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Dacus Library

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Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **News About the Dacus Library and Archives**

- **Report on Friends Board Meeting of November 17th**

DigitalCommons.Winthrop.edu … Mark Y. Herring

That's the web address of an exciting and new outreach by Dacus. I've alluded to it before, but we are now underway, and I could not be happier with the early results. In October, we hired **DeAnn Brame** to head up the Digital Commons, and she has hit the ground running. Her efforts to get us "on the map" have been quite successful.

So what is a *digital* commons? A digital commons is a digital community of institutional informational resources accessible via the Internet. Think of it as the *omnium-gatherum* of the collective intelligence of the Winthrop community. Believe it or not, not everything that academics do, say, or think gets to the light of published day (and I would be first to say that fact isn't always a bad thing: we do tend to bombinate a bit). On the other hand, we say and do and think a great deal that should be available but simply isn't for any number of reasons.

Enter the digital commons, which provides a platform for these élucubrations to make their way to the general public. A digital commons is also the best place for open access to thrive, a matter I have written about elsewhere. As I have opined many times

before, academic libraries pay dearly for academic materials because of their esoteric nature. A digital commons can provide, in the decades to come, an alternative to expensive journals at diamond-like prices.

But a digital commons is also a home for a digital institutional repository to thrive as well. Wouldn't you like to be able to see what Pettus has while drinking your coffee in the comfort of your own home? With over six million items, Pettus is one of the finest archives around, and certainly the best one attached to a university of our size. Now you can, or rather you will be able to. Furthermore, you'll see what work all our faculty and staff are doing, as well as the archival "gold" from just about every office on campus. Selected-Works, the digital portfolio, will also give you a bird's eye view of nearly every faculty member's scholarship.

Digital Commons also allows us to add photographs, video, audio, and even a 360-degree examination of objects. Honestly, there isn't much we cannot do with our partners at Bepress. We are very excited about this fledgling venture and look forward to its growth and expansion over

the decades to come. With this addition, Winthrop now joins many of its peers, such as Cal Poly, William and Mary, USC, UT, University of Nebraska and many, many more colleges and/or universities.

Surf over to digitalcommons. winthrop.edu and see what we're up to. Of course, this would not be a development newsletter without also pointing out that you can help with this or any other enterprise at Dacus. If you are so inclined, and want to get in on this good will before the end of the calendar year, please email me (herringm@winthrop.edu), call me (323-2232) or speak to or email anyone in our Institutional Advancement office.

May you have a most joyous and happy Christmas holiday.

FRIENDS INDEED RICK AND KAY CARLISLE: Story on p. 2

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www.winthrop.edu/dacus/

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.

THE FRIENDS SUPPORT DACUS LIBRARY

A meeting of the Friends of Dacus Library Board was held on Nov. 17 at Michael's Grille. Those present included Dr. **Ronnie Faulkner**, secretary-treasurer, and **Janet Gray**, vice-chair of the group. The following Board members attended: **Doris Leitner, Kay McSpadden, and Cindy and Paul Nigro**. New members present were **Michelle Chase and Terry Norton**.

The group voted to invite **Rudy Mancke,** well-known South Carolina naturalist and creator of the ETV program *NatureScene* (1978-2002) to speak on campus. He is scheduled for Tuttle Dining Room, McBryde Hall, on April 14 at 6 p.m.

The Board also voted to transfer **$5,000** from the regular Friends Account to the Endowed Fund. This brings the Endowment up to the impressive level of **$60,769.37**. This is still well short of the initial goal of **$100,000** and prompted a proposal from Dr. Faulkner for insti-

tution of a fundraising raffle. The idea was that a week at a beach house at North Myrtle Beach would be raffled off. An estimated 200 tickets would be made available for $100 each. Potential proceeds from such a raffle could reach as high as **$20,000**.

The raffle suggestion was greeted with enthusiasm by the entire Board, who directed that Dr. Faulkner should proceed. Arrangements are being made for this endeavor and further information will be forthcoming.

GRANT AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Two proposals outstanding that hold some promise for Dacus Library are a **MakeLabs 3D Printer Application**, under the auspices of 3D Systems, and the **ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award**. The MakeLabs project provides free 3D printers to libraries as a means of encouraging further use and development of 3D technology. The ACRL

award recognizes outstanding academic library achievement in one of three categories: University, College, and Community College. Recent improvements at Dacus have prompted the nomination for that prestigious award.

SHOWCASE: FRIENDS INDEED!

In 2012 **Rick and Kay Carlisle**, former members of the Library Advisory Board (LAB), were recognized for their generous support of the Dacus Library of Winthrop University. They were inducted as Life Members of the Friends of Dacus. Rick, a retired computer scientist, has served in many volunteer capacities over the years in both his church and with Westminster Catawaba Christian School. Kay, who studied at Winthrop, worked in both R & D and education. Like her husband, she frequently has done volunteer work, also at Westminster Catawaba Christian School. These dear Friends truly follow the admonition of Christ in Acts 20:35:

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."