

# The Central Library Communiqué

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## Things Are Happening at the University Libraries!

From the Cross-Training Seminars held during the summer months to the recent Faculty and Student Open Houses, “Things are happening at the Library!” remarked the Afro-American Studies Chair, Dr. Gregory Carr recently. In his comings and goings from his office on the third floor of Founders to a host of engagements in the Browsing Room and other campus sites, Dr. Carr has been impressed with all that he observes.

For many months now, Library staff in every branch—Architecture, Business, Divinity, and Social Work—as well as staff in every department of the Founders Library and the Undergraduate Library have been engaged in a myriad of activities in an effort to deliver excellent services to students, faculty and staff of Howard University. With recent additions to staff in the Reference and Access Services Departments, a new Cataloger, and the support of Howard University student workers throughout the Library System, significant strides are being made to strengthen Howard University Libraries’ position as one of the nation’s larger academic research libraries.

As we approach the Thanksgiving Day holiday, let us celebrate the hard work, spirit, and creativity energizing the entire team at Howard University Libraries.

## “Cross training – all hands on deck!” By Adia Coleman

During the months of May and June, the Central Library Group shared in cross-training exercises. Both the instruction and practice of the workshops were viewed as beneficial because they allowed the staff to learn additional skills and reduce the repetitive routines. More importantly, the training added value to services that the Library Staff provide. Let’s not forget that the cross-training also gave way to some advantages for our managers as well, by offering more flexibility in organizing and mobilizing the staff in order to sustain the library’s hours of operation and ... to get the job done!

Many of our colleagues truly enjoyed the voluntary participation of the cross-training and gave honest, positive feedback. The *Sterling Refresher* and *Circulation / Millennium* instructions reminded us that we have to utilize all of the resources that our online catalog and circulation system feature, while the *TILT Online Quiz* gave us quick tips on conducting top-quality research. Both the *Interlibrary Loan* and *Systems Overview* education equipped the staff with the ability to assist in the future when there is an urgent need.

Every now and then, we are often called to incorporate an attitude of “all hands on deck”. The workshops that were conducted specifically for the Central Library Group facilitated by Howard’s Professional Development Leadership Academy and Mrs. Schinnell Leak, daughter of the late Mrs. Irene C. Brooks, who worked as an Administrative Secretary in the Director’s Office for many years, were structured for **job enrichment**.

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The *Customer Service Workshop* and the *Professional Dress for the Workplace Workshop* enhanced our perspective on our positions tremendously by expanding on what we already present to the public. Certificates for everyone who completed the Customer Service Workshop and scrumptious ice cream sundaes during the Professional Dress for the Workplace Workshop certainly enriched the training experience.

Of the twelve of us who took the time to complete the "Cross-Training Evaluation Form," the survey results illustrated that we either **STRONGLY AGREED** or **AGREED** with the following criteria: 1) the training met our ex-

pectations; 2) we will be able to apply the knowledge learned; 3) the materials distributed were pertinent and useful; 4) the trainer was knowledgeable; 5) the quality of instruction was good; 6) class participation and interaction were encouraged; and lastly, 7) adequate time was provided for questions and discussion.

Our patrons will surely notice a significant, positive transformation. Now, the Central Library Group will definitely get their attention!!



*"Thanksgiving is an emotional holiday. People travel thousands of miles to be with people they only see once a year. And then discover once a year is way too often."*

*-Johnny Carson*

## **CLC Welcomes--New Managers, New Support Staff, and New Student Workers for the 2010-2011 Academic Year!**

### **New Reference Librarians**

Mr. Kevin Osborne (Founders Library)

Ms. Nina Wilson (Founders Library)

### **Returning Reference Librarian**

Ms. Leida Torres—Former reference Librarian of fifteen years for the Moorland-Spangarn Research Center.

### **New Cataloger**

Dr. Andrew Sulavik

### **New Work Study Students**

#### **Access Services**

Omowasola Akinkuowo—Computer Engineering

Angelica Ferguson—Psychology

Lanzi Jack—Psychology/Spanish

Leolseged Legesse-Mulushewa

Domonique Lyons—Audio Production

Haben Mebrahtu—Sociology

Ijendu Obah

Olayinka Oni-Orisan—Supply Chain Management

Ogonna Oporum—Pharmacy

Ruth Rasby

Kara Singelton—English

Dionta Thompson—Sociology

Mercedes Woodson

#### **Acquisitions**

Itotoh Akhigbe—Electrical Engineering

Ibn Ansari

Joy Clark

Damarius Johnson—African American Studies

Letitia Small

### **Architecture**

Nicole Hancock—English

### **Business**

Toddtu Fields—Accounting

Alyssa Howard—International Business

Charlinda Sims—Accounting

### **GASD**

Kiana Nichols—Marketing

### **Media Center**

Steven Greer—Political Science

Lanasha Shell—Psychology

Antwanette Wilson—Architecture

### **Reference**

Anita Johnson—Antropology

Shomari Levy—Finance

Zachery Scott—Finance

### **Reference (continued)**

Adam Damour—Physical Therapy

Abisola Olopoenia—Nursing

Atinuke Olopoenia—Accounting

Katrina Ward—Business

Alea Woods—Print Journalism

Jocelyn Wright

### **Social Work**

Ciara Hearn—Biology

Nneona Ohio-Enyia—Sports Medicine

### **Systems**

Aisha Miller—Information Systems

## **Recently Appointed Support Staff Members (Service of One Year or Less)**

### **Access Services**

Kofi Appiah-Mainoo\*

Marcus Bethea

Adedoyin Folarin

Marcus Haynes

Oluwagbenga Osiberu

Ian Robinson

### **Reference**

Kimberly Prosper

### **Systems**

Oluwagbenga Osiberu

### **It's a Family Affair at Founders Library!**

Cybercamp Alumnus—Kofi Appiah (Access Services) attended the Reference Department's former summer Cybercamp program. He is also the son of former library staff member, Fred Appiah.

## *Students Enjoy “A Taste of Howard” at Founders and UGL!*



Crowds of students, faculty, alumni, and staff flocked to Founders Library and the Undergraduate Library on Thursday, October 28, 2010, from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., for a Student Open House. Billed as “A Taste of Howard,” students had an opportunity to enjoy delectable snacks and goodies packed in the brightly-colored lime library book bags resting cozily on the tables inside the glass vestibule of UGL. There were also bagels and cream cheese and bottled juices in the morning, and an assortment of fresh baked cookies and sodas in the afternoon donated by the Sodexo, Incorporated.

The tastes and prizes were only available to those who took the time to participate in the Scavenger Hunt! Of the hundreds of students who poured into Founders Library for the Student Open House, eighty students completed the Scavenger Hunt. To win the bag full of prizes and goodies, it was necessary for students to visit eleven stations throughout Founders and UGL and answer twenty-two questions.

Upon completion of the Scavenger Hunt, students met Errol Watkis, Head of Multi-Media Services, at the finish line in UGL to receive the gift bag loaded with snacks, a brass University Libraries bookmark, and one of the 30 gift certificates worth \$10, all of which were donated by the Howard University Bookstore.

The primary purpose of the event was to welcome new students (although returning students were also welcomed), introduce students to the librarians, and acquaint students with the many library resources and services available to help them succeed in their education at Howard University. In the past, library personnel participated in the Freshmen Orientation Program sponsored by the University which was held in Cramton Auditorium. However, when the format was altered for New Student Orientation: HU 101 — the Howard University official orientation for first time undergraduate students (Freshmen and Transfers), Dr. Arthuree Wright proposed that Library staff organize a program at Founders and the Undergraduate Library.

Congratulations to Mr. Errol Watkis, Committee Chair, and his resourceful and committee—Mrs. Adia Coleman and Mr. Kevin Osborne, for organizing such a pleasant and informative event. Ms. Aleia Woods and Mr. Joshua Stapleton, both student assistants in the Reference Department and members of Campus Pals, are to be recognized for their efforts to help draw fellow students to the Open House. Thanks to Mr. Aaron Robinson for delivering goodie bags to Howard University Communications staff members who put forth an extra effort to publicize the event. To Mr. Jermaine Ashman, Graphic Designer and Artist, please accept appreciation for the unique library logo which, unfortunately, can no longer be continued due to University regulations which require complicity with standard University-approved logos. Kudos to Dr. Wright for giving staff the opportunity to devise an alternative welcoming for new students, and for finding those adorable library bags!



## *Faculty Welcomed at the Founders Library*

More than sixty faculty members signed the guest book for the Faculty Open House which was held over a two-day period at the Founders Library on September 14 and 15, 2010 from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Faculty hailed from the College of Arts and Sciences (Afro-American Studies, Biology, Chemistry, Classics, English, History, Mathematics, Physics, and World Languages & Cultures), the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Science, the College of Medicine, the School of Business, the John Johnson School of Communications, the School of Divinity, and the School of Education.

Guests were greeted in the lobby of Founders by librarians and other staff members. Inside the Browsing Room each vendor and/or University group was positioned at tables situated around the room. At the Open House faculty had the opportunity to meet their librarians, engage with other colleagues, learn about new features in major databases, and interact with six leading vendors—Accessible Archives, Alexander Street Press, EbscoHost, ProQuest, Elsevier, Science Direct, and Wiley. Representatives of the Howard University Law Library, the Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library, and the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center were also present. Vendors' decorative banners made it easier for faculty to navigate the room, and gather useful information and trinkets from the various organizations. Faculty members were delighted (and pleasantly surprised) to receive the boxed lunches as “refreshments.”

Ms. Carrie Hackney and Ms. Shelley Stokes-Hammond served as co-chairs of the committee which consisted of Ms. Alliah Humber, Ms. Celia Daniel, and Mr. Tommy Waters. Managers submitted brief statements regarding their professional roles on staff to Mr. Errol S. Watkis, Head of Multimedia Services and Facilities Coordinator, who created a PowerPoint program. Mr. Kevin Osborne uploaded the program onto flash drives as a gift



to faculty. The Faculty Open House was a festive occasion. Please view the photographs taken by Ms. Stokes-Hammond and uploaded to the web by Mr. George Bright-Abu. They are available for viewing by accessing the following web address: <http://picasaweb.google.com/FoundersLibrary/FacultyOpenHouse#>

## **Did You Know?**

### *---Newsworthy tidbits from the Library Units*

#### **Technical Services, Acquisitions & Serials Department**

On September 16, 2010 Library staff was engaged in a two-hour training session (10:00 AM-12:30 PM) on book request and ordering via GOBI. The facilitator was Ms. Marifran Bustion from YPB (Yankee Book Peddler). GOBI is an online database and tool we will use to support and enhance our collection development and acquisitions practices. Learn more about GOBI at <http://www.ybp.com/gobi.html>

This fall we acquired access to two-databases: BioOne and The Roper Center. With the support of Dr. Richard Setzler and others within the Political Science Department, students and faculty can now access the University of Connecticut's Roper Center for Public Opinion Research archives. According to the center's Web Site, The Roper Center is "the world's leading archives of social science data, specializing in data from surveys of public opinion". We are appreciative of Dr. Setzler in securing membership and partnering with library to share access with the university community. Our full-text journals database acquisition comes from BioOne, a "not-for-profit collaborative created to address inequities in STM [Science Technology Mathematics] publishing." It is also available via the library's database listing page at [www.howard.edu/library](http://www.howard.edu/library).

Ms. Humber (Coordinator, Acquisitions and Electronic Resources) and her staff negotiated these Acquisitions.

### **Reference, Cataloging and Circulation Departments**

Mr. Kevin Osborne of the Reference Department and Dr. Andrew Sulavik offer a “New Titles Display” as a counter argument to those who claim, “There are no new books in Founders Library. Everything is old!” Don’t miss the current display of over one-hundred books. Soon another batch will be displayed in the bookcases which border the Circulation and Reference Departments.

The Africana Film and Discussion Series, organized by Ms. Celia Daniels, consisted of three successful programs held in the Browsing Room: *Lumumba* on October 14<sup>th</sup> with Dr. Gregory Carr (Chair, Afro American Studies) as moderator; *Have You Heard From Johannesburg?* on October 21<sup>st</sup> with Dr. Charles Johnson (History Department) and Dr. Robert Edgar (African Studies Department) as moderators; and *Ava and Gabriel* on November 9<sup>th</sup> with Dr. Mbye Cham (Chair, African Studies Department) as moderator. Mr. Jermaine Ashman and Ms. Nina Wilson collaborated with Ms. Daniels on the graphic art and design of the posters.

### **Systems Administration**

Staff mingled in the Treasure Room and enjoyed coffee, tea and muffins during breaks in the Millennium training sessions. Circulation, cataloging, and bookings were covered in the training sessions on November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Three additional sessions were held on November 17<sup>th</sup> (1/2 day-Cataloging and Acquisitions), November 18<sup>th</sup> (1 Full Day-Acquisitions) and November 19<sup>th</sup> (1 Full Day-Serials).

### **Friends of the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center and the University Library**

Collaboration with the Howard University Department of Alumni Relations (DAR) has resulted in opportunities to build the Friends organization. DAR accepted Ms. Coleman’s proposal for the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center and the University Libraries to promote the

Friends on the yard during Homecoming. In fact, the Friends were given a prominent table under the DAR tent.

In addition, the president of the Howard University Alumni Association, Ms. Kimberly Singleton, has appointed the National Secretary, Mrs. Beverly H. Reynolds, as the Library Liaison to assist with fundraising for Moorland-Spingarn and the Library. Mrs. Reynolds’ first official act in this capacity—the inclusion of promotional material about the Friends in 100 gift bags given to alumni during Homecoming! One highlight of the package was a letter of appeal from Dr. Paula Whetsel-Ribeau, the wife of Howard University President Sidney A. Ribeau, who serves as Honorary Chairperson of the Board of Directors for the Friends.

Thanks to Attorney Larry Dunlap, President of the HU Alumni Chapter of Indianapolis, and member of the Executive Committee of the HU Alumni Association, more alumni from the Mid-West are joining the Friends.

### **How Much We Have Achieved!**

Do you ever wonder whether your work is appreciated? Have you ever asked yourself, “Does my contribution to the Library really make a difference?” You will find answers to these questions by reading the most recent “Annual Report of the University Libraries’ Central Library Group” that Dr. Arthuree Wright submitted to President Sidney A. Ribeau on July 31, 2010.

This comprehensive report provides an overview of the tremendous amount of work accomplished by the entire Library Group during the 2009-2010 academic year in a six-month period (January to June 2010). You will find details on the Library’s progress in fulfilling the University’s Mission, key performance indicators, significant events and achievements, challenges and projected solutions, staff, grants and contracts, an evaluation of effectiveness of services and practices, major plans to improve services, strategic initiatives, and collaborative activities. Reports from unit managers are appended.



*From the Editor's Corner*

*With a Grateful Heart*

Thanksgiving Day in the United States originated with a three day celebration in Plymouth, Massachusetts. In 1621, Governor William Bradford proclaimed the event as an expression of gratitude by the American colonists to God and the Wampanoag Indian tribe for the colonists' first harvest and their survival in the New World. George Washington was the first president to proclaim public recognition of Thanksgiving's Day in 1789. He asked Americans to acknowledge "with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God."

President Lincoln was the first president to establish the annual Thanksgiving Day holiday and every president since Lincoln has issued an official proclamation. As we approach the 150<sup>th</sup> (or SusqueCentennial) anniversary of the American Civil War, we humbly consider the request made by President Lincoln in his Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1863 that "with one heart and one voice...the whole American People" unite in thanksgiving. Part of Lincoln's act is credited to the thirty to forty years Sarah Josepha Hale, an American writer and editor, waged to establish an annual day of Thanksgiving in the United States. Ms. Hale lobbied President Lincoln and four other presidents, as well as members of Congress. She also wrote numerous editorials to support her cause. Many people are unaware of Ms. Hale's great contribution to her country. How many persons know that Ms. Hale was also author of the song, "Mary Had a Little Lamb?" More recently, in 2009, in his official proclamation of Thanksgiving Day, President Barack Obama stated, "As Americans, we hail from every part of the world. While we observe traditions from every culture, Thanksgiving Day is a unique national tradition we all share. Its spirit binds us together as one people, each of us thankful for our common blessings."

With a grateful heart, let us celebrate the opportunity we have to work together, help one another, and make a positive difference our organization, and Howard University. Best wishes to everyone for a memorable Thanksgiving Day!

George Washington's 1789 Thanksgiving Proclamation, [http://wilstar.com/holidays/wash\\_thanks.html](http://wilstar.com/holidays/wash_thanks.html)

Abraham Lincoln Online, Speeches and Writings, Proclamation of Thanksgiving, Washington, D.C., October 3, 1963.

The White House, President Barack Obama, Presidential Proclamation-Thanksgiving Day, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/presidential-proclamation-thanksgiving-day>

*(For more ways to be thankful, please visit "Twelve Ways to Be Thankful": <http://psychcentral.com/blog/archives/2009/11/19/12-ways-to-be-thankful/>)*

## *Staff Profile*



- Name:** Tommy Waters
- Library Unit:** Business
- Responsibilities:** Reference, Acquisitions, Bibliographic Instruction...
- Educational Background:** B.A. Political Science St. Augustens College, Raleigh, North Carolina  
MLS North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC
- Vitae:** Miami University, Oxford Ohio  
U.S. Virgin Islands Public Library, St. Thomas  
Chicago Public Library  
Roanoke Public Library
- Birthday:** January 29th
- Hometown:** Chicago, IL
- Self Portrait:** Organized, dedicated, detail oriented.
- Extracurricular Activities:** Theater, tennis
- Inspirations:** Family and students
- Greatest Accomplishment:** Daughter will graduate from high school in May.

### **Newsletter Staff**

Managing Writers/Editors—Shelley Stokes-Hammond, Melanie Harris, Qaddafi Sabree and Dr.Arthuree Wright

Contributing Writers/Editors—Carlotta Barkwell, Adia Coleman, Melanie Harris, Alliah Humber, Janee Moore, Kiana Nichols, Aaron Robinson and Errol Watkis

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