

**University of Virginia Report  
for Chief Collection Development Officers,  
Technical and Public Services Directors of Large Research Libraries**

June, 2007

**New Provost:**

Arthur Garson, Jr., current dean of UVA's Medical School will become the University's provost on July 1. He succeeds outgoing Provost Gene Block, who will become the chancellor of the University of California, Los Angeles this summer. At UVA, the Library reports directly to the Provost.

**Collections and Preservation:**

- Carol Hunter is UVA's new Associate University Librarian for Public Services and Collections and will represent UVA on CCDO and Public Services Directors of Large Research Libraries. She was formerly Director of the Charles L. Brown Science and Engineering Library at UVA.
- A Collection Management Oversight Committee has been formed to oversee and coordinate management of print holdings at all University of Virginia Libraries (including Business, Law and Health Sciences). The Committee's tasks include developing collection management criteria and de-duplication and last copy plans, overseeing de-duplication and de-accessioning activities, and updating the stacks status report (capacity, fill rates, etc.) for all UVa Libraries.
- Digitization and Publishing Services has become the home of the largest Cruse Scanner in a library. The scanner, capable of scanning flat items as large as 57" x 96", will accommodate most maps, architectural drawings and framed items owned by the Library.

**Digital Initiatives:**

- UVA's Google Team is putting procedures in place to begin shipping books for digitization beginning the end of June.
- The Library's Digital Scholarship Services department is sponsoring two graduate student fellowships in digital humanities beginning fall 2007. These fellowships are made possible because of donor contributions to the Jeffrey C. Walker Library Fund for Technology in the Humanities, the Matthew & Nancy Walker Library Fund, and a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The scholarships for fall semester, 2007 have been awarded to graduate students Lee Bidgood, (Music) and James Cocola (English).

**Online Library Environment update**

- June 11 saw the unveiling of the Library's redesigned website (<http://www.lib.virginia.edu>) The Library's Communication and Publication Department developed the site in collaboration with many staff groups including a re-invigorated Usability Team.
- Excellent progress has been made toward implementation of Serials Solutions suite of products. Working in tandem with Serials Solutions, library staff migrated our current knowledgebase of electronic journal subscriptions, installed the new Article Linker interface, and loaded nearly 70,000 full and brief catalog records into our OPAC. We are currently testing the federated search module (Central Search) with the goal of having complete functionality in place by fall 2007. Much clean-up remains to be done.

- Following up on the a self-study of our Online Library Environment (OLE), an OPAC Landscape Team was formed to survey the products and services available for improving discovery of library materials. One of the Team's recommendations has been approved: the local development of an open-source discovery application called Blacklight, a tool developed at UVA.

#### **Collaborations:**

- In late May, the Library, UVa's Information Technology and Communication (ITC) division, and the Arts and Sciences Center for Instructional Technology co-hosted a week-long technology forum "New Horizons in Teaching and Research." The workshops, presentations, and "how-to" sessions on the use of technology in teaching and research were open to all interested faculty, students and staff.
- The Library has established a "Library Computing Collaboration Group" in order to facilitate coordination and collaboration between the Library, ITC and Printing and Copying Services on issues of common concern such as wireless access, authenticated login, unified build of public workstations, remote access to library resources and computing help-desk services in the libraries.
- This year's Scholarly Communication Institute 5 will be held July 8-10, 2007 in Charlottesville. With a focus on visual scholarship, SCI 5 will bring together 'visual scholars' from the humanities and sciences, (both theorists and practitioners) with those who possess expertise in libraries, advanced technologies, publishing, museums, and other relevant arenas.

#### **Personnel and Staff Development:**

- Recent hires include Ophelia Payne (Serials Cataloging Coordinator), Keith Weimer (Reference and Instructional Technology Librarian) and Mary Johnston (Semester@Sea Librarian). Searches are underway for the following positions: Director, Digital Scholarship Services; Director, Science, Engineering and Education Services; and Director, Library Human Resources and Staff Development.
- A "Not-for-Geeks-Only" series was launched this year with presentations by staff for staff on topics such as "Gadgets, Gizmos, and other Handheld Wizardry," del.icio.us, Flickr, MySpace, Library Blogs and RSS Feeds and LibraryThing. In addition the Library's Professional Issues Committee sponsored visits by Lorcan Dempsey (OCLC) and Susan Gibbons (AUL for Public Services, University of Rochester).

#### **On the lighter side:**

UVA Football Coach Al Groh served as guest University librarian on Thursday March 15. The highlight of his visit was his presence at the reference desk of Alderman Library. When one of Coach Groh's players asked how he could find a certain call number in the stacks, the coach handed him a library reference brochure and suggested using it just like a playbook. Coach Groh said his visit showed him that the library "is about people, energy and ideas." His visit followed University Librarian Karin Wittenborg's appearance as guest football coach at the UVA-Western Michigan game in 2005 – Hoos winning 31-19.

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