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Keywords

Summer 2010

Research literacy focus of library's instruction program



Nathan Lantz

Amy E. Mark assists students in the library classroom.

The University Libraries instruction program has skyrocketed over the past 10 years.

In 2001, librarians taught approximately 100 sessions to 3,500 students; in academic year 2007-08, they taught more than 450 classes to more than 9,000 students. In fall 2009, they taught 713 sessions to 8,662 first-year students alone.

The program is now to the point that more classroom space is needed, and a new, interactive, flexible and multipurpose classroom is planned. It will include 30 workstations, thereby increasing the ability of students to hone their research skills, which has a direct and positive impact on student learning.

"Library instruction is central to the teaching mission of the university, and its value is becoming more apparent to faculty in the new digital age," said Amy E. Mark, coordinator for instruction and associate professor of library science. "Information literacy is becoming fundamental to the general-education requirements, the core knowledge every student needs to graduate from The

University of Mississippi."

The goal for first-year library instruction is for all students to master basic library research. Librarians work with students in sections, from at-risk students to Honors 101 classes, to make all first-year students comfortable with the library and library resources. Librarians are matched to the professor of each class section so they can work together to provide a relevant presentation of library resources with time designated for active learning.

Instruction includes orientations, classes, online help and individual meetings with students, faculty and

staff. Each librarian is also responsible for a subject newsletter, which faculty and students in each department receive in the spring and fall.

Librarians with subject specialization teach upper-division undergraduates about resources commensurate with ad-

'Library instruction is central to the teaching mission of the university, and its value is becoming more apparent to faculty in the new digital age.'

—Amy E. Mark

vanced and discipline-specific research projects, including archival resources.

Research is a collaborative effort across the library. Librarians with different talents and expertise work with students to tailor instruction to their learning needs.

"We strive to help students with any research problem—large or small—at any point in their academic experience," Mark said.

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Campuswide committee develops plagiarism tutorial

With the advent of the Internet, plagiarism has become a worldwide phenomenon plaguing scholarship at every level, but UM library faculty and other personnel across campus are taking steps to fight it.

The university's Information Literacy Committee created a plagiarism and academic-honesty learning unit, which includes an interactive quiz incorporating concepts from the information-literacy standards, the QEP and the university creed. The committee advises the General Education Committee and the Dean of Libraries in the implementation of the national Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education.

Resources are available to professors and students on the library website, including sample syllabus statements about plagiarism that professors can use to add more detail to their own syllabi.

"There are also case studies that we wrote, and we encourage faculty to add their case studies too, and I hope to have a blog so faculty can share what they put on their syllabi," said Amy Mark, coordinator for instruction, associate professor of library science and committee chair, who recently gave a presentation on plagiarism at a faculty-development workshop. She discussed the causes of




UM is taking steps to combat plagiarism.

plagiarism and how the tutorial and quiz can be used to improve student learning and evidence-based institutional learning on campus.

"The workshop brought a large discussion to the wider campus about plagiarism policies and approaches in different disciplines. Now it's a campuswide discussion," Mark said.

The tutorials will be integrated into the general-education curriculum, the English 102, Liberal Arts 102 and Honors 102 classes.

"The idea is to get into the general-education curriculum so we are preventing plagiarism before it starts," Mark said. 

Message from the Dean

Since his arrival on campus almost one year ago, Chancellor Dan Jones has consistently delivered the message that the primary focus for our university is educating its students. In his inaugural address earlier this spring, he said, "In this university, as in every university, the main thing is education. And what makes education possible is that magical relationship between faculty and students."

The University Libraries is proud of its role in providing education and instruction to our students. No longer just a repository of information such as book and journals, the libraries and its faculty teach almost 10,000 students in almost 1,000 classes. We are providing them with a base of knowledge to make them successful in their other classes, as well as when they leave the university.

Most of this instruction occurs within the J.D. Williams Library, thanks to the presence of our electronic classroom and other resources such as the Information Commons. We are thankful for the support of groups, such as the Ole Miss Parents Association, and individual donors who have helped create these spaces. As we look to the future and prepare for growth through the creation of new instructional spaces, we hope you will support us once again in our endeavor to, as Chancellor Jones has said, keep focused on the main thing.

Sincerely,

Julia Rholes
Dean of University Libraries

PRIMO Effort

The plagiarism learning unit won the Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online (PRIMO) Award from the Association of College and Research Libraries a month after going live in October 2009. PRIMO is a means to share peer-reviewed instructional materials created by librarians to teach people about discovering, accessing and evaluating information in networked environments. The library's Information Literacy Committee hopes that awareness of ways to prevent plagiarism will help faculty to respond to the educational challenges posed by emerging digital technologies.

PRIMO

ALA ACRL IS 

Scavenger hunts mix learning and fun

By Rebecca Lauck Cleary

The University Libraries is awakening the detective and adventurer within every student through scavenger hunts.

Melissa Dennis, outreach/reference librarian and assistant professor, uses the scavenger hunts as a form of teaching library skills.

She first created an elaborate hunt for the Intermediate Reading (DS 097) class to correspond to the presidential debate in 2008. The success of that hunt led her to reinvent the activity for other groups as well. A modified version is offered to DS 096 classes and first-year seminar courses as optional library sessions.

The shorter hunts are career-related. For example, two art majors in a class would be put on the same team, and their clues would lead them to find a book, DVD and/or journal in that subject.

"I hope that this will

help make the activity more meaningful for the students," Dennis said.

For the DS 097 hunts, which Dennis refers to as "interactive testing instru-

ments," the students in a particular class are split into two groups and then go to the library during a set time, usually a Tuesday or Wednesday night. The students meet in the library classroom

with their teams as well as a librarian, a library staff member and the course instructor, who are all available to guide them for two hours.

The actual scavenger hunt only takes about 40 minutes to complete so the students have some extra time, if needed, to meet with their teams during the two hours. Students start with an instruction sheet that explains how to find a book in the catalog and check it out, how to find a DVD and online tutorials, how to find an article on a library database and e-mail the article and MLA citation to themselves and their instructor, and how to find the Writing Center, Reference Desk and many other key areas of the library. Teams are given different clues so they have to follow their own paths to complete the assignment.

"The goal of the scavenger hunts is to alleviate library anxiety through helping students work together to find actual resources and areas in the library that can help them succeed in academic

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'The actual scavenger hunt only takes about 40 minutes to complete.'

—Melissa Dennis

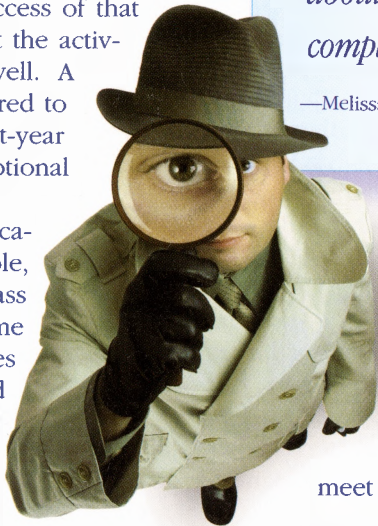


Exhibit pays homage to Barry Hannah

"My best stories come out of nowhere, with no concern for form at all."

—Barry Hannah

By Rebecca Lauck Cleary

The 2010 Oxford Conference for the Book, held March 4-6, was dedicated to Mississippi author and UM writer-in-residence Barry Hannah, who died suddenly two days before the conference began. To coincide with the conference, Archives and Special Collections had already installed an exhibit on Barry Hannah on the third-floor hallway of the J.D. Williams Library, not realizing that it would be a memorial.

Four display cases highlight mediations between author, publisher and lawyers in the production of the novel *Boomerang*; feature notes, manuscripts and galley proofs for

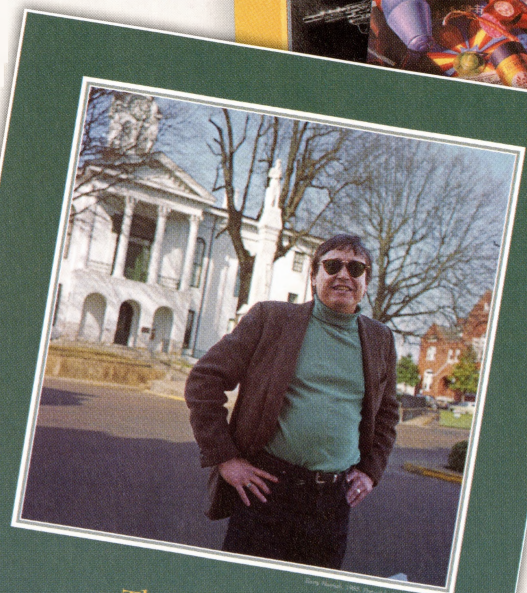
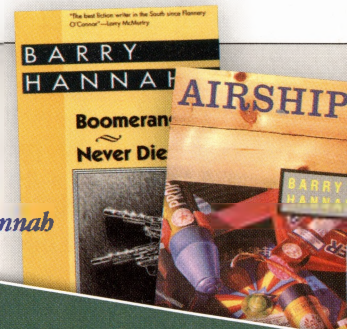
the novel *Ray*; showcase the origins of the short story *Airships* in *Esquire* magazine; and reference Hannah's brief screenwriting career for director Robert Altman.

Many of the items on view are from the Barry Hannah Collection, which consists of correspondence and typescripts created by Barry Hannah between 1978 and 1993.

Archivist Leigh McWhite said that while the exhibit is not an exhaustive look at Hannah's career, it focuses on a number of his publications and different areas of his life.

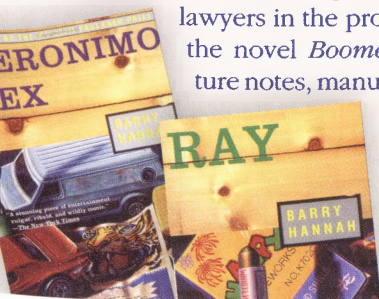
"One of my favorite cases looks at his short stories. *Airships* is a

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The Seventeenth
Oxford Conference for the Book
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New donations include rare novel, treasure trove of DVDs

By Rebecca Lauck Cleary

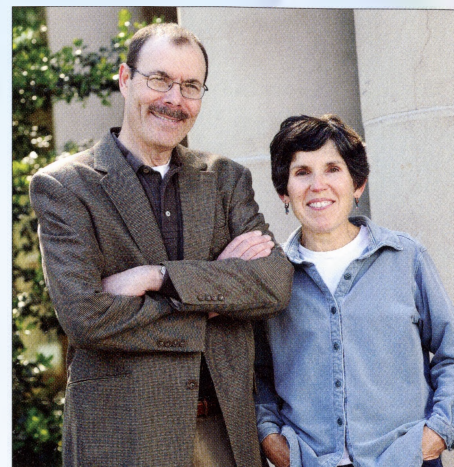
J.D. Williams Library patrons can borrow movies—for free as long as they return them on time—and its movie collection has increased to more than 2,700 titles, thanks in part to donations from film buffs.

The UM library benefited from the recent sale of As Seen on TV's inventory after the Oxford movie-rental store closed its doors. The library was among those to have first pick before the inventory was sold to the public at the Oxford Film Festival. The library was able to buy the films, thanks to a donation by Howard and Sylvia Lenhoff, who use the library frequently.

The titles include classic, indie and foreign films, documentaries and literary adaptations, all on DVD and in good condition. Film donations are appreciated by a variety of library patrons, including students, faculty, staff and the general public, and are used for both classroom and recreational purposes, said Michelle Emanuel, catalog librarian.

"This donation was especially appreciated because it allowed us to make the decision of what to add, based on what we know about our collection and our patrons, and in the format we prefer [DVD]," Emanuel said. "The donation has allowed us to add materials that we might not have been able to purchase otherwise. Frequently when patrons give us donations, they include duplicates of titles we already have or formats [such as VHS] that we no longer collect. With the Lenhoff donation, we were able to add about 95 titles to our DVD collection."

Lenhoff, an adjunct professor of biology, said he watches practically a



Michael Hoffheimer and Luanne Buchanan are two of the many donors who support the library.

movie a day.

"The university has a marvelous collection of DVDs, and it's made my life much more pleasant. I felt like I owed something to the library because it has been one of the nicest parts of being here. I'm glad they can expand their collection," Lenhoff said.

Other UM professors have helped the library's collection of films and books grow. Michael Hoffheimer, professor of law, and Luanne Buchanan, assistant professor of Spanish, recently donated the largest private collection in the country of printed editions of Joseph G.

Baldwin's novel *The Flush Times of Alabama and Mississippi*.

"*The Flush Times of Alabama and Mississippi*, originally published in 1853, includes 26 sketches and satires drawn from Joseph G. Baldwin's experiences as an attorney on the turbulent Mississippi and Alabama frontiers in the 1830s and 1840s," Hoffheimer said. "The book possesses enormous value for both literary scholars and historians. It remains a classic, not simply because it is sprightly social history, but because it is also an engrossing memoir by a man of uncommon subtlety of mind who projected his own sensibility into the record."



Philosophy, religion holdings increase through donation


By Jeff Houston

In appreciation of eight UM professors, W. Wilson Defore Jr. and his wife, Carol Y. Defore, donated \$1,250 to the Department of Philosophy and Religion for the purchase of books for students.

The eight professors honored with the gift are William Lawhead, Willa Johnson, Sarah Moses, Ryan Weimer, Laurie Cozad, Mary Thurlkill, Steve Skultety and John Lobur.

The donation will be equally split among the professors who will then make a list of books to be sent to the library for purchase. Each purchased book will list the honored professors inside the cover and be available in the library to students preparing for exams and presentations.

"This generous donation will make possible the addition of a number of significant books to the library," said Lawhead, department chair of philosophy and religion. "We appreciate the Defore family for their continued involvement with our department."

As an Oxford resident for nearly five years, following retirement as a surgeon, Defore has sat in on classes at Bryant Hall as a hobby. He is a graduate of The University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. 

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Library digitizes major accounting firm's collection

By Elaine Pugh

The J.D. Williams Library was selected to receive a \$155,000 grant from the Deloitte Foundation to digitize materials from 1895 through 1983.

Digitizing and storing valuable information for future generations is a high priority for Deloitte LLP, one of the largest professional-service organizations in the world and one of the Big Four accounting firms.

A major consideration in landing this project is that the J.D. Williams Library houses the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) collection. Acquired by the library in 2001, it has become the largest accounting collection in the world.

"Because of this premier collection, we have materials no one else has," said Dale Flesher, associate dean of the Patterson School of Accountancy, who for many years has been a liaison with the AICPA and played a major role in bringing the collection to UM.

"Even Deloitte does not have many of the publications in our library, and they were the publishers."

Upon completion of the digitization project, plans call for making the information available worldwide via both the Ole Miss and Deloitte websites.

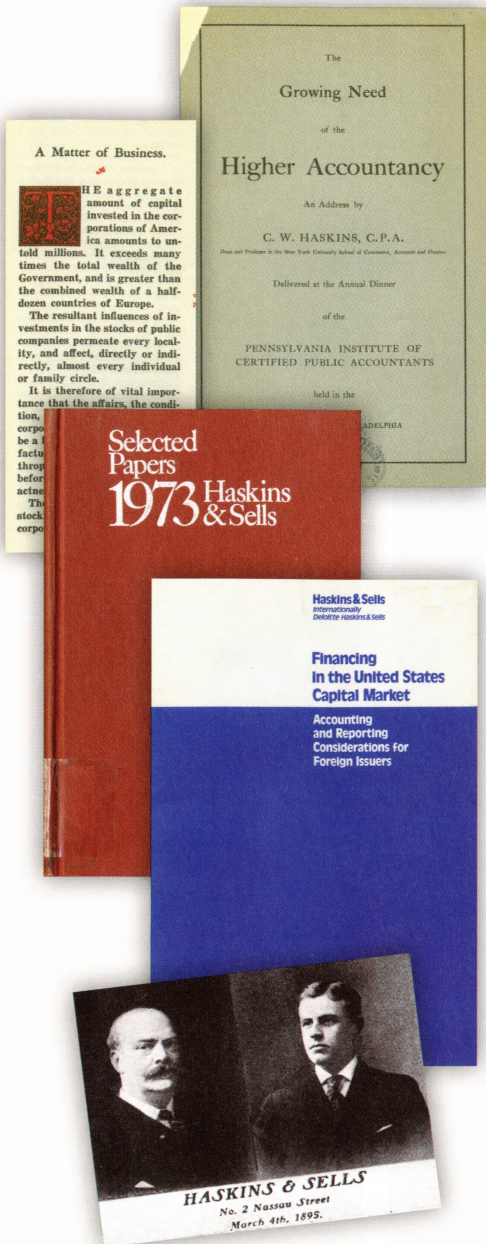
Many of the historic materials in the AICPA collection, housed in the J.D. Williams Library, will be digitized thanks to a grant from the Deloitte Foundation.

"We wish to team up with firms and societies in making these materials widely available to scholars," said Royce Kurtz, AICPA collection reference librarian. "Our partnership with Deloitte will hopefully be one of many that will bring the history of the accounting profession to a worldwide audience."

The materials highlight the history of the now-global company and its predecessor firms Haskins and Sells, Touche Ross and many others. In all, more than 30,000 pages of material will be scanned and posted on the UM website. It will include the journals "Haskins and Sells Bulletin," 1918-1932; "H & S Reports," 1963-1983; "The Quarterly" (Touche, Ross, Bailey & Smart), 1955-1967; and "Tempo" (Touche Ross), 1968-1983, as well as company histories, biographies of famous partners, and books on accounting and tax guidance for practitioners and industries.

Deloitte-referenced materials in the AICPA collection also will be included in the digitization project, such as sponsored conferences promoting theoretical work in accounting and highlights of partners in the firms who have chaired AICPA committees that have shaped accounting standards.

Ole Miss has had a long relationship with Deloitte and its predecessor organizations as many UM accountancy graduates have had careers with the firm, and several graduates are currently firm partners, Flesher said.



New donations continued from Page 4

Hoffheimer said he and Buchanan acquired the editions while doing research on the publication history of the book and examining its negative portrayal of enslaved African-American people. The results of the research have been published in two articles.

"The gift is especially important because it adds to the J.D. Williams Special Collections' holdings of Mississippi writers, and with this gift the university library now has the largest collection in the world of imprints of this important and controversial book," Hoffheimer said.

The couple also has contributed other items, including

many DVDs of commercial Hindi-language (Bollywood) films.

"These films are relevant for research purposes, and I have published three articles discussing Bollywood films," Hoffheimer said. "India produces more films than any other country, and Bollywood films are some of the best. They are now beginning to get recognition from U.S. audiences, and the library's Bollywood DVDs are some of the most popular items in the entire collection."

Bookings

Library hosts social, cultural gatherings

Blues Reception:

Attendees enjoyed music and speakers at a 25th anniversary reception for UM's Blues Archive.



Chancellor Khayat portrait dedication:
Chancellor Dan Jones unveils the portrait of former Chancellor Robert Khayat, which now hangs in the library.



Conference for the Book:

The 17th annual Oxford Conference for the Book honored Barry Hannah with lectures, exhibits and speakers during the three-day event in March. The library hosted lunch and a speaker the day the conference began.



Wear Red Day:

Library staff participated in UM's annual Wear Red Day to support women's heart-health awareness.



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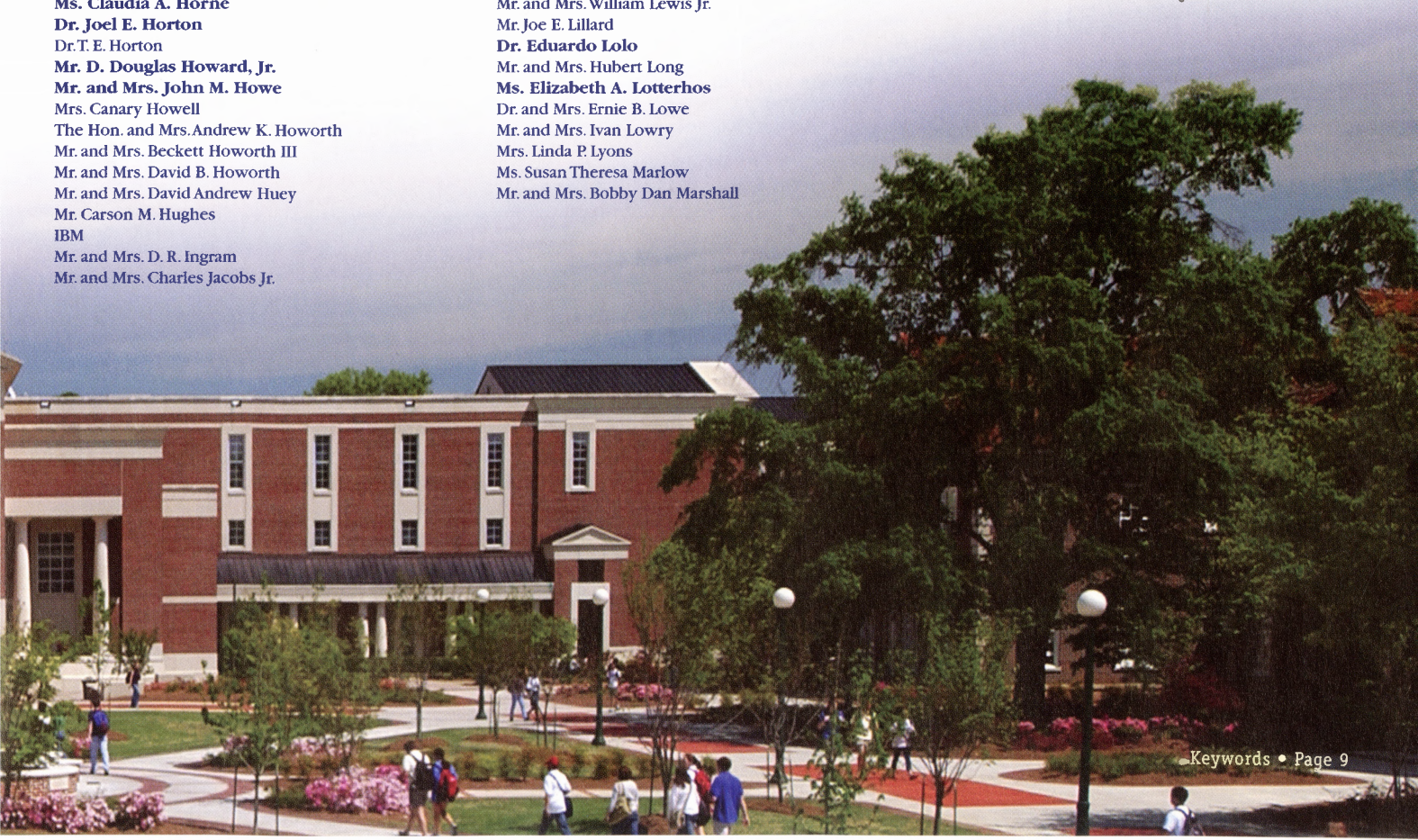
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Scavenger hunt

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research,” Dennis said. “The fact that it is all hands-on and completed in teams of two-to-three students expands the engagement of the exercise, as opposed to a lecture-style session or library video that they could passively absorb in order to be acclimated with our services.”


The clues are spread out in the building in sequential form. Teams have to start at one place and read their instruction sheet carefully to figure out how to complete all of the assignment.

The reaction from both students and

instructors has been positive.

“The library scavenger hunts are an incredible hands-on library learning experience, and I credit Melissa Dennis for all the work she does to get each hunt organized,” said Mari Kuhnle, instructor in intermediate reading. “It takes a lot of coordination for something like this to work well, and the students have learned about resources in the library in a very enjoyable way.”

Dennis said she wants the scavenger hunts to be fun, and she wants

the students at the completion of the hunt to realize a few things about the library and themselves: that there is a welcoming place—online and on-site—that caters to academic study, resources, services and research; that all of these materials are important for them to use; that they can bond with new friends to complete a task; and that they know where librarians are located when they need help. 

Barry Hannah

continued from Page 3

contemporary classic, and many of the stories originally appeared in *Esquire* magazine. The same case also holds correspondence and materials regarding Hannah's contributions to the *Oxford American* magazine," McWhite said.

Another display examines Hannah's teaching career, including his letter seeking a position at The University of Mississippi. Another letter on view is from a student who requests permission to take Hannah's writing course—the student is Donna Tartt, best-selling author of *The Secret History*.

Other exhibit items came from the collections of Seymour Lawrence, Louis Dollarhide, Evans Harrington and the *Oxford American*.

"The Barry Hannah Collection itself


is large, and Leigh found the most interesting pieces and tied them together, like in the *Esquire* case," said Jennifer Ford, head of Archives and Special Collections and associate professor. "It's a wonderful collection, and we're very lucky to have it. We are sorry about the loss of such a vibrant author."

McWhite said all the materials are available for researchers. "I think it gives a very interesting insight into Barry Hannah's writing method," she said.

Ted Ownby, director of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, said the exhibit includes a good variety of materials, the most intriguing of which is Hannah's letter to a publisher.

"In a letter responding to a publisher's concern that *Boomerang* includes

the names of real people as characters and thus might open up the author and the press to lawsuits, Barry writes by hand, "The people I mention as names are not so litigious as they are in the Northeast," Ownby said.

The exhibit will remain on display through the spring semester. To conduct further research on any of the above collections, visit Archives and Special Collections, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 



Exhibits and Events

Faulkner Room, J.D. Williams Library through August 2010

"Still Got the Blues: A Silver Anniversary Exhibition"

Third Floor, J.D. Williams Library

Case devoted to the integration of The University of Mississippi

Case devoted to the inauguration of Chancellor Dan Jones

Walter Anderson and World Literature exhibit

Faulkner Room, J.D. Williams Library July 1, 5:30 p.m.

Program on the papers of Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Armis Hawkins

Libraries grow with private support



Private support for the University Libraries has allowed us to expand the services we offer to students, faculty, researchers and the public. Without the generous support you have shown us over the years, projects such as electronic classrooms and the Information Commons would not be possible. New books would go unpurchased, and outdated equipment would not be replaced. Priceless collections would not

be preserved in the archives. You provide the structure that allows library personnel to make a difference in the lives of our students every day. We hope you come by to visit us whenever you're on campus to see the fruit of your labor. As we continue to grow and move forward into new areas, we hope you will continue to partner with us and strengthen our great university.

Sincerely,

Michael Upton
Associate Director of Development



Libraries Wish List

Web Services and Instruction

Mac video workstation

A Mac video workstation will allow our librarians to create and process instructional videos that are user-friendly and will serve students, faculty, researchers and the public.

Cost: \$3,300

Information Commons

Scanners and software

The J.D. Williams Library provides several scanners along with Adobe Acrobat Professional software. Students use the scanners frequently for scanning photos, illustrations and text for a variety of projects, and use the software for creating PDF documents. Additional equipment and software will help the library provide more scanning stations to accommodate more students who are required to do group projects and classroom presentations.

Cost: \$270 each

Department of Archives and Special Collections

Student workers

The Department of Archives and Special Collections is working on digitizing the manuscript, video and audio portions of its collections for use by students, faculty and the public. Digitization is time consuming and requires additional manpower hours to complete. Underwriting the cost of a student worker for a semester will offer valuable experience to a student and help the department to complete this valuable project more quickly.

Cost: \$1,200 per semester

