



# The Stacks

## Just-in-Time Books

### The Dean's Corner

Advances in the digitization of academic and scholarly books and how publishers and vendors can package, license, and distribute them to academic libraries have been changing and will continue to change collection development and management practices.

In the traditional collection development model, academic librarians select and acquire titles based on faculty recommendations and reviews “just in case” they are needed. The objective is to build a collection of books that librarians and faculty anticipate being necessary to support the curriculum and research.

That is, this model anticipates demand.

The problem with this “just in case” collection development model is that a large percentage of the collection is never used and, therefore, very expensive in terms of shelving, maintenance, and storage. The libraries’ licensing of e-books has reduced maintenance and storage costs AND has resulted in greater use because access to these titles is conveniently available from any Internet accessible device.

A “just in time” collection development model has recently emerged and could eventually replace the tra-

ditional “just in case” model. Many academic libraries have implemented a patron-driven acquisition (PDA) model. In one PDA model, a vendor provides a library with the bibliographic records for hundreds to many thousands of titles based on a custom profile. For instance, library bibliographers (selectors) can ask for the bibliographic records of all or some university presses, or publishers like Sage or Elsevier, to be uploaded to the library’s online catalog. The library does not own the books, at least not initially.

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## Library Debuts New Homepage

The University Library has a new homepage. This project was done in collaboration with students in Ms. Dawn McKinney’s fall 2011 CIS 101 classes as a service learning project. These students worked in teams to evaluate the us-

ability and design on the University Library homepage as well as those of other research universities. Their recommendations to improve our page were to implement a single

search box on the main page to reduce the number of clicks necessary to search, to reduce the

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## Just-in-Time Books

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When students or faculty members search the online catalog and find one of these bibliographic records, they can read or download the e-book. Because the library does not own the book, however, it will pay a pre-determined amount per download.

The library can set a threshold for the number of times an ebook can be downloaded before it is purchased. When the threshold is met, the library can acquire the e-book. PDA holds promise because the library pays for only the titles that were actually used; these titles are more likely to continue to be used.

USA libraries, therefore, will begin studying and perhaps experimenting with a demand-driven, or user-initiated acquisitions model for e-books (budget

permitting of course). PDA is interesting because publishers and vendors are experimenting with various pricing models.

Some publishers are very skeptical about PDA, however, because their income could be reduced substantially. Library bibliographers are also cautious about using PDA because gaps in the collection can easily occur when there are no books on the shelf for a given topic and no bibliographic records available in the catalog because the PDA profile was too limited.

PDA could also destroy many small scholarly publishers and even more university presses because their titles may not be downloaded enough to pay back their editorial and production costs. Finally, libraries must not only find ways to

get the PDA titles into the online catalog, but also to remove or update them.

The appeal of PDA is that our libraries' book budgets might actually be used to buy books that were always used. Nonetheless, while "just-in-time" or PDA models are worth considering, USA libraries will tread cautiously.

The reader's opinions about PDA are always welcome, particularly before the libraries implement PDA. Email me at [rwood@usouthal.edu](mailto:rwood@usouthal.edu) with your opinion.

*Richard Wood  
Dean of University Libraries*

## Library Debuts New Homepage

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amount of text by using drop down menus, to make the most used information (such as library hours) obvious, and to add pictures highlighting the library and its spaces. The addition of OneSearch made the single search box possible. Reaction to the new homepage has been overwhelmingly positive.

One concern raised was the fear that OneSearch was replacing the traditional li-

brary catalog, SOUTHcat, and individual databases. This is not the case – you can still search the same way you used to. Links to SOUTHcat and the databases appear below the search box. We have no plans to eliminate these resources.

*Ellen Knowlton Wilson  
Instructional Services Librarian*

*"One concern raised was the fear that OneSearch was replacing the traditional library catalog, SOUTHcat, and individual databases. This is not the case ..."*

## USABC Presents Open Learning Conference

University of South Alabama Baldwin County hosted the Open Learning Conference on Tuesday, October 16, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm. This year's conference topic focused on Open Learning. Several speakers were featured, including Beth Rukan, from the University Library, Angela Rand from USABC, and Andrea Wright from the Biomedical Library.

Proceeds from the conference are used to

support the USA Baldwin County scholarship program.

The conference was held on the University of South Alabama Baldwin County campus in Fairhope, AL. Conference topics included :

- "What is Open Learning and How Can I Do it?"
- "Where are all the Open Learning

Events?"

- "Finding Resources that Support Open Learning"
- "Getting Through an Open Learning Course"

*Angela Rand  
Librarian, USABC*

## It Feels Like Google . . .

It may feel like using Google, but the University Library's new discovery tool, OneSearch, is much, much better in terms of conducting academic research than Google could ever think about being. As librarians, we listened to both student and faculty concerns regarding research; both noted the complexity of having to search multiple resources in order to conduct research on a given topic.

We believe that the new OneSearch resolves this complexity by allowing users to search all library resources using a single service. The library's catalog, SOUTHcat, and our 170+ subscription databases can be searched from a single point of entry.

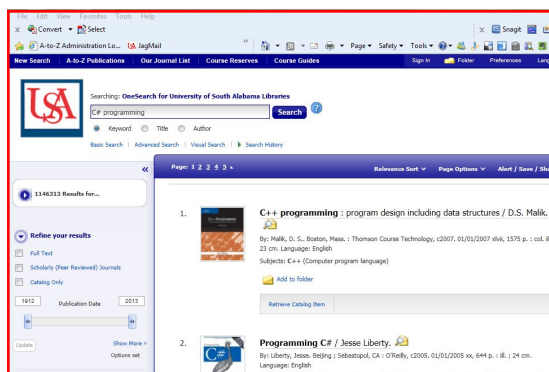
Users conduct their searches in a single search box using their chosen keyword (s); OneSearch then searches the library's holdings, and displays all results. Users do have many options to limit the amount of and type of results displayed; they can add search terms using the advanced search option, set date limits, or limit to

specific source types such as scholarly peer-reviewed journals or books.

While OneSearch has only been implemented since the mid-Summer of 2012, we have already received a wealth of positive feedback regarding our new discovery tool from both students and faculty.

We hope you enjoy our new OneSearch product and find it useful. If you need help using it, check out *OneSearch at USA Libraries*, by Ellen Wilson, at <http://libguides.southalabama.edu/onesearch>. This guide provides some step-by-step instructions for using OneSearch.

Beth Rujan  
Instruction Librarian



## New Journal and Ebook Finder

The University Library's web site is not the only library page that has changed. The University and Biomedical librarians selected a new vendor for *Our Journal List*, EBSCO, and have renamed it *Our Journal & E-Book List* since ebooks can be found here as well.

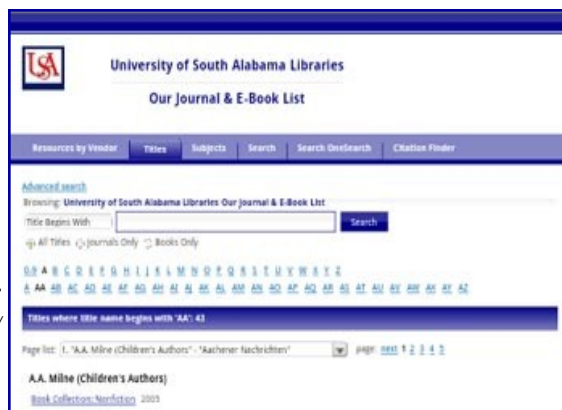
There are multiple ways to search *Our Journal & E-Book List*. It can be browsed alphabetically by title or by vendor, or searched by title or subject. The list also has a tab that can take you directly to OneSearch. The default search is *All Titles*, but you can narrow your search by choosing *Journals Only* or *Books Only*.

One of the really nice features about the new journal and ebook list is the Citation Finder. If you happen to have a direct

citation for a journal, a doi, or a pubmed id, you can use Citation Finder to locate the article you need.

If you need help using the new journal and ebook finder, check out Beth Rujan's video, *How to Use EBSCO A to Z*, at <http://liblog-usa.blogspot.com/2012/09/pardon-our-progress.html>.

Kathy Wheeler  
Electronic Resources/  
Reference Librarian



## Collaborative Learning Spaces Come to the University Library

Team-based learning is at the forefront of education, and the faculty at the University of South Alabama University Library have been working to create initiatives that reflect this institutional change. As part of this change, the fourth floor on the south side of the library has been reconfigured to be a collaborative study space. The space is part of a university wide campaign to making team learning a priority.

The faculty and administration at the library have been working for some time to shift the library toward a more group friendly environment. As a part of this initiative, new glass white boards have been installed throughout the area to give student groups more places to study. Markers may be checked out at the circulation desk or students can bring in their own. The glass allows the students to utilize the boards with any type of marker.

Another initiative is the addition of computer monitors, which have been brought in to help enhance student group work. Students may checkout VGA cables from the Circulation desk and use the monitor with their laptop or other mobile devices to display presentations and to create a more interactive experience. These work spaces can be found within the fourth floor collaboration area.

“The addition of the group study

rooms in 2003, has been the most popular modification at the library,” said Richard Wood, Dean of the University of South Alabama Libraries. “We hope the new collaborative study space will be met with equal excitement and will continue to enhance the student experience. “

The university’s current Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), which is a partial requirement for accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirmation of Accreditation (SACS), has set collaborative learning and teaching as the focal point. The university has focused on implementing most of the changes and innovations in the classroom setting.

The library has sought to make collaborative learning a cohesive change, so students can take team-based learning out of the classroom and apply it to their studying and everyday behaviors.

“Collaboration spaces are intended to allow groups of 3 to 4 students to work together and to easily display their projects,” said Mary Duffy, Assistant Dean of the University of South Alabama Libraries.

The collaboration area is free and open to students during library hours. To view the library hours please visit <http://www.southalabama.edu/univlib/>

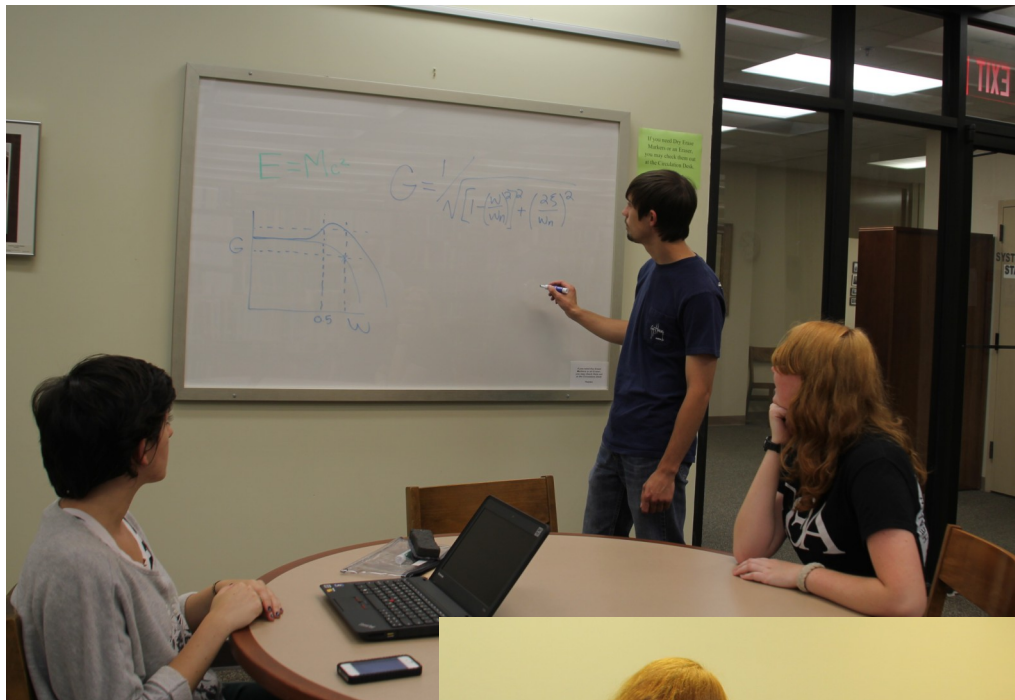
[info/hours.html](http://info/hours.html). For more information regarding the University Library please visit the Library’s website at <http://library.southalabama.edu/>.

*Abigail Sherman  
asherman@usouthal.edu*

***“The addition of the group study rooms in 2003, has been the most popular modification at the library,” said Richard Wood, Dean of the University of South Alabama Libraries. “We hope the new collaborative study space will be met with equal excitement and will continue to enhance the student experience. “***



# Collaborative Learning Spaces



Students using the Library's new white boards in the collaborative learning space on the 4th Floor South

Picture by Abigail Sherman

A group uses the Library's new monitors to connect to their laptop and share information in the Library's new collaborative learning spaces on the 4th Floor South.

Picture by Abigail Sherman



A group uses the Library's new white boards to share information in the Library's new collaborative learning spaces on the 4th Floor South.

Picture by Abigail Sherman

# Movers and Shakers

## Professional Activities of the Librarians of the University Library

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**Carol Ellis** delivered a presentation at the 2012 Society of Alabama Archivists' annual conference, held this year in Montgomery. Her talk addressed the challenges faced by the large quantity of unidentified photographs in the massive Doy Leale McCall Collection.

**Carol Ellis** will chair a session at the 2012 Gulf South Historical Association conference in Pensacola Beach in mid October.

**Vera Finley** attended a webinar on VOYAGER 8 Global Data Change Overview offered by ExLibris on September 13.

**Vera Finley** attended the Alabama Library Association Convention in Hoover, AL, April 24-27.

**Muriel Nero** attended the Alabama Library Association Convention in Hoover, AL, April 24-27, where she was the co-presenter on two posters:

“Library Scavenger Hunts: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly,” with Elizabeth G. Rugan, presented April 25, 2012.

“Locked and Loaded: Adding Ebook Records to SOUTHcat,” with Kathy P. Wheeler, presented April 26, 2012.

**Muriel Nero** attended the Executive Council Annual Meeting and Transition Workshop, where she was sworn in as the Moderator of the Technical Services & Systems Roundtable (TSSRT).

**Muriel Nero** wrote a book review of *Songs of Power and Prayer in the Columbia Plateau: the Jesuit, the Medicine Man, and the Indian Hymn Singer* by Chad S. Hamill, Oregon State Univ. Press (2012), that was published in [Indigenous Peoples Issues and Resources](#), August 8, 2012.

**Muriel Nero** and **Beth Rugan** put together a challenged books display in the glass case near the printers. It was developed for Banned Books Week, September 30—October 6, and featured frequently challenged books that are owned by the University Library.

**Beth Rugan** attended the Alabama Library Association Convention in Hoover, AL, April 24–27, where she presented a

poster with Muriel Nero on library scavenger hunts.

**Beth Rugan** was named the new editor of the AACRL Newsletter at the AACRL business meeting in Hoover, AL, on April 26.

**Paula Webb** attended the Southeastern Library Conference, Macon GA, October 2-5th, where she presented “Economic Census.”

**Paula Webb** attended the FDLP Conference, Washington D.C., October 15-19th, where she presented “How Innovation Fostered Outreach in the Federal Depository Library Program.”

**Paula Webb** had a book chapter, “Microblogging: An Analysis of Government Issued Policies and Best Practices,” published in the book, [Web 2.0 Technologies and Democratic Governance](#), edited by Christopher G. Reddick and Stephen K. Aikins and published by Springer in 2012.

**Paula Webb** is the Moderator - Elect - GODORT, Alabama Library Association.

**Paula Webb** is the Chair - Elect - GODORT Southeastern Library Association.

**Paula Webb** serves on the Awards Committee - Alabama Library Association.

**Kathy Wheeler** attended the Alabama Library Association Conference in Hoover, AL, where she presented a poster with Muriel Nero on adding ebook records to the catalog.

**Ellen Wilson**’s article, “Citation Analysis of Undergraduate Honors Theses.” was published in *The Southeastern Librarian*. 60.1 (Spring 2012): 39-50.

**Ellen Wilson** is the 2012-2013 Moderator of the Alabama Library Instruction Roundtable (ALIRT) of the Alabama Library Association (ALLA)

**Ellen Wilson** is the 2012-2013 Vice President/President-Elect of the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries.

**Angela Rand, Beth Rugan, and Andrea Wright** all spoke at the USABC Open Learning Conference. Angela addressed the issue of open learning communities and the technology climate that made them possible. Beth discussed what open learning communities are and where to find them. Andrea talked about the tools needed to use open learning communities successfully.



Alabama Library Association

