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## March 2012: Volume 1 Issue 3

Dacus Library

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**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- **News About the Dacus Library and Archives**
- **Friends First Endowment Nears \$25000 Goal**

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## Summertime, But the Livin' "Ain't" Easy ...

Summertime for libraries is typically a time of easy living, collection maintenance, and fewer patrons. But this summer will not be an easy one for Dacus. It promises to be a hard summer but with a grand conclusion. In May of this year we will close down the main floor for the duration of the summer. Our hours will change, our services will be limited, and our staff haggard. But by fall, we'll harvest the fruits of these trying summer labors!

By the beginning of fall 2012, the main floor will become like Hamlet's transformation: "Sith nor the exterior nor the inward man resembles that it was." Gone will be our hulking reference desk, our separate circulation desk, and about two-thirds of the shelving on the main floor. In its place will be 24-hour access, group study rooms, techno-booths and an information commons, an *omnium gatherum* of both circulation and reference. Most of the shelving will be relocated to other floors, but a small portion of it will return to the main floor to house that part of our reference collection not yet available via electronic delivery.

The changes will be both bold and dramatic. To say we're excited by the prospect is an understatement. We also find it all a bit daunting. We'll keep you informed through our renovations website and webpage

(<http://www.winthrop.edu/dacus/renovations>). You can also access the site via the construction symbol at the bottom the library's homepage. Our associated blog will provide patrons with a weekly summary of what's going on.

Getting into Dacus Library this summer will take some forethought. Our parking lot will be closed for construction staging. The main entrance to Dacus will also be closed. Entrance to the library will be on the parking lot side (north side) of the building, with handicapped entrance via the back of the building between Withers and Dacus. Patrons will be able to access the second floor using either the stairs or the elevator. Basement access will be limited mainly to the library staff. The academic computing center on the second floor will have the only available computers in the building. Copying will also be limited since all of our copiers and printers will be removed from the main floor.

Our hours for the summer will also change: Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m, Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. We will be closed Saturday and Sunday. On Fridays we will have lim-

ited staffing, but access to the library building will be the same as other days. While the hours are different, our total number of weekly summer hours is very nearly the same as the total number of hours for the past ten summers.

You can help with these endeavors by making your gift to Dacus. Our needs are multifaceted, and we still have numerous ways in which you can help us: naming opportunities, special gifts for various pieces of equipment, display cases, digitization projects, manuscript acquisitions and much more. If you are interested in helping us with these much-needed projects, please email, call Dacus Library, or contact the office of Development.

This summertime, our livin' won't necessarily be easy. But it will result in a much better Dacus by the time fall rolls around. — Mark Y. Herring

### Draft of New Floorplan



Oakland Avenue

**Dacus Library**  
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**Ronnie W. Faulkner, Development Librarian**



**The Dacus Library of Winthrop University** was constructed in 1969 and named for the school's first librarian Ida Jane Dacus, who served from 1900 to 1945 and was also the first person in South Carolina to receive professional training in library studies. Today the facility houses over 500,000 volumes and provides extensive online resources to support the educational and research needs of the Winthrop academic community.



## **Student in French Working on Dorothy M. Medlin Papers ... and Efforts Continue Toward First Friends of Dacus Library Endowment Fund**



*Martha Webber*

Martha Webber, a 22 year old Modern Languages major with a concentration in French and a Political Science minor, has been hired to work on the papers of the late faculty member and benefactor Dr. Dorothy M. Medlin. As everyone is aware, Medlin, a well-known French literature scholar, left her collection of French materials to Winthrop University with the proviso that persons with French language ability would be hired to process her unique collection.

Martha enjoys reading, art, and French culture and language. Webber grew up in Anderson, S.C. as the youngest in a family of five children. She came to Win-

throp in January of 2009 and studied abroad at the University of Burgundy in Dijon, France from January 2010 to January 2011. In addition to her work with the Dot Medlin Papers in the Pettus Archives, Webber also tutors children in French and is working toward obtaining her Winthrop diploma in August of 2012.

"Dr. Medlin's papers are a true asset to the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections holdings. She was an excellent teacher and her papers, especially those related to Andre Morellet, an 18<sup>th</sup> century man of letters, will continue her legacy for current and future students," said Gina White, Director of Archives and Special Collections. "We are fortunate to have found Martha, a Winthrop senior with excellent French skills, to work on Dr. Medlin's papers and prepare them for researchers."

The Friends of Dacus Library Chairman Dr. Jack W. Weaver noted recently that the group is within \$3500 of their goal to

establish the first \$25000 organizational endowment fund to support library services at Winthrop University. This fund will become a permanent income-earning source of support under the auspices of the organization. If you wish to assist with this worthy endeavor, you can do so by joining the Friends or by sending a check made out to "Winthrop University Foundation" clearly designating "Library Endowment" on the "For" line. Mail check to the Dacus Library, Winthrop University, 824 Oakland Avenue, Rock Hill, SC 29733 and to the attention of Ronnie W. Faulkner, Secretary-Treasurer of the Friends. He will forward as appropriate. Any contribution designated for the endowment fund is fully tax deductible.

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**"A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life."**

**—Henry Ward Beecher (1813-87)**