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Good News on the SACS Accreditation

It's been a long time since you've heard from me about the SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) accreditation process, which has been going on for the last 2 years or so. And I've had the honor to represent the Library on Georgia Tech's Accreditation Council that's done the work. I wanted to give you an update and some great news!

The SACS On-site Committee (a group of 9 distinguished academicians) visited Georgia Tech the last 3 days to look at the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) component of our SACS accreditation review. The SACS Committee gave us rave reviews on our QEP with its focus areas of "International Education" and "Undergraduate Research." Georgia Tech is already involved in these 2 focus areas; however the intent of the QEP is "to take them to another level" through strong support financially and otherwise from Georgia Tech's administration.

In effect, we received the equivalent of 100% or A grade on our QEP with no recommendations for changes. You might be interested to know that it's very unusual for a university to get 100% on their QEP.

The final SACS vote for Georgia Tech's re-accreditation is in December 2005; however we feel assured that the vote will be a positive one.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. -Kathy Tomajko



MAY 2 - Andy Blakely MAY 8 - Anna Marie Soper-O'Rourke MAY 16 - Leslie Madden MAY 25 - Yolanda Strayhorn MAY 28 - Jackie Boyd

New Faces in the Systems Department

Chris Helms

I am a native of Georgia. Born and raised just south of Atlanta, keeping the "city of" in my backyard. Ever since my early years beginning in the era of Atari I have been an avid computer enthusiast. In February of 2000 I began working with Georgia Tech in the Office of Information Technology, fusing my technical expertise with their campus initiatives. As a hobbyist I enjoy analytical problem solving, computers, large bodies of water, music, and my Jeep.



David McDuffie

David McDuffie will be providing desktop support.

David McDuffie graduated from Georgia State University in 2001 with a B.B.A in Computer Information Systems. He began his IT career as a Student Assistant for the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies' IT department and upon graduating, was hired full time. David spent about 4 years at GSU working as a System Administrator. His professional experience includes Windows 2000 & 2003 file and web server management, desktop support, Ghost imaging, software/hardware testing, and Altiris Client Management Suite administration.



Beginning 2005, David took a System/Network Administration position with CompuCredit, Inc. concentrating on desktop support and the deployment of the Altiris Asset and Client Management Solutions throughout the company's infrastructure.

In his spare time, David enjoys being followed around by his daughter, Kayla and [dare I say it...] staring at a computer screen.

The Library Book Club will meet next on Thursday, June 2 from noon--1pm in the Wilby Room. We'll be discussing Wild Swans by Jung Chang, "a riveting account of the impact of history on the lives of women. This is a powerful, moving, at times shocking story of three generations of Chinese women."--book cover.

Information Services

From April 7 - 10th, Bruce Henson, Lori Critz, Patty Kenly, Cathy Carpenter, Crystal Renfro and Brian Mathews all attended ACRL's 12th National Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Brian presented a poster with colleagues from George Washington University entitled "From Orientation to Defense: Library Services for Doctoral Distance Learning Students." There were a number of discussions about enhancing the First Year Experience for freshman students, workshops and panel discussions exploring the characteristics of the "Millennials", and a fascinating presentation by Adam Smith of Google and John Price Wilkin from the University of Michigan on "What's Next? Academic Libraries in a Google Environment" This excellent presentation gave Adam Smith, a Google executive, the opportunity to tell us firsthand what Google was doing with Google Scholar and Google Print. This was one session that ended far too soon as evidenced by the long line at the question microphones when the moderators reluctantly announced that time was out for the session.

Cathy Carpenter displayed her poster titled "Connecting Georgia Tech Library to Our Students: Anyway, Anytime, Anywhere by Any Means" during CETL's Celebrating Teaching Day which was held in the library on March 25th. Teaching Day is a celebration of teaching and learning featuring Tech faculty fellows. Cathy was a fellow of the Class of 1969 Teaching Fellows program during fall of 2004.

Joanne Tobin recently returned from attending the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Annual Seminar held on the beautiful grounds of the USPTO in Alexandria, VA. Patent librarians from as far away as Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, China, and Japan participated. Regarding her experiences, Joanne reflects, "the all day training session on the PubWest database really made me aware of what a powerful database this is and why it is used by the patent examiners. In a session on foreign patent searching Hearned some good tips to use when searching ESPACENET, the European Patent Office database. There were many excellent speakers from the various USPTO Offices telling us about new programs and services. Judith Russell, Superintendent of Documents, spoke on the topic of 'GPO Strategic Vision and What It Will Mean for Public Access.' " On a more fun note, Joanne also won the "Trademark Hat Contest" with her creative entry of a Georgia Tech baseball cap covered in Atlanta pins including ones from the Braves, Olympic pins, the Peachtree Road Race and a a 50 years of Georgia Tech Women pin. Joanne shared her prize of brownies with the other participants.

Lisha Li will be joining the Information Services Department in July as our new Civil and Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Librarian.

The third Tuesday Talks was held on April 26 featuring Dr. Thad Starner from the College of Computing. His topic of "Face to Face Discussion with Wearable Computers" was delivered to a standing room only crowd of interested students and faculty.

Mother's Day, this Sunday!

Here is a little about Moms and Mother's Day

Historians claim that the holiday of Mother's Day emerged from the ancient festivals dedicated to mother goddess.

In the ancient Greek empire, Rhea, the wife of Cronus, and mother of Gods and Goddesses, was worshipped.

In Rome too, Cybele, a mother Goddesses, was worshipped, as early as 250 BC. It was known as Hilaria, and it lasted for three days, called the Ides of March, that is from March 15 to March 18. However, neither of them meant for the honoring of our immediate mothers, as is done in our Mother's Day.

Rather more closely aligned to our Mother's Day, is the "Mothering Sunday".England observed "Mothering Sunday", or the "Mid-Lent-Sunday, on the fourth Sunday in Lent.

The first Mother's Day observance was a church service in 1908 requested by Anna Jarvis, of Philadelphia, to honor her deceased mother. Jarvis, at an early age, had heard her mother express hope that a day to commemorate all mothers would be established. Her mother had also expressed the sentiment that there were many days dedicated to men but none to mothers. Two years after her mother's death, Jarvis and friends began a letter-writing campaign to declare a national Mother's Day observance to honor mothers. In 1914, Congress passed legislation designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Here are some statistics from the US Census:

- 82.5 million Estimated number of mothers of all ages in the United States.
- 82% Percentage of women 40 to 44 years old who are mothers. In 1976, 90 percent of women in that age group were mothers.
- 4.0 million women Number of women who have babies each year. Of this number, about 425,000 are teens ages 15 to 19, and more than 100,000 are age 40 or over.
- 25.1 Average age of women when they give birth for the first time a record high. The average age has risen nearly four years since 1970.
- 40% Percentage of births that are the mother's first. Another 32 percent are the second-born; 17 percent, third; and 11 percent, fourth or more.
- 1 in 32 The odds of a woman delivering twins. Her odds of having triplets or other multiple births was approximately 1-in-540.
- 10 million The number of single mothers [PDF] living with children under 18 years old, up from 3 million in 1970.
- 55% Among mothers with infant children in 2002, the percentage in the labor force, down from a record 59 percent in 1998. This marks the first significant decline in this rate since the Census Bureau began calculating this measure in 1976. In that year, 31 percent of mothers with infants were in the labor force.
- 63% Among college-educated women with infant children, the percentage in the labor force. Among mothers between ages 15 and 44 who do not have infants, 72 percent are in the labor force.
- 2 Average number of children that women today can expect to have in their lifetime.

"To the world you might just be one person, but to one person you might just be the world." ~Author Unknown~