



RENAISSANCE TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GELMAN LIBRARY SYSTEM AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Volume XVI, Issue 21

November 29, 2001

HEADLINE NEWS

America on Alert: Latest Information for the GW Community

GW Website

A Message To The GW Community

LATEST NEWS:

GW MAILROOMS TEST CLEAN!

As many members of the GW Community already know, the University proactively engaged in the testing of our mailrooms on the Foggy Bottom, Mount Vernon and Loudoun campuses. All of the final test results are excellent.

The main mailroom in Foggy Bottom and mailrooms in the GW Medical Center (Ross Hall), the GW Hospital, the Mount Vernon Campus and the GW Virginia Campus at Loudoun have all tested clean.

Please note: At this time, we know of no GW student, faculty, or staff member who has tested positive for anthrax or has anthrax-related symptoms.

While there have been new discoveries of anthrax in the metro-Washington area, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are still recommending that only first-tier mail handlers get tested for possible anthrax exposure. However, anyone in the GW community who feels they may be at risk for possible exposure, AND IS SYMPTOMATIC, should see a doctor or visit an emergency room.

Symptoms for skin anthrax are a boil-like lesion with a black center. Symptoms for inhalation anthrax are flu-like and can be accompanied by breathing difficulties.

Any changes in recommendations for anthrax testing will be communicated via this website. In addition, follow the helpful links on this site for more information.

UNIVERSITY STATUS:

Please note: the University will continue to monitor ongoing events and will update this site as warranted. Any additional information will also be posted on our (202) 994-5050 information line.



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While we have not experienced any problems on our campus, we urge all students, faculty, and staff to be cautious and report any unusual activity to University Police at (202) 994-6111. We encourage you to review George Washington University's Emergency Procedures, available at the front of the University phonebook (Pages 2 & 3) or from the link to the right under Important Information.

During this crisis and its aftermath, students wishing to speak with a counselor from the University Counseling Center may call (202) 994-5300 during business hours and can access emergency counseling services after hours through the University Police Department (202) 994-6111. For further information, please visit the University Counseling Center website at gwired.gwu.edu/counsel.

GELMAN NEWS

Great Holiday Presents

by **Lana Muck**
Administration

The Special Collections Calendars have arrived! They are lovely and would make wonderful Holiday presents for yourselves or your loved ones! Featuring Stereoscope Cards of historical Washington, DC from the Special Collections department, they are sure to make a great gift! Please stop by either SPEC or the Business Office to see a sample. Rahila and the Business Office will be selling them while supplies last!

These wonderful calendars are \$8/ copy for staff, \$12/ copy for the general public! Take advantage of your employment at Gelman Library System and buy your copy today!!

GELMAN HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

Vacancy Listing

Please see **Attachment A** for the Gelman Library System's Vacancy Listing.

Helpdesk Specialist Position Filled

by **Michael Knapp**
LIT

Gelman LIT is very pleased to announce that our very own Jeff Fedner, has become our first permanent full time Helpdesk Specialist. As most of you know, Jeff has been staffing our Helpdesk since January of this year. Jeff comes to us from the University of Alabama, where he earned a degree in Computer Engineering. Jeff has a good deal of Helpdesk experience and good general computer knowledge. His main duties will include receiving Helpdesk calls and emails and assisting staff in the resolution of basic problems either over the phone or via remote control. More complex problems will be referred to the Operations Staff. Jeff will report to LIT's Systems Specialist. Jeff will ensure the timely resolution of various problems and perform various research projects.



CAMPUS NEWS

On-line Campus Directory - Updates

by **Andrea Stewart**
Administration

On or about Nov. 13, an e-mail (GWebmail) message was sent to the GW Community from David Swartz, Chief Information Officer, concerning the availability of a new on-line directory for GW Faculty and Staff.

Individual listings will now be maintained and updated by individuals. If you have not already done so, please follow the instructions in the memo to update your on-line listing. Teena Bedola in ASU will work with Admin to update the departmental listings. **However, you are responsible for updating your own information.** If you have inadvertently deleted this message from your GWebmail in box, please feel free to stop by Lana Muck's Desk in Suite 201 for a copy of the instructions.

Desktop Applications Workshop Schedule for December 2001

by **Alicia Miller**
MIS Manager

Included in this issue of *Renaissance Times* as **Attachment B** is the December 2001 Desktop Applications Training schedule from Ann Warren, GW IT Services Desktop Applications Training Coordinator.



CONFERENCES

The 21st Century Learner Conference

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

La Nina Clayton's report on the 21st Century Learner Conference is attached as **Attachment C**.

CAPCON Workshop on Offering Reference Services with Internet Technologies

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

The CAPCON Workshop report on offering Reference Services with Internet Technologies attended by David Ettinger is attached as **Attachment D**.

LITERARY HISTORY

Nov. 25, 1880	Leonard Woolf , who married Virginia Stephen in 1912 is born in London.
Nov. 25, 1970	At 45, Yukio Mishima commits <i>seppuku</i> (ritual suicide), hours after completing his tetralogy, <i>The Sea of Fertility</i> .
Nov. 26, 1731	William Cowper , poet, translator of Homer and editor of Milton is born at Great Berkhamstead Rectory in Hertfordshire.
Nov. 26, 1862	Abraham Lincoln comments, " <i>So this is the little lady who made the big war.</i> " on meeting Harriet Beecher Stowe .
Nov. 27, 1909	Author of <i>A Death in the Family</i> , James Agee is born in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Nov. 27, 1953	At the age of 65, Eugene O'Neill dies in Boston, Massachusetts.
Nov. 28, 1757	Artist, poet, and mystic William Blake , is born in London.
Nov. 29, 1898	Christian writer and teacher C.S. (Clive Staples) Lewis , born in Belfast.
Nov. 30, 1835	Mark Twain , born Samuel Langhorne Clemens in Florida, Missouri.
Nov. 30, 1874	Winston Spencer Churchill , born at the family seat of Blenheim, near Woodstock, Oxfordshire.
Nov. 30, 1900	At 46, Oscar Wilde dies in a Paris hotel, remarking of his room's wallpaper, " <i>One of us had to go.</i> "
Dec. 1, 1860	James Baldwin dies in Saint-Paul de Vence, France
Dec. 2, 1814	At 74, the Marquis de Sade (The 120 Days of Sodom) dies in Charenton, the mental asylum outside Paris. He asked for his casket to be opened for 48 hours, until it can be proven that he is definitely dead.
Dec. 3, 1947	<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> , opens at New York's Ethel Barrymore Theater and will run for 855 performances.
Dec. 4, 1875	Rainer Maria Rilke , a lyric poet is born in Prague.
Dec. 5, 1931	At 52, Vachel Lindsay commits suicide by drinking Lysol.

Dec. 6, 1961	At 36 and having completed <i>Wretched of the Earth</i> , Frantz Fanon dies in Washington, DC.
Dec. 7, 1985	Robert Graves , an English poet, novelist, critic, and classical scholar dies in Deya, Majorca, Spain.
Dec. 8, -65	Author of <i>Ars Poetica</i> , Horace , is born in Venusia.



SIMPLE TIPS

*How to thrive in The Gelman Library System
(or any other organization)*

by **Jack Siggins**
University Librarian

“Don’t go to more than two meetings a day
or you will never get anything done.”



Something to Talk About



Why is Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus* so Well Known?

This immediately recognizable painting (c. 1482) is most likely known for its elegant figures, use of pictorial space, and decorative detail, which give the painting a tapestry effect. At the time it was painted, the presentation of a nude Venus was an innovation since the use of unclothed figures in art had been prohibited during the Middle Ages. Botticelli, however, felt free to render Venus in his way since the work was commissioned by Florence's powerful Medici family, who were his patrons. Under their protection, Botticelli could pursue the world of his imagination without fearing charges of paganism and infidelity.

Taken from:
The Handy History Answer Book
Edited by: Rebecca Nelson

"The reflections and histories of men and women throughout the world are contained in books... America's greatness is not only recorded in books, but it is also dependent upon each and every citizen being able to utilize public libraries.

- Terence Cooke (1921-1983) -



RENAISSANCE TIMES

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