# Students Working in the Cataloging Department

Wanda Gunther



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES Interim Head of Cataloging, Authority Control and Database Management Librarian, Davis Library **Lee Richardson** 



Library

Information Discovery and Metadata Librarian, Health Sciences Library

## Background

- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH)
  - 18,862 undergraduates
  - 11,049 graduate and professional students
- UNC-CH Libraries

Two Nobel Laureates:
Dr. Aziz Sancar, co-recipient of the

Dr. Oliver Smithies (1925-2017)

Prize in Physiology or Medicine

**43.384** applicants to class of 2022 –

13<sup>th</sup> consecutive record of first-year applicants –

**6% increase** over 2017

- 14 libraries on campus
- Cataloging in the Libraries
  - Davis Library (central collection for humanities, social science & business research)
  - Health Sciences Library (HSL)
  - Wilson Library (special collections and rare materials)
  - Law Library (administered separately)

## **Cataloging on Campus**

- All libraries share an integrated library system (ILS)
  - Sierra from Innovative
- Local cataloging decisions made collaboratively but libraries can alter policies based on their needs
- Authority control is mostly handled by outside vendor
- Davis Library catalogs materials for all campus libraries except for:
  - HSL
  - Wilson Library
  - Law Library

### Facts & Figures **QUICK FACTS STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT** 49 Rhodes Scholars since the program began in 1904 for 2016-2017 11,049 • 38 Luce Scholars for internship in Asia –highes Carolina 📶 🥌 in the U.S. (as of 2017) athletics placed 📘 👕 orofessional students in the **2017–2018** 47 Goldwater Scholars 8,765 including 32 since 2000 Learfield Directors' Cup ranking of best collegiate More than 270 Fulbright Student Program Awards athletic programs, its 19th for global research and consecutive finish study since 1973 in the top-15 329,000+ alumni living in **50** states **WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION** and D.C. and **165** countries; more than among the 100 best U.S. public colleges **175,000** live in N.C

and universities that offer students high-quality

• **3rd best** public university in *The Wall* Street Journal/Times Higher Education

• 5th best public university in U.S.

• 11th best public in Forbes' "2017

America's Top Colleges" rankings

• 1st – School of Medicine primary

• 7th overall in best undergraduate

business programs in *Bloomberg Businessweek's* 2016 rankings

care program tops *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Graduate

News & World Report's 2018 "Best Colleges" guidebook for the 17<sup>th</sup> year

Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine for the 17th time

# Davis Library Cataloging Staff (as of October 2018) Paraprofessionals 16 Professionals Library science students 2 Undergraduate students 4

(as of August 2014*)	
Paraprofessionals	2
Professionals	2
Undergraduate students	1

**Health Sciences Library Staff** 

\* HSL cataloging has undergone significant changes since 2014 and currently only catalog a very small number of materials.

# **Student Work at Davis Library**

- Authority Control
  - Searched authority file for records
  - Noted mistakes/problems and gave to librarian
  - Librarian checked and gave back to student to make corrections
  - One student was so good she made corrections on her own
- Theses Inventory
  - Fixed mistakes or makes note and gives to librarian
  - Mistakes include:
    - Author name
    - Wrong physical location
    - Wrong format bib record
  - Ran macro to add inventory note and other fields
  - Student did this work with a laptop in the stacks
  - Some students were good enough to email with librarian while in the stacks and fix on the spot
- Language Specialty
  - Usually Chinese, Japanese or Korean
  - Searched OCLC for records
  - Verified Pinyin or adds to bib record
  - Verified Non-Roman script or transliterated and added to bib record
  - Fixed some reports from authority vendor

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## **Student Work at HSL**

- Inventoried Special Collections
  - Added gift plate information to bib and item records
  - Entered barcodes into ILS
  - Made call number slips
- Withdrew materials from ILS and did physical processing
- Transferred materials to different locations within library
- Processed physical materials
  - Date due slip, property stamp, call number labels, etc.
- Edited CONTENTdm records
- Sometimes helped other departments



## Conclusions

- Staff who will work with the student most should be in charge of making the hiring decision
- Like any new employee, students need a lot of training and oversight at first
- Students with the right aptitude can work independently and save staff significant time
- Keep good notes about performance you're likely to be a reference, possibly several years after the student leaves
- Consider sharing a student with another department if there's not enough work in cataloging