From the Director

With another semester almost over, and summer just around the corner, I’m already starting to accumulate leisure reading for the hot months ahead. I have visions of myself lounging on my deck with a cold drink and an interesting book, forgetting all the things I really should be doing and losing myself in someone else’s fictional (or non-fictional, for that matter) universe. Notice I didn’t say Kindle, or Nook, or iPad, but book…the old-fashioned paper kind, the same object that for years has transported me to the Cotswolds of England, or Hemingway’s and Fitzgerald’s Paris, or the gritty streets of 40’s Los Angeles, or a prison where Edmund Dantes plots his escape and revenge.

Summer is a great time to reacquaint one’s self with old favorites or discover new authors, but for me, the emphasis is on light reading—thrillers by Douglas Preston & Lincoln Child or Steve Berry, or mysteries featuring the irascible Agatha Raisin (she’s like Miss Marple with a short fuse), or light biographies and autobiographies. I don’t want to have to think too much; I’ve done that with my book club reads and my occasional forays into literature and history during the school year, and now I want to give my mind a vacation for a month or two. I may re-read Great Expectations; after seeing the recent PBS version, I feel the need to reacquaint myself with some Dickens, especially since this is the two-hundredth anniversary of his birth. But that’s about as literary as I’ll get; the rest will be much lighter. And to feed my appetite for light reading, I’ll peruse the best-sellers at Sims Library and the Tangipahoa Parish Library, and work through the bags of used books I bought at the Library’s recent book sale. I suggest you do the same; it’s an inexpensive way to travel without ever leaving your backyard. Have a wonderful summer!

Library Hours for Finals Week (May 5-11)
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday 2 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Monday-Wednesday 7:30 a.m. - 1 a.m.
Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Editor’s Welcome by Lori Smith

As the chair of the 2011-2012 Publications Committee, I am pleased to bring you this newest issue of Mane Lines. Thanks to all who provided content.

We hope you enjoy learning about the latest news and events at Sims Library!
The Friends of Sims Library (FoSL) hosted a book-themed tea on Saturday afternoon, March 10 on the second floor of the Library in conjunction with a winter membership drive. Some 35 new and continuing members and volunteers enjoyed an array of teas, sandwiches and desserts, all provided by FoSL board members. Special guest speaker Susan Larson, retired book editor for the *Times-Picayune* and current host of “The Reading Life” on National Public Radio, regaled the guests with stories of authors and books from a New Orleans perspective and talked about her stint as a judge for the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. Lacy Landrum, president of the FoSL Board, and Eric Johnson, Library Director, presented door prizes of a teapot and books after the presentation. The tea was a nice complement to the fall wine tasting, and will no doubt become an annual event. To become a member of the Friends of Sims Library, contact Janie Branham at 985-549-2186.

Sims Library has hired Angela Dunnington as the new Head of Access Services. As a Reference/Instruction Librarian and Library Science 102 (LS 102) Coordinator at Sims Library for the past 9 years, Angela taught numerous sections of LS 102 including face to face and 100% online formats, redesigned instructional materials, developed assessment instruments, and coordinated the Library’s Departmental Credit Exam.

Angela holds a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Louisiana State University and previously served as a Reference/Instruction Librarian at LSU-Shreveport and the University of Texas at San Antonio.

In her new capacity as Head of Access Services, Angela will manage Circulation, Reserves, Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery, Media Services, and the Media Lab areas of the Library.

The Access Services Department provides frontline service and is responsible for making sure that the Library’s resources are available for our many users. Angela looks forward to her new role and the opportunity to integrate new services and emerging technologies into the campus community.

For more information, Angela can be reached at 985-549-3485 or via email at adunnington@selu.edu.
Sims Library observed National Library Week April 16-20. As we have done in the past, we offered students a "get out of fines free" card if they returned overdue books during the week, declaring it Fine Free Week. We again hosted a successful series of readings by local authors, including our own Chad Pearson. Ladonna Guillot treated Nursing students to cake at the Baton Rouge Nursing Library. Also, the annual book sale was again a roaring success as members of the community purchased gently used literary treasures to benefit the Library.

On May 3rd, the Outreach Committee will be sponsoring Puppy Therapy at Sims with co-sponsors the St. Tammany Humane Society (STHS). STHS will bring five of their most adorably "huggable" friends and students, faculty, and staff are invited to pet and embrace our furry guests from 11-2 p.m. in the breezeway.

With grant money awarded by the SGA, the Library recently purchased a popcorn machine. We have plans to offer popcorn to students during the last week of classes as a tasty snack to get them through their studies.
Barrilleaux Joins Sims as Library Specialist

Jaime K. Barrilleaux has joined Sims Library as a Library Specialist in the Acquisitions Department. She has been at Southeastern Louisiana University since 1999. Jaime enrolled here as an undergraduate majoring in English after graduating from Walker High School. She graduated with a B.A. in English and dual minors in History and Latin. While an undergraduate, she worked as a student worker in the Department of History and Political Science. During that time she also volunteered for the Livingston Parish Library system. She was a weekend and holiday substitute for staff members at various branches. It was here that she learned she could make a career out of her love for books and libraries. Under the mentorship of the former director and assistant director, Alan Cunningham and Alex Kropog, she decided to pursue a career in librarianship.

Before embarking on her pursuit of a Master in Library and Information Sciences (M.L.I.S.), Jaime obtained an M.A. in English, again at Southeastern. She graduated with this degree in August 2010 with a thesis on John Ruskin and a passion for digital encoding under her belt. This passion has prompted her to continue with the Digital Humanities Group in the Department of English. She is currently working on the Kempe Project under the supervision of Dr. Joel Fredell. While pursuing her M.A., Jaime worked as an administrative assistant (i.e. jack of all trades) in Student Support Services and then in the Department of History and Political Science.

Jaime began working toward her M.L.I.S. in January 2011 at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM). She is working on a concentration in Archives and Special Collections in hopes of one day working to preserve manuscripts (like The Book of Margery Kempe) while finding ways to disseminate them to the masses. She hopes to graduate in May or August 2013.

Jaime has traveled to the United Kingdom twice with the British Studies Program through USM and will rhapsodize endlessly to anyone who mentions or asks about it. And, to many, one of Jaime’s most surprising talents is balloon sculpturing. Oh, and sky diving! Jaime is absolutely ecstatic to be working in a library once again, and especially with all the wonderful individuals she has encountered here at Sims. She is very thankful for your warm welcomes and helpful spirits!

Jean Caswell Badeau Retiring

Sims Library’s long-time Systems Librarian, Jean Caswell Badeau, will be retiring at the end of May. She was hired in 1997. Prior to coming to Sims, Jean worked in the medical archives and in the main library at the NASA Johnson Space Center. She also served as Head of Technical Services and Systems Librarian at Rice University in Houston.

While at Sims Jean coordinated the migration of the Library’s systems from NOTIS to SIRSI, which was a massive undertaking. She also supervised the upgrading of Library computers and served as the Library’s webmaster. Jean developed and maintained an excellent working relationship with the Office of Technology which allowed her mutually beneficial access to many of their tools.

Jean and her husband will be moving to Tucson to be near Jean’s mother. She hopes to do volunteer work and looks forward to having more time to read, sew, and play the piano.
Let’s Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War

A trio of Sims Librarians recently concluded a series of reading and discussion programs commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Beth Stahr, Ladonna Guillot and Dayne Sherman received one of sixty-five grants across the country funded by the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities to sponsor discussions and provide free books to those who agreed to read and attend discussions held at Sims Library.

Three books were available to the participants: *March* by Geraldine Brooks, *Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam* by James McPherson and *America’s War: Talking About the Civil War and Emancipation on their 150th Anniversaries*, edited by Edward L. Ayers.

Five exciting discussions were led by Dr. Harry Laver, Associate Professor of History, on Tuesday evenings between the end of January and the end of March. Six daytime and evening supplemental programs were presented at branches of the Tangipahoa Parish Library by Dr. Bill Robison and Mr. Charles Elliott, both of the Department of History and Political Science, and by Stahr, Guillot and Sherman.

Program participants included an eclectic cross-generational mixture of community members and Southeastern students, faculty, and staff. A website was created for the program at [http://selu.libguides.com/civilwar](http://selu.libguides.com/civilwar), and a library lobby display of Civil War books, reproduction documents, and ephemera also memorialized the anniversary of the war.

Additional programming is planned for November 2013 when a display sponsored by the National Library of Medicine, “Life and Limb: The Toll of the American Civil War” comes to Sims Library.

New Printers Have Arrived!

Just in time for the end of the Spring semester, there are three new printers in the Reference Room and one new printer in Media for student and guest printing. The printers were funded by a Student Technology Fee large project proposal which was submitted in November by Eric Johnson, Library Director and Jean Badeau, Systems Librarian.

Printers in the Library are consistently among the most heavily used student printers on campus. In the 2011 Fall semester, 50% of student printing on campus was done in the Library. The original Media printers were purchased in 2002 and the replaced Reference printers were purchased in 2006. The older printers produced 30 pages per minute, and frequently less than that when printing PowerPoints and PDFs. The slow printing resulted in lines of students waiting for prints and caused many students to leave before their printing was completed.

The new printers produce 50 pages per minute and can handle large PowerPoints and PDFs. Sims Library is pleased to offer improvements in printing to Southeastern students and guests.
Phi Kappa Phi Display

During April, visitors to Sims Library might have noticed a display in the lobby featuring information and insignia on loan from the Southeastern Chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. The display was erected to encourage those who had been invited to join to attend the induction ceremony and dinner on April 24, and to encourage those who were previously inducted at Southeastern, or elsewhere, to reconnect with the organization.

Phi Kappa Phi was established in 1897 to acknowledge and encourage superior scholarship among all academic disciplines. Southeastern’s chapter was founded in 1956. Membership is by invitation only and is extended to academically qualified students, faculty, alumni, and community members of good character. To be considered for membership in Phi Kappa Phi, a student must be in the top 10 percent of the senior or graduate class, or a second-semester junior in the top 7.5 percent of his/her class. Faculty and alumni are chosen for outstanding contributions to their fields.

Phi Kappa Phi provides several grants and scholarships for members and non-members each year, and Southeastern applicants have received excellent recognition and support in recent years. Anyone interested in transferring membership from another chapter to Southeastern’s chapter can contact Chapter Secretary, Dr. Joan Faust (jfaust@selu.edu), or see the international organization website, http://www.phikappaphi.org/web/. Further information about Southeastern’s chapter is available on the chapter’s website, https://www2.selu.edu/orgs/PhiKappaPhi/.

Common Read Events

Sims Library was proud to host the English Department for their series of public readings of Tom Franklin’s novel, *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter*, and Beth Ann Fennelly’s poetry collection, *Unmentionables*. The readings were held every Thursday night at 7:30 pm, beginning on February 2 and lasting through March 22. The Reading Series was designed to stimulate interest in the literary works and to celebrate the March 26 visit of the authors to campus.

The English Department and their enthusiastic students put on a tremendous series of readings, followed by lively discussion sessions related to issues in the novel. The readings generated considerable student interest, attracting about 20 students per reading.

Several notable English professors and their students deserve particular acclaim. Dr. Chance Harvey’s students conducted highly creative dramatic readings from each section of the novel, which included props, costumes, musical interludes, and so on. Harvey’s students also performed for Tom Franklin during his campus visit and Franklin was deeply moved at the creativity and time spent on the performances. Students from Dr. Jayetta Slawson’s class also did a joint reading from the middle of the novel, which was enthusiastically received. Other notable readers included Dr. Denelle Cowart, Mrs. Mary Mocsary, and a lively graduate student, Jennifer Rodriguez, who read solo on one evening.

Sims Library would also like to thank Amy Acosta and Heather O’Connell in the English Department for helping sponsor the readings and the Franklin/Fennelly visit to campus.