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The Need to Preserve: Challenges and Opportunities in Collecting the History of a Young University

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The Need to Preserve: Challenges and Opportunities in Collecting the History of a Young University

Aisha M. Johnson-Jones, PhD Head of Special Collections and Archives Thomas G. Carpenter Library University of North Florida

There is Gold in the Mountains!

- Value in Special Collections and University Archives
 - Collect, preserve and disseminate information on a particular regions' or cultural experiences.
 - Support academic studies.
 - Help include _____ into national and world narratives.
 - Fill gaps in scholarship concerning a variety of topics.
 - Recruit and train future archivists, librarians, educators, and curators.

Methods of Acquisitions

Development = major advocacy and outreach efforts

- Special Collections and Archives no longer a desk position.
- We want your stuff!
- Donations
 - Faculty, staff, alumni, and community members.
 - State, governmental and local black businesses, organizations and clubs.
- Training others to be a mouthpiece.

Challenges in Acquisitions

- Funding or lack there of...
- Donors (Materials)
- Access post Preservation
 - Conditions on digitizing
- Legal Issues
- Training others to be a mouthpiece
- Support

Situational Development

- Every challenge is an opportunity in disguise
- Situational Development
 - A variety of approaches for each category of donors
- Educating on the importance of the preserving the history.
- Relationship Building
 - University & Community

Continued Advocacy

- Survival and development depends on advocacy and outreach.
- Assures preservation of important personal papers, manuscripts, artifacts, organizational records, and university archives.
- Records solidify accuracy and inclusion of all.
- Research opportunities for faculty, staff, and students (internal and external).

Contact Information



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