

## GELMAN NEWS

### Employee Development Program Survey, Part 2

by Cynthia Holt  
*Reference*

The Human Resources Advisory Committee is planning to establish an employee development program for **all** library staff. An employee development program could include programs such as cross training, mentoring, and workplace enrichment.

The week of November 12<sup>th</sup>, department heads will be distributing to staff in their department the second of two short surveys designed to get staff input on what such a program might include. All staff are strongly encouraged to complete and return the surveys using the envelope that will be provided as the success of any program will depend on the feedback that the Committee receives. Remember, this is your chance to make a difference in The Gelman Library System!



### Staff Management Group (SMG) Monthly Meeting News

by Randy Jones  
*CMS*

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, Gelman's Staff Management Group (SMG) held its regular monthly meeting. Because the subject of this meeting, emergency procedures for Gelman and GW, we announced the meeting to the entire staff.

Lt. Darryl Johnson of the George Washington University Police Department (UPD) talked about security across the campus in the wake of the attacks on September 11<sup>th</sup>. There has been an heightened sense of security at the university, and the UPD takes calls seriously. In an emergency, such as a bomb threat or spotting something suspicious, staff are asked to **call UPD at 4-6111 first, then immediately call Peggy at 4-1315** to notify the front desk of the nature of the emergency.

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Building evacuation plans are in place for every building at GW. UPD will investigate and determine whether an evacuation is necessary. During emergencies, a command center is set up near the site where emergency personnel can communicate with senior administrators. Patrons and staff evacuated from Gelman should be encouraged to go to Kogan Square, or the Marvin Center in bad weather, to avoid blocking the street to emergency vehicles.

UPD is responsible for assisting disabled staff and patrons from buildings. Departments should notify UPD of anyone who might need assistance in an emergency.

Instructions for handling bomb threats and other emergencies are located in the GW phone directory (pages 2-3). If there is a phone threat, staff should attempt to get whatever information (location, time, etc.) possible and notify UPD. Staff has a responsibility to their co-workers and patrons to notify UPD and Building Ops before leaving the area.

Lt. Johnson recommended that:

There should be practice drills of alternate exits (those other than the main entrance).

Administration should contact Risk Management to get an assessment of whether exits and emergency equipment (i.e, fire extinguishers) are sufficiently marked.

He also noted his concern that vendors set up near the main entrance would hinder access by emergency equipment and vehicles.

The UPD representative also distributed an article on Anthrax Facts and a memo on mail security precautions (see attachments).

University Librarian Jack Siggins followed with comments about Gelman-specific actions taken. He said that Peggy Enevoldsen and Marcus

Branch have developed instructions for handling bomb threats.

Mail handling procedures are being adjusted. Jack met with Gelman staff, and the group decided that all mail deliveries, except couriers for GLIS, will go through the loading dock. Guidelines for staff who open and dispose of mail packaging will be out soon.

## **GELMAN HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE**

### **Vacancy Listing**

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

## **CAMPUS NEWS**

### **Broken Web Based Training Courses are Fixed**

*E-mail from:*

**Ann S. Warren**  
**Technology Training Coordinator**  
**GW IT Services**

Three courses in the web based training curriculum at <http://gwucbt.gwu.edu> were not loading properly. The affected courses were:

- Excel 2000 Advanced
- Access 2000 Intermediate
- Access 2000 Advanced

New copies of the courses were uploaded today and are working successfully in both Netscape Navigator and Internet Explorer.

If you had attempted to take any of these courses in the past and experienced problems, we apologize for the inconvenience, and encourage you to try again. Thank you for your patience while we tested and diagnosed this problem.

## **Anthrax Updates on Web**

by **Teena Bedola**  
*Administration*

Please check the GW Website ([www.gwu.edu](http://www.gwu.edu)) on a daily basis for the latest community information about Anthrax related matters, mail service delays and precautions.

Please print and post the Website materials for staff members who do not regularly use a computer. When you access the home page, you will see the link straight across the top which says: “**America on Alert: Latest Information for the GW Community.**”

## **ITS Desktop Apps Training Schedule for November 2001**

by **Alicia Miller**  
*Administration*

The GW Information Technology Services Desktop Applications Training Schedule for November 2001 is included in this issue of *Renaissance Times* as **Attachment B**. Notice that there are a few new offerings, including “Excel Functions Formulas” and “Advanced Access.” Before enrolling in these courses, please be sure to coordinate your work schedule and departmental operations with your immediate supervisor.

# **CONFERENCES**

## **E-Book Conferences**

by **Teena Bedola**  
*Administration*

Mary Faith Pankin and Liz Harter’s report on the Annual E-Book Conference sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is attached as **Attachment C**.

## **The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Washington, D.C. Historical Studies**

by **Francine Henderson**  
*Africana Research Center*

Cipperly Good is working with me in my new position as Africana Curator for the Gelman Library. She is a graduate student in Museum Studies and brings many of the qualities, which will be useful as she assists me in developing the Africana Research Center. Clipperly does not hail from the Washington area and might benefit from any exposure to the African American experience in the nation’s capital, its environment and history. I asked Clipperly to attend sessions which I believed would have the kind of content relevant to her gaining insight into various aspects of Washington’s history. Attached as **Attachment D** are brief summaries of the conference sessions she attended on October 19 at The George Washington University’s new Media Center.



## LITERARY HISTORY

Nov. 4, 1771	<b>James Montgomery</b> Scottish poet and newspaper editor/owner, is born in Irvine, Ayrshire.
Nov. 5, 1930	<b>Sinclair Lewis</b> begins imitating a Swedish newspaper correspondent's accent when he received a call telling him that he is the first American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature.
Nov. 6, 1901	<b>Kate (Catherine) Greenway</b> the illustrator of <i>Mother Goose</i> , dies in London.
Nov. 7, 1914	The first issue of <i>The New Republic</i> is published.
Nov. 8, 1674	Buried near his father in the chancel of St. Giles, Cripplegate, <b>John Milton</b> dies in London at age 65.
Nov. 9, 1950	<b>Edna St. Vincent Millay</b> dies at 58 in Austerlitz, New York.
Nov. 10, 1739	At 50, <b>Samuel Richardson</b> begins his first book, <i>Pamela</i> .
Nov. 11, 1821	Son of a doctor, <b>Fyodor Dostoevsky</b> is born at the Maryinsky Hospital for the Poor in Moscow.
Nov. 12, 1935	<b>Theodore Roethke</b> , hospitalized after spending the night in the Michigan woods, where he shares a mystical experience with a tree and learns the secret of Nijinsky.
Nov. 13, 1915	<b>D.H. Lawrence's</b> <i>The Rainbow</i> is judged to be obscene at a Bow Street court.
Nov. 14, 1851	<b>Herman Melville's</b> <i>Moby Dick</i> is based on the exploits of Mocha Dick, who reportedly wrecked seven ships and 20 boats and killed at least 30 men.

Nov. 15, 1895	<b>Antoni Slonimsky</b> , Polish poet, translator, newspaper columnist and writer of several plays, novels and translations of <b>William Shakespeare's</b> work is born.
Nov. 16, 1745	<b>William Broome</b> who is most remembered for his translation of Homer's <i>Odyssey</i> and <i>Anacreon</i> , dies in Bath, Somerset.
Nov. 17, 1794	Author of the 12-volume <i>History of Greece</i> , <b>George Grote</b> is born in Clay Hill, Kent.
Nov. 18, 1865	" <i>The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County</i> ", <b>Mark Twain's</b> first fictional piece, appears in the last issue of the <i>Saturday Press</i> .

**"The librarian of today, and it will be true still more of the librarians of tomorrow, are not fiery dragons interposed between the people and the books. They are useful public servants, who manage libraries in the interest of the public... Many still think that a great reader, or a writer of books, will make an excellent librarian. This is pure fallacy.**

- Sir William Osler, 1917 -



## Something to Talk About



### Why is Shakespeare so Widely Studied?

English dramatist Ben Jonson (1572-1637) said it best when he proclaimed that Shakespeare “was not of an age, but for all time.” Most teachers and students, not to mention critics and theater-goers throughout the ages, likely agree with Jonson’s remark: Shakespeare’s canon (consisting of thirty-seven plays, plus poems and sonnets) express universal and unchanging human concerns – as no other works have. Shakespeare’s words are familiar even to those who have not studied them, not simply because of the many contemporary adaptations of his works, but because Shakespearean phrases and variations of these few examples from *Hamlet* alone: “Neither a borrower nor a lender be” (Act I, scene iii); “to thine own self be true” (Act I, scene iii); and “The play’s the thing” (Act II, scene ii).

Taken from:

*The Handy History Answer Book*

Edited by: Rebecca Nelson



### SIMPLE TIPS

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

by **Jack Siggins**  
*University Librarian*

“Never go into a meeting without your calendar.”

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

“World Music: The Way it is Meant to Be”

Moscow’s hottest underground act:

A one-man Cabaret

Psoy Korolenko, Ph.D.

(Professor of Moscow State University)

a. k. a.

“singing Mikhail Bakhtin”

in Live Performance/Lecture

**11/19/01** Monday, 7:00 p.m.  
Gelman Library  
Suite 202

### RENAISSANCE TIMES

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