

## GELMAN NEWS

### New Web Page on the Gelman Library Web Site

by **Carolyn Frenger**  
*Education and Instruction Group*

In anticipation of this summer's GW Colonial Inauguration (summer orientation for incoming students), I have created a web page entitled "Colonial Inauguration Library Information Page." The web page contains frequently-asked questions that students have about the library, a brief timeline of Gelman Library's history and additional online resources that I hope students will find useful. The purpose of the web page is to provide CI participants with an introduction to the library, its resources and services before they come to GW this summer.

The web page's URL is:  
<http://www.gwu.edu/gelman/ci00page.html>.  
A link for the page will be appearing shortly in the Announcements column on Gelman's home page.

Have a look!



## GELMAN HUMAN RESOURCES

### VACANCY LISTING

Please see **Attachment A** for Gelman's Vacancy Listings.

### ANDREA'S SCHEDULE IN THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

Monday, May 15, 2000	No Schedule
Tuesday, May 16, 2000	No Schedule
Wednesday, May 17, 2000	2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 18, 2000	No Schedule
Friday, April 19, 2000	3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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## ATTENTION!!!

by **Nia Phillips**  
*Administration*

In an effort to accommodate each department's need for student workers, Gelman HR will be posting a weekly update of student applications received in the HR office. **This is a sample of what you will see in the near future:**

For the week of 05/08/00. I've received two new applications from prospective student workers. Here's a little information about each:

*Name:* **Nia Phillips**  
*Gender:* **Female**  
*U.S. Citizen?* **Yes**  
*Work-Study Student?* **No**  
*Available days and times?* **Mon. through Wed. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thurs. through Sat. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
*Currently Working for GW?* **Yes, Administration of Gelman Library**  
*Related duties:* **Answer telephones, filing, labeling, etc.**

*or*

*Name:* **Jay Boykins**  
*Gender:* **Male**  
*U.S. Citizen?* **Yes**  
*Work-Study Student?* **No**  
*Available days and times?* **Mon. through Wed. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Thurs. through Sat. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
*Currently Working for GW?* **No**  
*Related duties:* **Bindery assistant, shelving books, document retrieval, filing, photocopying, etc.**

If you would like to review either application, please visit my office A.S.A.P. and I'll provide a copy of their application. This is a "first-come-first-serve" basis, therefore please act quickly if you're interested. Thanks!

## CONFERENCES

### **Some Notes from the Ninth Off-Campus Library Services Conferences** (Portland, OR) April 26-29, 2000

by **Douglas Carroll**  
*Virginia Campus Library*

Although this conference focused on Off-Campus Services, we are beginning to see trends at GW where students are working from their computers rather than from a physical presence in Gelman. I hope you will look at these notes with this in mind.

The **keynote speaker**, Terri Taylor Straut, from Oracle University (<http://education.oracle.com/>) is the managing consultant for their Learning Systems. She spoke to Managing Change in the Shifting Landscape of Higher Education. Prestigious institutions attempting to retain conservative values may not see that their competition is in the dot-edu or "Net Classrooms" and not in ivy walled buildings. Distance Education Programs and Corporate Universities are creating a new 'e-market' in education. These are challenging traditional core values: academic quality; accreditation; competency vs. credit; intellectual property; faculty roles; social equity; and finally – the value and meaning of a degree! Can these alternative schools believe that their programs are equal to or better than the traditional prestigious institution? The Internet is changing the balance of power between the customer and traditional services.

**Issues for Libraries:** Think outside the box of traditional services; watch trends: e-books and e-journals; accreditation; copyright and intellectual property issues; seek funding formulas for creative new reference services that supercede geographical boundaries. Promote values of library services; develop partnerships with faculty in innovative distance programs.

One of the topics that arose throughout many of the individual sessions was User Competency Skills. Our own Janice Houck with her former colleagues outlined an actual course of studies they developed and still use at the Univ. of Md. to assist competency skills in navigating the electronic resources for Adult Continuing Education Programs. Other mentions referred to surveys that assess these skills, preparing online tutorials per database/interface.

In the same vein, I attended a conference presented by Anthony Cavanaugh from Deakin University in Australia, (see the Spring issue of GW Abroad, page 1 concerning GW exchange students.) He and his colleagues support a model where a Librarian could assume the role of a co-supervisor in doctoral preparations. Their web page <http://www.deakin.edu.au/library/reschsk.html> covers a wonderful array of BI resources. He shared with me a simple tool to assess patron competencies based on various skills at three levels: inexperienced, basic knowledge and fully competent. I would be glad to share this with those of you working with doctoral candidates.

Esther Onega from the Univ. of VA., Charlottesville, led another session where she presented her survey results for satisfaction of library results for on-and-off-campus students. This could be an asset or starting point to gather ideas for additions to our VCL Strategic Plan.

The Closing Speaker, Jon Dorbolo, from Oregon State Univ. addressed issues of a traditional teacher in a classroom and how he found teaching on the Internet as a tool to satisfy the students' needs to be part of a class and yet have individual attention from the professor. He admitted that having an online class created new problems; however, the benefits inspire new strategies for dealing with the difficulties.

**Issues for Libraries:** Find out what professors are already doing and offer assistance. If professors are new or have never thought about web teaching, point them towards the future: <http://edweb.sdsu.edu/webquest/overview.htm> Explore

this and other pages like it to be prepared. Helping professors with Prometheus is only the beginning.

Finally, I attended some programs covering management issues. As much as I have difficulties attending all the Gelman meetings, I must say that our SMG meetings and Strategic Planning keeps us in communication with one another and forward looking as a group. The Librarian from Ball State whose operation is similar to the Virginia Campus Library had many more problems than I have but she said it in a few words. "We'll always have problems; just stick with it and you'll come up with solutions." This was one of the better conferences that I have attended. There are some other particular items that I will probably share with individuals. I would be glad to answer any questions you may have about these topics.



### **ADVICE FROM EINSTEIN**

*"Never regard study as a duty, but as the enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later work belongs."*



## Workstation Tip of the Week

May 16, 2000

by **Alicia Miller**

*Management Information Systems*

**QUESTION:** *When I click on Start/Documents, I see a list of the last 15 files I've worked on at my computer. How do I clear this list? My co-workers are just too nosey!!*

**ANSWER:** Just "right-click" on a clear spot on your Task Bar and select "properties." Then, select the "Start Menu Programs" tab and click on the "Clear" and "OK" buttons at the bottom of the screen. Making this a part of your daily desktop routines should keep your curious co-workers at bay.



### BOOK QUOTE

*“Read not to contradict and confute;  
nor to believe and take for granted;  
nor to find talk and discourse; but to  
weigh and consider. Some books are  
to be tasted, others to be swallowed,  
and some few to be chewed and  
digested: that is, some books are to be  
read only in parts, others to be read,  
but not curiously, and some few to be  
read wholly, and with diligence and  
attention.”*

- **Francis Bacon** -

## GELMAN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EVENT	EVENT
<p><b>Special Collections Exhibit</b> <i>Africana Women at the Dawn of the New Millennium</i></p>	<p><b>Friends Annual Dinner:</b> <i>An Evening With Steve Roberts</i></p>
<p><u>DATE</u> January 31 Thru May 26, 2000</p>	<p><u>DATE</u> May 17, 2000</p>
<p><u>PLACE</u> Room 207</p>	<p><u>PLACE</u> National Press Club</p>
<p><u>TIME</u> Noon – 5:00 p.m. and by appointment</p>	<p><u>TIME</u> 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</p>

### RENAISSANCE TIMES

*Renaissance Times (RT)* is the official weekly newsletter of the Melvin Gelman Library at The George Washington University. *R.T.* is proofread by **Karen Greisman** and is published every Tuesday by **Teena Bedola** in conjunction with Photocopy Services. Submissions, comments, and questions should be directed to:

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## THIS WEEK IN LITERARY HISTORY

May 14, 1919	After meeting <b>T.S. Eliot</b> , <b>Lytton Strachey</b> calls the poet, “ <i>rather ill and rather American... But by no means to be sniffed at.</i> ”
May 15, 1740	<b>Emphraim Chambers</b> , encyclopedist, dies in London at 60.
May 15, 1886	<b>Emily Dickinson</b> dies of nephritis in Amherst, Massachusetts, at 55.
May 16, 1836	<b>Edgar Allan Poe</b> marries his 13-year-old tubercular cousin, Virginia Clemm.
May 17, 1803	<b>Robert S. Surtees</b> , novelist and sports writer is born at the Riding, Northumberland.
May 18, 1921	The creator of <i>Auntie Mame</i> , <b>Patrick Dennis</b> , is born in Chicago.
May 10, 1932	<b>William Faulkner</b> moves to Hollywood to write for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
May 19, 1897	<b>Oscar Wilde</b> is released from Reading Goal.
May 19, 1930	<b>T.E. Lawrence</b> ( <i>Lawrence of Arabia</i> ), 46, dies of injuries after a motorcycle crash in Dorset.
May 20, 1609	<b>Thomas Thorpe</b> receives a license to print <i>Shakespeare's sonnets</i> .
May 20, 1845	<b>Robert Browning</b> , pays his first visit to <b>Elizabeth Barrett</b> , an invalid confined to a bedroom by her despotic father.