Fall 2013

*Reflections - Fall 2013*

University Libraries--University of South Carolina

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The Jak Smyrl Collection

Work of renowned newspaper artist comes to USC Libraries

The South Caroliniana Library is now home to a collection of more than 5,000 images, plus correspondence, sketchbooks and even early elementary-school artwork by The State newspaper’s first staff artist, Oscar Jackson “Jak” Smyrl (1923-2007).

In 1949, while he was still a USC student, Smyrl was hired by The State newspaper to perform a variety of duties, including writing and illustrating articles. He was named staff artist in 1955, a position he held until he retired in 1986. He is perhaps best known for his satirical maps of various places in South Carolina, his design of the USC “Fighting Gamecock,” and cartoons dealing with the Carolina-Clemson rivalry. A dog with a broken tail was his trademark image.

“Jak was the first artist who worked with The State, and he met every deadline at The State for 37 years,” said Betty Smyrl, his wife. “At first, he did a little of everything: he wrote articles, illustrated reporters’ articles, touched up photos for the photography department. When he became the staff artist, his focus was on illustrating articles about the people and events in his beloved home state.”

Smyrl truly was an artist of the people.

“For many South Carolinians, including the countless thousands who saw the vibrant creativity of his work on a near daily basis, Jak Smyrl truly was their state’s everyman artist,” said Henry Fulmer, Director of South Caroliniana Library, where the materials will reside. “The South Caroliniana Library is proud to celebrate, through Jak’s collected papers, drawings, notes, sketches and doodles, the creative genius of the man and the legacy which lives on today, more than a quarter of a century after his retirement.”

The Smyrl Collection, purchased for USC by the South Caroliniana Society, is being processed now and will be available to students and scholars.
From the Dean of the Libraries

In our continued evolution as an academic library, we realize that rapid growth and change have become the norm for us. Perhaps nothing illustrates this better than the nearly 70 percent rise over three years in the number of library sessions we teach for first-year and transfer students. In this issue of Reflections, we take a look at the causes of this increase, and we introduce our first-ever First-Year Experience Librarian.

We also celebrate the acquisition of several collections, including the W. Graham Arader III Collection, a massive collection valued at more than $30 million to be used for education. We take a look at what it takes to process such a collection and make it available to students and scholars.

Students are excited about two new offerings at the library this semester. For the first time, students who want to use one of the library’s 40 study rooms will register online, thanks to a new system put in place by our Circulation and Systems Departments. And beginning October 21, students can be escorted from the library to their residence hall or another campus building from 10:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. on weeknights, thanks to a new Student Government initiative called “Walk Home with Cocky.” Thomas Cooper Library is the homebase for this safety program.

Helping to move us forward in these and other areas is the new director of Thomas Cooper Library. It is my pleasure to introduce Beki Gettys, who has been serving as interim director and has a thorough knowledge of our library. Some of you may have met Beki while she was our Director of Communications or during her years as a Reference Librarian. If so, then you know she is an innovative information professional who will play a critical role in continuing the evolution of an academic library on the cusp of transformational change.

Tom McNally

New Faces

Amy Ciesielski
Moving Image Research Collections Curator Librarian

Beki Gettys
New appointment: Associate Dean of Libraries and Director of Thomas Cooper Library

Ashley Knox
New appointment: Digital Collections Assistant Librarian

Timothy Simmons
New appointment: Research, Instruction and Reference First-Year Experience Librarian

At a Glance: Services

Visit our service page at http://library.sc.edu/p/services to learn more about:
Circulation and Checkout Research Help Collection Development On Reserve Cooper Technology Lounge Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Book Request Scan and Deliver Study Rooms
FALL LITERARY FESTIVAL WELCOMES THREE AUTHORS IN OCTOBER

Susan Cheever, M.T. Anderson and Cassandra King will come to the Hollings Library in October to read from their work and talk with audience members for the 2013 Fall Literary Festival. The readings, which are free and open to the community, will take place on Tuesday evenings.

Cheever, the bestselling author of thirteen books including the memoirs Note Found in a Bottle and Home Before Dark, as well as the soon-to-be-released biography Louisa May Alcott: A Personal Biography, will speak at 6 p.m. on October 15.

Anderson, who in 2006 won the National Book Award in Young People’s Literature for the novel The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, is an accomplished writer who has written a wide variety of genres, including works of fantasy and satire for a range of ages. He will speak at 6 p.m. on October 22.

King, the bestselling author of essays, short fiction and novels, including The Sunday Wife, The Same Sweet Girls and the newly-released Moonrise, will speak at 6 p.m. on October 29.

This series is funded by an endowment established through the generosity of an anonymous donor.

For more information, including directions and parking information, go to http://library.sc.edu/fallfestival.html.

FALL LITERARY PANEL TO FEATURE PAT CONROY

South Carolina writers Pat Conroy, Aïda Rogers, Dot Jackson, Sam Morton and Vennie Deas Moore will participate in a literary panel at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 19 in the Hollings Library. They will discuss their work in State of the Heart: South Carolina Writers on the Places They Love, a book published by USC Press earlier this year. The event is free and open to the community.

Your USC Libraries

Thomas Cooper Library
Main library located at 1322 Greene Street
777-4866, http://library.sc.edu

Hollings Special Collections Library
Accessible through Thomas Cooper Library
Home to the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, and South Carolina Political Collections
777-3847, http://library.sc.edu/hollings

South Caroliniana Library
Located on the Horseshoe
Repository of the Palmetto State’s documented history and literature
777-3131, http://library.sc.edu/socar

Moving Image Research Collections
Located at 707 Catawba Street
Home to numerous film collections, including the Fox Movietone News Collection, Chinese Film Collection, and regional films
777-6841, http://library.sc.edu/mirc

Music Library
Located in the School of Music, Second Level
777-5139, http://library.sc.edu/music

Springs Business Library
Located in the Moore School of Business
777-6032, http://library.sc.edu/business

Library Annex and Conservation Facility
Located at 8500 Farrow Road
896-0780, http://library.sc.edu/annex
Calendar
For the latest information, visit library.sc.edu.

**EVENTS**

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**EXHIBITS**

“Turning a Crisis into an Opportunity: Integration of Higher Education in South Carolina,” through Nov. 15, South Carolina Political Collections Gallery (SCPC), Hollings Library

“Wreaking Havoc: The Art of the Political Cartoonist,” through Dec. 20, SCPC Gallery, Hollings Library

“50th Anniversary of the Integration of the University of South Carolina,” through Dec. 21, South Caroliniana Library

“Art in the Library: Original Artwork from the Collections of the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections,” through December, Irvin Department Gallery, Hollings Library

“Christmas on the Potomac,” Nov. 18 – Dec. 20, SCPC Gallery

“50th Anniversary of JFK Assassination: South Carolina Reacts,” Nov. 1 – Dec. 21, South Caroliniana Library

“Our First Century: Early Printed Books at the University of South Carolina,” 1471-1571, January – March, Irvin Department Gallery, Hollings Library


**WE’RE PLAYING A ROLE IN THE DIGITAL PUBLIC LIBRARY OF AMERICA**

USC Libraries’ Digital Collections is helping to create the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), which officially launched in April 2013. As described on its website, DPLA “brings together the riches of America’s libraries, archives and museums, and makes them freely available to the world.”

The effort starts at the state level with the South Carolina Digital Library (SCDL), chosen to be one of seven pilot hubs for DPLA. SCDL was awarded funding through grants from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the Arcadia Fund in the UK to add content to the DPLA. SCDL, which is funded through the South Carolina State Library, Clemson University, College of Charleston and USC, provides free access to historic materials, such as photographs, manuscripts and objects illustrating the state’s history and culture from more than 40 institutions across the state. More than 200,000 items have been added to SCDL so far. USC Digital Collections has provided more than half of this content.

“USC Digital Collections will continue to grow and make available the USC Libraries’ collections, but SCDL allows us to further our mission by helping make all cultural resources across the state more accessible to the citizens and students of South Carolina,” said Kate Boyd, USC Digital Collections Librarian.

“Working with other institutions has allowed collections in separate libraries or archives across the state to be connected virtually, which is amazing to watch,” Boyd said. “For instance, College of Charleston, the Charleston Museum and USC have all made their photographs from the 1886 earthquake available through SCDL.”

In addition to building the site, creating content for it, and maintaining it, SCDL partners help smaller institutions digitize their materials.

“We don’t have the resources to do it ourselves, particularly from the technical side of things, so we are very grateful for the help,” said Grace Cordial, Special Collections Librarian at Beaufort County Public Library. “We scanned nearly 550 images from a collection of photos featuring truck farming and phosphate mining taken in 1890 to 1910. It provides a close-up look at that industry from the turn of the century. We digitized this collection to create access for everyone, and there was no way we could have done that without the support of USC Digital Collections and the SCDL.”

Having all of the state’s cultural collections available through one portal vastly increases the discoverability of the items.

“We are stronger as a whole than we are as individual digital libraries,” said John White, Associate Dean for Special Collections and Digital Initiatives at the College of Charleston. “And without the hard work and dedication of Kate Boyd at USC Libraries, there may not have been an SCDL. Kate not only coordinated the project in its infancy, but she also established the basic workflows and digitization standards for the whole state. Her impact on digital libraries in South Carolina is immeasurable.”

For more information, visit SCDL at www.scmemory.org.
“I’m the frontline for media producers. In library terms, I would be the Reference Desk for Moving Image Research Collections (MIRC). Outside requests come to me from filmmakers, documentary makers and other media people needing film clips or still images from different events in history, and I try to find what they are looking for.

“Most people in the film industry know to try us. MIRC is like a big store where people come in and ask for something, like ‘I need Mussolini on a bicycle.’ If we have film of Mussolini riding a bicycle, we’ll send it to them. And with 20 million feet of film, there’s a good chance we’ll have what they need. The Amelia Earhart film is our most requested clip, next is Pearl Harbor.

“Over the years, I’ve had a lot of contact with Florentine Films, Ken Burns’ company. I once provided something rare to Michael Moore; he was very grateful. We’ve been a great asset to SCETV and WGBH. Nippon Hoso Kyokai, Japanese Public Television, is a steady client. I got a call today from Diane Sawyer’s producer about a clip for tonight about the construction of the Hollywood sign. I occasionally hear from ESPN. A lot of print publishers are moving into online use of video: I helped Vanity Fair find footage for a web-documentary on the 1920s flagpole sitters. And of course we spend a lot of time preparing research and exhibit materials for people on campus, including our own MIRC faculty, South Carolina Political Collections and McKissick Museum.

“We in MIRC rely on each other to put our heads together and see if we can remember if we have a specific subject on film. Once we find film for a client, I negotiate the cost and write the contract for use of the film.

“Our film catalog has been online for years and our film unit had one of the first websites on campus, so we were digital early on. To operate a motion picture archive, you need equipment and machines and people who can run it all. One of the problems we’re having in the 21st century is that it is expensive to access media. There is no inexpensive way to say, ‘I want to see the film of JFK during the Bay of Pigs invasion.’ Most of it was commercially produced, so you must first get the film, then catalog it, maybe preserve it, then digitize it. Scholars are realizing that studying JFK’s papers is not enough anymore. You need it all to get the entire historical picture. But getting it all is very expensive.”

Have you met...

BEN SINGLETON
PRODUCTION MANAGER,
MIRC

EXHIBITS PROVIDE UNIQUE LOOK AT DESEGREGATION

THIS YEAR THE UNIVERSITY IS MARKING ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF INTEGRATION WITH A SERIES OF EVENTS AND EXHIBITS. As part of that commemoration, USC Libraries has two exhibits that look at the topic of desegregation in South Carolina from unique perspectives.

“Turning a Crisis into an Opportunity: The Integration of Higher Education in South Carolina” uses the papers of two state governors and other leaders to show behind-the-scenes actions that made the move to desegregate less volatile than in other states. This South Carolina Political Collections exhibit is on display through November 15 in the Hollings Library.

“1801-1963: The Long Road to Desegregation at the University of South Carolina” takes a comprehensive look at the roles African-Americans have played on the University’s campus, from its beginnings early in the 19th century to its desegregation in 1963. This South Caroliniana Library exhibit is on display through December 20 in South Caroliniana Library’s Lumpkin Foyer.

In the photo shown here, from left to right, Robert Anderson, Henrie Monteith and James Solomon field questions from the media on September 11, 1963. Earlier that day, the three registered as the first African-American students at USC since Reconstruction. This photo is part of “The Long Road to Desegregation” exhibit.
“While processing the Smyrl Collection I studied each piece, made extensive notes, listed the items, and developed an organizational structure that would allow researchers to easily perform research. The last step has proved the hardest: there are literally thousands of drawings and doodles, as well as hundreds of personal letters. I’m now working to get all the things in archival boxes for long-term preservation. I’ve spent so much time with this collection that I have a catalog of all of Jak’s artwork in my head. I even dream in Smyrl cartoons now!

“The first time I saw the items was when (former South Caroliniana Library Director) Allen Stokes and I took a trip to Camden to the Smyrls’s lake home. Seeing a collection in its original setting gives you a good picture of the person whose material it is. Jak kept his drawings in two studios, neither of which had air conditioning or heat. My first thought was, ‘I need to get these things somewhere with air conditioning.’ Preserving the items is vital. The heat and humidity at the lake are great for people but deadly for original sketches and correspondence.

“When you’re working with a collection, you’re also working with a donor. A large part of the whole process is assuring the donor that we will take good care of the materials. Getting to know people and maintaining personal relationships is an important part of archiving that is often overlooked.

“I went out to the Smyrl home several times to pack the items before bringing the collection back to the library. Then comes the fun part: you just start with a box and open it to see what is in there, and you gradually come to know the materials. This is a diverse collection, and as there were few dates on anything, I was unable to arrange the materials in chronological order. A way of sorting it out by subject eventually presented itself, and hopefully researchers will find the Smyrl Collection enjoyable and easy to use.”

“The Jak Smyrl Collection continued from page 1

“Jak had done a good job of arranging his work; he had already laid a lot of the groundwork,” said USC Archivist Edward Blessing, who is processing the collection. “We are arranging it by subject. Many of the items are undated, and from a research standpoint it makes sense to arrange them by subject instead of chronologically. For example, one of the categories is maps, and his most famous is ‘A Caricature Map of South Carolina.’ He spent months working on it; he filled an entire sheet of paper with this map. His other maps included Pawley’s Island and Hilton Head. The collection includes all the original map sketches and all of his color separation work.

“There is also his correspondence. He kept so much of the correspondence he received, and his family members kept what he sent them. Being able to see both sides of his life is valuable to a researcher. I’ve come to know him through his items, and now I feel like I’m able to help carry out his vision and make the items available to future generations.”

Mrs. Smyrl is pleased that her husband’s work is now at USC. “I’m so glad I made the decision to let USC acquire the collection because I know it will also be preserved and taken care of,” she said. “This will be Jak’s legacy. He had such a zest for life and wanted to experience everything. He was a marine during World War II, he learned to fly a plane, he went scuba diving, he took a trip around the world. All of his adventures and thoughts and feelings went into his work. Now more people will see it.”

The State columnist Bill McDonald, Betty Smyrl, South Caroliniana Library’s Henry Fulmer and Edward Blessing admire Jak Smyrl’s original art.
TIMOTHY SIMMONS
FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE LIBRARIAN,
RESEARCH, INSTRUCTION AND REFERENCE

“We’ve never before had a First-Year Experience librarian, so the role is undefined, but that also means it is wide open. I’ve been a member of the department since 2011, and I will still have regular Reference Desk hours.

“My new duties include working with UNIV 101 and ENGL 101 and 102 to coordinate all library instruction sessions that we do for them. ENGL 102 meets the Carolina Core requirement for information literacy and mandates a visit to the library for every student enrolled in that course. I’ll primarily be scheduling all the sessions, assigning sections to the seven librarians in our Research, Reference and Instruction department. By the time classes started, there were more than 101 classes signed up for a library session: 60 UNIV 101 classes, 11 ENGL 101 classes, and 42 ENGL 102 classes.

“Information literacy is one of our learning outcomes. In a live, fifty-minute library session, we teach the ethical use of information, when and why to cite your sources, and how to recognize reliable sources. You have to make it interesting. You have to make it fun. I use music as aural cues, and humor. I tell them to come to the Reference Desk. We can help.

“Meeting with instructors and developing a relationship is important. When an instructor brings the students in and it’s obvious that you and the instructor have met and worked together, then the students get the sense that this is a concerted, partnered effort to help them. We are also creating online modules for courses we can’t do a live session for.

“I’m meeting lots of people across campus. Making sure the rest of campus feels connected to the library is part of this job. I think it will help them to know about library resources and what’s available to them. I think it will help with overall student retention rates, too.”

INCREASE IN LIBRARY SESSIONS IS DRAMATIC

THE NUMBER OF THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY
INSTRUCTION SESSIONS BEING TAUGHT HAS INCREASED
BY NEARLY 70 PERCENT IN JUST THREE YEARS. A large part
of the increase is directly tied to the growth of the freshman class, but
there are other factors.

“A confluence of things has happened,” said Sharon Verba, Head of Research, Instruction and Reference. “The incoming class of freshmen and transfer students has become very large. With information literacy now being a part of the Carolina Core, ENGL 102 courses mandate a library session for students. We reach most first-year students through our sessions with UNIV 101 classes and ENGL 101 and 102 classes, but that isn’t everybody.

“We want to reach out to other organizations that serve first-year students,” she said. “Faculty realize that while their students are technologically adept, they don’t have much experience using the specialized resources they need to do high-quality research. When they come to the University, research is something different from what they’ve done before. And the University offers so many wonderful resources it can be overwhelming for first-year students.

“We want to put together a comprehensive experience and we want to reach all the first-year students. Our new First-Year Librarian Timothy Simmons will help us do that,” Verba said. “In addition to offering many more sessions, we needed someone to work with Karen Brown, our Information Literacy Librarian, to schedule these sessions and to make sure students are getting a rich experience but not a repetitive one.”
W. Graham Arader Gift creates an unmatched teaching collection

Never has standing on a sunny loading dock waiting for a shipment of items been as thrilling as it was this summer for employees in the Hollings Library.

“There is a shipment almost every day, and each one is like opening a rare and beautiful gift,” said Elizabeth Sudduth, Director of the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. “One day we might receive a box of early 19th-century natural history watercolors. The next day it might be 16th-century maps. To date, we’ve received about 8,000 items, and there are more to come.”

A total of approximately 15,000 natural history watercolors, woodcuts, engravings, lithographs, chromolithographs and maps from the 16th to 19th centuries will find their way to the library. And thanks to the generosity of one donor, generations of USC students will experience the same thrill as they discover, study and learn from the W. Graham Arader III Collection. The donation is valued at approximately $30 million.

Arader, an internationally known collector who has devoted more than four decades to building a comprehensive gallery of artwork, has made it clear that he wants the items to be used to educate.

“With my gift to the University of South Carolina, a program in the library will be started to give students the opportunity to view the woodcuts, engravings, aquatints, lithographs and chromolithographs created from the original watercolors and oil paintings,” Arader recently wrote. “Our stock of all forms of this artwork is the largest in the world and it is time for me to give back….In the end, finding and creating a way to excite college students about this spectacular art form will give meaning and purpose to this passion of mine.”

Indeed, the materials will be used to develop an exemplary collection of teaching materials. The USC Libraries, the College of Arts and Sciences and the W. Graham Arader III Galleries are collaborating.

“College of Arts and Sciences Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick and I are working together to plan how the items will be integrated into the curriculum. She has been very involved in bringing the collection here and in developing ways to use it for teaching,” said USC Libraries Dean Tom McNally.

“We are delighted to work with our colleagues on this initiative because we are committed to fostering undergraduate research,” Fitzpatrick said. “Graham Arader’s vision will give our students and faculty the unique opportunity of working directly with engravings and lithographs of extraordinary quality. This is a transformative gift.”

The Arader items will be housed in the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections in USC’s Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library. Two full-time catalogers have been hired to process and catalog the collection. Once all the items arrive at USC, they will be ready for regular instructional use in about twelve months. A search is underway for a faculty curator who will teach courses in the College of Arts and Sciences using the items.

See more items from the Arader Collection at http://library.sc.edu/p/Collections/Arader.
The Blair Collection includes:
- Camera used to film the Normandy invasion – a 35mm Bell & Howell Eyemo
- Standard camera equipment
- Portable lights
- Some still photos, many that focus on TV news
- Oral history by Blair, including a text transcription, from early 1980s
- NBC license plates from Blair’s car
- MP40 German light machine gun, no longer operational, that Blair retrieved after being caught in a firefight in 1944
- Documentation, like a visa, noncombatant papers, London hotel bills
- Portraits of Blair in uniform.

“All of the items help MIRC in trying to grow and establish a better understanding of the cameramen who filmed the news,” Wilsbacher said. “We hope to build the supplemental materials of the lives of these talented and courageous men.”

The Blair Collection is soon to be digitized and available online.

Massive Simms Project Completes First Phase

A USC Libraries digital project that provides worldwide access to the work of 19th-century author William Gilmore Simms (1806-1870) has completed phase one of its two-phase plan. Born in Charleston, Simms was a short-story writer, novelist, essayist, speaker and leading literary figure of his day.

“We have finished the digitization of all of Simms’s separately published titles, for a total of 126 volumes and 95 separate titles,” said Todd Hagstette, Director of the Simms Initiatives. “This is where he lives in his posthumous existence, and now his work is accessible to everyone around the world.”

The goal of the four-year project is to produce a comprehensive bibliographic database that will be a resource for student and scholars studying Simms and his work. The site (http://simms.library.sc.edu) is growing into one of the world’s largest single-author digital repositories.

Jointly funded by the Watson-Brown Foundation of Thomson, Georgia, and the USC Libraries, the project and the digitized materials draw heavily from the University’s South Caroliniana Library, home of the largest holdings of Simms manuscripts and publications.

Phase two of the project is to visually mount Simms’s scrapbooks, which include early poem manuscripts, his published newspaper clippings, notes and writings that were never published. The entire four-year project is scheduled to be complete by June 2014.
More than 120 political cartoon enthusiasts attended “The Art of Political Cartooning,” an event that featured cartoonists Robert Ariail and Kate Salley Palmer, and Dean of the USC College of Mass Communications and Information Charles Bierbauer.

“The night’s discussion provided an inside look at political cartoons, their subjects and the talented people who create them,” said South Carolina Political Collections Director Herb Hartsook. “So many of us like political cartoons because they are easily understood, and they are wickedly funny. You’d think our government leaders would be furious to have fun poked at them, yet so often they will ask the artist for the original cartoon.”

A corresponding exhibit of twenty-one political cartoons is on display in Hollings Library through December 20. Cartoons created by Ariail and Salley, both USC graduates, are part of the “Wreaking Havoc: The Art of Editorial Cartooning” exhibit, along with the work of now-retired Walt Lardner, an illustrator and political cartoonist for The State. The Walt Lardner Collection at SCPC consists of 585 original cartoons he created (including the one shown here) during the tenures of governors Robert McNair, John West, James Edwards, Richard Riley and Carroll Campbell.

COOPERpalooza
BECOMES ANNUAL EVENT

IN JUST ITS SECOND YEAR, THE LIBRARIES’ CAROLINA WELCOME EVENT FOR FRESHMEN AND TRANSFER STUDENTS GREW FROM 300 PARTICIPANTS TO 525.

More than forty USC Libraries employees volunteered for the two-hour-long COOPERpalooza 2013 on August 18.

“With COOPERpalooza, we want to meet two goals,” said Beki Gettys, Director of Thomas Cooper Library. “The first is to introduce the students to the physical building and overview of our services. The second is to demonstrate that the library is a welcoming place with helpful and friendly staff.

“With 525 students attending, and a freshman class of 4,900 students, that means that more than ten percent of the freshman class now knows how Thomas Cooper Library can help them during their years here.”

Exhibit marked battle’s anniversary

From June through September, a large exhibit in the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections marked the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg with a pairing of items from two major Civil War collections: one formed by Civil War historian Francis A. Lord, who taught at USC for many years, and one formed by military historian Dr. Robert S. Chamberlain.

“The items in ‘Gettysburg: History and Memory’ showed the complicated military history of the war,” said Jeffrey Makala, exhibit curator. “There were books about tactics and training, as well as regimental histories, firsthand accounts (some as early as 1864), and tourist guides to the battlefield. The true highlight was a first printing of the Gettysburg Address, dated 1863 and printed as a small, bound pamphlet. South Caroliniana Library loaned us some remarkable items, including the diary of a Northern soldier taken from the battlefield with the evidence of a bullet hole running through it.”

Special talks and other events were also planned to coincide with the exhibit, including “The Battle of Gettysburg: A Harvest of Death,” a talk by USC History Professor Tom Brown.

Political Cartooning Event Draws A Crowd

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ADMINISTRATOR CREATES BEQUEST TO HELP LIBRARY

A SEASONED ADMINISTRATOR USED TO MAKING TOUGH DECISIONS, LYNN ROBERTSON DOESN’T HESITATE WHEN ASKED WHY SHE HAS LEFT THE BULK OF HER ESTATE TO THE UNIVERSITY.

“Being able to provide financial resources to a great institution so that it can become even better is the best thing you can do with your hard-earned money,” said Robertson, who retired in 2011 as Director of McKissick Museum. “The old saying is true: money can’t buy happiness. But it can allow you to help a university that will accomplish more than you ever could with that money.”

She grows more reflective when she talks about the bequest itself. She is, after all, talking about her husband, Dr. George Terry (1950 - 2001), and what they had planned together.

Lynn Robertson

BASEBALL EXHIBIT HITS A HOME RUN

A BASEBALL EXHIBIT AT SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY COVERED ALL THE BASES, FROM THE EARLY DAYS OF THE GAME IN THE NATION, TO ITS BIRTH IN SOUTH CAROLINA, TO USC’S WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONSHIPS.

“Hurrah! Baseball…is here: America’s Pastime in South Carolina” told its story through team photos from the 19th century, correspondence, newspapers and advertisements. The exhibit was on display in the library’s Lumpkin Foyer throughout the summer.

“Baseball as we know it today began to take shape in the first half of the 19th century, where it began in northeastern urban centers where middle-class males had some time on their hands,” said Fritz Hamer, Curator of Published Materials and co-curator of the exhibit.

“The University was always George’s home: he received his BA, MA and PhD degrees here, and he was Vice Provost and Dean of Libraries and, earlier in his career, Director of McKissick Museum,” she said. “I’m not a graduate of USC but I came here as a young woman and I’ve been here now for 30 years. So it was more than an academic institution or a job for us. It became our community and our home. Contributing in a lasting way to the University was always part of our planning. It was something we both wanted to do.”

Rather than supporting a specific collection or program, The George D. Terry and Lynn Robertson South Caroliniana Library Endowment Fund will provide unrestricted support of the South Caroliniana Library at the discretion of the library’s director.

“Since George and I were both administrators, we realized that sometimes the most needed funds are those for the unplanned opportunities that arise. Caroliniana is a collecting institution, and I learned while at McKissick Museum that when a special item that complements your collections becomes available, if you don’t move quickly you’ll miss it. In making our gift flexible, we knew it would help in a much-needed way.”

Robertson is involved in numerous community activities, including her roles as president of Columbia Green and secretary of 701 Center for Contemporary Art. On campus, she is Vice President of the Thomas Cooper Society and a board member of the South Caroliniana Society. She is a member of the Ex Libris Society, which recognizes donors who provide invaluable annual donations to support the University Libraries.

“Lynn is so committed to the University that thinking about her legacy and what her gift can accomplish naturally led her to consider a bequest to USC,” said Tom McNally, Dean of USC Libraries. “Because of their generosity, what she and George have contributed to the institution during their lifetimes will continue to grow through many more generations.”
Take me out to the...opera?

MIRC's Babe Ruth footage appears in Bambino

The request began just like any other that Moving Image Research Collections’ (MIRC) Ben Singleton gets: Richard Maltz, who teaches music theory at USC Aiken, needed footage of baseball great Babe Ruth.

“I was looking specifically for Babe Ruth in a Red Socks uniform,” Maltz said. “I grew up in Boston, and I have been to a lot of games at Fenway Park and was familiar with the ‘Curse of the Bambino.’ I always thought it would make a great story for an opera.”

In May, those MIRC film clips were part of a multimedia backdrop in Bambino, an opera composed by Maltz and performed at USC Aiken and USC Columbia. Produced by Opera at USC, the production was a blend of students and professionals.

“Ben probably sent me a couple of hours of footage of Babe Ruth from the Fox Movietone News Collection,” Maltz said. “I told the story from the point of Babe Ruth being a Red Sox member, and of him being in Fenway Park. I found some of that film, and some of him later in his career. I found some of him signing a contract with the New York Yankees, and of him as an older man. That priceless footage was made available free to me, which is a pretty cool thing.”

Meet MIRC’s Singleton and find out who else uses MIRC footage on page 5.