

# Blackwell News

FALL 2008

## IN THIS ISSUE: Food for Thought

As every good chef knows, using proper cooking techniques is only one aspect of preparing foods that appeal to the eye and the palate. Equally important is the selection of top-quality ingredients. The library, as the good chef of information resources, is responsible for creating collections, both electronic and physical, that provide students and faculty with an attractive and “nutritious” selection of materials for teaching, learning and research. This issue explores some of the ways that the library keeps its collections and services fresh and delectable. Bon appetit!

## UPCOMING EVENTS: Annual Book Sales

During National Library Week in April 2009, Blackwell Library once again will hold its summer reading book sale, offering fiction to suit every taste. The biggest book sale of the year was held in October during Homecoming Week, offering hundreds of books in all subject areas at rock-bottom prices. Details of the spring sale will be announced later. All proceeds will be used to buy library books and equipment.

## Irish Music Program

Hold the dates of March 23-26. An exact date is not yet set, but during one of those evenings the Political Science Department will offer a program of Irish music to benefit Blackwell Library. Proceeds will support purchases of materials on Irish history, literature, music, politics and culture. The idea was the brainchild of Dr. Michael O’Loughlin, chair of the Political Science Department, who will be a principal performer. If you have not yet heard him sing, this will be a must-attend event. If you have, you know he has a remarkable and moving voice. Support the library and plan to have a great evening following spring break and St. Paddy’s Day.

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www.salisbury.edu/library

## Books and Beyond: The Resource-Based Library Are You Being Served?

by Alice Bahr, Dean of Libraries and Instructional Resources

Years ago, an elderly woman rose to national TV fame through a Wendy’s ad. Puzzled, she leaned over a big bun and a microscopic hamburger, yelling, “Where’s the beef?” As Dean of Libraries and Instructional Resources, I’m happy to report that Blackwell Library serves the “beef” and more daily, with many one-of-a-kind menu items available 24/7. Here’s a brief peek at a designer menu created just for your informational appetites:

*ArtStor:*  
(supported in part by the Fulton School)

More than 1,000,000 digital images for the adventurous (Buddhist cave paintings), curious (body art), wide-ranging (women’s history) and, of course, artistic palates (Metropolitan Museum of Art).

*Web of Science:*  
(supported by the Henson School)

Both an appetizer and an aperitif, the perfect choice for humanists, social scientists and social scientists who want to find out who’s citing whom and how often—the best way to ensure that only the best ingredients are part of your own research and papers

*Early American Imprints, 1639-1800:*

Perfect for instructions (dating from 1796) on brewing porter, ale or table beer. As the ale brews, you can sing the words to an excellent ballad (1732), *The Catholic Remedy* or read the sermons of Samuel Mather (1672).

*JStor:*

A real crowd pleaser. With full-text peer-reviewed scholarly journals, this is the crème de la crème for every discipline.

*U.S. Congressional Serial Set, 1817-1980:*

In this huge online selection of the work of Congress (reports, documents, journals), originally published in 13,800 bound volumes, you’ll find the Secretary of Commerce’s request for \$15,000 to fund demonstrations on cooking and preparing fish (1919), occasioned by so many women’s disinclination to or prejudice against cooking fish.



Dean  
Alice Bahr

Then there are the staples: ABI, Classical Music Library, MLA, Humanities International Complete, PsycInfo and SciFinder Scholar, to name just a few. If you’ve never tried them, visit, e-mail, IM or chat with one of our research librarians to learn why these delicacies should be an essential part of your daily diet. The librarians stay in close contact with faculty who set the menus. They also know all the special dishes and can’t wait to help you achieve your ultimate dining experience, an A+ paper.

Several years ago, the library established a formal Student Advisory Committee. Students wanted a small, highly visible collection of “fun” books to read between assignments, so the library created a separate Leisure Reading Collection. It’s located on the first floor across from the popular journals. Students choose titles by writing them on a clipboard next to the



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## Books and Beyond: The Resource-Based Library Are You Being Served?

collection. Posted to the same clipboard are dates that items are ordered.

Over time, the Student Advisory Committee became an informal group of student workers willing to give advice and participate in projects such as finding more quiet space on the library's noisy, active first floor. When the new Study Den was created for that purpose, students helped design it. The space is theirs: They defined it. The same is true of the newly renovated and equipped Visually Impaired Room. With help from Student Affairs, the library got good advice from prospective students with visual difficulties about exactly what they needed.

When students asked for a microwave in Blackwell's small snack room the library

purchased one. It would be great to have coffee available as well, but running plumbing to the area is cost prohibitive, so for now it's sodas and water plus whatever can be heated in the microwave. On a larger scale, student input remains critical to planning a new library. Small focus groups helped during Phase One planning (the initial phase that defines the need for and scope of a project), and students continue to shape these plans by responding to the library's online survey at [www.salisbury.edu/library/newlibrary](http://www.salisbury.edu/library/newlibrary).

Perhaps the most rewarding experience of all occurred last year. SGA's leaders were instrumental in securing the library's request for end-of-year University funding. That funding purchased materials in

interdisciplinary areas that currently have no budget. It also provided some very special furniture. New to Blackwell this semester are spacious, specially designed laptop chairs, with two side arms, one for a laptop, another for notes and books. They will be interspersed throughout the building adjacent to outlets so laptop power cords can be used. The chairs will not make writing papers any easier, just more comfortable.

The library is committed to serving and partnering with students to meet their ever-changing information, learning and library needs.

## Selecting Materials for Library Collections

"Can the library get this book?" "How does the library choose databases?" "Why doesn't the library subscribe to this periodical?" Here are answers to these and other questions that faculty and students typically ask.

### Books

*By Kathryn Kalmanson, Head of Research Services*

Most book selections are made by departmental faculty working closely with Blackwell librarians. Each academic department has a faculty member who serves as liaison to the library while the library, in turn, has a subject specialist librarian who is designated as liaison to the department. Together, the faculty and librarian liaisons coordinate the book selection process.

Each department has an annual allocation within the library's book budget. It is up to the librarian and faculty liaisons to decide how that allocation can be best used to meet current needs. For example, a certain portion might be spent to acquire books for a new course or to fill gaps in the collection, with the remainder used to acquire newly published titles. Underlying all the book-buying decisions are jointly developed faculty-librarian collection development policies that describe the desired content of each collection, define priorities and establish selection criteria.

Although most book recommendations come from faculty, anyone is welcome to suggest titles that they would like to see in the library. Forms are available at the library's Suggestion Box near the Circulation Desk. Recommendations may also be given to librarians at the Research Help Desk.

### Databases

*By Stephanie Fridie and Gaylord Robb, Representatives to the USMAI Electronic Collections Task Group*

Many people from Salisbury University and from the University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions (USMAI) are involved in selecting electronic resources and databases. The process begins when SU Research Services librarians review new electronic resources and recommend titles to be continued as well as new ones to be considered. They work with faculty liaisons to get input on sources that will be most useful.

The Consortium of USMAI Libraries includes representatives from each campus in its membership. Task groups of the consortium include the Electronic Collections Task Group, which is charged with working cooperatively to acquire electronic resources and databases for the member libraries. Member libraries are often able to save money by consortial subscriptions instead of individual campus purchases. After each library identifies its priorities for the upcoming year, negotiations on subscription prices are made with the database vendors based on FTE enrollments at each campus. Databases and other electronic resources that are not available through the USMAI

consortium are acquired locally through direct subscription or through a regional library support network.

### Periodicals

*By Martha C. Zimmerman, Associate Dean/Head of Technical Services*

Additions to Blackwell Library's periodicals collection are requested primarily by faculty members working through their subject specialist librarian liaisons. While all library materials increase in cost every year, periodicals are easily the worst offenders. Their cost may increase as much as 10 percent every year – for the same exact titles. Any title recommended, therefore, must be given serious consideration.

The goal of the Serials (periodicals) Department is to establish a group of core titles, e.g., titles representing the best scholarship in any given area, which best support the curriculum and which will have lasting value. Faculty input is vitally important in making these determinations. To that end, journal studies are conducted at periodic (pardon the pun) intervals. These studies ask faculty to look at a listing of the periodicals held by the library in their subject area and to make various decisions. One very important decision involves the format of a title: print or electronic? A core title may be in either format; it is up to faculty to decide.

The library also welcomes student suggestions for journal or magazine titles. Just fill out a form for the Suggestion Box or give your suggestion to the librarian at the Research Help Desk.

# Tributes, Memorials and Other Gifts

The Tributes Program encourages purchasing books to honor Salisbury University faculty and staff who have inspired, motivated and made a difference in the lives of students. Tributes book donors included the Blackwell Library staff, Donald Cathcart, Richard Culver, Richard Givens and Tony Whall. Tributes books were added for Grady Armstrong, Elwood Collins, Len Foxwell, Carolyn Huston, Robert Long, Gerry St. Martin, Andy Reese, Kathleen Shannon, Jack Spence, Kit Zak, Ray Zeigler and Ellen Zinner.

The Memorial/Honoree Book program provides an ideal way to honor/remember a friend or family member. Tributes book donors included the Blackwell Library staff, Richard Culver, Richard Givens and Tony Whall. People remembered include Ronald Belcher, Robert Blake, Jackie Sue Cooper, J. Joseph Hart Jr., Marianna Holloway, Virginia Jones, Bill LaVorgna, Elizabeth Rawson Jackson Macgill, Thomas Shelton, John Waldron and Patricia Wray.

Blackwell Library received monetary donations through the SU Foundation

Phonathon, payroll deduction and other fundraisers. Donors included Alice Bahr, Lloyd Banks, Sara Beach, Maureen Belich, Mary Bennett, Kathleen Cain, Bonnie Cannon, Jason Curtin, David Dingus, Nikki Dyer, Richard England, Judith Fischer, Elizabeth Guy, Scott Harrison, Paula Jones, Garrett and Elizabeth Tindall Layton, Michelle Marseille, Lisa McNeal, Bettie Messick, Carolyn Molenda, Betsy Murray, Jerome Neuman, Cindy Shock, JoAnn Shoemaker, Christine Smith, Pauline Tyndall, Keith Vail, Elizabeth Wallace, Richard Wallace, Joanne Wheaton, Elizabeth Wooten, Richard Wooten and Martha Zimmerman.

Thank you to those who donated books and other materials to add to the library's collections: Alice Bahr, Lauren Carey, Betsey Corby, John Farquhar, Greg Ference, David Hoffman, Linda Hopkins, Arnold Kalmanson, Robert Long, Jim Miller, Melissa Ruark, Willis Tull, George Whitehead, Duncan Whittome and Ellen Zinner.



Fun Day—Bingo



Fun Day—Welcome Table



Fun Day—Crafts

## TRIBUTES PROGRAM DONATION FORM

A new library program, Tributes celebrates the contributions of faculty and others to students' lives, Salisbury University's commitment to educational excellence, and the library's support of that mission and the people who make it possible. Purchase a book to honor or remember a faculty member, administrator or friend of the University who has encouraged, inspired, motivated and demonstrated personal concern for Salisbury's students.

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Academic titles typically cost between \$30-\$50; however any donations are welcome.)

Mr. Mrs. Dr. Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone / E-mail (required): \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE CHECK ONE:**

Select a title myself (Currently not in Blackwell's collection and that supports the curriculum):

Have a librarian contact me.

Pick an "outstanding" academic title in the field of \_\_\_\_\_ for me.



Library recarpeting project

## What's for Dessert?

By Krista Knapp,  
Research Services Librarian

Sometimes after a nice square meal, you crave something to satisfy your sweet tooth! In the same way, students often like to unwind after a huge exam or research paper by reading something light and entertaining. For that need, the library is pleased to offer its Leisure Reading Collection, made up of both fiction and non-fiction books. The collection is located on the main floor of the library in the periodicals reading area. The Leisure Reading Committee, made up of library staff members, frequently adds new titles, many of which come from donations or suggestions from our readers, principally students. So, if you are craving some intellectual dessert, stop by, browse the vibrant and dynamic Leisure Reading Collection, and place an order.

# Staff News

## New Librarians



**Leigh Ann DePope**  
*Serials/Electronic Services Librarian*  
Leigh Ann joined Blackwell Library this summer after having held the directorship of the Seaford District Library

in Seaford, DE. She holds a M.L.S. from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. in integrative arts from Penn State. Her first career was in retail sales management. Leigh Ann is a passionate library and literacy advocate. Her personal interests include photography, bicycling, the beach and football.



**Michelle Oleson**  
*Web/Digital Services Librarian*  
Michelle received her B.A. in world history from Georgia State University in 2003, and in June 2008, she earned

her M.L.L.S. from the University of South Florida. Before coming to the Eastern Shore, she worked with the Tampa Bay Library Consortium building Web sites and apps for Facebook and MySpace. Her interests include library and Web 2.0 applications, avid blog reading and playing the flute with the SU concert band.



**David Ranzan**  
*University Archivist*  
David received his B.A. and M.A. in history from East Stroudsburg University in 2000 and 2002. In 2006, he earned his

M.L.L.S. from Rutgers University. For almost eight years, he worked with the Thomas A. Edison Papers at Rutgers University. He also has been active in the archival and library fields by serving as adjunct assistant archivist for the College of Staten Island – CUNY and project archivist for the Doris Duke Foundation, the Rutgers University School of

Management and Labor Relations, and The Robert B. Davis Institute for Learning. He also has served as historical consultant for the Morris County (NJ) Park Commission. His publications include two genealogical reference books, Sussex County (NJ) Marriage and Obituary Dates (1814-1903) and Passaic County (NJ) Military Service Records from World War I and Other Wars. Outside of work, David enjoys playing guitar, researching family history, and spending time with wife Kelly and son Eric.

## Retirements

This year Blackwell Library announced the retirement of two of its most valued long-time professional librarians. Judith Fischer retired from Blackwell Library in July of this year after 32 years of service. Charletta House retired from Blackwell Library in May 2008 after 24 years of service.



**Judy Fischer**  
received her M.L.S. from the University of Kentucky and her M.B.A. from Salisbury University. She came to Blackwell Library in 1976 as a cataloger. In 1988 she was

named assistant director/head of Technical Services. As her duties expanded, she became associate director of Automated Services in 1994 and later associate director/head of Information Systems. During 2001-2003 she served as interim director of Blackwell Library.

In her work with library information systems, Judy oversaw the development, coordination and supervision of all automated systems in the library, which meant that she was the go-to person for any computer problems. She also supervised the Information Management, Government Documents, Acquisitions and Serials departments of the library. She was liaison to IT and the Perdue School of Business, and served on various state and campus-wide technology committees.



**Charletta House** received her M.L.S. from UMCP and M.Ed. from Salisbury University. She came to SU as circulation librarian after

working for 16 years at UMES. Charletta then became a Research Services librarian and subsequently reference/special collections librarian and liaison to the Social Work and Sociology departments on campus.

Charletta served on the USM Women's Forum Executive Council and was a member of the Maryland Library Association. She also was active on many committees such as the Wicomico County Commission for Women and the American Association of University Women, Salisbury Branch. She will be remembered for her dedication to community concerns and to the special collections areas of Blackwell Library.

## Employee of the Month

Karen Wilson, office manager for Blackwell Library, received recognition as an Employee of the Month for July 2008. According to the Human Resources Office, Karen was selected for her diligence, caring and devotion to the University. Her nomination letter, submitted by Susan Wheatley, Library Tech II in Blackwell Library Circulation, and Elizabeth Wallace, supervisor from Facilities Services, stated that Karen "treats everybody with equal consideration and respect, and they can be assured their request will be handled quickly, accurately and cheerfully. Karen is the 'glue' that holds the library together." She truly proves the point that the library's greatest resources are its people.

## Staff News

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### Dean Bahr Publishes on Innovative Library Design

Dean Alice Bahr is the guest editor of a special edition of *Library & Archival Security*, published by Taylor & Francis (v. 21, #2: 2008). With a long-term interest in library buildings and how design reflects changes in services and operations, Bahr focused the issue on “New Library Security for Buildings, Users and Staff.” Some contributors may seem familiar. For example, Salisbury University’s Chief of Police Ed Lashley contributed an article on campus/community police collaboration. In addition to basic building and planning principles, Bahr addresses Cybraries (libraries with automated book storage and intensive technology), shared facilities (a children’s library and museum), as well as innovative programs and spaces, including Goucher College’s new Athenaeum, which has an exercise loft adjacent its library. The contributors share a common viewpoint: that designing buildings that now routinely include spaces never previously associated with libraries requires a new creative mindset.

### Electronic Books Always Available

*By Stephen Ford,  
Information Literacy Librarian*

An e- or electronic book is the digital equivalent of a conventional print book. The entire book, cover to cover, may be viewed electronically from any Internet-connected computer 24 hours a day, seven days a week. E-books are an excellent resource for student research, and the electronic format is particularly beneficial for those distance learners taking online or hybrid courses.

Blackwell Library provides more than 6,000 e-books in all disciplines through a database called NetLibrary. The NetLibrary database can be accessed via the library’s home page by clicking on the “Find Books & More” link, then the “Electronic Books” link. Off-campus users must log in.

## The Thought Counts

Every gift the library receives is appreciated. A book, a monetary donation, funds to acquire a specific piece of equipment—they all improve library services. Generous donors provide more than physical gifts, however; they affirm the value and importance of libraries in their life and the lives of others. The thought does count.

### Monetary Donations

This year the library is indebted deeply to Margarette H. Eley of Dover, DE. Her bequest of \$10,000 to Blackwell Library will defray essential collections costs and make new resources and services possible. Blackwell Library was also the recipient of a very generous \$5,000 donation from Mr. and Mrs. Garrett and Elizabeth Tindall Layton through the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. Mrs. Layton is an alumna of SU. Their kind donation will help support the library as we strive to offer the best resources and services possible to every user.

### VSA Gift

At the request of SU student Christopher Wood, president of the Vegetarian Student Association, VSA’s hardbound books and

media were removed from permanent reserve and cataloged for the general collection. Wood purchased the books, donated them to the VSA and then to the library. It is very encouraging to know that students see the library as a partner in disseminating information.

### Major Book Donation

Blackwell Library is the fortunate recipient of a very large donation of books from Mrs. Duncan Whittome of Virginia. The gift of approximately 1,844 volumes, includes many scholarly works dealing with French history along with German language books, classic literary texts, a leather-bound 19th century volume or two and even current best-sellers. Two student workers devoted all of their time to listing this collection, going through the donation box-by-box and entering basic bibliographic information into an Excel spreadsheet. These gifts—every gift—make a difference. The students, faculty and staff of Salisbury University and community members alike will benefit greatly from these generous and thoughtful donations.



*Library recarpeting project*



*Library recarpeting project*

## Microforms: From Espionage to Research

By Gaylord Robb, Reference Librarian

**mi-cro-form** |'mīkrə,fōrm|

noun

**1** : a process for reproducing printed matter in a much reduced size <documents in *microform*> **2** : matter reproduced by microform.  
(*Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary*)

Thoughts of microfilm (miniature images on a roll of film) conjure up visions of clandestine operations where spies with miniature cameras photograph the latest enemy secrets. While microfilm, small and easy to hide and transport, did play a role in spying, it also played another much larger role in libraries and archives.

Microfilm was first invented in the mid-19th century and rose in popularity as a space-saving technology. By the early 1900s it was being used in countless libraries and archives, both to save storage space and to preserve valuable information. Only lately has microform use been on the decline due to digitalization technology that allows Web-based access to historical and current documents. Nevertheless, microform still

resides in libraries and will likely do so until digitalization efforts become more comprehensive.

Even in this electronic age, microforms remain an important part of Blackwell Library's collections. It is a great space saver, allowing the library to house periodicals that might otherwise be too bulky or too fragile to store in original form. For access, the library has two microform reader/printers that accept both microfilm and microfiche. (Microfiche are sheets, rather than rolls, of miniature page images). These machines enable users to read, print or electronically copy, save and/or email images from either type of microform.

Some examples of valuable research materials stored in microform include

newspapers, journals and many kinds of documents. In Blackwell Library *The* [Baltimore] *Sun* and the *Salisbury Daily Times* are available back to 1837 and 1923, respectively. In addition to historical newspapers, many journal and magazine articles continue to be available on microfilm and microfiche. The library has, for example, *Harpers* magazine back to 1850, the *Atlantic Monthly* back to 1857 and other titles, many of more recent origin. Finally, there is a wide array of government documents on both film and fiche, including Congressional hearings, the *Federal Register* and much more.

If you would like to learn more about microform and how to use our microform reader/printers, please visit the Research Help Desk.

## Technology for the Visually Impaired

By Mandy Hackley, Research Services Coordinator for Disabilities

Blackwell Library offers several forms of assistive technologies to help the visually impaired gain full access to library resources. These include a Kurzweil machine, a JAWS reader and Zoomtext. These tools offer similar services; both read scanned material. Kurzweil allows users to set the speed and tone of the material that is being read aloud to them. They can even pick a preferred speaking voice such as Katie or John!

Kurzweil can enlarge the text on screen and highlight for visual enhancement.

JAWS (Job Access with Speech) also will read text for the user. JAWS does not require materials to be scanned into the reader so it is a good tool for the blind to use. The rate of text can be increased or decreased. Words can also be repeated or the reader can search for a word in the JAWS dictionary. JAWS will read an entire Web screen including giving a description of pictures!

Zoomtext will enlarge text for visually impaired readers. It can be used in conjunction with JAWS, but it cannot be used with Kurzweil.

All of the above tools can be found in the Accessibility Room adjacent to the copier room. Questions regarding these tools should be directed to me at [mlhackley@salisbury.edu](mailto:mlhackley@salisbury.edu) or 410-677-0131.

## Music Collection Looks to the Future

Dr. Linda Cockey, Chair, Department of Music and Kathryn Kalmanson, Head of Research Services

A 119 percent increase in student credit hour production in five years and many new courses (blues, jazz, popular music, music and landscape, world music, music for children, music technology) are driving the need for a larger, more varied music library collection.

To meet that need and also to prepare for the next departmental accreditation review by the National Association of Schools in Music, the department engaged Robert Follet, head librarian at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University, to evaluate the music collection at Blackwell Library. Keeping the consultant's recommendations in

mind, departmental faculty and the library's music liaison are now working together to create a collection development plan that will support both performance studies and academic musical studies.

Working together, the library and the Music Department have identified both long- and short-term goals for the collection. Based on the consultant's recommendations, immediate priorities include acquiring more materials by and about 20th and 21st century composers—performance and study scores, listening resources and biographical/critical studies. Also on the wish list are a compact disc collection and a database of

downloadable musical scores. Long-term goals include more online services for both listening and reference, with particular emphasis on resources in the areas of world music, African-American music and the music of other diverse cultures.

Anyone who wishes to support the department's new compact disc or scores collections may contribute by making checks payable to the Salisbury University Foundation, designated for the "Performing Arts Fund, Blackwell Library."

## Conference Highlights Primary Sources for Student Learning

Last September, Associate Dean of Libraries Martha Zimmerman attended a Maryland Library Association (Academic and Research Libraries Division) program titled “Demystifying the Archives: Promoting Primary Resources to Enhance Learning,” conducted by Gail Rodgers McCormick (Special Collections Librarian) and James Huff (Instruction Librarian). Here Martha shares her notes on this thought-provoking session.

### Program Notes

*By Martha Zimmerman*

*Associate Dean, Head of Technical Services*

Why should archival materials be incorporated into undergraduate and/or library instruction? By working with primary sources students have the opportunity to see what a citation actually means. Primary sources are thus understood as the building blocks of the scholarly process. Critical thinking skills can be developed in the evaluation of such sources, while handling archival materials supports diverse learning styles, such as the tactile and sensory.

Archivists should be aware that introducing students early on to primary sources builds a support clientele for the future. The archives should be open to the fullest possible extent and the archivist should be an active/essential member of the library instruction team.

### Common Myths

1. You have to be doing really important research to use the archives.

Archival/primary materials are often everyday things, e.g., family photo albums or scrapbooks. Connecting to the past can open up new avenues of research and develop new scholarship.

2. Students need to learn “basic” research skills before using resources in the archives.

The evaluation of sources is a basic research skill learned by using primary materials. Students should be taught to ask, “What is the perspective?” when looking at maps and prints. When reading

correspondence, ask, “Who is the audience?” Is the soldier writing to his mother or to his lover? When going over the minutes of meetings, wonder, “What’s off the record?” Perhaps the answer can be found in a letter or diary of an attendee.

3. The “Millenials” are so involved in 21st century technology, they aren’t interested in taking the time to look at “old stuff.”

For these students, allowing them to pick personally interesting items from special collections is a good starting point. Working in groups, perhaps studying popular culture from old photographs, could spark interest, discussion and critical thinking. The instructor/archivist should stress the importance of being allowed, with training, to handle “special” materials.

Digitization was also briefly discussed. Considered a borderline preservation tool, it is used primarily to allow access without endangering fragile materials.

## BBAS Books Now Arriving

*By Kathryn Kalmanson,  
Head of Research Services*

Books from the retrospective collection-building project initiated last year are now arriving almost daily, filling the library shelves with valuable new resources. When faculty receive notices about the arrival of titles in their subject area, their responses are always enthusiastic.

“A wonderful selection . . . all great choices; I can’t wait ’til my students start using them,” one Fulton School faculty member commented. “Wow. Killer! You can be certain I will be sharing this [list] with my students,” remarked another.

Last year librarian liaisons used the BBAS (Bowker Book Analysis System) database to generate lists of top academic books from years past that were not in the library’s collection. Faculty reviewed the lists and worked with librarians, recommending more than 7,100 titles for acquisition.

“Wonderful! I’m so glad that we took the time to do this!” said one faculty member as she surveyed the list of newly arrived titles in her field.

## *Nabb Center News*

### Nabb Center Offers Primary Sources for Study and Research

*By Edward H. Nabb Center Staff*

For many students, writing a research paper usually means a trip to the library to check out books and locate articles, most of which will be secondary sources, the published work of scholars. When students hear their professors speak of primary sources, many assume that such materials are reserved for the specialist. However, a considerable amount of primary source material is freely available to students and faculty alike at the Nabb Center. Though local in content, these collections may have information that history students can incorporate into broader research. For students in other subjects, the Center’s archives also contain information on medicine, education, business, the environment, agriculture, folklore, travel and much more.



### *Extended Hours for Exam Week*

In support of students studying for their exams, Blackwell Library will be extending their hours during exam week by adding 10 additional hours to their regular schedule. Exam Week hours are:

Sunday, December 14	Noon-2 a.m.
Monday, December 15	8 a.m.-2 a.m.
Tuesday, December 16	8 a.m.-2 a.m.
Wednesday, December 17	8 a.m.-2 a.m.
Thursday, December 18	8 a.m.-2 a.m.
Friday, December 19	8 a.m.-8 p.m.