

# Top Shelf : The Newsletter of the Robert W. Woodruff Library

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# Top Shelf

The Newsletter of the Robert W. Woodruff Library  
of the Atlanta University Center

August 2006

Volume 2, No. 1



## Welcome Back to the Woodruff Library!



**Loretta Parham,**  
CEO/Library Director

**W**elcome back! Many of you are new to the campus this year or returning after a summer break. But as is the case each year, summertime at the Library was no vacation. During your time away from us, Library staff continued delivering services to students enrolled in summer classes and talented high school students attending summer academies and institutes.

In addition, **Morehouse College**, one of our four Atlanta University Center member institutions, has asked us to house the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection. We are honored that Morehouse had such

confidence in our ability to preserve and store this important collection.

Our Woodruff Library Archives & Special Collections and Facilities Departments have worked tirelessly to prepare for the arrival of the Dr. King's books and writings. But those are not the only preparations taking place this summer. The entire Woodruff Library staff have worked diligently to implement new or upgrade current programming and services to enhance your Library experience. In this newsletter, you will read about many of our improvements, including:

*New Shuttle Service*—new buses with GPS technology, new drivers and revised Web-based travel aids designed to help you plan your route

*Revamped Web Site*—more user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing, with search function, quick links

and calendar on the home page *New Faculty & Student Orientations*—upgraded orientation programs for the two most important user groups—the students and faculty of our Atlanta University Center member institutions *Information Literacy Project*—new programs that will help students learn to find, evaluate and use information for a lifetime

There have been other less visible, but equally important, enhancements made at RWWL and still more to come this fall. We hope you will come to the Library and see what we've accomplished. Tell us what you think. The Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center is your library. Together, with your input and ideas, we can make it great!

## New Student, Faculty Orientations Begin Aug. 14

**I**n August and September, the Robert W. Woodruff Library (RWWL) of the Atlanta University Center will begin forging relationships with new students and faculty from its AUC institutions. Approximately 2,700 new students and 75 new faculty are expected to participate.

During the student orientation programs, Library staff will conduct tours, present Web site

overviews and distribute printed materials highlighting library resources and services. Student can also register for remote access to the Library and obtain Library barcodes and print cards. New faculty will learn more about the instructional and research support services available at the RWWL. Subject liaisons for each academic discipline will be available to

*(Orientations—continued on page 4)*

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## Woodruff Library to Serve as Custodian for Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collection



RWWL Head of Archives **Karen Jefferson** works with archival storage boxes like those that will eventually house the King Papers Collection. Woodruff Library Archives & Special Collections will be “custodian” of the Morehouse King Collection and books.

The Robert W. Woodruff Library (RWWL) of the Atlanta University Center will be the initial home of a collection of books and writings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The collection was purchased earlier this summer by a group of prominent Atlantans, led by current Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin and former Atlanta Mayor and U.S. Ambassador to South Africa Andrew Young and transferred to **Morehouse College** (Dr. King’s alma mater).

Consisting of books from his personal library and original drafts of some of Dr. King’s most famous speeches and writings, the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Collection was previously scheduled for auction on June 30 by Sotheby’s in New York. At the request of Morehouse (one of the Library’s four member institutions), RWWL will serve as “custodian” of the collection, housing and overseeing the security and preservation of the collection until further notice. The collection will be housed in the Library’s Archives & Special Collections Department.

**Loretta Parham**, Woodruff’s CEO/Library Director, said her organization is honored to be involved with this historic collection and especially gratified to have Morehouse

request the Library’s involvement. “Our Atlanta University Center member institutions rely on us to meet the information needs of their students and faculty every day,” she said. “By its actions, Morehouse is demonstrating a great deal of faith and trust in the expertise and facilities of the Woodruff Library.”

“The archives staff is excited about the opportunity to work with the Morehouse King Collection—to help preserve and make them available for research and study,” said **Karen Jefferson**, Head of **Archives & Special Collections**. “Each collection is in its own way unique and offers a wealth of new information that enriches our understanding of who we are as a people and as a nation. The Morehouse King Collection certainly add to that knowledge in a significant way.”

Visit: <http://www.auctr.edu/collections/archives.html> for more information and the Archives & Special Collection Department.

## While You Were Away...

RWWL was doing great things for and with our Atlanta University Center students and faculty while you were away....



Pictured (l to r): RWWL CEO/Library Director **Loretta Parham**, Mayor **Shirley Franklin** and **Morehouse College** president **Dr. Walter Massey** at Summer Commencement exercises

- ♦ **July 22**—RWWL CEO/Library Director **Loretta Parham** participated in **Morehouse College’s** 2006 Summer

Commencement. **Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin** was the featured speaker.

- ♦ **May 15**—**Dr. Rosaline Odom**, Head of Information & Research Services, and **Monica Riley**, Inter-library Loan Coordinator, participated in CAU’s 2006 commencement ceremony.
- ♦ **May 13**—RWWL Library sponsored a commencement weekend open house for parents,



Librarians **Monica Riley** (left) and **Dr. Rosaline Odom** with RWWL banner carried in the CAU commencement ceremony.

friends and family of AUC graduates.

- ♦ **April 27**—Theology Librarian **Dr. Joseph Troutman** and the ITC Academic Publications Committee presented the ITC Faculty Scholarship Booksigning.
- ♦ **April 12**—RWWL staff members participated in “Woodruff Day at WCLK,” taking phone pledges from contributors during the 2006 Spring Membership Drive for Jazz 91.9 FM, WCLK.



RWWL Voyager Librarian **Robert Fallen** takes a pledge during “Woodruff Day at WCLK.”

## New Shuttle Service Rolls Forward Aug. 23



Beginning August 23, this bus and two others will transport passengers to and from the Woodruff Library as part of the Library's new and improved Shuttle Service.

**I**t's bigger and better and ready to roll. The Robert W. Woodruff Library (RWWL) Shuttle Bus Service officially hits the road on August 23 with new buses, a new look and improved service.

Just in time for the start of classes, three new 35-passenger buses will begin providing service on routes around the Atlanta University Center. Bus stops have been reevaluated and routes have been mapped out to include areas with the highest numbers of passengers. **Eric Miller, RWWL's Chief Financial Officer**, oversees the shuttle service and is excited about the possibilities the upgraded service presents.

"We are extremely pleased to offer this revamped service to the Atlanta University Center community," Miller said. "After reviewing rider feedback and soliciting input

from school administrators, we worked with staff and vendors to develop what we think is the best alternative. We're offering more than just new buses; we're going to offer better all-around service that meets and exceeds rider expectations."

RWWL has contracted with Cognisa Transportation, a nationally known transportation

provider, for day-to-day operation of the service. Using Web-based GPS technology provided by Cognisa, riders can now track the locations of all shuttle buses via the Woodruff Library Web site. Riders will know where buses are along the various routes and determine the best times to reach the bus stops.

Perhaps the most important component of the revamped service is its mechanisms for rider feedback. RWWL has established an email address and phone hotline through which shuttle bus passengers can express concerns or comment on the upgraded service. Email your comments to: [shuttle@aucr.edu](mailto:shuttle@aucr.edu) or leave a voice mail message at: **404-978-BUS1 (2871)**. Indicate if you require a response and a Cognisa representative will provide one in a timely manner.

## Under Construction... NEW [www.auctr.edu](http://www.auctr.edu)!

Keep [WWW.AUCTR.EDU](http://WWW.AUCTR.EDU)



bookmarked on your browser to see the new and improved RWWL Web site!

Any day now, the

revamped Web site will debut with new features designed to better meet the needs of on- and off-site Library users.

There will be a new look with new tools right on the home page, including a calendar of events to keep current on Library programs, quick links to the Library services you use most and a search function to help you find your way around the site.

So, keep checking in to see the next generation of RWWL online.

## Librarians, AUC Faculty Begin Information Literacy Training

This past winter, with funds from an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation planning grant, Woodruff staff began collaborating with AUC faculty and staff members to develop and implement an information literacy program designed to enhance skills needed to find, retrieve, analyze and use information.

The next phase of the Robert W. Woodruff Library Information Literacy Initiative—training sessions for librarians and AUC faculty—began this summer.

Based on information gathered during spring focus groups with AUC faculty, staff, administrators, students and librarians, RWWL staff began developing an online tutorial and participating in training.

During the summer, librarians engaged in information literacy training sessions at the American Libraries Association (ALA) Annual Conference and participated in a "Webinar" titled "Best Practices in Information Literacy in Undergraduate Education." Woodruff staff also introduced the RWWL Information Literacy Initiative to **Clark Atlanta University** faculty participating in the school's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

In the fall, AUC faculty will again be offered the opportunity to participate in seminars on the use of the JSTOR and ArtSTOR databases. In addition, AUC faculty and Woodruff librarians will train collaboratively on information literacy elements and techniques. Later in the year, librarians and faculty will put their new skills to work as they implement a curriculum-based pilot project in selected AUC classrooms.

# Leaders on the Move...

## Appointments

### **RWWL CEO/Library**

**Director Loretta Parham** has been asked to share her expertise with two library advisory committees. Recently, she was elected to the Executive Committee of the OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) Members Council, a group charged with identifying issues of strategic importance to OCLC members and disseminating information about them to OCLC staff and other industry colleagues.

Parham serves on the Members Council as a delegate representing SOLINET (Southeastern Library Network). The CEO/Library Director also has been invited to serve on the Selection Committee for the annual *New York Times* Librarian Awards, a national program honoring university and public librarians who have provided outstanding public service.

**Karen Jefferson**, Head of **Archives & Special Collections**, has been appointed to a four-year term on the Editorial Board of *American Archivist*, the scholarly journal of the Society of American Archivists (SAA). SAA previously recognized Jefferson's professional

accomplishments in 2004, when she was named an SAA Fellow.

The highest honor bestowed on individuals by SAA, the distinction of Fellow honors outstanding contributions to the archival profession. Jefferson is one of only 154 Fellows in an SAA membership of nearly 4,000.

*American Archivist* board members are selected based on their knowledge of archival theory, methodology, and practice; expertise in research strategies and methodologies; and experience in archival research and publication.

## Conferences

CEO/Library Director **Loretta Parham**, Deputy Director **Gail McClenney** and Assistant Director for Planning and Development **Carolyn Hart** attended the 2006 American Libraries Association (ALA) Annual Conference in June. More than 17,000 information professionals attended the event, the first major conference held in New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina. The ALA conference featured keynote speeches by First Lady Laura Bush, former U.S. Secretary of State Madelyn Albright, CNN anchor Anderson Cooper and national news correspondent Cokie

Roberts.

This summer, **Rosaline Odom**, Head of **Information & Research Services**,



*Dr. Rosaline Odom*

(pictured)

attended the Summer Institute for Academic Library Leadership at Vanderbilt University (Nashville, TN) in July. The program is conducted by the university's prestigious Peabody Professional Institute and selection for participation is highly competitive. With the completion of the five-day institute, Odom will now seek to identify ways to position RWWL as an agent for change within the AUC to strengthen support for the Library's services and resources.

## **HELP NEEDED:**

Student Advisory Council (SAC) members representing all four AUC schools to discuss Woodruff Library issues with the CEO/Library Director twice each semester. Lunch will be provided. Interested in SAC? Call: 404-978-2114 or email: [acarver@auctr.edu](mailto:acarver@auctr.edu).

*(Orientations—continued from page 1)*

interact with faculty participants. Librarians also will provide an overview of the RWWL Web site, and register faculty for remote access to Library resources and Library barcodes.

Student orientations are:

### Friday, August 18

*Morehouse* – 1-4:30 p.m.

### Saturday, August 19

*Spelman* – 9-11:30 p.m.

(last names M-Z)

1:30-4 p.m.

(last names A-L)

### Monday, August 21

*CAU* – 2-7 p.m.

### Monday, September 11

*ITC* – 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Faculty orientations are as follows:

### Monday, August 14

*Spelman* – 1:30-2:45 p.m.

### Friday, August 18

*CAU, ITC* – 2-4 p.m.

For more information about any of the student or faculty orientations, contact **Dr. Rosaline Odom**, Head of **Information & Research Services**, at [rododom@auctr.edu](mailto:rododom@auctr.edu) or 404-978-2129.

## *Top Shelf*

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Top Shelf four times a year  
for library users.*

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