



GELMAN NEWS

Upcoming SMGSC Elections

by **Steven F. Watson**
CMS

It's that time of the year again! It's Staff Management Group Steering Committee (SMGSC) Election Time.

All members of the Gelman Library System Staff Management Group are eligible to run for office of the SMG Steering Committee. This is the group who researches and develops ideas and activities for enhancing management skills, staff training, and communication. Working with other GLS groups and teams, the SMGSC helps organize such activities as the Office of Risk Management seminar on filing accident reports, on-site QMR classes, and the recent series of staff workshops on how to conduct performance evaluations, etc.

If you are interested in organizing similar SMG sponsored activities, you may want to consider running for one of the three (3) offices listed below.

The Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, who serves as Chair in the absence of the current Chair and serves as chair the following year.

The SMG Archivist, who distributes agendas, keeps records of SMG meeting activities, and publishes the meeting notes in the Renaissance Times, the Gelman Library System staff newsletter.

The Member-at-Large, who serves as a liaison between SMG and the rest of the Gelman Library System staff ensuring that their management related issues, are addressed.

To place your name on the 2002-2003 ballot, please send a GroupWise message to **Steven Watson** with the name of the office for which you are running.

To nominate other members of SMG for any of the three offices, obtain their consent and send a separate GroupWise message to **Steven Watson** with the following information:

- a) The nominee's name.
- b) The nominee's department, and
- c) The office for which s/he is running

You may also use the paper nomination form included with this issue of *R.T.* as **Attachment A**.

Beginning May 13, you may also pick up a paper nomination form from Steven Watson's desk in CMS Department, Room 210. The Deadline for submitting nominations is June 12, 2002.

⇒ INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2	Call for Nominations for Appointment to the Human Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC)
2	Welcome Remarks by University Librarian, Jack Siggins at the Annual Friends of the GW Libraries' Dinner
3	Matthew Tisdale Selected as the New Student Liaison for 2002 - 2003

We want to thank our 2001-2002 SMGSC members for a wonderful year:

Chair: **Judy Solberg**; Vice Chair: **Steven Watson**; SMG Archivist: **Randy Jones**; Member at Large: **G. David Anderson and Sandra Carpenter (HR)**

Call for Nominations for Appointment to the Human Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC)

Andrea W. Stewart

Administration/Human Resources

Call for Nominations

Gelman Library System staff members are invited to make nominations for two seats on the Human Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC). The description and process are outlined in sections 2.1 and 2.1.2 of the By-Laws, which are attached to this issue of the *Renaissance Times*, as **Attachment B**. Eckles and Virginia Campus Libraries' employees are encouraged to participate in the nomination process. Staff members may self-nominate.

Background

The purpose of the HRAC is to advise the GLS Human Resources Management Team on issues involving compensation, employee relations, performance management, training, and policy and procedural changes and implementation. HRAC may also advise the Team on other operational matters. The Committee does not make policy decisions, nor does it discuss individual personnel issues which are confidential and outside the scope of the Committee. A significant contribution of individual HRAC members is bringing to the Committee information on library-wide human resources issues, and providing feedback on the work of the group to the staff.

Membership

There are four "appointed" seats on HRAC: exempt, non-exempt, Librarian and one other appointee. For the coming period, we have two vacant positions: an exempt and one other position (exempt, non-exempt, Librarian, or non-Librarian). Continuing on the Committee for one additional year are Cynthia Holt, who fills the Librarian seat vacated by Marifran Bustion, and Glenn Canner, who fills the non-exempt seat. The newly appointed members will begin their service on July 1, 2002 for a period of two years, ending June 30, 2004.

Appointment Process

According to section 2.1.2, nominations for appointments are forwarded to the HRAC Chairperson (currently Andrea W. Stewart). The Chair, with input from the members of the HRM Team, will determine the appointment of new members. Please use the form attached to this issue of the *RT* to make your nominations. (All nominees should give their consent before you submit their names to me.) **The deadline for submission of nominations is June 17, 2002.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to send them to me via GroupWise e-mail. Thank you for your assistance in filling these two seats.

Welcome Remarks by University Librarian, Jack Siggins at the Annual Friends of the GW Libraries Dinner

by **Teena Bedola**

Administration

Attached to this issue of *R.T.*, as **Attachment C** is a copy of the University Librarian, Jack Siggins' welcome remarks at the Annual Friends of the GW Libraries Dinner held on April 17, 2002.

Matthew Tisdale selected as the New Student Liaison for 2002-2003

by **Andrea Stewart**
Administration

I am pleased to announce that our new Student Liaison for the year 2002-2003 will be Matthew Tisdale. Matthew is currently working the late, late shift in Building Operations, and has previous experience at Young Harris College coordinating service projects and extracurricular events (as President of the Lambda Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa). He also served as a liaison between students and the dining service at Young Harris College. He is currently a junior in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences majoring in Philosophy with a minor in Jazz Studies and is serving as President of the Colonial Philosophy Club.

Matthew will begin working as our Student Liaison in late May, and looks forward to meeting you in his new role. His GroupWise account will be established soon, so you may begin to correspond with him.

Many thanks to the interview panel, Corrie Bouma, Erica Aungst and Gale Etschmaier, who assisted me in the interviews and selection. We had three very capable students to select from, and we hope that they will consider our other employment within the GLS.

2002 Graduated Students of the Gelman Library System

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

Congratulations to the following GLS student assistants who graduated this year!

Administration:

Corrie Grace Bouma - *B.A.*
Student Liaison for 2001-2002

Building Operations:

Ahmed Abou Louz
Marcus Branch
Faisal Jehangir
(Tim) Daisuke Tsujii

Circulation:

Faisal Hameed – *M.A.*
Yaser Mushtaq – *M.B.A.*
Emily Nickerson – *B.A.*
Jeremy Nimtz – *B.A.*

Special Collections:

Chiara Luis – *B.A.*
Rebecca Peterson – *B.A.*

Reference:

Alana Connors – *B.A.*
Roslyn Metz – *B.A.*

What Does the University Archives Do?

by **Lyle Slovick**
University Archives

Some of you have had dealings with the University Archives, the unit of Special Collections that resides on the 7th floor. But you probably wonder, what do those folks do, what is their charge and who do they service? We thought it might be a good idea to introduce the rest of the library to us, and in the future offer periodic updates on our work.

The University Archives has its origins as part of the Special Collections Department, which was formed as a separate unit of the library in 1969. In 1978, the Head of Special Collections drafted a plan for establishing a comprehensive archival repository for the university, since most of the records at that time were scattered throughout various offices on campus and not being transferred in a systematic fashion to Special Collections. Simply put, people were directing questions to the university library concerning the history of George Washington University that could not be answered, because the records necessary to answer them were not physically here. In 1986 the newly appointed

University Archivist wrote another report outlining the need for a better organized and comprehensive archives for the university, and in 1987 the National Historic Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) awarded a grant to the university to develop an archives and records management program. Continuing this work, the university archives is charged with acting as the official repository of university records (including the Medical and Law Schools), and serves 700-800 users per year. As the keeper of GW's history, we collect and maintain handwritten, typed, and printed documents, publications, still photographs and negatives, yearbooks, student newspapers, oral histories, posters, blueprints, films and videotapes, artifacts and museum pieces.

Our typical users are GW students and staff, but we also have researchers come to us from all over the country and foreign lands. A typical day might look like this: A professor from the psychology department calls and asks if we have a paper written by a faculty member in the 1940's; a staff member from Alumni House comes in looking for information on Distinguished Alumni Award winners; a reporter from the *Hatchet* comes in looking for information on Crawford and Mitchell Halls; we set up the Kiev Room for an interview taking place there for the T.V. show *60 Minutes*; we talk to the Law School about information we might have on patent law classes going back to 1900; we loan a folder to the Graphics Department for research they are doing on the new University Seal. (These examples are taken from my work logbook.) In between that, we assist people who have various questions and contact us by phone, letter, and e-mail, answering 25-60 questions a month. And in our spare time we receive new collections and process them, work on refining finding aids for old collections, update and add elements to our website (www.gwu.edu/gelman/archives), attend meetings, supervise student assistants, etc. It is a big job for David Anderson, the University Archivist, and myself, and keeps us plenty busy.

To give you an idea of the types of questions we get from people outside GW, here are some actual requests we have received:

- *A Japanese company is doing a film on former GW student and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover (LL.B 1916) and wants to know if they can film photos we have of him.*
- *A person calls saying his grandfather graduated from GW in 1909, and what information do you have on him?*
- *A former student e-mails us saying she is applying to graduate school and needs a course description from a class she took in 1978.*
- *What were admission requirements during World War II for undergraduates?*
- *Who was the Dean of the Veterinary School in 1911?*
- *The History Channel needs photos of Corky Devlin, GW basketball player in the 1950's.*
- *Where was the medical school in 1905 and when was the new hospital built?*
- *Do you have a photo of Mitchell Carroll, professor of Classics, early 1900's?*
- *A man in the Philippines wants a copy of a 1922 thesis sent to him.*
- *A filmmaker in New York wants to look at the Freeman-Watts lobotomy collection.*
- *A woman in Chicago is writing a book on women with Ph.D.'s in math and wants information on Florence Mears of GW, who taught here in the 1930's.*

So that gives you an idea of our routine. And I forgot to mention we also oversee the near 20,000 volumes and various manuscripts in the Kiev Collection, and work with the Archivist at GW's Mt. Vernon Campus in organizing their collections, which are a one fifth the size of ours. The University Archives at Gelman has over 1,000 collections, or some 4,000 linear feet of materials. Some interesting things include an old notebook kept by a student in the 1820's, a photo of the graduating class of 1859, student newspapers from the 1890's, yearbooks back to 1891, old football programs and footballs, athletic uniforms, caps and gowns, an aerial photo of Foggy Bottom in 1931, medical equipment, and papers of GW Presidents and the Board of Trustees. In the past few months we have assisted a writer working on a biography of Dr. Walter Freeman, a pioneer in lobotomies in the U.S.; a physical therapist researching the papers of Dr. Janet Travell, first woman to serve as physician to the President of the United States (Kennedy and Johnson); a German Ph.D. student researching Robert Bolwell, who founded the American Studies Program at GW in the 1930's; and a researcher working for a film company in England who wanted information on George Gamow, world famous physicist who worked with Edward Teller ("father" of the hydrogen bomb) and Watson and Crick (the men who won a Nobel Prize for discovering DNA).

This is just a sampling of the varied subjects and collections we deal with, and the public services we provide. I cannot forget to mention the fact that we also maintain the GW History Center museum on the ground floor of Gelman next to the front doors, which displays a number of interesting artifacts, and also rotate materials into display cases by the Aladin terminals. These compliment the exhibits we do periodically, such as the major one currently on display in the Media and Public Affairs Building (mentioned in a previous RT article) *90 Years in Foggy Bottom: The Changing Face of a Neighborhood*. If you want to know more about our archives and the history of GW, feel free to venture up to the 7th floor sometime, and take a

look at some of our "stuff." We'll leave the light on for you.

GELMAN HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

Vacancy Listing

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

CAMPUS NEWS

GW Teams with Riggs Bank, Fannie Mae and D.C. Housing Finance Agency to Launch the "GW Home Program"

*by Sandra Carpenter
HRM*

Last week, I attended a meeting at the new and beautiful Marvin Center Hall to hear an announcement by President Trachtenberg about a new employee benefit. It is called the "GW Home Program" and is meant to attract and encourage employees to live where they work. Whether you are a first time homebuyer or an existing homeowner, this program is worth your attention. It is intended to offer you substantive assistance for a down payment and monies toward closing costs. It is a benefit immediately available to all GW employees who have worked for two or more years. I especially liked the aspect of receiving seminars and workshops for new homebuyers. Also from a Human Resource viewpoint, this assistance will allow us to continue to attract new talent to The George Washington University. For more information, please see **Attachment E**.

Re-Opening of Marvin Center Entrances

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

Information about the re-opening of the Cloyd Heck Marvin Center is attached as **Attachment F**.

GW Announces William Frawley as the New Dean of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

Effective July 1, 2002, Dr. William Frawley will be the new dean of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences (CCAS). Jean Folkerts, interim of CCAS, will resume her role as director of the School of Media and Public Affairs. For more information, please see **Attachment G**.

WRLC UPDATE

Summary of WRLC Library Directors' meeting of March 8, 2002

by **Lizanne Payne**
WRLC Executive Director

Attendees: Pat Wand (American), Jack Siggins (George Washington), Zary Mostashari (Marymount), Al Casciero (UDC).

Absent: Adele Chwalek (Catholic), John Day (Gallaudet), John Zenelis (George Mason).

Guest: Craig Gibson (George Mason).

WRLC staff: Lizanne Payne, Bruce Hulse, Don Gourley.

WRLC Status Report

Virtual reference

Bruce Hulse reported that the Reference Advisory Committee recommends that WRLC contract for the LSSI software to support the planned virtual reference service. The software is estimated to cost approximately \$15,000 annually for one simultaneous user (one reference librarian). GW plans to commit about 15 hours per week of reference librarian time, and American and Marymount are considering providing 2 to 3 hours per week. The current plan is to schedule training by LSSI on March 21 and 22, and begin the pilot service by the end of March, with the service offered during weekday afternoons. WRLC will add the link to the ALADIN menu in such a way that it only appears when a virtual reference librarian is on duty. All WRLC patrons may use the service, regardless of which library is providing the reference librarian. The current plan is to call the service "Ask a Librarian" or something similar.

Craig Gibson reported on GMU's experience. GMU has used the LSSI virtual reference system since February. The service is staffed 24 hours per week, during weekday afternoons. There has been an average of about 1 question per hour, with a high of 3 or 4 per hour, but each question requires an interaction of at least 15 to 20 minutes, often longer. GMU has been happy with the software.

Digital library gateway

Bruce reported that the Digital Library Advisory Committee recommends that WRLC acquire and implement the Ex Libris Metalib software for next year. Ex Libris gave WRLC a budget-level quote, which compares favorably with quotes from the other vendors under consideration. Lizanne stated that the funds to acquire such a system have already been included in the proposed operating budget for FY 03. The goal will be to implement the ALADIN menu choices under Metalib, and to implement some level of broadcast search and

SFX article linking in time for the fall 2002 semester. The Library Directors approved moving forward with contract negotiations.

Digital Collections Production Center (DCPC)

Bruce reported that the physical reconfiguration of the former book repair room into the DCPC is almost completed. The room was carpeted and painted, and work areas for the three new staff were created from existing Steelcase panels relocated from the main processing area. Electrical work is done and PCs and scanners are being installed. WRLC has advertised the position for the Metadata Indexer in the Chronicle of Higher Education, American Libraries, and several online library job resources.

Plans for the next Voyager release

After discussions with SPAC, WRLC plans to schedule the upgrade to Voyager Release 2001.1 for the weekend of July 12 - 14. As with previous upgrades, the process will probably take two or three days, beginning sometime on Friday. During that time, a read-only version of the catalog remains available and circulation can continue using the offline circulation mode. Only the acquisitions and cataloging functions will be unavailable.

Possible interim proposal to Georgetown

Lizanne Payne reported that she has a meeting with Artemis Kirk scheduled for March 19, and Bruce Hulse will meet with some of the Georgetown library staff on March 20 to discuss technical options for supporting reciprocal borrowing. She also noted that she had attended a meeting of the CUWMA chief academic officers where Georgetown's provost mentioned to the group that Georgetown was in discussion with WRLC about a possible relationship for next year.

The group discussed Lizanne's recommendation that WRLC and Georgetown attempt to create a form of transitional membership for next year,

because there won't be sufficient time to discuss and develop the detailed governance changes and membership formula in time for the April 30 meeting of the WRLC Board of Directors. It could be called "membership" but actually would be based on a contract, like the storage contract. She recommends a mutually agreed flat fee to entitle Georgetown to all the WRLC services except for the Voyager library automation system. Those services would include reciprocal borrowing, consortial licensing, use of the offsite storage facility, and the daily delivery service. Database license fees and storage accessioning fees would still be extra. If there were other direct costs required to implement services to Georgetown, WRLC would ask Georgetown to pay those costs as well. The Library Directors agreed that Lizanne should proceed with discussions with Georgetown using this approach, with a goal of negotiating a fee in the same general ballpark to what George Mason pays.

Proposed WRLC operating budget for FY 03

Lizanne had distributed the final proposed budget for FY 03 earlier in the week. She reported that the numbers had not changed since the previous draft distributed at the February meeting, but could now be considered final. The budget narrative was changed slightly in the section describing "contributions to reserves", to clarify that future expenditures to replace the main servers and the Voyager software may occur at different times over the next several years, rather than through a single purchase.

Pursuing grants for digital collections

Pat Wand had suggested this topic, to encourage discussion of additional grant opportunities. It was agreed that the next step is for WRLC staff to begin working with the special collections librarians to identify and prioritize additional collections for conversion. It will be especially important to identify those, which might be attractive to funders, such as cross-institutional topics. At a later point it may be helpful to involve

the library or university development offices to explore grant opportunities.

Future meetings:

- April 12 at George Mason
- May 10 (Gallaudet? or location to be determined)
- June 7 at Marymount

CONFERENCES

Art Libraries Society Annual Conference

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

Liz Harter’s report on the Art Libraries Society Annual Conference took place on March 22nd thru the 24th in St. Louis, MS is attached as **Attachment H**.

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference Report (MARAC)

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

Mary Faith Pankin’s report on the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) that took place on April 19-20 in Towson, Maryland is attached as **Attachment I**.

OTHER NEWS

Paul Evan Peters Memorial Fellowship

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

The Coalition for Networked Information announces the availability of \$2500 scholarship for graduate library or information science students.

The fellowship was established in honoring the memory of Paul Evan Peters (1947-1996), the founding executive of CNI. The fellowship will help students pursuing graduate studies in the information sciences or librarianship.

The fellowship is funded by contributions from family, friends and colleagues of Peters.

More information is available at www.cni.org/pepfellowship.

LITERARY HISTORY

May 25, 1807	Slave trade in the United States of America is abolished.
May 25, 1908	Poet Theodore Roethke is born in Saginaw, Michigan.
May 26, 1770	Oliver Goldsmith publishes <i>The Deserted Village</i> .
May 26, 1779	Aleksandr Pushkin , Russia’s first important poet is born in Moscow.
May 27, 1819	Julia Ward Howe , author of America’s <i>Battle Hymn of the Republic</i> is born in New York.

May 27, 1894	Creator of <i>The Thin Man</i> , Dashiell Hammett is born in St. Mary's County, Maryland.
May 28, 1859	The last issue of Charles Dickens' periodical <i>Household Words</i> is published.
May 28, 1908	Creator of James Bond, Ian Fleming is born in London.
May 29, 1874	Author of the Father Brown detective stories, G.K. (Gilbert Keith) Chesterton is born in Kensington.
May 29, 1958	Nobel Prize winner Juan Ramón Jiménez dies in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
May 30, 1903	Countee Cullen , one of the finest of the Harlem Renaissance poets is born in Louisville, Kentucky.
May 31, 1956	Brendan Behan becomes a folk hero overnight after appearing drunk and unintelligible on a BBC television interview with Malcolm Muggeridge.
June 1, 1861	William Wilfred Campbell is born in Ontario, Canada.
June 2, 1840	Thomas Hardy is born in the hamlet of Higher Bockhampton, near Dorchester, the center of the region he will call Wessex in his books.
June 3, 1926	Allen Ginsberg is born in Newark, New Jersey.
June 3, 1964	T. S. Eliot writes to Groucho Marx , "The picture of you in the newspaper saying that, amongst other reasons, you have come to London to see me has greatly enhanced my credit line in the neighborhood, and particularly with the greengrocer across the street."

June 4, 1962	William Faulkner's last novel, <i>The Rievers</i> is published.
June 5, 1455	Poet Francois Villon fatally wounds a priest in a street brawl and is banished from Paris.
June 5, 1898	Andalusian poet and dramatist, Federico García Lorca is born in Fuentevaquero.
June 6, 1961	Swiss psychologist and psychiatrist, Carl Jung dies in Küsnacht, Switzerland.
June 6, 1982	Kenneth Rexroth dies in Santa Barbara, California.
June 7, 1943	African-American poet Nikki Giovanni is born in Knoxville, Tennessee.
June 7, 1980	Henry Miller dies in Pacific Palisades, California.
June 8, 1374	Geoffrey Chaucer is appointed Comptroller of the Customs and Subsidy of Wools at 10 pounds a year.
June 8, 1808	Dorothy and William Wordsworth leave Dove Cottage, Grasmere.
June 8, 1809	Thomas Paine dies at 72 in obscurity in New York. Only six people follow his casket to the grave.
June 8, 1867	Mark Twain embarks on the journey through Europe to the Holy Land that will inspire <i>The Innocents Abroad</i> .

Something to Talk About



What is the Classical Age?

The Classical Age refers to the ancient Greek and Roman worlds, roughly 2000 B.C. to A.D. 500. The Classical Age followed the Prehistoric Age and preceded the Middle Ages. During this period, the ancient Greeks and Romans made contributions to literature, philosophy, science, the arts, and letters that are still relevant today.

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)*

**“Develop a High Tolerance for Ambiguity
– You’ll Be More Satisfied.”**

*by Jack Siggins
University Librarian*

RENAISSANCE TIMES

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

Isabella Montgomery, Editor
The Renaissance Times
The Melvin Gelman Library
2130 H Street, NW - Room 201
Washington, DC 20052

Voice (202) 994-6455
Fax (202) 463-6205
E-mail isabella@gwu.edu