The University of South Florida has a deep commitment to student success. This is embodied in the USF Libraries’ incredibly robust programs for helping students succeed. I am particularly inspired by the connections that USF librarians make with students through the Libraries’ Research Rescue initiative. Research Rescue imparts basic and advanced research skills that are crucial to coursework, papers, and research projects. The program makes it easy to get help, with online sessions, walk-in workshops, and one-on-one appointments. Most importantly, it gives students a deep understanding of USF’s commitment to their success, with the knowledge that significant support is available to them.

Research Rescue is a perfect complement to the broader offerings of the USF Tampa Library’s Learning Commons. The Learning Commons combines librarian help with easy access to Tutoring and Learning Services tutors in a broad range of subjects, one-on-one help from consultants in the Writing Center, and a path for learning at a higher level with the Office for Undergraduate Research. All of this is available under one roof.

The USF Libraries are also taking a leading role in publishing the research and creative work of our students and faculty, with the launch of the USF Scholar Commons. The project provides unrestricted open access to articles that would typically only be available in traditional pay-for-access journals, as well as the online publication of entire scholarly journals in a range of disciplines. The USF Scholar Commons is poised to increase the University’s prominence and our scholars’ citations in leading research arenas.

Lastly, I want to congratulate the USF-led research consortium Center for Integrated Modeling and Analysis of the Gulf Ecosystem (C-IMAGE), which has been awarded a grant of more than 11 million dollars to continue assessing the impacts of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill on the Gulf of Mexico’s ocean and coastal ecosystems and to build a better way of predicting damage from future spills. The USF Libraries will manage the data for the entire project, which will be lead by the departments of marine science, geoscience, chemistry, and biology. What a shining example of an on-campus research collaboration!

JUDY GENSHAFT
President, University of South Florida System
Research universities play a key role in the expansion of human knowledge and making the benefits of such work readily available to society. This happens better and more effectively when nourished by the Library’s resources, services, and facilities.

The University of South Florida Libraries, under the leadership of Dean Bill Garrison, are critical in nurturing the intellectual pursuits of the USF community. Through the thoughtful enhancement of their collections, improvements in service quality, and renovation of their learning environments, the USF Libraries are helping to ensure that the University’s students and professors are well equipped to become successful and innovative leaders in their fields.

Supporting the instructional and research needs of well over 3,000 faculty members and more than 47,000 students is a daunting task that brings with it high expectations, which our many talented USF Libraries professionals meet and exceed daily. Without a doubt, the USF Libraries have rightly become the center of our global research university.

As a vital component of USF’s commitment to student success, USF Libraries recently created a number of projects aimed directly at serving USF’s student body, including one key initiative that relocated Undergraduate Research into the Libraries. This relocation facilitates the use of the Libraries’ collections for undergraduate research. As an example, Courtney Pollard (a student recently featured in the Undergraduate Research Symposium) drew on works included the USF Libraries Special and Circulating Collections for her research on young adult literature.

Additionally, the Libraries always are adapting to how and where students like to work. The Libraries’ new website, at http://lib.usf.edu, is one of the best in the nation. It includes many ways to get instant help from librarians, including chat, text, and a new Research Rescue service that offers one-on-one, online, or group workshop help on how to conduct research for a project or paper. Clearly, the USF Libraries continue to be pivotal to the academic success of our students.

Beyond their efforts with students, the Libraries recently launched the USF Scholar Commons Geoportal and Data Repository (GDR). The Scholar Commons is designed to be an open-access repository for USF’s intellectual output as well as the port of entry for the four (and counting) open-access journals USF currently publishes. The GDR is a hosting and mapping service for coordinating location-specific research data with published and grey literature. Other projects our faculty and graduate students have initiated will find a digital home there too.

Finally, the USF Libraries continue to support the broader Tampa Bay community. The Libraries’ outreach and community engagement efforts this year included an orientation to the USF Libraries and their catalogs for 120 Hillsborough High School International Baccalaureate students, who also received library cards and may now access the Libraries’ many resources.

The USF Libraries have concluded another busy and successful year, and I am confident moving forward that the Libraries’ plans and activities will continue to support USF’s strategic priorities of community engagement; global literacy and impact; integrated, interdisciplinary inquiry; research and innovation; and student success.

RALPH C. WILCOX
Provost & Executive Vice President,
University of South Florida
I cannot help but feel proud as we end 2011. Despite another year of state budget erosion, the USF Libraries faculty and staff have managed to not only soldier on with our essential academic support functions, but somehow to push past the basics and innovate: developing new ways of reaching students and cutting-edge services to support faculty and student research, not to mention breaking new ground in international partnerships.

After more than a year of intense preparation, our Academic Resources department has launched the USF Scholar Commons and the suite of research support tools known as the Geoportal and Data Repository. The USF Scholar Commons is a showcase for the research and creative output of USF faculty and students, allowing publication of individual reports and papers as well as providing a platform for publishing entire academic journals in an open access environment. The Geoportal and Data Repository stores research data in a way that allows innovative uses of the information, such as visualizing scientific data points on a local or world map. To understand how these services bridge a critical gap in connecting high-level research and learning, imagine a student clicking on a map of the Tampa Bay watershed and linking directly to our Bay Study Group archives of scientific research conducted in and about that very spot.

This summer, USF’s Office for Undergraduate Research (OUR) moved onto the Library’s second floor, setting the stage for a productive partnership. To equip undergraduates seeking a research experience, our Academic Services librarians are working with OUR Director and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies Richard Pollenz to create an assessment and training tool for essential research skills. Collaborative training will begin in spring 2012.

The USF Tampa Library has made good use of the Student Technology Fee funds we have been awarded in 2011. It has long been the case that scholars had to search one place on our website in order to find a book, and another place to find a journal article. This is how it is at most academic and research libraries. One of our Student Tech Fee successes is the integration of a ‘discovery tool’ for library holdings that finds approximately 87% of resources from a single search box on our homepage. This is a significant step forward both technologically and in making our library as easy to use as possible.

Other benefits of the Student Tech Fee program have taken the form of the installation of high-resolution scanners for public use, and the funding needed to continue patron-driven acquisitions.

Meanwhile, we have built a new, cutting-edge website from the ground up. A team comprised of Academic Services librarians, our assistant director of communications, and our new webmaster, Paul Trusik, benchmarked the very best research library websites and then set about building easy access to every research tool and support service we offer. This process included user testing by students, faculty, and community members in order to make sure our resources are easy to find.

The coming year brings the promise of new horizons and additional partnerships for our Holocaust and Genocide Studies Center (HGSC). In October, Mark Greenberg, the acting Director of the Center as well as the director of Special and Digital Collections, along with Musa Olaka, our Holocaust and genocide librarian who has ties to the region, journeyed to the Great Lakes area of East Africa to meet with institutions and individuals who can tell the story of the atrocities committed in their communities. We look forward to exploring the potential partnerships, projects, and acquisitions that may result.

William A. Garrison
Dean, University of South Florida Libraries
In 2010, the USF Libraries received the vast archive of Bay Study Group marine science data, chronicling the health of the Tampa Bay estuary over 34 years. In 2011, the collection was digitized and put online for the world to utilize and explore. The project uses the Libraries’ mapping capabilities to link specific articles, reports, and scientific data from the points on the map where the data originated. This is done through the USF Geoportal and Data Repository (GDR) and the USF Scholar Commons, two projects spearheaded and managed by the USF Libraries. Not only is this a logical way to look at data relating to physical locations that can be viewed on a map, but it allows physical collections to be viewed and searched easily, rather than having to go through boxes of paper files in person at the library.

In addition to mapping the Bay Study Group project, the USF Geoportal and Data Repository hosts data from researchers across USF and partner institutions. In 2012, the Karst Information Portal and Gulf Oil Spill Information Center will begin to take advantage of the GDR data visualization capabilities as well. The USF Scholar Commons, where the digitized collection of Bay Study Group documents is housed, is a significant new USF initiative allowing faculty and students to post research and creative work for unrestricted viewing. More than a collection of individual papers, the USF Scholar Commons is also a platform for publishing open access journals in their entirety. Five journals, covering subjects from Earth sciences to sustainable communities to mathematics, are currently hosted, with two additional periodicals slated to begin publication on USF Scholar Commons in early 2012.

The Karst Studies Collection, which began the Libraries’ Environmental Sustainability Initiative, grew significantly in 2011. The Karst Information Portal has seen a 50% increase in web traffic from 2010 and a 30% increase in voluntary registrations on the website. The Portal now offers access to 617 additional publications. Issues of Texas Caver dating back to 1956 have been digitized for release in spring of 2012. A much sought-after commodity in the grey literature of karst, Cave Research Foundation publications have been digitized through 1966. This hard-to-find publication covers global subject matter of interest among cavers. Most notably for the Libraries-managed USF Scholar Commons, readership of the International Journal of Speleology has increased since it began publication on the USF Scholar Commons, which has increased its Institute for Scientific Information impact factor, a measure of relevance in the scientific community.

Explore environmental sustainability: www.karstportal.org scholarcommons.usf.edu
At the start of its fourth year, the USF Libraries Holocaust & Genocide Studies Center (HGSC) is engaged in partnerships and collaborations on campus and as far away as east Africa. This summer, HGSC Director Mark I. Greenberg and Communication and Sociology Professor Carolyn Ellis co-taught Memory, Trauma, and the Holocaust, an intensive week-long graduate seminar. Students explored the Holocaust through oral history and personal testimony, concentrating on the impact of the passage of time and life experiences on memory and storytelling of Holocaust survivors living in the Tampa Bay area. In addition, the class met with some of those survivors in person and toured the Florida Holocaust Museum. The class had a profound effect on many of the students, in some cases inspiring additional research. Master’s student Kari Goetz continues to build upon her experience in the seminar “The class was a life-changing experience...” she said, highlighting that “the incredible generosity of the Holocaust survivors who came and shared their stories made it truly remarkable. It continues to shape my graduate research... The class has already inspired three papers for me for other classes, and I’m currently working on the fourth for eventual publication.”

The HGSC continued an ongoing effort to raise awareness and teach respect for different cultures with the presentation of the 2nd Annual Armenian Studies Symposium in November. An over-capacity crowd spilled into adjacent rooms to hear respected Armenian Genocide studies scholar Taner Açkam speak on the Turkish government’s treatment of free speech in the name of national security. A panel of USF scholars gave responses comparing the Turkish situation to other genocides around the world throughout history. See video of the symposium at: genocide.lib.usf.edu - click on Events.

In October, Director Mark I. Greenberg and Librarian Musa Wakhungu Olaka of the USF Holocaust and Genocide Studies Center visited Rwanda, Burundi, and Kenya to explore potential collaboration with local institutions in hopes of preserving and disseminating information surrounding genocide and crimes against humanity in the African Great Lakes Region. These partnerships will not only reveal and digitize hidden materials and first-hand documentation to scholars at USF and worldwide, but also will provide a platform for publishing several open-access journals. Drs. Greenberg and Olaka had fruitful discussions with nine institutions in Rwanda, all with different missions relating to the 1994 Rwandan genocide, and three institutions in Burundi. The organizations’ aims range from educating mental health personnel, to developing techniques for training teachers to relate the lessons of the Rwandan genocide, to looking at the welfare of genocide survivors.

The USF Libraries have laid the groundwork for a digital genocide library of immense importance to humankind. Now, it is paramount to secure funding for it. The Libraries are pursuing a range of grant funding sources, and welcome private donations to this and other programs. Help us change the future. Consider making a financial gift to the USF Libraries, and enable this project’s potential to create positive change. Contact Merrell Dickey at (813) 974-1654.
IMPROVING ACCESS, EXTENDING SERVICES, STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIONS: Discovering and navigating the multitude of library online resources and tools is a challenge for even the savviest researcher. In 2011 reference librarians, library communications, and the Library’s new webmaster, Paul Trusik, came together to deliver a newly designed USF Libraries website. Complete with a cutting edge, user friendly drop-down menu and an internal search engine with Google technology, resources are now much more visible, findable, and, in most cases, only two clicks away. Online and face to face feedback from students and faculty guided the web design process. A plan of ongoing usability studies continues to improve the design and keep the website fresh and its valuable resources easily discoverable.

O.U.R. Director Rick Pollenz talks with pre-dentistry student Robert Lara

A NEW PARTNER IN THE LIBRARY’S LEARNING COMMONS – OFFICE FOR UNDERGRADUATE Research: Collaboration among academic units on campus is essential for student success. Recently, the newly reorganized Office for Undergraduate Research (OUR) moved into the USF Tampa Library second floor Learning Commons in an effort to expand student awareness of research opportunities. Since moving into the Library, our librarians have worked closely with Richard Pollenz, associate dean of undergraduate studies and director of the OUR, to embed research skills assessment and training into overall program activities. Collective efforts are underway to market and promote the activities, programs, and workshops of the library’s Learning Commons partners: Undergraduate Research, Writing Center, and Tutoring Services.

Research Rescue connects librarians and students: This year the USF Tampa Library rolled out Research Rescue, a program designed to offer students basic and advanced skill workshops both online and in person. In addition, librarians offered a week of research ‘walk-in clinics’ which allowed students to bring in draft research papers and get help finding resources to finish their projects. Over 120 students attended Research Rescue workshops and many visited the walk-in clinic. In a survey, students indicated the workshops were useful and that they would attend more in the future. 2012 will see a greatly increased schedule of Research Rescue workshop offerings.

Research Rescue students Briena Gianfrancesco, Jack West, Lyndy Solow

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND INFORMATION LITERACY: Our librarians are playing a key role in the development of the University’s first Global Citizenship General Education Program. The program’s first cohort of 30 students began in the fall, taking two general education courses. One of them, Global Information Literacy, was taught by Lily Todorinova, Assistant Librarian at the USF Tampa Library. This student cohort of first-time-in-college freshmen was specially selected to participate in this program focusing on what it means to be a global citizen. The library will provide information literacy instruction in all their general education courses, helping them become information-literate, globally engaged citizens.

Enhancing USF student recruitment – Librarians teaching High School IB students: For many years the USF Tampa Library has been providing library skills training to International Baccalaureate (IB) high school students, and this year the tradition continues. Through the coordinating efforts of senior librarian Susan Silver, groups of junior and senior students from four public IB high schools visited the library this year. The schools included Hillsborough, King, Strawberry Crest and Robinson. More than 250 IB students received instruction from librarians on how to conduct library research. These students have USF library privileges to borrow materials for the purpose of researching topics for their extended essay assignment. As the climate for recruiting top students to USF becomes increasingly competitive, the positive experience these students have with USF’s library will leave a lasting impression as they make their college choice.
ecosystem which is unique on Earth. The Oculina Bank Oral Histories are now available on the USF Libraries website at: guides.lib.usf.edu/ohp

The USF Libraries Latin American science fiction collection has grown by over 400 titles this year. New acquisitions highlight the development of science fiction as seen through novels, anthologies, magazines, and fanzines from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Uruguay, and Venezuela published between 1898 and 2010. The collection includes a range of significant Chilean works, notably those from R.O. Land, David Perry, Ernesto Silva Román, and Hugo Correa, an author often compared to Ray Bradbury and Isaac Asimov.

Omeka, an open-source web publishing platform. The adoption of this new technology creates tremendous potential for collaborations across campus, as well as an efficient method for sharing the Libraries’ digital collections with researchers and the public.

In 2010-11, the USF Libraries Oral History Program partnered with the Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation and University of Florida anthropologist Ava Lasseter to conduct 45 oral history interviews on the effect of the protected marine Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern on recreational, charter, and commercial fishermen in the Fort Pierce area. The 300 square-mile area is home to a significant coral reef ecosystem which is unique on Earth. The Oculina Bank Oral Histories are now available on the USF Libraries website at: guides.lib.usf.edu/ohp

The USF Libraries’ Special Collections Department launched a new era of online exhibitions in 2011 with SELLING Sunshine, which tells the history of the Florida citrus industry through digital collections including advertisements, oral histories, photographs, and a variety of publications. Graduate students Joe Tomargo and Matt Deihl worked intensively with Special Collections librarian Andy huse on Selling Sunshine. Exhibitions are curated collaboratively by Library and departmental faculty along with students and displayed using Omeka, an open-source web publishing platform. The adoption of this new technology creates tremendous potential for collaborations across campus, as well as an efficient method for sharing the Libraries’ digital collections with researchers and the public.

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USF LIBRARIES’ SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT LAUNCHED A NEW ERA OF ONLINE EXHIBITIONS IN 2011 WITH SELLING Sunshine, which tells the history of the Florida citrus industry through digital collections including advertisements, oral histories, photographs, and a variety of publications. Graduate students Joe Tomargo and Matt Deihl worked intensively with Special Collections librarian Andy huse on Selling Sunshine. Exhibitions are curated collaboratively by Library and departmental faculty along with students and displayed using Omeka, an open-source web publishing platform. The adoption of this new technology creates tremendous potential for collaborations across campus, as well as an efficient method for sharing the Libraries’ digital collections with researchers and the public.

In 2010-11, the USF LIBRARIES ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM PARTNERED WITH THE GULF AND SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERIES FOUNDATION AND UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGIST AVA LASSETTER TO CONDUCT 45 ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS ON THE EFFECT OF THE PROTECTED MARINE OCLUSNA BANK HABITAT AREA OF PARTICULAR CONCERN ON RECREATIONAL, CHARTER, AND COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN IN THE FORT PIERCE AREA. THE 300 SQUARE-MILE AREA IS HOME TO A SIGNIFICANT CORAL REEF ECOSYSTEM WHICH IS UNIQUE ON EARTH. THE OCULINA BANK ORAL HISTORIES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE USF LIBRARIES WEBSITE AT: GUIDES.LIB.USF.EDU/OHP

The Florida Studies Initiative has grown, too. The Honorable Betty Castor made a gift of support for the Patrick Riordan Fellowship as part of the effort to award this graduate scholarship on an annual basis. While the primary need is financial gifts, the Florida Studies and Women’s Studies collections were fortunate to receive incredible in-kind donations from former Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio, former County Commissioner Jan Platt, and Tampa Poet Laureate James E. Tokley Sr.

You can help the USF Libraries reach its financial goals, whether through a personal gift or opening the door to an individual donor, a private foundation, or a corporation that you think might share the Libraries’ passion for investing in the future.

Contact Merrell Dickey at (813) 974-1654.
Paul Trusik joined the USF Tampa Library in November of 2010 in the role of webmaster. In just one year, his expertise has allowed the USF Libraries to develop a best-in-class library website, launch online exhibitions highlighting materials from Special and Digital Collections, and revamp our email newsletters and invitations. Prior to working with the USF Libraries, Paul was Online Creative Manager at AVI-SPL (formerly AVI) for nearly 10 years. He earned a BA in communication and business administration from the University of Tampa.

Rebel Cummings-Sauls came to the USF Tampa Library in August of 2011. As Library Operations Coordinator, she supports the Library’s USF Scholar Commons publishing platform as well as the massive breadth of e-resources that the library manages on behalf of USF’s scholarly community. Rebel graduated from Florida State University with a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS).

Matthew Knight joined the USF Tampa Library in November 2011 as operations manager for Special and Digital Collections. Prior to coming to the USF Libraries, he was a branch manager within the St. Petersburg Public Library System, where he also served as a reference librarian. He has experience working in archives, as a stacks supervisor, and as an editor for Random House Books. Matt earned two BA degrees from Canadian universities, an MA from Harvard, a MLS from USF, and is currently completing his dissertation at Harvard. Matt is thrilled to be a part of the Special and Digital Collections department.

Julie Fielding joined the USF Tampa Libraries this August in the position of Library Operations Coordinator in Academic Resources. Julie worked at Gale Cengage Learning in their Information Services department prior to coming to the Libraries. She attended Wayne State University in Detroit where she received her MLIS degree and a BA in English.

Aura M. Perez joined the USF Tampa Library in November of 2011. She will be analyzing the library’s role in student success outcomes, collecting and reporting library statistics, and supporting open access initiatives. She has been with USF for over 15 years. Aura (not pictured) is a USF alumna, having earned a BA in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences, an MA in Guidance & Counseling and an MA in Library & Information Systems.

Julie Fielding
Selected Faculty & Staff Activities

Publications

Susan Ariew published “Using Scenarios to ‘Get Real’ with Students about Copyright and Plagiarism,” in Let the Games Begin: Engaging Students with Field-Tested Interactive Information Literacy Instruction, Ed. Theresa R. McDevitt.


Claudia Dold published “Double Your Staff with Instructional Videos” in C. Smallwood & M. Clapp (Eds.), How to Thrive as a Solo Librarian.

Megan Sheffield & Electronic Reserve 21(3).

LeEtta Schmidt published “Using Learning Objects to Enhance Distance Reference Services,” for the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies.

Claudia Dold and Richard Chapman published “Hearing a voice: Results of a participatory action research study” in May in the Journal of Child and Family Studies.

Melanie Griffin and Barbara Lewis published “Special collections and the new web: Using LibGuides to provide meaningful access” in the Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship 23.1 and “Transforming special collections through innovative uses for LibGuides” in Collection Building 30.1.

Audrey Powers published “A Collection Development Plan for Art and Art History at the University of South Florida” in Art Documentation, Spring issue.

Audrey Powers published “E-Everything: Putting It All Together” in the November Against the Grain.

LeEtta Schmidt published “ILLiad, CAS, Shibboleth, and PHP: the road to single sign-on” in the Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery, & Electronic Reserve 21(3).


Lily Todorinova, Andy Huse, Matt Torrence & Barbara Lewis published “Making decisions: Using electronic data collection to re-envision reference services at the USF Tampa Libraries” in Public Services Quarterly 7 (1).

Susan Ariew and James Eison presented “Information Literacy and the Collaborative Imperative,” as a TLT Group Webinar/Workshop co-sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Susan Ariew and Lily Todorinova presented “Putting ‘Literacy’ in ‘Information’: The Writing and Research Connections in the One-Off Session,” at the 2011 Information Fluency Conference, at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

Claudia Dold was the co-chair of the ACURIL 2011 Local Organizing Committee. The four-day international conference was attended by over 200 people.


Melanie Griffin presented the paper “Other Girls Solve Mysteries, Too: Creating a Canon for the Girl Detective” at the Popular Culture Association’s national conference in San Antonio.


Barbara Lewis and Audrey Powers presented “What the Heart Remembers: the Women and Children of Darfur” at the VRA + ARLIS/NA 2011: 2nd Joint Conference in Minneapolis.

Barbara Lewis, Matt Torrence, Drew Smith, and Susan Silver presented “Students, Faculty, and the Library: Research at the University of South Florida” at the ACRL EBSS (Education and Behavioral Sciences Section) Research Forum poster session at the ALA Annual Conference.

Monica Metz-Wiseman and Margaret M Kain presented “Next-Gen Discovery Tools within ASERL – WorldCat Local” as part of the ASERL continuing series on discovery tools.

Audrey Powers presented during “Understanding the 21st Century Research Landscape” and was the moderator for “E-Everything: Putting It All Together, part 2” at the Charleston Conference.

Lily Todorinova developed and taught LJS 2005, Library & Internet Research Skills (3 credits - Fall 2011) for the USF Global Citizenship cohort, an Association of American Colleges and Universities grant-funded initiative.

Lily Todorinova and Brittany Deuputy presented “Untapped Resources: Graduate Assistants and Collection Development” at the Charleston Conference.


Matt Torrence presented during, and moderated, “Layers of Reality: Extending Library Services and Resources through QR Codes and Augmented Reality” at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Boston.


Awards & Appointments


Monica Metz-Wiseman has been named to EBSCO Publishing’s Academic Advisory Board.
The USF Libraries would like to thank our Advancement Board members: Cynthia Bailey, The Honorable Betty Castor, Ruth Coleman, Charles Mahan, Paul Pizzo, The Honorable E.J. Salcines, W. Reece Smith, Jr., and Walter Smith.

To make an investment in the USF Libraries, please contact Director of Development Merrell T. Dickey at (813) 974-1654.