

The Stacks

Marx Library, University of South Alabama

Discovering Library Resources

The Dean's Corner

Winter 2014

November 17, 2014

“Discovery” is the latest catchword in academic librarianship and it is meant to convey the need for library systems to retrieve the totality of information resources a library offers its users. While the discovery concept is nothing new; it has evolved significantly in tandem with the types of formats that libraries have collected, acquired or licensed — from print and microforms to digital content — using varying acquisitions and licensing models, including open access .

The purpose of the old card catalog was, of course, to make the physical holdings (books, journals, documents) of the library accessible to its users. Visualize the author, title, and subject catalog cards arranged

alphabetically in rows of specialty file cabinets. The card catalog at USA was replaced in the 1980s by the online catalog (SOUTHcat 1.0) which had the same discovery purpose as the card catalog, but was searchable from any networked or internet accessible workstation. Since the advent of the world wide web, the Library's web page does that AND links to USA libraries full-text journal articles from any internet accessible workstation, smartphone, and other mobile device.

Since at least 2000, however, library users at USA



and elsewhere have wanted not only the content of physical library resources but also *virtual* library resources, including journal articles, to be accessible through the library's system. Students want to be able to print, download or email articles from anywhere at any time from both the libraries' physical AND virtual information resources.

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The Marx Free Library

Need something fun to read but don't want to go to the hassle of looking a book up in the library catalog, determining where to find the book, and then checking it out? Check out

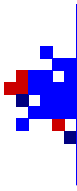
the Marx Free Library instead!

Taking a page from the [Little Free Library](#) movement's book, the Marx Library has created its own little free library. This small collection



is located within the Marx Library's Instructional

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New Cataloging Librarian

The Cataloging Department of the Marx Library welcomed its newest member, Jia He, on September 15, 2014. Jia is the Cataloging/Electronic Resources Librarian, Assistant Librarian.

She has her Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin-

Milwaukee and holds a Master of Information Science from Tianjin Normal University, China.

In addition to her cataloging duties, Jia will serve as the library representative for International Studies and for the Foreign Languages & Literatures Department.

Welcome Jia to the Marx Library and the University of South Alabama!

*Muriel Nero
Head of Cataloging*

New Instruction Librarian to Start December 1, 2014

The Reference & Instruction Department of the Marx Library would like to welcome our new Instructional Services Librarian, Jason Ezell. Jason comes to USA with a combined background in librarianship and teaching.

Having received a B.A. (Maryville College) and M.A. (University of Virginia) in English literature, Jason received his M.S.I.S. from the University of Tennessee. He has taught first-year composition, freshman research seminars, speech, ESL, and an experiential

course on the documentary impulse.

Before transitioning into academic librarianship, he worked as a humanities specialist in the Memphis Public Library. In the academic library setting, Jason's work has focused on the development and implementation of library instruction programs, with a focus on first-year instruction; library instruction assessment; distance librarianship; online embedded librarianship; and interlibrary loan.

Jason has participated in ACRL Immersion

(program track) and in the ACRL Assessment in Action grant. He is also currently pursuing a PhD in American Studies with the University of Maryland. During his free time, Jason enjoys poetry and film, day trips and pho.

*Kathy Wheeler
Head of Reference
& Instruction*



New Head of Access Services

Angela Rand, while not new to the USA Libraries in general, is new to the Marx Library.

Angela has been at the USA Baldwin County campus for seven years, where she was the Head of Information for Distance Programs.

On August 15, Angela received tenure and was promoted to Associate Librarian. In October, she moved to the Marx Li-

brary and became the new Head of Access Services.

Angela is currently writing her dissertation proposal for her doctorate in Instructional Design. Her cat, Zander, who has "helped" her during this process, turned 1 on October 2.



*Kathy Wheeler
Head of Reference
& Instruction*



The Marx Free Library

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Media Center on the First Floor North, right by the comfy furniture. It is meant to provide leisure reading for the USA community and for patrons of the Library.

The Marx Free Library operates on a very loose "take a book, leave a book" model. Patrons can take any book with the red jaguar paw sticker on the spine.

These books do not have to be checked out or re-

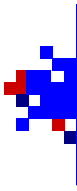
turned. If you would like to return a book, bring it back anytime and drop it off on the shelf underneath the *Returns & Donations* sign.

Patrons who would like to contribute their own books to the Marx Free Library collection can simply leave them on the shelf under the *Returns & Donations* sign. We'll be happy to place them in

our collection for others to enjoy.

*Kathy Wheeler
Head of Reference & Instruction*





Charge Your Phone!



Is your phone almost dead and your charger is in your home or office?

Don't leave the library. Come charge your phone at our new charging station located in the Computer Lab on the 3rd Floor South.

This charging station can charge up to 8 devices and includes:

- (2) standard USB Ports.

*Beth Shepard
Reference & Instruction
Librarian*

- (2) Micro USB
- (2) Apple Lightning 8 pin
- (2) Apple 30 pin

Marx Library Streaming Video Collections

The Marx Library now has access to two new collections of streaming online videos, *Ambrose Digital Video Library*, and *psychotherapy.net*.

Ambrose Digital Video Library includes a wide range of programs on history, geography and other sciences, art, music, literature, drama, and sociology/anthropology. Renowned series such as *The Ascent of Man* and the BBC Shakespeare Plays are included. The videos can be searched by keyword or browsed by title. USA will have access to the complete

Ambrose collection of 566 videos at least until the end of December, 2014.

psychotherapy.net is a collection of training videos in the field of psychotherapy. The videos include many of psychotherapists actually working with patients. The videos can be searched by keyword or browsed by Approach, Therapeutic Issue, Expert, or Population.

Both collections can be viewed by choosing "Databases" from the Marx Library homepage (<http://library.southalaba>

ma.edu) and looking in the alphabetical list of Databases Listed by Title. *Ambrose* is also listed on the History subject databases page, and *psychotherapy.net* is listed on the Social Sciences subject databases page, both linked on the left of the main Databases page. We hope you will make use of and enjoy these great video collections. Contact Kathy Wheeler, Ellen Wilson, or Amy Prendergast if you have questions or problems.

*Amy Prendergast
Science & Technology
Librarian*



Discovering Library Resources

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USA librarians researched the recent “discovery” solutions of several vendors and chose one offered by EBSCO in 2011. Marx Library licenses EBSCO’s indexed-based Discovery Service (EDS) because it allows USA students and faculty to “discover” the full-text of millions of journal articles licensed by USA libraries, as well as the libraries’ physical information resources. EBSCO’s SmartLinking technology, allows one-click access to PDF or HTML full-text content directly through the results list produced by the OneSearch box, as shown to the right. Behind the scenes, EDS’

SmartLinking technology searches most of USA’s databases and holdings.

While nearly 90% of doctoral level institutions have instituted a discovery service of some kind, none of these are perfect. EDS, like most discovery tools, is not yet all inclusive. For example, it does not play well with Proquest databases, mainly because ProQuest has its own competing discovery product. Also, EDS uses a single, different search algorithm while individual non-EBSCO databases use their own search algorithms. Graduate students and serious researchers, however, may be better served by searching subject-specific full-text databases because the results are

likely to be more discipline-focused.

Despite its imperfections, EDS’ little OneSearch box has made millions of articles, books and ebooks discoverable by USA students and faculty with just one easy search, as use statistics show. The number of articles retrieved by library patrons more than doubled last year compared to the previous year. EBSCO’s Discovery Service, therefore, has proven to be both one of Marx Library’s wisest investments as well as a truly helpful tool for its users!

*Richard Wood
Dean of University Libraries*



“... EDS’ little OneSearch box has made millions of articles, books and ebooks discoverable by USA students and faculty with just one easy search...”

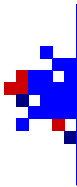
Happy Holiday Season!

This is the Marx Library's last newsletter of the year. We wish everyone a safe, relaxing and happy holiday season.



Happy Holidays!





Movers & Shakers

Professional Activities of Marx Library Librarians

As Co-editor of the *STS Signal* newsletter, **Amy Prendergast** edited the Fall 2014 issue.

As Co-chair of the Publications committee of the Science & Technology Section of ACRL, **Amy Prendergast** attended ALA Midwinter, in Philadelphia, and ALA Annual, in Chicago.

Angela Rand attended the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, where she co-presented, with Dr. Davidson-Shivers (USA College of Education), on *Online Learning: Genie in a Bottle or Pandora's Box?*. A paper on the topic will be published in the conference proceedings.

Angela Rand participated in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition at AECT and was a finalist in the first round.

Vicki Tate presented "The Use of LibGuides to Promote Government Information at USA" at the annual Alabama Federal Depository meeting in Montgomery (Oct. 29, 2014 at AUM).

Paula Webb is the GoDort Committee Chair, Southeastern Library Association (January 2015 - December 2016) and is the Secretary of GoDort, Alabama Library Association. (April 2014 - April 2015)

Paula Webb gave the following presentations and published the following articles:

Webb, P. L., "Breast Cancer Resources: Government Information

as Your Guide", Mobile Public Library, Mobile, Alabama. (October 16, 2014).

Webb, P. L., Social Media and Technology Users Conference, "Government Apps", USABC, Fairhope, Alabama. (October 7, 2014).

Webb, P. L., Southeastern Library Conference, "Here Today, Gone Tomorrow: How to Cope with Disappearing Electronic Government Information", Augusta, Georgia. (October 2, 2014).

Webb, P. L., Women's Business Center Instruction Workshop, "Targeting Your Market", Mobile Public Library & Women's Business Center, Mobile, Alabama. (September 23, 2014).

Webb, P. L., Small Business Resources in Mobile, "Doing Business at USA", Mobile Public Library, Mobile, Alabama. (September 22, 2014).

Webb, P. L. (2014). *Social Reading: Platforms, Applications, Clouds and Tags*. Information & Culture. http://www.infoculturejournal.org/book_reviews/cordongarcia_webb_2014

Kathy Wheeler was and continues to be the Chair of the College, University and Special Libraries (CUS) Research committee. She and her committee are responsible for putting out the call for papers, ranking the submitted papers and determining the winner of the EBSCO Research award and the Baker & Taylor Research Promise Award.

Kathy Wheeler was an invited speaker at JSTOR workshops in Dallas, TX, on July 23, and in Montevallo, AL, on October 31. Her talk about JSTOR ebooks is entitled "The Final Shopping Destination: Acquiring, Cataloging & Using JSTOR Ebooks."

