As your academic year gets under way, I hope you will check out the many services of the libraries to support your research and teaching. Please encourage your students to use our services so we can be a part of their academic success at Auburn. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact your subject specialist <http://libguides.auburn.edu/subjectspecialists> or any of us.

## Services for Research & Publication

Marcia Boosinger, Associate Dean for Public Services



As we start another academic year, the faculty and staff in the Public Services Department want to emphasize three services to assist you in your scholarly endeavors.

Publishing your research or creative work is critical to you as a tenured or tenure-track faculty member. Of equal importance are the standard publishing agreements you may sign that ask you to sign away rights to your scholarship. Then the publisher (now the copyright owner of the work) can lock the research behind a paywall—

other researchers cannot access the article unless they (or their libraries) subscribe to the journal. Please contact your subject specialist librarian, who, along with Jaena Alabi, the libraries' scholarly communications point person, wants to engage in dialogue with you about alternatives—publishing in high-quality open access journals, or publishing with existing journals without signing away all your authors' rights. These alternatives will allow you the flexibility to make your work accessible to a broader audience, which can lead to increased recognition for both you and Auburn.

The libraries are trying out a new model in collection management with the appointment of a team of three librarians who will guide collections decisions. Subject specialists Liza Weisbrod, Barbara Bishop, and Adelia Grabowsky are investigating ways to maximize access to the best quality materials within existing budget constraints. Current projects include a Readcube pilot project that allows you to save time by directly viewing and printing articles from *Nature* journals to which the library does not subscribe instead of using interlibrary loan. Experiments are also under way to expand the libraries' collection of electronic books and to involve the libraries in open-source academic publishing by supporting the inaugural offerings of Knowledge Unlatched, an international crowdsourcing initiative. Within the libraries, the team is updating and streamlining policies and procedures and restructuring workflows to take advantage of electronic collection management techniques that will allow subject specialists more time to work directly with you.

For more than a decade AUL has been offering free delivery of printed material to faculty and graduate student offices, currently averaging 450 deliveries per month. Circulation staff courier Marty Pierce maintains a 93 percent fill rate for material requested, and most materials are delivered in one to two business days. You can make a delivery request from the title within the library catalog or from the following link: [www.lib.auburn.edu/jcourier/](http://www.lib.auburn.edu/jcourier/). Circulation head JP Pendleton is currently assessing the time savings to faculty that this service provides.

These are just a few of the ways your public services faculty and staff colleagues are working to support your very important research and publication.

## Initiatives for Teaching & Research

Aaron Trehub, Assistant Dean for Technology & Technical Services



The Systems and Technical Services departments pursued a number of initiatives in support of teaching and research at Auburn.

The Media and Digital Resource Lab (MDRL) is one of four campus support units for the university's student ePortfolio initiative. The Auburn University Digital Library (AUDL: <http://diglib.auburn.edu/>) added a record six new collections last year: Design Alabama, Maps from the Treasure Room, AU Historic Catalogs, the C.

Harry Knowles collection, and the *Orange and Blue* and *The Plainsman* collections. More digital collections are in the works.

We officially launched Auburn's institutional repository, AUrora (<http://aurora.auburn.edu/>), in September 2013; it now contains almost 2,000 items.

In response to a request from the Office of the Provost and in collaboration with faculty members from the College of Liberal Arts, the libraries helped draft a proposal for supporting digital scholarship at Auburn. We are also working with the OVP, OIT, and COSAM on developing resources to help Auburn faculty members satisfy new federal requirements for managing research data.

As in previous years, our activities extend outside Auburn. AlabamaMosaic ([www.alabamamosaic.org/](http://www.alabamamosaic.org/)) is Alabama's digital library. Thanks to a new user interface developed by AUL, we were able to more than double the number of items in AlabamaMosaic, from approximately 70,000 at the beginning of 2013 to more than 158,000 in August 2014. This has opened new possibilities for collaboration with the Encyclopedia of Alabama ([www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/](http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/)) and with faculty at Auburn and at other institutions around the state.

In a related development, Auburn took the lead in contributing items from the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries Civil War Portal ([american-south.org/](http://american-south.org/)) to the Digital Public Library of America ([dp.la/](http://dp.la/)). We plan to work even more closely in future with the DPLA and its regional hub, the Digital Library of Georgia ([dlg.galileo.usg.edu/](http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/)).

Members of the Systems and Technical Services Departments gave presentations at national and international conferences in 2013-2014. These included the second Aligning National Approaches to Digital Preservation conference in Barcelona, Spain; the Radcliffe Workshop on Technology and Archival Processing in Cambridge, Massachusetts; the 2013 and 2014 conferences of the American Library Association (in Chicago and Las Vegas) and the North American Serials Interest Group (in Buffalo and Fort Worth); and the 2013 annual conference of the Society of American Archivists in New Orleans.

Finally, AlabamaMosaic won the 2014 Alabama Library Association Merit Award; and Aligning National Approaches to Digital Preservation ([www.educopia.org/publishing/anadp](http://www.educopia.org/publishing/anadp)), the edited volume from the first ANADP conference in 2011, won the prestigious Society of American Archivists Preservation Publication Award for 2013.

## AU Libraries Faculty Have Banner Year for Promotions and Tenure

In 2014, five members of the Auburn University Libraries faculty earned promotion and tenure.

Marcia Boosinger, associate dean for public services; Claudine Jenda, reference librarian in the subjects of Agriculture and Geography & Geology; and Nancy Noe, reference librarian in the subjects of Consumer & Design Science, Hotel & Restaurant Management, Human Development & Family Studies, and Nutrition & Food Sciences, were promoted to Librarian IV.

Toni Carter, reference librarian in Women's Studies and AUL's instruction coordinator, and Liza Weisbrod, reference librarian in Music and Government Documents librarian, earned tenure and were promoted to Librarian III.

"Auburn University Libraries is extremely proud to have so many of our very professional faculty recognized with promotion and tenure for their hard work and contribution to scholarship," said Bonnie MacEwan, dean of AU Libraries. "Only by recruiting and retaining such talented individuals can we continue to provide the library services that make Auburn a first-rate research university."

## Catching Up With Former Library Student Worker Cara Tupps

AU Libraries has a long tradition of employing some very special student workers. But few have taken their ink-barely-dry diplomas and signed up for a two-year assignment with the Peace Corps.

Cara Tupps, former assistant to the AUL development director and May 2013 Auburn graduate, did just that, and for the last year has been assigned to the small inland village of Panda in Mozambique.



In Panda, Cara works in a secondary school teaching biology and computer technology. She is also involved in projects which are focused around youth development, and HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness. Other projects include efforts to educate the community on themes like preventable diseases, domestic

violence, and discrimination. She is also the assistant national coordinator for a girls organization called REDES, whose mission is to create opportunities for young women through health education, identifying gender roles, and income generation projects.

When asked what the most rewarding experience has been, Cara said, "It's hard to pinpoint one experience here as being most rewarding. For me the experiences and relationships I have with individuals make my service worth it. Sometimes I have a great discussion with one of my youth development groups about the importance of HIV testing, sometimes my students impress me with how excited they are to play 'Biology Jeopardy,' and sometimes my neighbors and I cook a meal together and laugh at my struggle to learn the local language. It's these moments that make me realize the impact I can make as a volunteer, as well as the impact the people are making on me."

## AU Libraries Wins Spirit of Sustainability Award



AU Libraries building coordinator Bob Yerkey (right) accepts the Spirit of Sustainability award from the director of the Office of Sustainability, Mike Kensler. AUL won the award in conjunction with the Facilities Management Group for work done in RBD Library to decrease energy usage in the building. The project consisted of replacing existing lighting in the fourth-floor study bays with LED cove and pendant lighting and a first-on-campus light harvesting system. The system saves energy and casts a more comfortable light for reading and study by adjusting light levels depending on the amount of outside light coming into the building. Areas affected by these improvements have seen a 57 percent reduction in energy consumption.

## Hampton Roads Peace Conference Exhibit in Special Collections

The Special Collections & Archives Department of Auburn University Libraries is exhibiting its impressive collection of American Civil War documents related to the Hampton Roads peace conference, which took place in February 1865. Acquired in 2013, these documents offer a rare glimpse into a time when many historians believe the outcome of the Civil War was no longer in doubt, and the two sides were interested in determining how the conflict would end; through unconditional surrender or through a negotiated peace.

When the Hampton Roads conference was convened, it was agreed that no formal notes would be kept of the proceedings. Therefore, the private papers of Hampton Roads conference attendees, such as United States Army Major Thomas Eckert and Confederate Assistant Secretary of War John A. Campbell, are important to understanding why the Hampton Roads negotiations ultimately failed.

Included in the exhibit are letters setting up the conference and personal notes on the proceedings. Of particular interest is the personal diary of Major Eckert, with entries written during the year of 1865. Eckert, at the time the general superintendent of military telegraph at the War Department with the rank of major, was a confidant of President Lincoln and Secretary of War Stanton, and was at Lincoln's bedside when the president died.

The exhibit is housed on the ground floor of the Ralph Brown Draughon Library and will run through the end of 2014.

# HvZ AT RBD LIBRARY

## A New Perspective on the Library From a Game

The Ralph Brown Draughton (RBD) Library is a popular campus study and research destination, and few would argue with the assertion that student use of the library is a major indicator of academic success. However, with a campus population exceeding 25,000

students, not all students are regular library users, despite all its many resources to enrich their education.

Over the years, Auburn University Libraries has worked hard to make the library a more approachable resource.

Reference librarian Cate Oravet did research into what is being called the “gamification of libraries,” an approach used for both entertainment and outreach to library patrons. She found that students responded especially well to events they organized themselves, so she approached student groups about holding events in RBD. One group that jumped at the chance to hold an event in the library was

AU’s Humans versus Zombies (HvZ) group.

Humans versus Zombies is played by opposing teams of foam-dart-gun-wielding humans and “infect-on-touch” zombies. Humans have goals to achieve in a given time and can return zombies to their “respawn point” by shooting them with their weapons. Zombies have to prevent the humans from achieving their goals or turn all humans into zombies by tagging them.

The first game was held during fall semester of 2012, and all five floors of the library were open for play. Library personnel were the staff and referees for the game. Since that first event, a game of Humans versus Zombies has been played in RBD during both fall and spring semesters with participation of approximately 200 students at each event.

To determine if having the games in the library made students want to increase their commitment to using the library’s resources in their academic studies, Oravet developed a survey to gather demographic information on HvZ participants, gather information about their previous usage patterns and perceptions of the library, and assess if their use and perceptions of

the library would change as a result of the event.

A total of 126 students responded to the first survey immediately following the game. Forty students responded to the survey emailed two weeks after the game.

The results were very encouraging. About a third of the students surveyed came to the library at least once a week before participating in HvZ. Of the students surveyed immediately after the game indicated that they would increase their attendance. Most students already had a very positive impression of the library prior to the game. Participating in the game increased their positive feelings and their comfort level.

AU Libraries’ association with the student Humans versus Zombies group has been well worth the investment, as it has allowed the libraries to make a group of students more comfortable with, and thus more likely to use, their library.

The student Humans versus Zombies group will ultimately decide if HvZ games continue to be held in RBD, but as far as library faculty and staff are concerned, they are always welcome.



*A zombie attacks a human squad at the inaugural Humans versus Zombies game in RBD Library.*

# Meet the Science Librarians

The science subject specialist reference librarians do a great deal for library users each year to make Auburn University Libraries the best resource for academic research.

Foremost in their responsibilities is to develop the library collections related to their given subject areas. While much of this development is done through their own expertise, they are also constantly soliciting user input in building the best collections possible.

They are also available to teach subject-specific information literacy instruction sessions as well as provide personalized, in-depth assistance through one-on-one research consultations. This individualized support is not only available to undergraduates, but also to graduate students and faculty conducting research for grants, systematic reviews, and other research-intensive endeavors.

In addition, science subject specialists offer support for compliance with data management plan requirements, assistance in patent searching, instruction in using citation management software, and submission of scholarly material to Auburn's institutional repository, AUora.

Rob Buchanan, subject specialist in chemistry and head of the Cary Veterinary Medical Library, has been with AUL for 11 years. His BS is from the University of Washington, PhD in chemistry from Wisconsin, and MLS from SUNY Buffalo. Before becoming a librarian, Rob was a research chemist for 12 years.

Adelia Grabowsky, subject specialist in communications disorders, nursing, and pharmacy, earned her BS and an MLIS from the University of Alabama. She also holds a certificate of advanced study in health sciences librarianship from the University of Pittsburgh. Before her two years with AUL, Grabowski was with the University of



*Auburn University Libraries' subject specialist librarians in sciences (from left to right) Claudine Jenda, Adelia Grabowsky, Patricia Hartman, Andy Wohrley, and Rob Buchanan.*

Mississippi Medical Center.

Patricia Hartman, subject specialist in biological sciences, forestry and wildlife, and mathematics, has only been with AUL for a year, but brings impressive credentials with a BS from the University of Florida, an MS in forestry and wildlife from the University of Kentucky, and an MLIS from the University of Kentucky.

Claudine Jenda, subject specialist in agriculture and geography and geology, is the senior science librarian with 25 years at AUL. She also brings a special international perspective to the position with a BSc from The University of Malawi and an MSc (Information Science) from The City University, London.

Andy Wohrley, subject specialist in engineering, physics, and cyber security, has been with AUL for 19 years. His BA is from Valparaiso University and his MLS is from Indiana University. Before becoming a librarian, Wohrley worked at the Caterpillar Technical Information Center.

# Library Faculty Achievement Highlights

**Jaena Alabi, Reference Librarian** – Alabi won the EBSCO Award for Research Excellence at the Alabama Library Association’s CUS Research Forum for her paper titled, “Racial Microaggressions in Academic Libraries.” The research reported in this paper uses the framework of racial microaggressions—subtle, denigrating messages directed toward people of color—to investigate the experiences of minority academic librarians. The research project seeks to answer two questions: 1) Are academic librarians of color experiencing racial microaggressions from their library colleagues? and 2) Do white academic librarians observe these derogatory exchanges directed at their minority colleagues?

**Barbara Bishop, Reference Librarian** – Along with Liza Weisbrod and Adelia Grabowsky, Bishop was appointed to be part of the collections team. This team is a new endeavor for Auburn University Libraries that was formed to be a conduit between the library administration and the subject specialists where the team teaches, trains, and interprets as the collections landscape swiftly changes within the library.

**Marcia Boosinger, Associate Dean for Public Services and Head of Reference and Instruction Services** – Boosinger was promoted to Librarian IV.

**Rob Buchanan, Head of the Cary Veterinary Library** - Reference managers are becoming an essential tool for academic researchers. Buchanan, in conjunction with Kasia Leousis, taught faculty and graduate students how to use two of the most popular reference managers, EndNote and Zotero. Classes were held roughly every two weeks at RBD Library with an expanded number of Saturday morning classes added to make it easier for busy faculty and graduate students to attend. Advanced EndNote, a question-driven session, has also been added this past year.

**Toni Carter, Reference/Instruction Librarian** - Carter created a lesson plan in collaboration with Todd Aldridge, a GTA in the English Department, to be published in an upcoming ACRL publication titled “Teaching Information Literacy Threshold Concepts: Lesson Plans for Librarians.” In the lesson plan, the librarian asks students to identify information disseminated in different formats and evaluate the varying degrees of rigor for these formats. Less emphasis is placed on the method of access of information, and more on the content and how it is created. This book will be published in conjunction with the approval of ACRL’s new Framework for Information Literacy for Higher

Education. Carter was also promoted to Librarian III with tenure.

**Dana M. Caudle, Cataloging and Metadata Librarian** - Caudle presented at the Alabama Library Association as part of the Resource Description and Access: One Year Later panel on April 24, 2014. The title of her talk was “Implementation of RDA at Auburn University Libraries” and focused on how AUL implemented RDA and lessons learned that might benefit other libraries that will eventually have to implement it themselves.

**Midge Coates, Digital Projects Librarian** - This past year, Coates’ research concerned how end-users located the Auburn University electronic theses and dissertations collection. One study (published in 2014) showed that most local users found the collection via university web pages, while most out-of-state users found it via search engines. Another study (accepted for publication in 2014) analyzed search engine queries that brought users to the collection. It showed that local users were seeking the collection itself or specific researchers’ theses and dissertations, while non-local users were seeking articles documenting specific research studies. These results suggest that improving collection metadata and indexing by search engines is an effective way to reach users.

**Dwayne Cox, University Archivist and Head of Special Collections & Archives** - Cox presented a lecture entitled “Segregation & Desegregation at Auburn University,” opening a window on the this challenging chapter in Auburn history. The lecture may be viewed in AU Libraries’ digital collection: [www.lib.auburn.edu/discoverauburn/2014/](http://www.lib.auburn.edu/discoverauburn/2014/)

**Tim Dodge, Reference Librarian** - Dodge’s book, *The School of Arizona Dranes: Gospel Music Pioneer*, was published in September 2013 by Lexington Books. This is the first scholarly work on Arizona Dranes (1889-1963), a blind African-American pianist and singer, whose 1920s recordings were the first to incorporate piano and Pentecostal-style singing and directly influenced what would later be known as gospel music.

**Nadine Ellero, Serials Acquisition Librarian** - Ellero wrote an exploratory essay entitled, “Integration or Disintegration: Where is Discovery Headed?” in the *Journal of Library Metadata*. Gleaning current literature on web-scale discovery services implemented at institutions of higher education, Ellero sought to determine the searching intelligence of these new library search systems. These systems aim to present in one search interface both the best and largest collection of information resources available by the institutions that employ them. Her conclusion, based on the completeness and quality of metadata available to these systems along with the realities of library technical services workflows and staffing, is that “a coherent and synchronized metadata solution is greatly needed to achieve



effective information discovery beyond the acclaimed ease of use and unified source of resources.”

**Bridget Farrell, Reference Librarian** - Farrell revamped the training program for reference graduate assistants. Research on the graduate assistants’ perceptions of the new program were discussed in a presentation at the Innovation Conference at sponsored by Florida State University. A poster highlighting the rationale behind the changes to the training program will be presented in Oct. of 2014 at the Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians at Wake Forest University.

**Adelia Grabowsky, Reference Librarian** - Grabowsky was awarded 2nd place in the research paper category at the Medical Library Association’s annual meeting in May 2014. Her presentation, entitled “Smartphone use to answer clinical questions: A descriptive study of APNs,” detailed a project carried out to determine if advanced practice nurses are using smartphones to answer clinical questions, if they face any barriers to smartphone use, and if they have any training needs related to online information seeking.

**Patricia Hartman, Reference Librarian** - Hartman presented her work on the application of the “train-the-trainer” approach to information literacy instruction in biology labs at the 2014 Library Orientation Exchange Conference in Grand Rapids, Mich. Co-authored with two colleagues from the University of Kentucky, this work will be published in the upcoming issue of *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship*.

**Claudine Jenda, Reference Librarian** - Jenda is currently serving as the secretary/treasurer of the United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN). USAIN is an organization for information professionals interested in the creation, storage, and dissemination of agricultural information. Working closely with the USDA, National Agricultural Library, USAIN plays a leadership role in the formation of national information policy as it relates to agriculture and promotes cooperation among its members, most of whom are libraries at land-grant universities. Jenda was also promoted to Librarian IV.

**Kasia Leousis, Head of the Library of Architecture, Design and Construction** - Leousis presented a paper entitled “Creating a Materials Lab for the Design Library” for the Association of Architecture School Librarians, as part of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture’s Annual Conference held April 2014 in Miami, Fla. Leousis presented on the creation of an interdisciplinary materials lab at the Library of Architecture, Design and Construction, which offers students a hands-on sensory experience of building and construction materials. As materials research is a key component to students’ learning in design disciplines, the tactile and visual experience of handling physical building materials samples allows students to investigate and discover materials in new ways.



**Nancy Noe, Reference Librarian** - Noe was promoted to Librarian IV.

**Juliet Rumble, Reference Librarian** - Rumble co-wrote a book chapter with Nadine Ellero entitled “Evaluating Subscription Databases” which was published in “Rethinking Collection Development and Management” (ed. Albitz, Avery, & Zabel). As noted in the book’s introduction, evaluating research databases is “a critical activity considering the money devoted to these resources and the ever-changing availability of alternate ways to expose library content to ... users.”

**Greg Schmidt, Special Collections Librarian** - Schmidt, along with two colleagues from the English Department, successfully applied for an intramural grant to travel to the Rare Book School at The University of Virginia. At the school, Schmidt studied illustrated books from the dawn of the printing press through 1900. This knowledge will be incorporated into better understanding the illustrated treasures held in AUL’s special collections and to assist in the creation of a new course on the history of the book to be offered by the English Department in 2015.

**Todd Shipman, Reference Librarian** - *College & Research Libraries* will soon publish “The Information-Seeking Habits of In-Service Educators,” an article Shipman co-authored with Susan Bannon and Kimberly Nunes-Bufford of the College of Education. The article presents data collected from a recent survey of K-12 educators in eight east

Alabama school systems. It examines the information sources that in-service educators use when searching for information for professional practice. The data were also analyzed to look for statistical relationships between information sources used and the educators’ prior participation in library instruction for information literacy.

**Aaron Trehub, Assistant Dean for Technology & Technical Services** - Trehub, along with colleagues in the United States and Europe, helped to organize and give a presentation at the “Aligning National Approaches to Digital Presentation II” (ANADP II) conference at the National Library of Catalunya in Barcelona, Spain, in Nov. 2013. Trehub’s presentation focused on efforts to develop a cost calculator for digital preservation activities. The first ANADP conference took place at the National Library of Estonia in May 2011 and produced an edited volume that won the Society of American Archivists 2013 Preservation Publication Award. Trehub contributed to that volume.

**Liza Weisbrod, Music and Government Documents Librarian** - Weisbrod conducted a regional workshop for library staff and librarians on music reference entitled “Music in Libraries: Just the Basics” at the Southeast Music Library Association meeting in Nashville, Tenn., in Oct. 2013. Weisbrod was also promoted to Librarian III with tenure.

## A Year of Library Advancement

Leah O’Gwynn, Director of Development



There is much to celebrate at the libraries. Because of the leadership of Dean Bonnie MacEwan, the AU Libraries’ vision and funding priorities have been well-received by our patrons and supporters. This is evident through the strides we have made in the past academic year. Though we are far from fulfilling our vision in its entirety, we have had significant progress due to increased private funding. This year’s achievements would not be possible without the faithful support of individuals who share our goal of creating new knowledge and understand what it takes to enable the exchange of information in our modern world.

We have had many advancements this year and would like to celebrate three with you:

1. **Physical Space Renovations:** This year has brought the addition of a state-of-the-art information literacy classroom, improvements in the work areas on our quiet floor study space, and the addition of an auditorium for speakers and special guests to present in a modern and technically advanced space. These renovations have increased the assistance we are

capable of providing our patrons.

2. **Collection Expansion:** Two particular portions of our collection where we have seen significant growth in are ebooks and archives. Over the past seven years, our libraries have experienced a 300-percent growth in our ebook collection. This expansion rivals the progress of all libraries in the Southeast. Additionally, our Special Collections and Archives Department added significant depth to an already impressive collection of historic memorabilia. This year alone, the Hampton Roads papers, the Major Thomas Eckert diary, and the Harry Knowles collection were all stored and digitized for public access.
3. **Endowment Growth:** We have seen an increase in support through endowments through preexisting endowments and the creation of new gifts. Many are designated toward collections in a certain field of study. Our subject specialists have enjoyed working directly with donors to connect their passions with the information requests of faculty and students.

We invite you to celebrate these accomplishments with us by looking forward to the potential achievements in our future. Join us on our journey to creating an information environment that spurs us toward cementing Auburn’s reputation as a world-class center for academic research.

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231 Mell Street  
Auburn, AL 36849-5606  
www.lib.auburn.edu



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