Top Shelf, Spring 2017

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Archives Research Center Collections Stretch Beyond the AUC

The AUC Woodruff Library Archives Research Center has established itself as a leading repository of the African American experience among Historically Black Colleges and Universities with esteemed collections on prominent figures such as Tupac Amaru Shakur and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Last year, the demand for these items and more reached beyond the AUC with notable requests from the GRAMMY Museum® (for writings and memorabilia from the Tupac Amaru Shakur Collection), the Georgia State Governor’s mansion for the Martin Luther King, Jr. portrait (which is on long-term loan at the Archives from the Georgia Capitol Museum), and the Coca-Cola Company (for clippings about Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Nobel Peace Prize Dinner in Atlanta) from the Johnson Publishing Company Clipping Files Collection.

The Archives Research Center's commitment to preserve its extensive and unique collection of books, personal papers of individuals and families, and administrative records of organizations and institutions is unwavering. With over two million items currently in its Collection, it's no surprise that the appeal for this rich assemblage of African-American history is steadily on the rise!

Your Voice Counts!

The AUC Woodruff Library will be conducting the Library Quality (LibQual) User Satisfaction Survey from April 3-28. Since 2007, the Library has administered the LibQual survey every three years to give users a platform to share their opinions on the services we provide. Data collected from the survey provides insight into the expectations and needs of our AUC students and faculty, and ensures that the resources and services we deliver coincide with these expectations.

Based on feedback received from past surveys, several improvements have been made including:
redesign of the Library’s website
2010 Phase I Interior Renovation
transformation of the vacant lot in front of the Library into an inviting greenscape

We encourage all AUC students and faculty to participate. Your participation ensures that we make the changes that are important to you. Let your voices be heard!

Please stay tuned for more information.

Leadership Spotlight - Dr. Maurice Wheeler

Dr. Maurice B. Wheeler joined the AUC Robert Woodruff Library team as Deputy Director in 2016. Wheeler has held administrative positions in library education and in both public and academic libraries.

In 1996, Wheeler became the youngest director of a major public library in the nation when he was selected director of the Detroit Public Library. An internationally recognized scholar, Wheeler has been an Associate Professor in the University of North Texas - College of Information since 2002. He holds graduate degrees from the University of Michigan in voice performance and library and information sciences (LIS) and a doctoral degree from the University of Pittsburgh. A noted authority on cultural diversity in organizations, his research and publications have focused primarily on the intersection of diversity and organizational culture in LIS practice and education.

Wheeler has spent many years promoting the development and use of African American music archives and special collections. His current research explores the intersection of diversity, racial representation and access in vocal music archives. A longtime member of the American Library Association (ALA), he was elected to ALA Council and has chaired and served on many ALA committees. He is also a member of the Music Library Association and is currently serving as archivist of the National Opera Association.

Library Receives Over $400K to Digitize Rare Collections Spanning 132 Years of AUC History

The AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library collaborated with the Digital Library of Georgia, Morehouse College and Spelman College to participate in the Council on Library and Information Resources’ (CLIR) Digitizing Hidden Collections program. The program provides financial support to institutions with an urgent need to enhance their global digital research environment to support new scholarship for the long-term.

The funds provided by CLIR will support the "Our Story: Digitizing Publications and Photographs of the Historically Black Atlanta University Center Institutions" project which aims to digitize and make over 700,000 items easily accessible. These items include unique publications, periodicals, theses, dissertations and photographs that document the rich history of the Atlanta University Center dating back 132 years.

Photographs from the James P. Brawley Collection

Photographs are now digitized, featuring Brawley at various events and ceremonies throughout his career as President of Clark College, which he held from 1941-1965. Campus life and architecture are also displayed, as well as glass slides which were likely images used in Brawley’s classroom teachings.

Photographs are just part of his larger collection at the Archives Research Center.

Audio Recordings of Dr. Isaac R. Clark

Dr. Clark joined the Interdenominational Theological Center in 1962 as Professor of Homiletics and Director of Field Education. His recordings, dating from 1940-1977, contain content from Dr. Isaac Clark’s homiletics class, gospel recordings, student sermons, and lectures from prominent scholars such as Dr. Harry V. Richardson, Andrew Young, and Benjamin E. Mays.

Read more information about the entire Isaac R. Clark Memorial Collection.

More Library Resources Available
The project will run through 2020, and once completed the items will be available via the Internet, blog, social media, in research guides (LibGuides), at conferences and in scholarly publications.

Below is a photograph from the Archives Research Center- an example of the types of items that will be digitized through this project.

Morris Brown College Faculty, 1900, Morris Brown College Photographs (Archives Research Center)

Archives Research Center Acquires Organizational Collections

Two organizations added new materials to the AUC Woodruff Library’s Archives Research Center (ARC), furthering documentation and research opportunities related to the African American experience.

National Association of Guardsmen, Inc.

Historian O. T. Wells, Sr., (seated) was accompanied by Atlanta Chapter members Arthur Richardson and Benjamin Blackburn, II (not pictured) in a December 2016 visit to donate materials to the collection.

In late 2014, the National Association of Guardsmen, Inc. designated ARC as their organization’s archival repository. Affectionately known as “The Guardsmen,” the men’s organization was formed in Brooklyn, New York in 1933 by thirteen young African American men. Their social programs and activities incorporate wives and girlfriends and has eighteen chapters extending from New York to Los Angeles.

We encourage you to take time to view the National Association of Guardsmen Records collection of programs, chapter

New York Times with Index (1851-2013)

The Historical New York Times with Index (1851-2013) provides search capability using subject terms and topics for focused and targeted results in combination with searchable full text, full page, and article-level images from the Historical New York Times.

You can find the above resource indexed under the following subject categories:

* News & Current Events
* Archives & Special Collections

Mergent Intellect

Mergent Intellect features a deep collection of worldwide business information to include business data, industry news, facts and figures, executive contact information and much more.

Read more...

Mergent Economic Database

This database features U.S. economic time series data collected from primary sources and updated daily with content across hundreds of key economic series in daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly frequencies.

Read more...

Meet Our Newest Librarians & Archivist

Join us in welcoming our newest Librarians and Archivist to the AUC Woodruff Library!

These subject matter experts are available to assist you with all of your learning and research needs.

Imani Beverly

(Education, Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice)
Gate City Bar Association

(Seated L-R) Judge Thelma Wyatt Moore (Gate City Bar Association), Dr. Maurice Wheeler, Cheryl Turner (Gate City Bar Association). (Standing L-R) Sarah Tanner and Andrea Jackson.

On January 10, 2017, President Cheryl Turner and Historian Emeritus Thelma Wyatt Cummings Moore signed a Deed of Gift officially donating the Gate City Bar Association Archives to ARC. The oldest African American bar association in the state of Georgia, Gate City Bar Association (GCBA) was founded in 1948 to provide the educational, social and community involvement of a professional association for African American lawyers. An affiliate of the National Bar Association, GCBA historically served as the premiere professional organization for lawyers who had been excluded from participating in the segregated bar associations in Atlanta and throughout the state. Once opened, the collection of rich documents, photographs, and memorabilia, will expand the historical narrative of collaborative legal activity related to injustices such as desegregation, as well as judicial appointments and other professional advancements.

Research at Your Fingertips - Dr. Wiley S. Bolden Papers

The Wiley S. Bolden Papers are now open for research!

Dr. Bolden worked as an educator, administrator, and psychologist in Georgia. While obtaining his doctorate in Clinical Psychology, Dr. Bolden worked at Clark College as a professor of psychology. He later served as the Chairman of the Psychology Department and Dean of Faculty and Instruction at Clark. In 1962, he was one of two African American licensed psychologists in the State of Georgia. During his time as an educator and administrator, Dr. Bolden worked on the Cooperative Experimental Summer School project, served as the Vice President of Academic Affairs at Morris Brown College, taught the educational foundations course at Georgia State University, and served as President of Savannah State College.

The collection spans from 1924 to 2013 with the bulk of the collection spanning from 1947 to 2013. The Collection includes materials related to his time at Clark College, Georgia State University, Savannah State College, and Morris Brown.

Library's Institutional Repository Now Tracks Social Media Usage

Atlanta University Center faculty can now track the impact of their research more holistically through the altmetrics tool, PlumX. The Library's Digital Services Department has added full integration of PlumX in the DigitalCommons which will pull data from non-traditional sources for all research output.

PlumX allows the Library to embed a "Plum Print" on every item in DigitalCommons to provide enhanced statistics on usage. Each Plum Print provides information in five broad categories:

1. Usage
2. Captures
3. Mentions
4. Social media
5. Citations

(The graphic on the left side of the image below is the Plum Print.)
Can't Miss Events

The 14th Annual Walter Rodney Symposium
March 24-25, 2017

This year's theme, "Justice Denied: People's Power, The Struggle Continues" will address inequities faced while seeking redress for injustices through government legal systems. Topics will include contemporary injustices related to police brutality and shootings, political incarcerations, the school-to-prison pipeline, the prison-industrial complex and for-profit judicial systems, and the continuing fight for human rights and equal justice.

Visit the Walter Rodney Foundation website for more information.

Start Something: Activism and the Atlanta Student Movement Exhibit
Extended through May 22, 2017

This exhibit documents how students from the Atlanta University, Clark College (now Clark Atlanta University), Morehouse College, Morris Brown College, The Interdenominational Theological Center, and Spelman College strategized and worked together to stage protests in the 1960s. The students penned An Appeal for Human Rights, and organized nonviolent marches, sit-ins, picket lines, and boycotts that forced Atlanta merchants and government officials to desegregate stores and public facilities.

The legacy of AUC student activism continues today in youth-led social justice actions of groups as AUC Shut It Down, Its Bigger Than You, and the Black Lives Matter Movement.

Visit the AUC Robert Woodruff Library website for directions and parking information.

Applications for Library Research Travel Award Now Available

How does this benefit you?

The information gathered in the above categories will make it possible for you to see the impact of your research beyond the traditional citation metric. It tracks altmetrics from over 30 sources and does not require your research to have a digital object identifier (DOI). It has the capability to track different types of identifiers including ISBN and URLs.

For more information about PlumX and DigitalCommons, please contact the Digital Services Department.

Pausing to Celebrate Employee Excellence

Each year, the Library recognizes those employees who consistently go above and beyond their scope of work in order to provide the best service to our users.

Last year, during our annual employee recognition awards ceremony, the following employees were acknowledge for their contribution and hard work:

Andrea Jackson
Leadership Award

Jacquelyn Daniel

2017 TRAVEL RESEARCH AWARD
Applying to receive up to $1,500 for travel to our archives for research.

The Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library is offering a research travel award to educators, graduate students, and independent researchers who would benefit from access to the rich and unique historical and cultural holdings in the Archives Research Center. Up to $1,500 may be awarded for travel expenses.

Visit www.auctr.edu/archives/using-the-archives for detailed eligibility requirements and to download an application.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: February 6, 2017

Bike sharing stations coming to the Library & Spelman campus this spring!
The Library was proud to host a reception and dinner for the OCLC Executive Management Team and research library leaders on Sunday, January 22!