

Library Hosts Lunches at the Library Events



The James Earl Carter Library jump started the Lunches at the Library Fall Program with a Banned Books Celebration on Tuesday September 30th. Members of the faculty, staff, student population, and community of GSW participated in the event. Readings were done from a wide range of books including: *The Kite Runner* by Khalid Hosseini, *Forever* by Judy Blume, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, *Chocolate War* by Robert Cormier, and *Lady Chatterly's Lover* by D.H. Lawrence.



On October 31st, the Library had a big turnout for our annual Pumpkin Carving Contest. Students, faculty, and staff came out to carve and decorate pumpkins on the lawn in front of the library. Prizes were awarded to the first, second, and third place winners. We would like to thank everyone who came out to participate!

Valarie N. Anthony
Access Services Supervisor
vanthony@canes.gsw.edu

Introducing EBSCOhost 2.0

In July 2008 EBSCOhost introduced its new search interface, EBSCOhost 2.0. This means that many of the databases you use through GALILEO including Academic Search Complete, ERIC, CINAHL, and PsycINFO, got a new look and enhanced features. According to Michael Gorrell, EBSCO Publishing's senior vice president and CIO, one goal of the redesign was to improve the interface's overall usability by combining a simplified search experience with in-depth functions.

New features include mouse-over previews of article contents within the Result List, spell-check functions when search terms are misspelled, a dynamic date slider to narrow in on a specific date range, and a new Cite button that provides article citations in six different formats. Users are now able to refine their search directly from the Result List by utilizing on either side of the screen. On the left, results can be narrowed down by Source Type, Subject, Author, or Publication. On the right, users can limit by date range and full text as well as access other search options. A new search mode has also been added - SmartText Searching. This allows users to copy and paste large amounts of text into the search box including full sentences and paragraphs. This is a useful tool for tracking down citations in assignments and to check for plagiarism.

If you have any questions about using EBSCOhost 2.0 or any of its new features, please contact us and we will be more than happy to help.

Gretchen M. Smith
Collection Development
gsmith@canes.gsw.edu

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LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday-Thursday	8 AM-10 PM
Friday	8 AM-5 PM
Saturday	9 AM-5 P
Sunday	2 PM-10 PM

DEPARTMENTS:

Access Services

229-931-2266

Circulation:

libcirc@canes.gsw.edu

Interlibrary Loan:

libill@canes.gsw.edu

Administration

229-931-2259

Cataloging

229-931-2258

Collection Development

229-931-2789/2261

Reference/

Government Documents

229-931-2850/2262

libref@canes.gsw.edu

Web Page:

<http://www.gsw.edu/~library>

Circulation Policy:

Books	3 Weeks
Audio/Visual Materials	3 Weeks
Reserve Materials	2 Hours In Library

CHECK IT OUT is published by the James Earl Carter Library Valarie N. Anthony, Editor vanthony@canes.gsw.edu

FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

The Library is again off to a great start this Fall. With the 13% increase in GSW enrollment, we have observed ever more usage of the Library. Given the system-wide budget cuts which have impacted us in a number of ways including the freezing of a position and a small reduction in hours, it has been a challenge to meet the needs of all our users but judging by their positive responses in our latest User Survey, we have been successful in doing so. But we are never content to sit on our laurels so we are constantly assessing ourselves through a variety of methods.

The Annual User Survey is one of several ways the Library assesses its performance. This survey is handed out to all users entering the Library during one week in October, this year Oct. 20-26th, and is also available online through a link on the Library's home page. This year 108 patrons responded: 61 on-site, 47 online (91 students, 11 faculty/staff, and 6 from other groups).

Library usage has gone up considerably despite our small reduction in hours. According to the numerous laudatory comments we received, this is in part due to our friendly and helpful staff, pleasant environment, and access to needed resources. Other factors include the increase in GSW's enrollment and increased WebCT usage.

The trend over the past few years has been a considerable increase in usage of our electronic resources. This continued in the current year with the largest number of respondents saying the resources they use the most are electronic resources (74). However, the most frequent reasons they gave for coming to the Library are: 1) to study, 2) do research, and 3) use the computer lab. 102 of 103 respondents found the materials they needed and all 56 of those who asked for assistance were pleased with the help they received.

We were very pleased with the feedback and encourage all our users to provide us with input and suggestions. We do follow-up on suggestions and to the extent our budget permits, attempt to meet the needs expressed. For example, the request for updated and more computers continues to be met. Last Fall, we added 2 new computers on level 2. Currently, all our public work stations are being updated, soon to be followed with updated computers for our computer lab. We are grateful to the Administration and OIIT for making this possible.

Please feel free to send us your comments and suggestions. Our online "suggestion box" is: library@canes.gsw.edu.

Thank you for your support and encouragement.

Vera J. Weisskopf
Dean of the Library
vjw@canes.gsw.edu

**WHAT'S NEW
AT THE LIBRARY**

**Selective List of New Titles/Acquisitions
In Fall 2008:**

Seizing the Light: A History of

Photography

Robert Hirsch
TR15 .H557

Amphibians and Reptiles of Georgia

John B. Jensen
Ref. QL653 .G4 A46 2008

Text Mining Handbook

Ronen Feldman
QA76.9 .D343 F45 2007

WISH LIST

The Library is grateful to its supporters for their gifts and donations. These are often used to supplement the Library's limited collections budget. In each issue we will list a few examples of works we would like to purchase from donations.

African American Literature Beyond Race

Gene Andrew Jarrett, Editor
\$25.00

Oxford Atlas of the World

15th Edition
\$80.00

Encyclopedia of African American

History, 1896 to the Present

Paul Finkelman, Editor
\$495.00



IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

J.P Wilson’s Guide to Getting Published

As a published author, I was asked to write an article on creating and selling a manuscript.

Lesson 1: Fiction markets are saturated with stories. The average semi-pro magazine (a magazine that pays under \$0.05 a word) gets about 200-300 manuscripts per submission period. Usually, it is searching for 10-20 stories, depending upon length. Editors have to read many stories in a short amount of time and call this massive buildup the “slush pile.” Most will wade through the slush, skimming the surface, before moving on. In other words, an editor will probably only read the first couple of paragraphs of your manuscript before deciding whether or not to put it into a round two folder or drop it like a hot potato. So, make your first three paragraphs count. You want to get the editor’s attention quickly. Begin the story with a “bang.” This was the first paragraph of the first story I sold: “I’m going to kill you,” the Good Samaritan said.

Lesson 2: Plot and characters are the most important things in a story. Don’t even think about theme before you write. You want to create something that is easy for people to read and understand and relate to. Editors are not going to sit down and read a confusing literary piece and ponder what it means. Publishers want to sell their magazines, and they realize that their customers want a quick-paced story that is fun to read. Also, create believable characters. I don’t want to read about a perfect guy with a perfect family and perfect job. Even Super-Man has flaws, and he’s an alien.

Lesson 3: Prepare to be rejected. You won’t sell everything you write. I sold a story in 1998. I wrote off and on for the next five years and sold nothing. This year, I have submitted 25 stories and a novella. 40 percent of the stories have sold and I’m still waiting to hear about the novella. I’ve got a sneaky suspicion that a “Dear John” letter is lurking for me in the USPS somewhere.

Now, as far as selling your stories, always remember to read the guidelines closely. If you write a horror story, then submit it to a horror magazine. Here are two addresses that contain many, many markets: www.duotrope.com and www.ralan.com. Good luck and much success.

Bibliography:

- “The Sad and Tragic Truth,” Hewlett Packard’s Young Writers Contest, 1998
- “Prey,” Shroud Magazine, issue 2, February/March 2008
- “Bad Billy,” Necrotic Tissue, Issue 4, October 2008
- “Rainy Night,” Blood Moon Rising, October 2008
- “The Reckoning,” SpaceWesterns.com, November 2008
- “You Can’t Kill the Dead!,” Harvest Hill Anthology, 2009
- “Dead by Dawn,” Necrotic Tissue, issue 5, January 2009
- “Heart Matters,” Malpractice: An Anthology of Bedside Terror, 2009
- “The Devil Calls,” Northern Haunts Anthology, 2009
- “Fair Game,” Necrotic Tissue, Issue 6, April 2009

John P. Wilson
Interlibrary Loan Assistant
jwilson@canes.gsw.edu

Blue Lotus

*Blue water lily growing along the Nile,
A symbol in hieroglyphics etched on tile.
Gathering meant rowing through the reeds,
A small task for a flower of many needs.
In ancient Egypt, it was a symbol of life,
Sacred to Pharaohs for triumph and strife.
The lotus would rise with morning light
Follow the sun and close at night.
Essence was extracted with a careful hand -
Released fragrance drifted across the land.
Caravans of merchants traveled many a mile,
With blue petals from the lotus of the Nile.*



Amy Wise
Collection Development Assistant
aew@canes.gsw.edu

Enclosed is my "Investment in the Future" of Georgia Southwestern State University:

Friend of the University

\$ _____

President's Circle

\$1,000

Southwestern Society

\$500

Tower Club

\$ 250

Century Club

\$100

My check is enclosed. **Checks should be made payable to GSW Foundation, Inc.**
(I understand that my contribution will be deposited in the GSW Foundation.)

Acct#: _____

Exp Date: ____/____/____ Amount: \$ _____

I would like to pledge \$ _____ and make equal quarterly semi-annual payments

Signature: _____

My Company will match my gift. Matching gift form enclosed.

I would like to designate my gift for:

James Earl Carter Library as an unrestricted gift.

Please mail contributions to:

James Earl Carter Library
Georgia Southwestern State University
800 Georgia Southwestern State University Drive, Americus, GA 31709
Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Name: _____ Soc. Sec. No. _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Bus. Phone: _____ Class Yr.: _____ Spouse: _____

Employer: _____ Business Address: _____

- GSW is included in my will.
- Please send me estate planning information (Or contact the Office of University Relations at (229) 931-2028 or the GSW Foundation, Inc. at (229) 931-2014.)



Georgia Southwestern State University
James Earl Carter Library
800 Georgia Southwestern State University Drive
Americus, GA 31709

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