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WASHINGTON DC

*RENAISSANCE  
TIMES*

*Renaissance Times* (RT) is the official bi-weekly newsletter of The Melvin Gelman Library at The George Washington University. RT is proofread by Valerie Emerson. RT is published every other week by Teena Bedola. Comments and questions should be directed to:

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# RENAISSANCE TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GELMAN LIBRARY SYSTEM

Volume XIX • Issue 11

September 16, 2004

## GLS NEWS

### Slavic East European and Asian Reading Room Update

#### Gelman's Growing East Asia Collections

by Cathy Zeljak  
SEEARR/MVC

You may have noticed some activity in Gelman on the Asian Studies front. Over the last year we've worked closely with faculty in the Elliott School of International Affairs to secure funding to develop our collections supporting Asian studies, one of the University's seven areas of academic excellence. Through these efforts we secured funding for collections and staffing to continue developing the China Documentation Center (CDC) and to establish the Taiwan Studies Resource Center (TSRC). The grants are covering full funding for both staffing and collections and Gelman is providing the space. These two collections and our existing Japan collections will form the core of our new East Asian Collections unit, administratively a part of the Slavic, East European and Asian Reading Room. The unit will be housed on the 7th floor, in Suite 707, formerly occupied by the Communications Department, and

adjacent to the Reading Room.

The grant funds we received provide for a full-time China Documentation Center librarian, a half-time Taiwan Studies Resource Center librarian, a half-time support position and collections support. All the positions are three-year limited term appointments with the possibility of extension. Both librarians will select and acquire materials relevant to their subject areas -- generally focusing upon politics, contemporary history, economic and social conditions, and international affairs. The CDC librarian will be responsible for the cataloging of all Chinese-language materials. The two librarian positions are currently posted and we have begun the interview process.

The Taiwanese government provided funding for the TSRC. We expect to host a delegation visiting from Taiwan in November and to hold an opening reception.



## Reference Department Update

### Familiar Face in a New Place

by **Judy Solberg**  
*Reference*

It is with great pleasure I announce that Chris Granatino will be joining the Reference and Instruction staff as the new Library Manager I on Tuesday, September 14. The Administrative Office's loss is the Reference and Instruction Department's gain.

Chris will be supervising our student troubleshooting staff and working closely with IT staff to maintain the public computers in the reference areas. He will also be joining us at the reference desk and working with the reference services group to monitor, assess and plan new services.

Since the semester has already begun, Chris will be hitting the ground running. He has already been attending LIT training and so has a great start in understanding the technical issues at Gelman. Chris will be bilingual - fluent in IT and in Reference. (I think he's learning Japanese too - and that may come in handy during stressful situations.)

Chris knows Gelman well. He started his Library career in Building Operations Department and then moved to the Administration Office. We are happy to now have him and his expertise in Reference and Instruction. Chris's office is in 105, behind the reference desk, and his phone number is x4-1345. Please stop by and wish him well in his new position.

## Virginia Campus Library Update

### Farewell to Brian Mathews

by **Doug Carroll**  
*VCL*

It is with sadness that I announce that Brian Mathews will be leaving the Gelman Library System on October 29. He will move to another academic institution.

His services as a librarian, web coordinator, and assessment chair will be missed.

We will miss him personally too, but we wish him well.

## GLS Human Resources Update

### Vacancy Listing

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

## CAMPUS NEWS

### Book Drive

by **Damien Gardner**  
*Administration / GLS Student Liaison*

The Gelman Library System in partnership with the GW Afghan Student Organization, the Philippine Cultural Society, and the Chinese American Student Association, is proud to announce the commencement of the 2004-2005 Book Drive for Afghanistan.

The goal is to collect educational supplies on behalf of the newly-established American University in Kabul, Afghanistan. Students, faculty, staff and neighbors are encouraged to join in this endeavor and help to foster educational opportunity in Afghanistan. Collection sites will be posted throughout the semester in The Gelman Library, the Himmelfarb Library of Health Sciences, and in the Student Association, suite 424. Collections site will be available in the Marvin Center beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>. Together, through our donations of books and school supplies, we can encourage education and make a significant, lasting, and inspiring impact on the new Afghanistan!

To officially start the Book Drive, there will be a barbeque at Kogan Plaza on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. Be sure to come hungry and don't forget to bring your donation of school supplies for the students of Afghanistan!

**SIMPLE TIPS**

*How to Thrive in the Gelman Library System  
(or any other organization)*



**Jack Siggins**  
*University Librarian*

***“All staff - including managers and administrators - want to know three things when they show up to work: What’s my job? How am I doing? And How does my contribution help serve the organization’s mission .”***

**Conference**

**American Library Association Annual Conference**

by **David Killian**

*MVC*

I'd like to report on two of the more interesting programs that I attended while at the ALA Conference in Orlando, FL, June 25-29.

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“Creating WOW! Library Services for a New Generation” was presented by Richard Sweeney, University Librarian at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. The stated purpose of his presentation was to help libraries better prepare for the provision of services to an up-and-coming generation. The program was divided into two parts: in the first part, Sweeney identified, on the basis of his recent research, the characteristics of a “new age” group of potential library users; in the second part, he attempted to demonstrate the truth of his claims to the existence of those characteristics by posing questions to a live panel of representatives from that age group.

Sweeney identified the “new generation” as those persons born from 1978 – 1994. Of the two earlier groups, Baby Boomers were born from 1944 – 1964 and Generation Xers from 1965 – 1977. The new generation is the biggest since the Baby Boomers: their numbers are due to Boomers having children late and Gen Xers having children early. “Millennials” is the name that this new group prefers for themselves. Longitudinal studies evidently show that there are actual differences in behavior between generational groups, and Millennials, according to Sweeney, are “fundamentally different” from their predecessors “in outlook and ambition.” The Millennials are already less enthusiastic about libraries than the previous two generations, a fact that may have a significant impact on the future of libraries.

An attribute of the Millennials that educational institutions would benefit from recognizing is the nature of their preferred learning style. Those in this new generation grew up and are comfortable with computers and the Internet: they are, in fact, “digital natives” rather than “digital immigrants”. They are accustomed to individual information seeking and resist the traditional “teacher-led dump” type of instruction. Millennials want to “own their own learning”: they believe that the learner should decide on what should be learned. They prefer experiential and also collaborative learning situations; due to their experiences with computer games, they are accustomed to multi-player simultaneous searching (a capability unfortunately presently lacking in online library databases). Those in this age group are, by nature, multi-taskers: this fact opens the potential for a generational clash in the classroom if the style of instruction is the mono-dimensional lecture format.

Richard Sweeney noted other characteristics of Millennials. Members of this population group are diverse in their musical tastes, not caring to conform in their preferences with others of their generation. Marketing companies have difficulties with this group, as its members are fairly indifferent to brand loyalty. Another characteristic of Millennials, said Sweeney, is that they “don’t want to live and work as we do”; he humorously characterized them as “disturbingly optimistic.” They expect to make equal to or more money than their parents, though they also expect more flexibility in their work environments. Through their comfort and facility with computer messaging, they have large and diverse numbers of friends. Millennials are civic-minded and appreciate the value of volunteer work, though they are less inclined than previous groups to vote. They tend to be socially liberal but fiscally conservative. They express an appreciation for the value of libraries, but generally are skeptical of calls for spending in support of libraries.

After his presentation, Sweeney brought out a seven-member Millennial-age panel and asked them a number of questions. The panelists were unaware

of the content of his preceding talk. Their answers, for the most part, bore out his predictions. The members of the panel were first asked about the kind of music to which they had last listened, and almost all the participants indicated different types. The panelists generally did indicate that they expected their future incomes to be at least equal to those of their parents, and they indicated an expectation of flexibility in the workplace. When asked about their numbers of friends, almost all indicated that they had a sizable number with whom they communicated regularly via e-mail and computer messaging.

Six of the seven panelists readily expressed an appreciation for volunteer work, though, in contrast to the host’s negative prediction, all seven stated that they intended to vote in the fall general election. Their responses to a question pertaining to social policy demonstrated a disposition towards social liberalism. The group confirmed Sweeney’s prediction of fiscal conservatism, however, as almost all members were wary in response to a question about financial support for public libraries. Given the choice between approving funding for a public parks initiative or for a library expansion plan, almost all of the panelists chose in favor of parks. They expressed an appreciation for libraries, but those sentiments were based upon their experiences as school children or, more recently, as university students. In listening to the panelists, one sensed that once they were done with their formal education, libraries would not play a significant part in their lives (except maybe in their roles as parents).

The responses of the panel of Millennials generally confirmed Sweeney’s predictions of the nature of their generation’s distinctive attitudes and habits. Though the presentation “Creating Wow!” unfortunately stopped short of providing particulars on how libraries might attract and retain Millennials, the presenter’s point was well taken that if libraries wish to remain relevant to those in this new and sizable demographic group, they will need to recognize and creatively respond to this new

generation's particular needs and behaviors.

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At the program entitled, "Of Paper Maps and Vapor Maps: Finding maps for your library's users/readers/researchers," Kathleen Weessies, Map Librarian at Michigan State University, spoke on the topic of locating map resources through the Internet. In her talk, she distinguished three kinds of Internet maps: images, scanned paper maps and interactive maps. She identified important Internet sources for each of those three types of maps.

The question to ask oneself when searching for maps, Weessies said, is, "What organization would be motivated to put maps out on the Internet?" Federal government agencies have many reasons to produce maps and are, in fact, their biggest publishers. Two noteworthy government map websites are the Bureau of Census (<http://www.census.gov/>) and the EGIS site (<http://hud.esri.com/egis/>) of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Bureau of Census site has a "Maps and Cartographic Resources" page with a search engine that allows for the creation of thematic maps based on selected census data. The HUD site, through its Enterprise Geographic Information System (EGIS), provides the public with easy access to mapping tools and HUD data and allows for the combination of HUD information with data from other government agencies, e.g., the Environmental Protection Agency.

A government website that is useful for finding U.S. historical maps is the American Memory Project (<http://memory.loc.gov>) at the Library of Congress. The service offers scanned images from paper map collections spanning the years 1500 – 2004 on such topics as military battles and campaigns, discovery and exploration, transportation and communication, towns and cities, and more.

A very handy Internet site for map images of places from around the world is the PCL Map Collection at the University of Texas, (<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/>

[maps/index.html](#)). A quick search for a political map of Africa easily produced a suitable example. The FAQ section provides instructions for printing large JPEG and GIF map images.

Microsoft TerraServer (<http://www.terra-server-usa.com>) is a website that provides topographical maps and aerial photos of nearly every place in the U.S. The interactive service allows the viewer to zoom in or pan across the available images. Another site that provides free digital topographical mapping is TopoZone (<http://www.topozone.com/>); TopoZone Pro, a subscription service, offers aerial photos, shaded relief maps, street maps, and other resources.

Mapquest.com (<http://mapquest.com>) is a well-known example of an interactive map engine which can be useful for "quick & dirty" map searches; moreover, locations from outside the U.S. can be searched, e.g., the presenter demonstrated with a search for a map of Oslo, Norway. Lastly, Google.com can be a ready means for finding digitized maps through its *Image Search* mode. I tried a search, Philippines + map, and pulled up a wide variety of road, topographical, political and historical maps of the country. In all, I found Kathleen Weessies' presentation on finding maps through the Internet both interesting and informative.



GLS Job Vacancy Listing: **Updated September 16, 2004**

Req #	Position Title	Grade FT - PT	Incumbent	Vacancy Date	Posting Date	Department/Supervisor	Status
12027	Library Specialist I	9-PT	Suzanne Nortier	06/30/03	08/15/03	PER J. Whitmore	Initial offers declined. Position reposted on 09/03/04.
13010	Library Specialist II	11-FT	Joseph Spencer	07/19/04	08/13/04	PERI J. Whitmore	Position posted on 08/13/04. Applications forwarded to hiring supervisor. No activity.
13101	Library Specialist I	9-FT	Charles Tucker	08/16/04	09/3/04	VCL S. Graham	Position posted on 09/03/04.
13103	Library Specialist I	9-FT	Lauren Bohatka	09/06/04	09/03/04	PERI	Position posted on 09/03/04.

**Congratulations to the following GLS New Hires**

Req #	Position Title Department	Grade FT - PT	Incumbent	Vacancy Date	Posting Date	Department/Status
12935	Library Manager I	12-FT	Roselyn Metz	06/25/04	07/20/04	Congratulations to <b>Christopher Granatino</b> who accepted the position of Library Manager I, beginning on September 13, 2004. <b>Congrats, Chris!!!</b>

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