

Hunter's Clarion

A Publication of Hunter Library at Western Carolina University

Welcome New Library Dean, Dr. Dana Sally

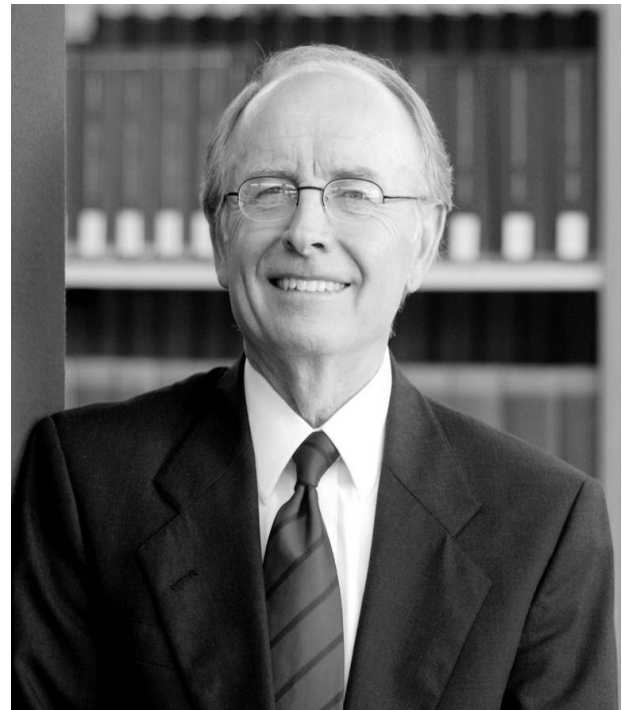
By Nancy Kolenbrander

Dana Sally, Dean of Library Services, joined the faculty of Hunter Library in February.

Q *Where do you see the field of academic librarianship going?*

A I see academic librarianship moving along two separate, but related, dimensions. First, as they always have, academic libraries will continue to identify, collect, and/or make available as much of humanity's recorded knowledge and information as possible. The big difference will be that much new information will be in visual, video, image, graphic, and audio form, and a very significant portion of it will be in digital formats. Though print will continue to be a huge and primary medium, it will be only one of a number of information "vehicles" in the future—actually this is presently the case. We've long recognized the "information" packed into an image: a thousand words? Maybe more. Simply to provide some indication of the amount of digital information currently being produced, a recent industry study (initially started at UC-Berkley) estimated that in the year 2006 alone, there was enough new digital information produced (161 exabytes) to fill 12 stacks of books from the earth to the sun. That's quite a lot of new digital information in just one year, and the rate of new information creation is accelerating. Academic libraries will have their hands full trying somehow to manage this information avalanche.

The second dimension will involve creating better means of discovering and delivering information. Academic libraries will continue to make great strides in making information easier to find and in delivering it more quickly and conveniently. In this regard, Google is clearly setting the standard right now, molding information users' behaviors and expectations. Frankly, this has been good for the field of librarianship. Despite the many legitimate concerns that surround information found on the internet,



Dr. Dana Sally, New Dean of Library Services

Google's success in discovering and delivering information has prompted libraries to continue seeking better ways of making their information available. Heightened user expectations for fast, relevant, convenient information will continue to push service improvements in these areas.

Q *How will Hunter Library develop plans to have the facility required to deliver quality services in the future?*

A Any process for meeting future facility and service needs will have to be intentionally broad-based, seeking input and feedback WCU's many constituencies. That is, planning processes will fundamentally include surveying, collecting, assessing, and taking into full account the information needs and information seeking behaviors

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of the WCU students, faculty, staff, and the larger WCU community. The expertise of professional designers and architects will also need to be part of these planning activities, as will the best practices and thinking of the library profession itself.

It is worth noting that our focus on quality, comprehensive service will mean that future plans include buildings, as well as virtual infrastructure. We will need to create both physical and online environments that support all forms of learning, discovery, exchange, design, experimentation, and instruction. It's my hope that any future library building will stand as a powerful institutional symbol of WCU's commitment to learning and the life of the mind. And that it be a building that facilitates learning by fostering and enabling the individual and group processes and exchanges that transform information into knowledge.

Q Of your significant accomplishments in academic libraries, which one would you like to bring to Hunter Library?

A Over the course of my career, I've been fortunate to be involved in a number of specific projects that have been very satisfying and meaningful for me professionally. What I hope to be able to bring to Hunter Library is a little less tangible, perhaps, but in my view, very important: that is to help create a culture in which staff thrive, enabling them to work creatively, collaboratively, and meaningfully. For service organizations, there is no more important resource than people. I hope to do all I can to serve, support, and foster the many individual and collective abilities and capacities of the staff to serve WCU's learning mission. And maybe to have some fun while we're doing it!

Q You are Dean of Library Services and hold a Ph.D. in philosophy. Would you like to share this career path?

A After earning my undergraduate degree, I entered a Ph.D. program in philosophy at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. That was during the war in Vietnam, so not long after starting this graduate program, I was drafted and spent three years in the US Army. After discharge, by which time my

wife and I had started a family, I decided not to return to graduate school in philosophy (at the time needing money more than philosophy), but to take a job as a steel worker near Pittsburgh. Wrong decision. Seven months later when the United Steel Workers went on strike, I entered library school at Pitt. Thus my career in librarianship was launched. Some eight years later, while working as a librarian at UNC-Chapel Hill, I restarted a Ph.D. program in philosophy there, and worked on the degree part-time for nearly eight years, finishing in 1991. Counting my initial work in philosophy at IU in the early seventies, my wife has affectionately pointed out that I worked on this degree over three different decades. This is technically true, though the eight years part-time at UNC-Chapel Hill constituted the degree. At the time, I was told that I was the first student to successfully pursue the degree part-time. Reflecting on the experience now—nearly 20 years out—I'd not recommend that degree approach.

Q What influence or advantage does your Ph.D. in philosophy bring to your current job position?

A There have been numerous personal and professional influences, advantages, and satisfactions in getting a subject Ph.D. First, it allowed me to get some teaching experience. In terms of working as an academic librarian, that's been helpful. It also gave me first-hand experience with the research and creative scholarship process. Pursuing the degree taught me "tons" about the *process* of learning and creating, about the importance of hard work and persistence, but also about the satisfactions of such work. In those ways, it was a transformative experience for me. In one, perhaps perverse, way, my military and Ph.D. experiences were similar: I wouldn't want to repeat either, but I'm glad I did both.

Somewhere in all that, I also came away with a much deeper appreciation of having access to all the thinking of numerous great minds. That was critical. And the great libraries at Chapel Hill and Duke made that intellectual gift possible.

Q Why are you excited about working for Hunter Library and Western Carolina University?

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New Spaces and Space Planning Initiatives

By Kevin Unrath

If you've been in Hunter Library recently, you've likely noticed at least one of the many changes that have occurred over the past year. Along with new and changing library resources and services, a number of affiliated University centers for teaching and learning have relocated to the Library. Now, Western's four campus Academic Success Centers – the CAT Center, Student Technology Assistance Center, Writing Center, and Math Tutoring Center – are all located in or near the Library, creating a single destination for academic assistance of all sorts: research, writing, technology, and tutoring.



New Student Presentation Practice Room

The Hunter Computer Lab, along with the student and faculty Technology Assistance Center desks, have moved to the ground floor of the Library closer to Information Technology Client Services, which is now located in the ground floor connector to Stillwell. In the near future, the Lab will expand to include an information technology commons with flexible classroom and collaborative technology spaces.

Within the Library, the map collection has relocated to the first floor, allowing it to be open and accessible whenever the building is open. Ten additional graduate study rooms will shortly re-open for student use on the lower mezzanine, where the map collection was formerly housed. In addition, the Library has opened a Student Presentation Practice Room on the ground floor. This space provides a place where students, individually or in groups, can collaborate to create, practice, and view presentations using multimedia equipment and software. More than 150 groups have already used this space since it opened in October.

These changes are the beginning of a long-term goal to redesign Library space for the 21st century. The Library's Space Planning Futures Group is working on a plan to look anew at the Library and make recommendations for improving the facility three to four years into the future. Nancy Kolenbrander, Krista Schmidt, Robin Hitch, Heath Martin, and chair Kevin Unrath are the library faculty and staff who make up the Group's current roster.

The Futures Group began its work by examining current trends in academic library design appearing in the library literature. Of particular importance to the group has been Scott Bennett's *Libraries Designed for Learning*, a sweeping study of the impact of technological and pedagogical changes on academic library design in the last decade of the 20th century. The full report, published by the Council on Library and Information Resources, can be downloaded at: <http://www.clir.org/pubs/abstract/pub122abst.html>

The group next visited four recently built or renovated academic libraries in North Carolina to observe strategies employed by Hunter's peers in improving library space. Site visits included: Belk Library at Elon University, completed in 2000; Bostock Library at Duke, completed in 2005; Hill Library Learning Commons at NCSU, renovated in 2007; House Undergraduate Library at Chapel Hill, renovated in 2001; and Cameron Village Public Library in Raleigh, which has received multiple awards for quality and environmentally friendly design.

The Futures Group has been busy gathering feedback from people at Western to gauge perceptions of library space and gather suggestions for improvement. Student focus groups were facilitated by a team of business students from Professor Paul Jacques' leadership class as part of a service learning project. Discussions were held with library faculty and staff, and Library liaisons are currently requesting feedback from faculty. The Group also plans to spend a week in late April observing user behavior in the building at all times of the day and night in order to document actual user activity patterns and trends.

The Group will report their findings to the Dean of Library Services in July. If you have any ideas to share, the Space Planning Futures Group would love to hear them! Please feel free to call Kevin Unrath at 1-828-227-3405 or email him at unrath@email.wcu.edu.

Craft Revival News

Fariello Named Museology Specialist



Craft Revival Project Director Anna Fariello has been named Museology Specialist Peer Reviewer for the US Fulbright Commission. She is a former Fulbright Senior Scholar to Latin America, where she taught courses in museum Collections and

Administration and conducted a study of government-run museums in Panama. Last fall, Fariello presented two workshops for North Carolina's Museums in Partnership group, one on exhibit planning and the other on the Hunter Library's digital collection. Her spring talk, "Woman-to-Woman: The Southern Craft Revival" was the key note address for the 2008 WCU Gender Conference.

.Hunter Library to Document Cherokee Crafts

Hunter Library submitted two grants to support its digital collection focused on the region's Craft Revival. A grant to the Cherokee Preservation Foundation provides research support to document the arts of the Cherokee during the first part of the 20th century. Joining Hunter Library in this project are two key Cherokee organizations, Qualla Arts and Crafts Mutual and the Museum of the Cherokee Indian. Project partners will produce a booklet on Cherokee arts and contribute to the Library's online digital archive.

A second grant, submitted to the NC State Library, will provide a fourth year of support to the Craft Revival project. This project aims to document a dynamic movement that contributed to the culture and economy of the region by reviving hand skills and marketing handcrafted products. Hunter Library's Craft revival website tells the story of the Revival, its people, and products. The grant request includes funding to scan and catalog historic documents and photographs relating to western North Carolina crafts, craftspeople, and organizations. Digital items with corresponding descriptive metadata will be added to the project's database at <http://craftrevival.wcu.edu>. To date, the database includes over 2,500 pages of text, photographs, craft objects, sound clips, and 360-degree panoramic, interactive photographs.



Anna Fariello examines a basket with a colleague.

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A For me, there are multiple layers of excitement. My initial excitement centered on returning to work in the UNC system, one that I've known to have a long, genuine, and esteemed history of valuing education for the people of North Carolina. Coupled with that was the excitement of having the opportunity to continue working in a regional university like WCU, especially one that has such a distinctive, beautiful, and worthy region to serve. I was also terribly attracted by

the Millennial Initiative notion.

A decisive layer of excitement was created by the prospect of working with the Hunter Library staff. They are wonderful people and dedicated professionals. I was, and continue to be, excited about working with them, continuing to do good things for the library and campus.

Oh...did I mention the mountains...and the sweet little black cat that adopted us shortly after moving in? 'Gotta give them their "proprs."

New Web Presence Highlights Leisure Reading Collection

By Heath Martin

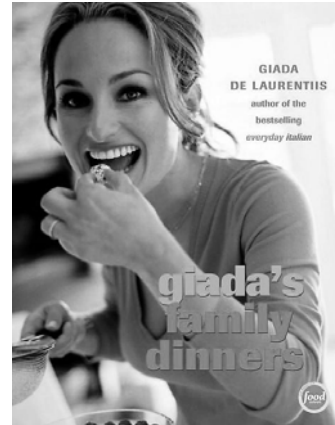
In February, Hunter Library announced the launch of its new Leisure Reading website. The site offers features and reviews of books in the collection, written by in-house experts. You will also find lists and links for the newest titles, information we have assembled on recent award-winning titles in several genres, and readers' advisory resources provided by the library, such as the Fiction Connection and

NoveList.

Established several years ago with the help of the Friends of Hunter Library, the Leisure Reading collection offers a diverse selection of fiction and nonfiction titles selected with the general enjoyment and edification of the WCU community in mind. The collection has grown in size and popularity over the years. And we recently welcomed a new addition, Serenity Richards, to our panel of book selectors for the collection. Serenity, who also works in the library's Cataloging Unit, brings expertise in the areas of graphic novels and science fiction, so expect even more interesting titles in those areas soon.

Taken together, the growth of the Leisure Reading collection and the new website represent an expansion of service to the WCU community and further reinforce the core values of Hunter Library, most notably education and lifelong learning and adaptability to the evolving needs of the university community. Through greater interactivity available on the new website, including features like a book recommendation system and the chance for students, staff, and faculty to review books themselves, the library hopes to increase user involvement and offer a co-curricular point of synthesis with the library's primary academic mission.

The new Leisure Reading website can be found at <http://www.wcu.edu/5674.asp>.



Non-fiction

Your Guide – Heidi Buchanan



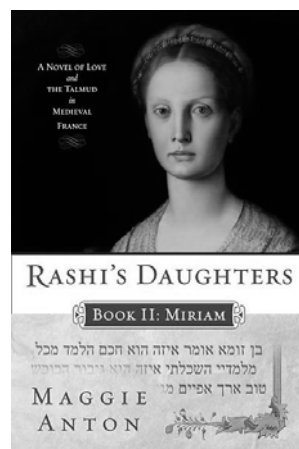
Mystery

Your Guide – Eva Cook



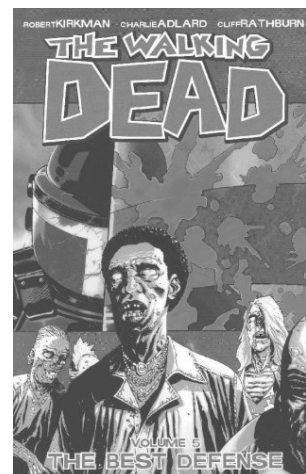
Science Fiction

Your Guide – Jill Ellhern



Romance

Your Guide – Sharon McLaurin



Horror

Your Guide – Serenity Richards

Hunter Library Welcomes...



Suzanne Raether

By Susan Metcalf

Suzanne Raether has joined Hunter Library's Interlibrary Loan department as the lending and document delivery assistant. She comes to us from Louisiana State

University Library, where she also worked in interlibrary loan after obtaining her degree in English Literature from LSU. Suzanne says her father pressured her into her first library job at the Baton Rouge Parish Public Library. There she came to love library work. Thanks to patronage from a law librarian, she took a year off to write a novel in Houston, and rushed back to the world of interlibrary loan when it ended.

Along with her literature degree, she had a concentration in folklore, and wrote an ethnography on Louisiana drag queens and performance commentary. She also presented a lecture on her research at the Louisiana Folklore Society's symposium. She is currently collaborating with a photographer from Asheville on a book entitled *We All Walk*, featuring photos of people walking around the globe. In the fall she will be enrolled in the Master of Library Science online program from UNC-Central and is looking forward to becoming a librarian.

Suzanne loves nature, hiking, running, and cooking, especially Cajun cuisine. In her spare time she writes, paints, spins fire and plays pranks on the unsuspecting. In addition to her professional and literary/artistic pursuits, she also plans on blooming into a fantastic grant writer. She is happy and excited to be working with the lovely Hunter Library staff and faculty and is looking forward to future opportunities for development and outreach within the Western Carolina University campus.



Beth Breedlove

By Tim Carstens

Since Beth is the type of person who appreciates a biblical allusion, I'd like to like to entitle this profile, "Beth Breedlove, the Prodigal Daughter." Beth previously worked for Hunter Library in both the

Serials Unit and the Catalog Unit. Then she moved to

Charlotte and worked for Queens University. Unlike the Prodigal Son, she did not get in trouble while "away" but instead made herself useful by working on serials, cataloging and interlibrary loan. Soon she and her husband remembered how much they loved the mountains and moved back to western North Carolina. Like the Prodigal Son she was welcomed back to her "home" in Hunter Library with open arms. She now works for the Catalog Unit.

Beth is currently training to be an 090 cataloger. 090 catalogers work on more difficult books that have not previously been cataloged by the Library of Congress. Beth likes to learn new things and she enjoys working in the library because her job provides her with many challenges without causing her too much stress.

Beth was born in DeKalb, Illinois and grew up in Georgia, New York, California and Illinois. After graduating from high school she attended Illinois Wesleyan for two years where she studied accounting. After this, she worked for the Bursars Office at Northern Illinois University and then joined the U.S. Navy in 1984. While in the Navy she became a cytological technician, lived in Japan for a year and a half, and married her husband Chris. After leaving the Navy she spent a few more years working in accounting before finally finding her true calling at Hunter Library.

Beth and Chris have a chocolate Labrador retriever named Deacon, a terrier named Dixie and a black and white cat named Nikita. She enjoys reading, mountain biking and, yes, attending Bible study classes with her husband.



Elizabeth Williams

By Kevin Unrath

Hunter Library welcomes our new Circulation and Special Projects Assistant, Elizabeth Williams. You may already know Elizabeth from her roles as a student assistant in the library, starting in January 2005,

and then as a full-time temporary employee at the circulation desk

Elizabeth is a 2006 graduate of Western, with a major in history and a minor in Spanish. A lifelong resident of Graham County, Elizabeth has always enjoyed the people and places of western North Carolina and saw no need to go away for college. She

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Williams

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decided after working at Hunter Library that libraries were a wonderful place to be. To further her opportunities in the field, Elizabeth plans to pursue a Master of Library Science degree via distance education starting this fall.

Elizabeth's main job duties include staffing the circulation desk, coordinating ABC-Express delivery services, and processing print course reserves.

A favorite part of working in these varied roles, Elizabeth says, is "how friendly and supportive the coworkers and staff are." The easy access to historical fiction and local history reads is another great benefit, she says, as reading books of all sorts, but especially these genres, is one of her favorite pastimes.

Elizabeth enjoys helping to lead Sunday school classes and Bible study at her church. She has done extensive volunteer work, including an internship, with the Stecoah Valley Center, which promotes southern Appalachian culture and the arts. And congratulations are in order as Elizabeth is in the midst of planning her wedding this August to Zachary Marcus, also of Graham County!

Marcie Dowling



By George Frizzell

Marcie Dowling joined the Library as the Special Collections Assistant in February. She has a degree in library science from the University of Illinois. She also holds a B.A. in English literature and a second B.A. in writing and political science. In her position, she arranges and annotates

manuscript collections to make them accessible to patrons and provides reference service for Special Collections holdings.

Previously, Marcie worked at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville as a special collections assistant. During a previous practicum at the Estate, Marcie processed a collection later used in Bill Alexander's *The Biltmore Nursery: A Botanical Legacy*. She also worked at the Presbyterian Historical Society, in Montreat, N.C., as an archives assistant, and assisted in preparing the

collection for its eventual move to Philadelphia.

Marcie was born in St. Louis, Mo., but grew up primarily in Chicago. She and her husband now live in Arden. Her favorite hobby is quilting, an interest and skill she learned from her grandmother. She also enjoys the outdoors and hiking with her hound dog, Ty, as well as traveling and reading. Her favorite author is Virginia Woolf, whose unique style and interesting life Marcie finds fascinating. Marcie even had the opportunity to live on Bloomsbury Square, London, where Woolf spent much of her life. During that same semester in Britain, trips to famous libraries and collections sparked Marcie's interest in preservation and special collections.



Margaret Watson

By Nancy Kolenbrander

Margaret Watson joined the Library in the fall of 2007 as the library's business manager. This is a new position created to take responsibility for tracking the library budget and assisting the associate library director with personnel

actions. Margaret came to the library from NCCAT where she had worked in multiple roles in the budget and personnel offices.

Margaret was born and raised in Martinsville Virginia where she lived until she was 13. The last three years in Martinsville were spent in an orphanage. She appreciates the Christian character of the home that helped her develop strength of character and made her a more compassionate person. Margaret lived in Winston-Salem from ages 13-18 at which time she fell in love with the man who became her husband and moved to Jackson County where she has lived for the past 32 years.

She enjoys the personnel aspects of the position for the opportunities it offers to help library staff. Due to her knowledge of personnel rules and her desire to help, she usually solves problems. Margaret also enjoys working with numbers and reconciling the budget, knowing that the job was well done.

In her spare time Margaret enjoys reading, playing the piano and cooking for her family. She sees Jackson County as a great place to raise children and enjoys the fact that people smile when they pass you on the street.

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In appreciation to Bil Stahl



Hunter Library would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Bil Stahl for the eight years of innovative leadership he provided for Hunter Library from 2000 – 2008. Stahl served in a dual role from March of 2005 to January of 2008 as University Librarian and Chief Information Officer (CIO). Stahl's varied competencies were an asset to Hunter Library. His vision, political awareness, and his devotion to supporting the mission of the university were strengths that enabled him to move projects forward. Stahl's many other contributions include the development of the Craft Revival Project, strong leadership in the WNCLN regional library network, and the creation of a model of hiring subject-specialist librarians who work directly with faculty in an academic discipline. He continues to serve at Western as Associate Provost and CIO.