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May 2005: A PASCAL Primer

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Focus

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A PASCAL Primer

By now anyone who reads these pages even casually will have read a screed or two on the benefits and importance of PASCAL, Partnerships among South Carolina Academic Libraries. PASCAL is South Carolina's consortium and it is very much like consortia in others states. Georgia has Galileo, Virginia has VIVA, while North Carolina owns NCLive and Tennessee has its Tenn-Share. All of these consortia do basically the same thing: they form in order to help libraries shoulder the out-of-control costs for library materials. If I said it once, I've said it 1,000 times, library material costs (and by this I mean information and access to it) have increased more than 140 percent over the last decade. This increase is more than health care, more even than prescription drugs. In fact, some databases cost more than automobiles. One database costs more than a four-carat diamond. Since no library can purchase all its information needs from annual funds alone, PASCAL's success is critical to the academic libraries of South Carolina.

Last year, the South Carolina legislature funded PASCAL \$2 million. That money supported two of six PASCAL programs, and academic libraries around the state danced for joy. Legislative discussions are ongoing for PASCAL's renewed funding, but this will not be finalized until late spring or early summer.

PASCAL does an excellent job of helping the state's academic libraries share resources, buy in bulk and spend judiciously. Already PASCAL has helped the state avoid over \$2 million in costs. PASCAL saves the state money in the long run by helping any student

who attends any South Carolina college or university. In fact, its presence encourages Palmetto students to stay in state for their college or university education by helping to equalize information resources at all the state's institutions of higher learning.

“Legislative discussions are ongoing for PASCAL's renewed funding, but this will not be finalized until late spring or early summer.”

Earlier I mentioned that PASCAL has six programs. One of those, called Collegiate Discuss, is already in place and every academic library in South Carolina has benefited. Thanks to the legislature's generous funding last year, PASCAL bought a total of 12 databases. If library A had been buying six of those 12, it saw its cost-avoidance soar. Library B, however, may have been buying only two of them, and so it saw its cost-avoidance rise but not by as much as library A. In the end, however, all libraries benefited greatly. For example, Winthrop's collection of electronic journals went from 7,000 to more than 21,000! What is more, it placed every library on a near-equal footing. A very small library could now provide access for its students in a manner very similar to a library that might be four times as large.

What about those other five programs and how are they funded? Some, as the one mentioned above, are

funded by the legislature. Others are funded from membership dues paid by each of the 56 libraries. An important thing to realize about all of these programs is that they—regardless of funding sources—are interrelated parts of a statewide “virtual library” for higher education that is dramatically improving the knowledge-base available to South Carolina's 200,000 college students, as well as the researchers and faculty that support them and help build our 21st century economy. Others are funded from federal grants, or by a combination of a given library program in addition to PASCAL's funding.

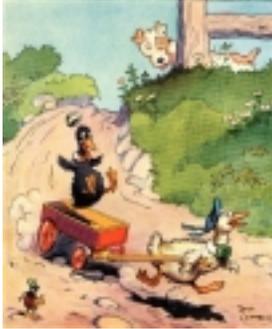
Another *state-funded* outreach is Universal Borrowing. South Carolina libraries are sharing all of their 12 million volumes with each other. PASCAL will make it possible for each library to share with all others its resources and allow patrons to make their own requests for materials. Requested materials will be delivered to each library in 24 hours. A four-library pilot implementation should be completed by June, with the statewide system in place by January 2006. This program should be running by June 2005 and every library will benefit. The software infrastructure that will benefit all libraries will use state funds to support it.

Cooperative Licensing, another program but one that uses institutional funds, allows any of the 56 libraries in South Carolina (and even some in North Carolina) to pool their resources and thereby make wiser purchases at a cheaper overall cost. For example, one such venture allowed Winthrop to turn about 22 journals into more than 2,000

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Visit our animals in Special Collections

The Special Collections area of the Winthrop archives is made up of a diverse set of books on just about any subject you can think of, most of them over 100 years old. Titles that will usually appeal to



any taste or bring back pleasant memories are located in our special collections juvenile section and in the Eleanor Burts children's books collection. In keeping with the animal theme of *Dacus Focus*, here are a few books pertaining to our furry (or feathered) friends:

"Richard and Rover" by Charlotte Elizabeth was published in New York by Lane and Tippett in 1847 for the Sunday School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It is a small book, measuring 3" x by 4 1/4" and has just 32 pages. Publishers during the Victorian Era love to make small books for small hands. The book contains two stories with a moral. The first is about a little boy named Richard who sees a very upset dog named Rover tied to a tree. Richard is afraid of the dog until Rover's owner tells him that Rover is upset because he is being terrorized by a group of boys who are throwing sticks and stones at him. Once Rover is set free, he has the opportunity to attack the boys who were teasing him. Rover does not attack because his master orders him to come to him. Richard finds that Rover is loving to those who love and take care of him. The moral of the story is that love is much stronger than fear. The second story is titled "Patty; or Beware of Meddling" but as it does not fit our theme, a visit to the archives will be in order for those who are curious.

Of course, everyone has heard of the ultimate collection of fables—"Aesop's Fables." There are many printed versions of these stories but the Burts's collection contains a beautiful little homemade book in the style of an illuminated manuscript. The 4" x 5", 10-page book is sewn together with a string and is covered in what appears to be butcher paper (or something similar). The title is carefully hand-printed on the cover—"Fable from Aesop." The calligraphy and the drawings are beautiful and must be seen to be appreciated.

"A Visit to The Bazaar" is not specifically about animals, but it has animals in it. It was printed in London for J. Harris, on the corner of St. Paul's church yard, in 1818. The title page says that it "may also be had at several shops in The Bazaar, Soho Square." The illustrated book is about the Durnford family's trip to the Soho-square bazaar. The family consists of Mr. & Mrs. Durnford; Theodore, age 10; twins Maria and Emily, 12; and Caroline, 7. There are other children in the family who are too young to go to the shops. They visit many shops during their outing—the Jeweller, the Linen Draper, the Toy Shop, the Pastry Cook, the Hatter, just to name a few. At each stop, Mr. or Mrs. Durnford, after taking note of what they sell, ask the children where a certain product or raw material used in the product comes from or when discovered, etc. When they visit a bird seller, Mr. Durnford tells little Caroline about the blue macaw, the hummingbird, the nightingale and other birds. This little book is an excellent guide to commerce and production in Great Britain and its colonies at the beginning of the 19th century.

"The Dinky Ducklings" by Lang Campbell is a colorful little book about two mischievous ducklings named Peter and Puddle. Published in 1928, the story concerns the adventures that the two ducklings have on their way to visit their Aunt Dilly and Uncle Daffy at

Duckville on the Ditch. They are led astray by a wily fox and must ask a number of animals how to find their way. After an eventful and tiring journey, Peter and Puddle finally find Aunt Dilly and Uncle Daffy's house.

A greatly loved story is "The Country Bunny and the Little Gold Shoes" by South Carolina's own DuBose Heyward, best known for his story of Porgy and Bess, on which George Gershwin based his musical. It is the story of a little country girl bunny who told everyone that someday she would grow up to be an Easter bunny. According to Heyward, there are five Easter bunnies who "must be the five kindest, swiftest and wisest bunnies in the whole wide world." The little girl bunny grew up, got married, and one day, to her surprise, had 21 babies to take care of. The other bunnies remembered her boast that she would become an Easter bunny. They laughed and said that only a country bunny would have that many babies and she could never have her wish now. She taught her children industry, organization, kindness and how to move quickly. After they had grown a little, she had a chance to compete for one of the Easter bunny positions. Because of her swiftness, kindness and wisdom, she became one of the five Easter bunnies and completed the most difficult of the deliveries with the help of some gold shoes. The edition in Special Collections was published in 1939 and illustrated by Marjorie Flack. It is a well-worn book probably because it had been in the Winthrop Training School Library and was used by many generations of students.

We hope that you will visit Archives and Special Collections in Dacus Library soon to see these fascinating books as well as all of our collections pertaining to Winthrop and South Carolina.

Gina Price White
Director of Archives &
Special Collections

Focus

The return of “Not by Books Alone”

Editors’ note: We had such a wonderful response to our July 2004 issue featuring faculty / staff pets that we have decided to include a few more.

Fluffy Duffy

A shrill sound pierces the tranquility of early morn. A plump, pale hand jets out from a mountain of plaid bedding and slams down upon the alarm clock. The hand withdraws into the down-filled mound only to reemerge exactly nine minutes later to repeat the process. After several rounds of this, the caress of soft white fur and the quick strokes of a small pink tongue help me greet the day. This is how each morning has begun since January 2003. I walked into PetsMart and saw a fenced-in area where a man from Animal Outreach had dogs for adoption. As I approached the fence, a small mutt jumped towards me. He was the sweetest dog I had ever seen. Every person and canine was an instant friend. The man said this dog had been dropped off to them with no information: no breed, no history and no name.



My first instinct was to take the dog home, but I was concerned about being able to provide for him. Then I remembered that my friend, Ruth, wanted a

small dog for her parents. Her father had been ill for some time and greatly missed canine companionship. So, I called Ruth, who immediately came and adopted “Jasper.” That same day we drove three hours to her parent’s house.

As I hugged Jasper before we left, my eyes swelled with tears. In a matter of five hours I had fallen completely in love with this 14 pound fluff ball. We left Jasper with Ruth’s parents and had the most depressing drive I can remember. I kept thinking about Jasper as the days went by. What was he doing? Did he like his new owners? Did they completely adore him?

A week passed. Ruth called me on Sunday afternoon to tell me that her mother could not take care of Ruth’s father and Jasper at the same time. Ruth then asked me, “Do you think you can take him?”

I’m not sure she even finished the question before my resounding, “Yes!” echoed through the phone line. Jasper was delivered to me that night.

Being the most beloved doggy sitter, I already had dog bowls, a collar, a leash, a brush and a dog bed. The only thing that was missing was a new name for “Jasper.” Being of Scottish ancestry and a Shakespeare buff, I decided that MacDuff was the appropriate name. Of course, he was way too cute for me to be calling “MacDuff” all the time. So, while it says MacDuff on all his papers and his collar, his “pet name” is Duffy.

Duffy is my fluffy son. He goes everywhere with me. Everyone who knows me knows him. In fact, people mostly greet us with, “Hello Duffy! How are you? You’re just so cute! Oh, hey J.L.” I’m so proud of him that I don’t mind. He may be the only dog I know who has his own theme song.

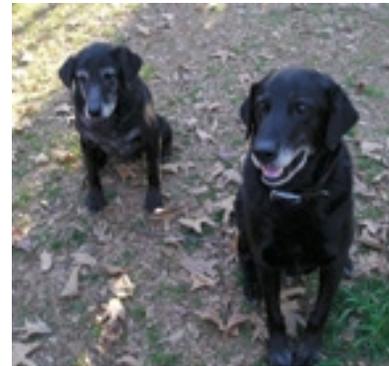
Duffy has meant so much to me that we have made it our mission to help other rescue dogs. Last September, Duffy raised over \$550 for the Charlotte Humane Society in the Charlotte Pet Parade. We are currently raising money for this year. I promise to sing the “Fluffy Duffy” song to anyone who makes a donation. I really feel that

Duffy and I are helping canines and humans. Animals give us the unconditional love which we desperately need. I really don’t know what I would do without Duffy.

J.L. McDaniel
Music Library

Jeb and Star

Jeb and Star are my two black Labs. They are brother and sister and will be 11 years old on May 12. Old age has not slowed them down – they are still



very hyper and love to play. Jeb has a favorite game he likes to play with the garden hose. When someone sprays the water, he will chase the stream and try to catch it in his mouth. His sister Star doesn’t seem to approve of this and will stand back at a distance and bark at him as if telling him to stop.

Of all the stories I could tell about them, the most interesting is how I came to have two dogs. A friend of mine’s yellow Lab had puppies. Though the mother was a registered Lab, the father was a Lab from down the street who

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Focus

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journals! The program allowed us to pay only a fraction of the real cost while giving us access to literally thousands of journals, nearly all of which we had never been able to take because they were so costly. Not every library chooses to participate in this program, however. For example, Winthrop chose to participate in several such programs, but others remained out of reach.

ILS Modernization (or Integrated Library Systems) is another program. This *is not state funded* mainly because not every library needed it. PASCAL played a significant role in coordinating the replacement of three dozen aging systems. Winthrop already has an excellent integrated library system from a company called Innovative Interfaces. Why is having a system important? We cannot share materials if we do not know what each other has, and we cannot know that unless each library has a compatible integrated library system. So these libraries got together and pooled their funds and had companies bid. Innovative Interfaces won the contract. This initiative served as the impetus for a world-class state-wide universal borrowing system through the timely injection of state funding which is being used to extend the system globally throughout South Carolina higher education. Occasionally, you'll see a news story that talks about these libraries in connection with PASCAL. This confuses some because

only a little over a dozen libraries are mentioned, not all 56. That's because most libraries did not need a new library system. All will, however, benefit via state-wide sharing.

The "Digital Library of South Carolina" is funded by federal grants and institutional funds, not state funds. It will serve a central role in providing access to digital collections of important archival materials. This program will eventually allow South Carolinians—and others—to view archival materials from home, work or the beach (if they have a laptop and a wireless connection). Winthrop has already made some of Dacus' rich materials available at (<http://www.winthrop.edu/dacus/About/Archives/> — click on "Collections").

Finally, PASCAL offers training to each library staff member. PASCAL recognizes that not every library has the funds at hand to help everyone stay current in a field that changes almost weekly. The professional development outreach allows PASCAL to tap the state's rich pool of library talent and share it with other state libraries that need it.

PASCAL is critical to the lifeblood of the state's academic libraries. PASCAL (and all of higher education) owes a heartfelt thanks to our Palmetto legislators for last year's funding. Let's hope it continues in perpetuity!

Mark Y. Herring
Dean of Library Services

Pets, from page 3

worked his way under the fence and into my friend's backyard one night. Since he couldn't register the pups as full Labs, he was trying to find free homes for all of them. So I volunteered to take one. It was a big litter (around 10 puppies) and I started the difficult task of trying to choose which one I wanted. I had narrowed it down to a female with a little white patch on her chest and a male who was very friendly and playful towards me. As I turned and started walking away, the male ran up to me from behind and wrapped his front paws around my ankle. So he won the contest. On the way home, he started to cry. That evening, he cried and he cried most of the night. The next morning I went back and got the female with the white spot on her chest so he wouldn't be alone.

Now, 10 years later, Jeb and Star are still looking out for each other. When we had the big snow a couple of winters ago, I was surprised to look out and see them chasing each other through the snow and wrestling with each other just as they used to do when they were puppies!

David Weeks
Bibliographic Instruction / Reference

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