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November 2007: A New Approach to Information Literacy

Dacus Library

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Focus

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A New Approach to Information Literacy

One of the strengths of the Dacus Library Bibliographic Instruction Program has always been its focus on orienting freshmen to the library. Every Writing 101 class is required to attend an instruction session in the library classroom.

During the fall 2007 semester, librarians will conduct sessions for 51 Writing 101 classes, totaling to almost 1,000 freshmen.

The main disadvantage of these sessions for students is that they often don't occur until mid semester; by this time, many students have already received and completed assignments requiring them to locate and use library resources.

As a solution, in fall 2006, the library introduced an online ACAD Library Orientation that was to be completed by students enrolled in ACAD 101. In fall 2007, the completion of this exercise became mandatory for all ACAD students.

The ACAD Library Orientation consists of four tutorials and a quiz. Students must complete these during the first three weeks of the semester. Out of this concept grew the freshman information literacy program that will be introduced in fall 2008.

The new program will consist of three stages. In the first stage, ACAD 101 classes will complete an Online Information Literacy Instructional Module during Fall semester.

The Online Information Literacy Instructional Module will be similar to the current ACAD Library Orientation, but will be much more in-depth.

What are the objectives of information literacy?

1. To know when you need to find information
2. To know where to go to find the information
3. To know how to find the information once you're there
4. To know when you've found the relevant information
5. To know how to use the information you found
6. To know how to adapt what you just learned for future information strategies

Students will login to their individual accounts, complete lessons, and take a quiz after each; results will be available immediately. Each student must complete and pass all quizzes in order to successfully complete the module.

In addition to orienting students to the physical layout of Dacus Library, lessons will include topics such as developing a research strategy, evaluating sources, documenting sources, and plagiarism.

The second stage will consist of all Writing 101 classes attending a library instruction session in the classroom during the fall semester.

Writing 101 library instruction sessions will continue to be an important part of the library's information literacy program because they provide students with face-to-face

contact with a librarian. These sessions also give students a chance to practice their research skills under the guidance of a librarian.

The third and final stage will occur during spring semester when freshmen will take a test designed to assess their information literacy skills.

The Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (SAILS) test will be administered to students in CRTW 201.

The SAILS test is designed to evaluate the freshman class as a group. The test will show whether or not students are meeting the information literacy competency standards developed by the Association of College and Research Libraries.

The library will then use the results of this assessment to evaluate the instruction program and make appropriate changes.

The combination of the Online Information Literacy Instructional Module and in-person instruction through the Writing 101 classes will provide the opportunity to introduce additional material to students that they cannot get through our current program.

Library orientation will be more standardized and thorough, and freshmen will begin their studies at Winthrop with a stronger and more practical grasp of the concepts of information literacy.

David Weeks
Bibliographic Instruction Coordinator

Crockett Family Papers in the Louise Pettus Archives

Den of Antiquity

Jones Crockett of Lancaster County, S.C. owned and operated The Crockett House, which provided rooms, meals, and stables for travelers to Lancaster.

The inn stood on the western side of Main Street (then Broad Street) between Meeting Street and Dunlap Street in the City of Lancaster on property that Jones Crockett bought in 1854 for \$2500 from his brother-in-law H. R. Price.

An advertisement for the Crockett House in *The Carolina Review* on Jan. 22, 1879 read:

*“Crockett House,
Lancaster, C.H., S.C. on Main
Street*

*One Door South of
Dunlap’s Corner*

*Grateful for past favors,
continued patronage is re-
spectfully solicited.*

*The table will be furnished
with the best market affords*

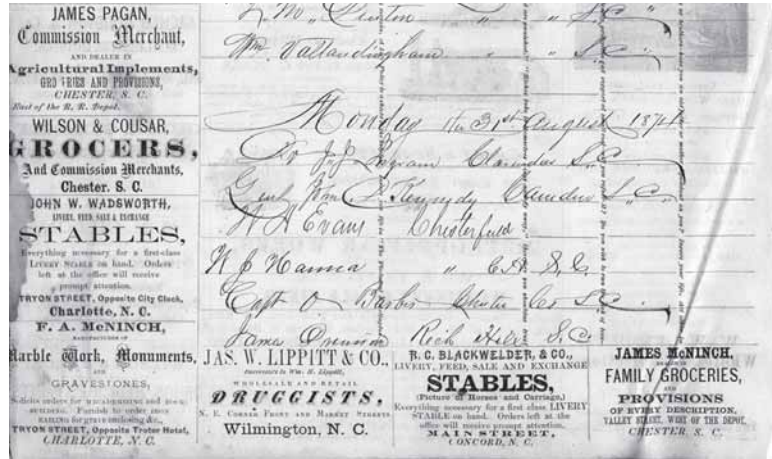
*Connected with this House
are excellent accommodations
for feeding and stabling stock,
and a lot for the use of Drov-
ers. Every attention will be
given and charges moderate.*

*No pains will be spared to
make the Traveler’s stay
pleasant.*

Jones Crockett, Prop.”

The Crockett collection consists of hotel guest registers, account books, receipts, notes, bills, and other documents relating to the Crockett House as well as personal account books and receipts.

These papers offer a view of the hotel business in the last half of the nineteenth century. The guest registers in the collection begin on Oct. 8, 1873 and, except for a few



Crockett Papers - Portion of Register from August 31, 1873

missing years, end on Nov. 26, 1895.

Many interesting tidbits of information can be gleaned from the guest registers. On Oct. 15, 1873, we find that General Joseph B. Kershaw of Camden, S.C. stayed the night. General Kershaw was a Confederate brigadier-general who commanded the well-known “Kershaw’s Brigade of Longstreet’s Corps, Army of Northern Virginia.”

The 1873 to 1876 register is interesting because of advertisements surrounding the guest registration page. Advertisements for businesses in Lancaster, S.C.; Chester, S.C.; Columbia, S.C.; Charleston, S.C.; Charlotte, N.C.; Wilmington, N.C.; Concord, N.C.; Richmond, Va. and other places offer a glimpse into late nineteenth century products and trends.

An enterprising printer named J. W. Randolph saw a way to make extra money by selling ad space on the hotel guest registers he printed.

The registers show that there were visitors from not only surrounding areas such as Camden, Chester, Winnsboro, Rock Hill, York, Waxhaw, Monroe, and Charlotte but also from places as far away as

Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, and Virginia.

In 1874 some of the charges at the Crockett House were:

*“One meal \$.50
Man for Dinner [noon
meal] and feed horse \$1.00
Man & horse for Supper,
Lodging, & Breakfast \$2.50
Judge & Attorneys on
Court occasions \$2.50 per day
[included meals]”*

Occasionally Mr. Crockett would write a notation in the registers about something that happened that day. On Friday, Aug. 21, 1874 he writes:

*“Picnic at John Belk’s
today.” Tuesday Nov. 3, 1874,
“General election day in S.C.
from Governor to County
Commissioners. J.B. Kershaw
is a candidate for Congress
from this Congressional
District.” Wednesday, June 23,
1875, “Baseball picnic at the
McDow House.” Oct. 30,
1884, “Fire in the Dunlap
Corner consuming the memo-
rable old building. The fire
occurred at 12 1/2 o’clock at*

Continued on Page 3

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night. Fortunately no other house places burned.” Aug. 31, 1886, “Earthquake at this place last night at 9 1/2 p.m. and from what we hear from Charleston, it is very much damaged. Many lives lost & the destruction of Property very great.”

Jones Crockett died at the age of 80 on Jan. 19, 1897. At this time, he and his daughter were running the inn. By 1900 there is no mention of the Crockett House in a booklet describing the principal towns of Lancaster County.

The Crockett Family Papers are a good source of information concerning Lancaster County and the hotel business in the latter half of the nineteenth century. For more information contact us at 803/323-2334 or archives@winthrop.edu.

Gina Price White
Director of Archives and Special Collections

Contest Win Gives Dacus Staff A Treat

Brittany Tant, library technical assistant in circulation, recently won the “How Do You Make Your Workplace a Cooler Environment” contest sponsored by Edy’s Ice Cream.

Ms. Tant described the efforts of library faculty and staff to improve workplace atmosphere. She also wrote about workplace activities organized by the staff which debunk some of the unflattering stereotypes associated with librarians and prove, Tant says, “that librarians like to have fun, too!”

The prize, a large freezer filled with ice cream, arrived on Sept. 18 and will be refilled twice. Needless to say, the library staff is thrilled and full!

Constitution Day Contest

Dacus Library’s Government Documents department observed the Third Annual United States Constitution Day on Sept. 17 with a display featuring Federal publications about the Constitution.

The department also held a contest testing students’ knowledge of the Constitution.

The contest winner correctly answered all 10 questions and received a folder filled with government documents resources, handbooks, copies of the Constitution, a flash drive and chocolate!



Constitution Day Exhibit 2007

In addition, the department’s newsletter highlighted the materials included in this year’s display, as well as providing a look back at

Constitution Day commemorations of the past.

Constitution Day was established by law in 2004.

In May 2005, the Department of Education announced the enactment of a law requiring all institutions receiving federal funds to annually set aside Sept. 17 to commemorate the Constitution.

The Government Documents Department, located on the second floor of the library, features a new display each month, and notifies campus of the exhibit theme via e-mail.

The November exhibit will feature federal government resources on Indigenous Peoples of the Americas.

Jackie McFadden
Head of Government Documents



Brittany Tant stands with the Edy’s delivery person and the first freezer of Dibs ice cream

Dacus Focus

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Nancy White, Co-Editor
<http://www.winthrop.edu/dacus/>*

Active People at Dacus

Pat Ballard, Head of Monographs Cataloging, is currently training staff at the Rutledge Visual Resource Center in cataloging procedures for videocassettes and DVDs.

Sandra Douglas, LeTroy Gardner, Carol Mapp and Ellen Owens, Library Technical Assistants in Technical Services, attended the 2007 LIBRIS Conference on May 18. The conference was held at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg. Sessions focused on library applications for new technologies, DISCUS, and stress control. Participants also had the opportunity to tour the Edisto Gardens.

Brenda Dumas, Library Technical Assistant, Serials Acquisitions, is volunteering as a tutor for the Teaching and Learning Center/Winthrop Invests in Lifelong Learning-sponsored campus workshops in basic computing from Oct. 23 – Nov. 2.

Bob Gorman, head of reference, has an article in a forthcoming issue of *Nine: a Journal of Baseball*

History and Culture. The article, titled “Twice Perfect: Jean Faut and the All-American Girls’ Professional Baseball League” will appear in the Spring 2008 issue.

Bob Gorman, head of reference, and David Weeks, coordinator of bibliographic instruction, have completed the first draft of their book, *Deadly Diamonds: A Comprehensive Study of Game Related Fatalities Among Baseball Players, Officials, and Fans*, with publication anticipated for Spring 2008.

Jackie McFadden, government documents librarian, attended the Federal Depository Library Conference in Washington, D.C., from Oct. 15-17. The conference was sponsored by the United States Government Printing Office and was attended by librarians from throughout the country.

Antje Mays, acquisitions librarian, is scheduled to speak at this year’s annual South Carolina Library Association meeting in Columbia, S.C. on Nov. 1. Her

presentation, “Acquisitions—the Next Generation” will focus on trends in libraries and publishing and their impact on technical services.

Spiro Shetuni participated in his first “Preview Day” event at the Coliseum on Sept. 29, helping introduce prospective students and their families to Winthrop and Dacus Library.

Susan Silverman and David Weeks spent much of the summer producing *24/7*, a short film that helps introduce new students to Dacus Library. The film debuted during Welcome Week festivities, to a very positive response.

Nancy White, head of circulation, was co-speaker at a Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) titled “WebCT and Copyright” on Wednesday, Oct. 10.

For more information:
<http://www.winthrop.edu/dacus> to **About Dacus**, to **Library Publications**, to *Dacus Focus* or *Dean’s Corner*.
Also be sure to check our **Goals** under **Library Fund Raising**.