Online access to information increasingly spans the gap between traditional and innovative resources that are the Digital Library and Archives. Changing our name from Scholarly Communications Project was not too difficult and with excellent students we were able to unify the department's Web presence with a new department logo and uniform footers. This year we increased the number of Web sites hosting information; the usability of several DLA systems such as the IAWA Biographic Database; ETD processing, the VT ImageBase; and survey data gathering and results displays. One huge advantage of the survey system is that it continually gathers data and tabulates results as each survey is completed, providing immediate feed-back. This would be particularly invaluable if there was more time and staff to implement what we learn from DLA clients! Among our major acquisitions was the Judge William M. Harris Collection of correspondence, poetry, and maps; the Peacock-Harper Culinary Collection; and new additions to the International Archive of Women in Architecture.

The numerous accomplishments listed below are the results of a hard working and dedicated staff who take great pride the making the unique resources they gather, organize, and protect available to an ever increasing audience. Gerri Schadd is off to a good start, learning local policies, meeting donors, and processing collections. Tamara Kennelly accomplished so as is evidenced by her many, many new and improved Web sites; she also assumed additional administrative responsibilities. Tony Atkins had a rough time keeping up with everyone's suggestions for programming and system improvements, but he hired and trained to a high level several excellent student assistants. Joyce Nester worked with Technical Services and OCLC to gather required information for cataloging over 4000 titles from the Billings Civil War Collection and over 500 titles in the recently acquire Peacock-Harper Culinary Collection. Jan Carlton managed nearly 1000 hours of volunteers and reorganized the Reading and Rare Book Rooms. Gail McMillan continually to be very active professionally, making presentations in Australia, Florida, Arizona, and Ohio; as well as conducting numerous virtual tours of the department for local as well as international visitors.
Staff shortages and changes this year will follow into next year with Jan's retirement and Eric not returning from educational leave until January. Clerical assistance would relieve the experience staff time-consuming interactions with ULFS, Banner, and the Materials Acquisitions Systems. With the growing sophistication of the unit, comes the desire to continually do more and do it better. Additional staff would make it possible to more evenly manage ongoing projects such as ETDs, ejournals, EReserve, ImageBase, News, as well as the processing of manuscript, archival, and rare book collections, while at the same time devoting some staff time to better collaborative efforts with similar activities going on outside the library.

I. Teaching and Learning

EReserve


Instruction

- ART 4384: History of Photography
- EDCI 5774: Electronic Publishing, Nov. 3
- ENGL 5134: Teaching the 18th Century
- ENGL 1106: Composition [3 sessions]
- HIST 4725: Appalachian Studies
- FDI Summer 1999: Copyright for Tracks D and F (Distance & Distributed Learning). Copyright and ETDs for New Faculty Orientation

Volunteers

- 998 hours worked--VT Honors System, New River Community Corrections, retired VT faculty and staff

II. Research Competitiveness

Grants—successes and new applications

- $250,000 NEH grant for Virginia Heritage Project; create database of African-American history and culture in the Commonwealth; with University of Virginia, College of William and Mary, George Mason University, Old Dominion University, and Virginia Commonwealth University
• $10,000 grant from OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) for white paper: "ETDs and Libraries"
• $1,000 from VT Foundation International Travel Supplemental Grant to support McMillan’s keynote presentation at the Victoria Association for Library Automation, Melbourne, Australia, Feb.
• Contributed to NSF grant application by Dr. Saifur Rahman, electrical engineering, "A Digital Library Network for Engineering and Technology”
• Co-PI on FIPSE grant application with Dr. John Eaton, Dr. Edward Fox, “Graduate Student Development Initiative and Open Archives”
• Support NFS digital library grant from International Technology Education Association to create a digital library of K-12+ curriculum materials
• Library Advisory Committee member, Bioethics Digital Library Project, NSF grant proposal by LeRoy Walters, Director, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University

Increased the Collection
• Judge Wm. M. Harris Collection was purchased with support from Wallace Foundation and library's Materials Budget (http://spec.lib.vt.edu/civwar/Harris/letters1.html) The Harris collection includes extensive correspondence with his wife 1863-1865, a few bound volumes, including some small pocket diaries of his wife's and her mother's documenting their slaves (names, shoe sizes, etc.).
  • Added 700 Civil War titles, 126 other titles
  • Sent 3,800 additional Civil War titles to OCLC for cataloging
  • With Ann Hertzler, began the Peacock-Harper Culinary Collection; 530 titles to date
    • Created Web site: http://spec.lib.vt.edu/culinary/
  • 1312 VPI publications routed to Technical Services (adds, cataloging, etc.)
  • * John C. Rogers rare books donation (81), including autographed Langston Hughes’
  • BEV: Blacksburg Electronic Village Archives.

Service
• Hours Reading Room open/staff at service point ______________
  • Online Reference: “Ask a Librarian” link on DLA homepage generated 150 reference inquiries; Virtual Reference Desk: 40 inquiries
• Internet accesses: ______________
• Special Collections hosted extraordinary researchers
• Mescher (No. VA, 4 weeks) transcribing 1000 pages in Adkinsson Store Ledger for raw data on family economics during 1860s
• Heppenheimer (California, two days) reviewed NASA documents
• Cordula Mohr, Hamburg, Germany perused IAWA for dissertation topic
• Hart (Birmingham, Ala., two days) N&W on campus and Storage

III. Outreach and Economic Development
Through virtual tours, building Web sites, and committee participation, DLA reached a wide community of library users. See also accompanying charts.
• Centralized Student Services’ Orientation for New Students
• Cultural diversity: *

Christiansburg Institute
• "A CENTURY OF CONTRIBUTION: CHRISTIANSBURG INSTITUTE AND EDUCATIONAL CHANGE IN VIRGINIA," Anna Fariello, exhibition curator. Opened in Squires May 19; will tour state


• Louretta Wimberly: African American Preservation Alliance; photographs from HUM 4414-3040, April 3, 2000 presentation

• Virginia Heritage Project: create database of African-American history and culture in the Commonwealth (with NEH funding to VT, UVa, and others)
http://spec.lib.vt.edu/viva/VHP/

• VT Black History Project (oral history): Jim Watkins, 1st 50
• Exhibitions: Local and Remote
  • Civil War Weekend at VT; medical books for physicians conference at Hotel Roanoke:

IAWA [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/exhibits/IAWA/window1/](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/exhibits/IAWA/window1/)

• Preston Frazier at Wallace and Lyric Theater (with Eric Wiedegreen)
• Virginia Tech’s Bowl Games and Student Life: Activities and Publications at Squires
• VT Baseball and Track at the Turn of the Century
• 30th Anniversary of Moon Walk: Michael Collin
• [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/exhibits/IAWA/window1/](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/exhibits/IAWA/window1/)

• Virtual Tours
  • Dr. Friedhelm Rump, June 1
  • Swedish Librarians visiting VTLS, Nov. 18, 1999
  • David Brugh, Development Office, Nov. 16, 1999
  • University of Tennessee at Information Systems, Nov. 22, 1999
  • Brigham Young University representatives, Dec. 1
  • ACITC, March 27, 2000 [http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/presentations/DLA4ACITC.pdf](http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/presentations/DLA4ACITC.pdf)
  • Dr. Vitalis Musewe, Coordinator of the African Regional Postgraduate Program in InsectScience (ARPPIS), of the International Center of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), based in Nairobi, Kenya., May 9
  • ETDs
    • Peter Schumaker, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, June 11
    • Case Western Reserve University, Sept. 21-22, with Dean John Eaton
    • Arizona State University, Tucson, Oct. 8, with Dean Len Peters
    • Naval Post Graduate School representatives, Nov. 1
• Virginia Commonwealth University representatives, April 10
• Université catholique de Louvain, May 3

**Web: New Sites and Collections (processing complete)**

- **Commandants of Cadets: 1872-2000**
  [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/arc/125th/cadets/command.htm](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/arc/125th/cadets/command.htm)
- **Confederates in the Collegium: The Influence of J. W. B. Stuart’s Leadership on the Development of Virginia Tech**
- **President Eggleston** [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/archivs/archguid/eggleston/](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/archivs/archguid/eggleston/)
- * **Marva Felder: 1st Black Homecoming Queen**
  [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/bwhp/marva/marva.htm](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/bwhp/marva/marva.htm)
- **Images of the President’s House**
- * **Timeline of Black History at Virginia Tech**
  [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/arc/bltime/intro.htm](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/arc/bltime/intro.htm)
- **VT Dean Richard Talbot** [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/mss/talbot.htm](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/mss/talbot.htm)
- **VT Departmental Histories** [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/arc/depthistory/](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/arc/depthistory/)
- **History of Plant Pathology at VT: 110th Celebration**
  [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/arc/ppws/plant.htm](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/arc/ppws/plant.htm)

**Web: Substantially Upgraded Sites**

- **Christiansburg Institute Manuscripts Guide** [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/mss/cii.htm](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/mss/cii.htm)
- **ETDs: quadrants for users, authors, libraries, NDLTD**
- Assumed responsibility for [http://etd.vt.edu](http://etd.vt.edu) (student-focused ETD site)
- **Electronic Journal homepage redesigned**
  [http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals](http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals)
- **IAWA** [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/iawa/](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/iawa/)

**IV. Information Technology**

- **DLA: Addressed important issues: content accessibility guidelines, archiving, etc.**
• ETDs: software upgrades; improved reliability, consistency, adaptability for NDLTD members; practice submission site http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/
• Electronic Journals http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/
  • Virginia Libraries http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/VALib/
  • Journal of the Japanese Society for Technology Education (English abstracts only) http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/ejournals/JJSTE/
  • Discussion begun: Journal of Computer Science and Technology, Graduate Network of Argentine Universities (includes funding); Journal of Vocational and Educational Research, Dr. Wm. G. Camp (VT)
• Linbot: Automated Web link checker (Internet freeware) installed to improve quality control of all DLA publications. Automated reporting generates weekly accounting; students reestablish links where possible.
• Mirroring: automated mirroring of MITpress ejournals. Faithful copies of the entire run of each mirrored journal are updated every weekend, and notices are sent to staff each week indicating the success or failure of the mirroring (so far, there have been no failures).
• Moved Technology for All Americans link to permanent site of national organization
• News: integrating DLA newspaper archives and Reference Dept.’s index http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/news_index (Did not follow through on fall 1999 proposal from WDBJ7 to provide streamed video over the Web of their newscasts.)
• Survey Database http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/surveys/
  • Hugely revamped including customizable results http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/surveys/admin/view_results.php3
  • Used locally to gather and tabulate data: ETD authors, ETD users, EReserve users, librarians re assessing technology based projects
  • Used remotely by University of Windsor librarian who surveyed publishers about ETDs and question of prepublication
• VPIEJ-L moved to university listserv service
• VT ImageBase http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/imagebase/
  • upgrade for use by VT Foundation/Arts Inventory
  • working with Art & Art History to transfer digital slide library
V. Internationalizing the University

- Australia: represented Virginia Tech, digital library and ETD presentations to
  - Victoria (Australia) Association for Library Automation, Feb. 17, 2000
  - Australian National University and local Library Association, Feb. 22

- Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations
  - Advisory Board participation; 3\textsuperscript{rd}-4\textsuperscript{th} International Symposiums Planning Committees
  - Improved submission software customizability; included language support; improved metadata harvesting

- Hosted international researchers
  - Joan Dalton, University of Windsor Library, resulted in survey of publishers about ETDs, used DLA Web survey system, summer
  - Nuno Freire (Portugal, four weeks) digital library research—Z39.50
  - Pablo de la Fuente, University of Valladolid, Spain, digital library research—multilingual access
  - Dr. Vitalis Musewe, African Regional Postgraduate Program in Insect Science, Nairobi, Kenya
  - Dr. Hans Selberg, research librarian, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Sept. 9, 1999
  - Yin-Leng Thing, Middlesex University, computer science, digital library research, Aug. 5

  - Participated in evaluation of applications for the first Bliznakov Award [http://spec.lib.vt.edu/IAWA/BlizPriz2.html](http://spec.lib.vt.edu/IAWA/BlizPriz2.html)
  - Hosted the annual board meeting, mounted exhibition Biographical Database upgraded to real-time upgrades, Web search/browse [http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/iawa_db/](http://lumiere.lib.vt.edu/iawa_db/)
  - Hired Federica Goffi, Italian graduate student, to process collections
  - Created Web access to newsletters, Executive Board minutes

VI. Interdisciplinary Cooperation

- Arts Inventory
- Center for Digital Discourse and Culture, Advisory Board
- Faculty Development Initiative
• Electronic Theses and Dissertations, Advisory Committee
• Grant applications: collaborated with or supported Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, Technology Education, Science and Technology Studies
• Institute for Distance and Distributed Learning, Advisory Board
• International Archive of Women in Architecture http://spec.lib.vt.edu/iawa/
• Promotion and Continued Appointment Review Panel
• Southern Appalachian Humanities Center, NEH Grant Planning Committee
• University Minutes Archive http://spec.lib.vt.edu/minutes/ with Distributed Information Sys.
• 50th Anniversary Celebration: Department of Biochemistry

VII. Publications
• McMillan, Gail. College & Research Libraries News
  • Scholarly Communications column co-editor beginning Jan. 2000
  http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/presentations/ETDs2000/CRLNews.html
• Conference Proceedings
• McMillan, Gail. "Perspectives on Electronic Theses and Dissertations:
VIII. Presentations

- Carlton, Jan. “Where to Begin Your Civil War Genealogy,” Civil War Weekend March 18
- Carlton, Jan, with Joyce Nester. “Ornithology Collections at Virginia Tech’s Special Collections,” VT Faculty Women’s Club Bird-Watchers, Feb. 29

  http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/staff/gailmac/presentations/NCA3ppt.pdf
- ETDs (Gail McMillan)
  - “Electronic Theses and Dissertations: Eliminating Borders,” Rare Books and Manuscripts Conference, Association of College and Research Libraries, Montreal, June 22, 1999
    http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/presentations/ETDs4RBMS.pdf
  - Case Western Reserve University Digital Library Seminar: “What to Expect from ETDs: If you build it, they will come,” Sept. 21, 1999.
    http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/staff/gailmac/presentations/CWRUGMc2.pdf
  - “Perspectives on Electronic Theses and Dissertations: Authors, Advisors, Readers” for 4th International Conference New Frontiers in Grey
Literature Oct. 4, 1999

• “A Campus Resource: Electronic Theses and Dissertations,” International Scholars Forum, University of Western Australia, Feb. 25, 2000
http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/theses/presentations/2VAsHand.pdf
http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/presentations/ETDs2000/2VAs.ppt

Staff
Student assistants were particularly effective in Special Collections: reshelving, shelf reading the Rare Book Room, reorganizing collections to improve space utilization, and Web page development and maintenance. In Scholarly Communications they converted logs to Excel, applied HTML markup, fixed broken links, and improved consistency of older ejournals.

Continuing Education
• Tony Atkins began masters program in human computer interaction
• Eric Ackermann took educational leave for MLS program at University of Tennessee
• Workshops attended: Building the Earth’s Largest Library, Oct. 28, IBCOLSA teleconference; Creating Brochures with MS Word, April 27, NMC; CSA Training, Aug. 11; Data Gathering for Dummies, Solinet, Oct. 6; Diversity: Kickoff, Black Studies, Corps of Cadets; Emergency Procedures June 9; Internet 2, Sept. 17; Leveraging Differences: Optimizing Results, April 25; Libraries, Copyright, and the Internet, Oct. 14, PBS teleconference; Meeting Maker, Aug. 5; Metadata, Solinet, Nov. 4; OVID Training, Aug. 23; Personal Safety, Sept. 9; Making Effective Presentations, March 8, CEUT; Segregation, Desegregation, and Re-segregation: Lessons Learned about Equity in Our
Schools; Using Acrobat Web Capture for Canned Presentations, April 12; NMC; Virginia Humanities Conference, April 1; VIVA User’s Training, March 7; What’s a Librarian to Do? May 25 (teleconference); Writing Effectively, Nov. 10 (Sorrentino)