Top Shelf The Newsletter of the Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

Spring 2015 Volume 11, No. 1

Construction Begins on Library's Outdoor Learning Space



The greenscape and pedestrian parkway design was informed by input from AUC students, faculty, and staff. Rendering provided by jB+a, Inc.

Spring is the time for new beginnings and growth, and this semester the AUC Woodruff Library is breaking ground on a construction project that reflects this spirit of positive change. The project, known as the *Phase II Renovation Project: Brawley Greenscape and Pedestrian Parkway*, will transform the grassy lot across from the Library on James P. Brawley Drive into a flexible and shared-use space. The project is scheduled for completion by fall 2015.

"The greenscape and pedestrian parkway is to be an extension of the Library in which individuals can relax, study, and learn in a beautiful natural environment," said Loretta Parham, CEO & Director. "We're seeking to create an area everyone can enjoy and use, which is why we involved diverse members of the AUC community in determining what the space would offer. Students, in particular, gave us great suggestions during the design process."

Improvements will:

- add beauty and character with plants and trees;
- expand the usable space of the Library;
- upgrade the paved walkway;
- include a rain garden to capture and manage stormwater runoff;
- provide an outdoor teaching and learning place;

- improve entrance areas;
- add an outdoor Woodi Café dining area;
- foster interaction and collaboration within a natural environment; and
- accommodate use as a venue for small scale events.

Major demolition will begin in March 2015. Visitors to the Library can expect pedestrian re-routing for entrance to the building. Appropriate directional signage will be placed throughout the construction area.

The *Phase II Renovation Project: Brawley Greenscape and Pedestrian Parkway* is funded by The Woodruff Foundation and represents one of several ongoing green initiatives at the Library. For more information, contact **nhutchinson@auctr.edu**.



The empty lot in front of the AUC Woodruff Library building will be transformed into an attractive space for multipurpose use.

Historic School Catalogs Available Online

Two new digital collections featuring historic academic catalogs are now available to the public for research on the AUC Woodruff Library's online e-scholarship repository, DigitalCommons (digitalcommons.auctr.edu). The collections are *Catalogs from Atlanta University (1869-1969)* and *Catalogs from Clark College (1879-1968)* and are comprised of 67 volumes from Clark College and 99 volumes from Atlanta University.

Historic catalogs can serve as a rich resource for students, alumni, genealogists, and scholars of the history of African-Americans in higher education. The publications offer insight into the scholarly environment of the time in which they were produced. In addition to providing information on the degree programs and course offerings, the catalogs also include policies, procedures, statistics, financial costs, buildings, services, and names of administrators, board members, and faculty.

Early years of the catalogs also contain lists of matriculating students and alumni.



Illustration showing campus buildings. *Catalogs from Atlanta University (1869-1969)*. AUC Woodruff Library.

The Catalogs from Atlanta University (1869-1969) can be accessed directly at **digitalcommons.auctr.edu/aucatalogs** and the Catalogs from Clark College (1879-1968) at **digitalcommons.auctr. edu/cccatalogs**. Each volume is posted as an individual PDF document that can be viewed online from any computer with access to the Internet. Once the PDF document has been downloaded, researchers can use the searching tool to find a name or course or to quickly scroll through the pages.

Isaac R. Clark Memorial Collection Opens for Research

The Isaac R.Clark Memorial Collection is open for research. Dr. Isaac R. Clark was a professor of homiletics at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, Georgia, and a pastor of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The manuscript collection provides a unique look at the development of Dr. Clark's distinct homiletical methodology (the art of preparing and delivering sermons) and career as a professor. The materials in the collection complement other holdings of the Archives Research Center on similar topics, such as African-American religion and African American higher education. It enhances related collections, including the ITC Photographs Collections, the C. Eric Lincoln Collection, and other African Methodist Episcopal Church materials, such as the African Methodist Episcopal Annual Conference Minutes Collection.

The *Isaac R. Clark Memorial Collection* spans the years from 1946 to 1990, with the bulk of the materials covering the years 1960 to 1989. The collection is comprised of course material, handwritten class outlines, correspondence, photographs, and other audio-visual holdings. The majority of the materials are related to his teaching career and the development of his rhetorical strategies for creating and delivering sermons. Beyond his individual classroom style, documents in the collection also provide a look at African-American religious education and the duties of Dr. Clark as an involved faculty member and administrator.



Dr. Isaac R. Clark conducting a lecture at the Interdenominational Theological Center, undated. *Interdenominational Theological Center* (*Costen*) Archives Photograph Collection. AUC Woodruff Library.

During his twenty-eight year tenure as a professor at ITC, he also served as registrar and director of the summer program. The collection includes correspondence, committee work, reports, and other items related to those administrative duties. Within Dr. Clark's papers, of particular note, are reel-to-reel audio tapes which contain a record of lectures, ITC conferences, notable speakers, ITC chapel services, religious music, and class lectures.

For more information on the *Isaac R. Clark Memorial Collection*, contact **archives@auctr.edu** or 404.978.2052.

Seeking to Tell a Story Event

This past fall renowned speaker and author Dr. Joy DeGruy gave a powerful presentation at the AUC Woodruff Library on her book *Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome: American's Legacy of Enduring Injury and Healing.* Co-hosted by the Library and the Atlanta Student Movement alumni, the event was held in conjunction with the "Seeking to Tell a Story" exhibition.

Following her presentation was a response panel comprised of scholars Dr. Makungu Akinyela (Georgia State University), Christy Garrison-Harrison (Clark Atlanta University), and Dr. Clarissa Myrick-Harris (Morehouse College).

Contact the Archives Research Center at **archives@auctr.edu** for more information.



Speaking before a packed audience of more than 400, Dr. DeGruy addressed slavery's continuing impact on the African-American community.

Funded Scholars Find Research Treasures in Archives

Last spring the AUC Woodruff Library awarded its first research travel awards to promote scholarship of the historical and cultural holdings in the Archives Research Center. The awards of up to \$1,500 are provided to scholars located beyond the geographic area of metro Atlanta. The recipients of the inaugural award were Dr. Jonathan Fenderson, assistant professor of African & African-American Studies at Washington University in St. Louis, and Vikram Tamboli, a doctoral student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Professor Dr. Jonathan Fenderson delivers a presentation on his research and forthcoming publication.

Dr. Fenderson conducted research using the Hoyt W. Fuller Collection for his forthcoming book, *Advancing Blackness*, which explores the history of the Black Arts Movement through the experiences of the activist and organizer. According to Dr. Fenderson, his book will be one of the first major publications to address Fuller's influence on the Movement.

Dr. Fenderson has been a frequent visitor to the Archives Research Center in the past and was happy to be awarded funding to return.

"I've travelled to many archives around the world, and I truly believe that the staff at the Archives Research Center is the best staff I have ever encountered. I enjoy everything about conducting research at the Archives," said Dr. Fenderson. "In the last 5 to 7 years, I've made so many trips there, it's almost become a second home. It's just a great place with a great staff."

As for any notable discoveries he found in the *Hoyt W. Fuller Collection*, he stated, "The best find in the collection for me this time around are the photographs. This was the first time I spent looking through the photographs.

Hoyt Fuller pretty much documented the entire period through photographs. Anyone working on Black life during the 1960s and 1970s should consider his photo collection an extremely useful resource...There were a few other finds that really transformed the nature of my work, but I want to keep those to myself for now."

Vikram Tamboli's research was for his dissertation, "Decolonizing Heritage and Belonging in Guyana, 1935-2004," in which he is attempting to construct a new approach to understanding the persistence of violence and socio-cultural factionalism in the postcolonial world.

"A central aim of my project is to challenge existent narratives of Guyanese state-formation and ethnic factionalism, which emphasize primordial difference between ethno-racial groups and/or reduce ethno-racial groups to being mere pawns of late colonial and postcolonial political parties," said Tamboli.

For his research, Tamboli used the *Walter Rodney Papers*. Pan-Africanist historian and educator Dr. Walter Rodney was best known for his

continued from previous page

publication, the seminal *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa* as well as for his involvement as a community organizer and as a leader within the Working Peoples' Alliance.

"In my dissertation, I argue that Walter Rodney and the Working Peoples' Alliance are key to understanding the consistent struggle over heritage, belonging and revolutionary activism in Guyana," Tamboli said. "More precisely, Dr. Rodney's ideas on race, ethnicity and revolutionary transformation have become central to my discussion of radicalism and the tradition of ethno-racial inclusivity in Guyana."

For his most interesting find in the *Walter Rodney Papers*, Tamboli noted, "There were numerous discoveries—all of them great. One thing that stood out was the relationship Dr. Rodney had with his early mentor Elsa Goveia, and their discussion of rebellion and riot and the implicit tenets of resistance."

Like fellow awardee Dr. Fenderson, Tamboli expressed appreciation of receiving funding to conduct research at the Library's Archives Research Center. Of the experience, he observed, "I suppose what I most enjoyed about working at the Library was feeling like I was with a community that cared about the research—it was a lovely atmosphere and space to work in."



Doctoral student Vikram Tamboli (right) and the Library's Deputy Director Elizabeth McClenney discuss Tamboli's work on his research project.

Available for research in the Archives Research Center are rare books and over 105 collections of manuscripts, photographs, and archival records documenting the African-American and African diaspora experience in a broad range of subjects including civil rights, race relations, education, literature, visual and performing arts, religion, politics, and social work. The announcement of the 2015 research travel award recipients will be in late spring. Visit **www.auctr.edu/archives** to learn more about the Archives Research Center and browse the collections. Learn more about the travel award at **www.auctr.edu/archives/using-the-archives**.

Record Number of Online Research Guide Use

2014 was a great year for online research at the AUC Woodruff Library! Developed by our talented librarians, our research guides had 90,706 visits. That is quite a number, and we're excited that we were able to assist so many students, faculty, and scholars with their research needs.

The Library's research guides are an important and useful resource. Specific for each academic subject, each guide provides links to the best databases, lists of resources available in the Library, and other helpful information on that topic. In 2008, when the librarians first began creating them, there were 38 research guides available. Today, there are 160, and our librarians are busy developing more!

Visit **research.auctr.edu** to view the subject listing for the research guides.

Spring 2015 Workshops for AUC Faculty

For a listing of upcoming Center for Integrating Teaching & Technology workshops, visit **www.auctr.edu** and click on the Events box. AUC faculty can also contact Emy Decker, E-Learning Technologies Unit head, at **edecker@auctr.edu**.

Art Exhibit on Display: Journey into the Heart of Northeast Brazil

Why book a plane ticket to embark upon a trip to view the cultural and historical riches of another land when you take the voyage through art? The traveling exhibition *Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints – Popular Art of the Northeast of Brazil* is currently on display at the AUC Woodruff Library through May 18, 2015. On loan from the arts organization Con/Vida – Popular Arts of the Americas, the exhibition is making its premiere in the South on its national tour. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints – Popular Art of the Northeast of Brazil presents popular art from Brazil's Northeast to tell the story of how



One of the works featured in the exhibit is *Movement of the Landless* by Jose Claudio Cavalcante de Azevedo from Salvador, Bahia. Acrylic on canvas, 2002.

European, African, and indigenous cultural traditions have interacted over a period of more than 500 years to form the distinctive culture of this fascinating area of Brazil. On display are 56 pieces of artwork of paintings, prints, wood carvings, and photographs by 21 popular artists. Visitors will learn about slavery in Brazil, about the plantation economy, the popular heroes and heroic acts of resistance in the face of adversity, and the raucous escapades of legendary outlaws and bandits of Brazil's "Wild West." Visitors will also encounter the widely practiced spiritual traditions that give meaning and cohesiveness to people's lives in Brazil's Northeast.

"We're excited to have brought this impressive exhibition to Atlanta and host it at our Library," said Loretta Parham, CEO & Director. "Visitors will be drawn into the colorful culture, history, and people of Brazil's Northeast and become explorers on an extraordinary visual and educational journey."

Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints – Popular Art of the Northeast of Brazil was organized by Con/Vida–Popular Arts of the Americas with funding provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Michigan Humanities Council, with additional support from Wayne State University and the Adrian Dominican Sisters.



The exhibit is located on the AUC Woodruff Library's upper level in the Virginia Lacy Jones Exhibition Hall.

Visit the **research.auctr.edu/banditsheroes** for directions and hours as well as additional information about the exhibition.

To learn more, about Con/Vida – Popular Arts of the Americas, visit **www.convida.org**. For information on the *Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints – Popular Art of the Northeast of Brazil* exhibition, visit **banditsandheroes.org**.



Library Building Hours Spring 2015

Regular Building Hours

Monday – Thursday	7:30 AM-Midnight*
Friday	7:30 AM-6:00 PM*
Saturday	Noon-6:00 PM
Sunday	Noon-Midnight
*Service Desks open at	8.00 AM

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Archives Research Center Hours

Archives Research Center access is by appointment only and must be made one business day in advance.

Monday – Thursday	1:00–7:00 PM
Friday	1:00-5:00 PM
Saturday	Noon-5:00 PM
Sunday	CLOSED

Extended Library Hours Midterms Period

Monday, February 23 -Friday, February 27 (Begins 7:30 AM on Monday; Ends Midnight on Friday)

Saturday, February 28 Noon – Midnight

Sunday, March 1 – Friday, March 6 (Begins Noon on Sunday; Ends 6:00 PM on Friday)

NOTE: Service Desks hours are 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. during the 24-hour exam period extended library hours.

Valid AUC ID is required for entry to the building.

Remote access to the AUC Woodruff Library website and its electronic resources is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Visit www.auctr.edu.

Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library

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Academic Writing Institute

Last semester the AUC Woodruff Library was awarded a sub-grant from the HBCU Library Alliance's Expanding Library Support for Faculty Research Project to host an academic writing institute for AUC junior faculty. Scholarly publication is a potential minefield for junior faculty who are under pressure to publish in order to earn tenure. Entitled, "Publish or Perish? An Academic Writing Institute for AUC Junior Faculty," the project was designed to:

- · provide junior faculty with an overview of the services offered by the Library that can help facilitate their research process;
- introduce methods for documenting research findings in the 21st century publishing environment; and
- provide a forum, led by tenured faculty, to enhance participant knowledge about the publishing processes associated with their specific disciplines.

Sixteen junior faculty members participated in a two-day Academic Writing Institute hosted at the Library on December 15-16, 2014. The first day focused on research support services, and librarians provided overviews of the information services available to faculty including research consultation services; interlibrary loan; the faculty purchase recommendation process; and copyright and intellectual property issues. Institute participants also received information on the Library's newly implemented discovery tool; online research and documentation tools; and the AUC e-scholarship repository.

The second day focused on the steps involved in the scholarly publishing process. Mick Gusinde-Duffy, editor-in-chief of the University of Georgia Press, served as guest

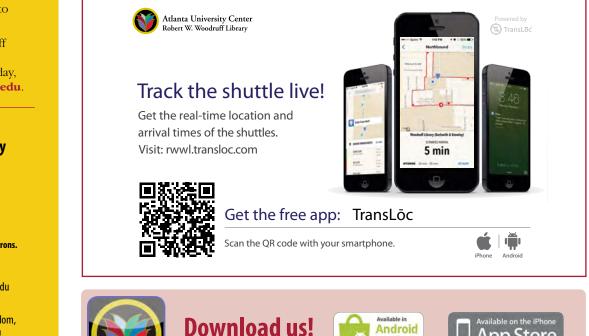


AUC junior faculty participated in a brown bag session to discuss their progress as part of a follow up activity after the academic writing institute.

speaker, providing a behind-the-scenes style informational tour for faculty which included information about the selection and editorial process, potential financial costs of publishing as they pertain to image rights, as well as funding opportunities for publication, such as subvention grants. Afterward, seven AUC tenured faculty scholars talked about their own unique experiences with the publishing process and held an informal discussion session with their junior colleagues.

Institute participants returned to the Library in January for a brown bag sharing session to discuss post-Institute writing progress and were inspired to form an AUC Junior Faculty Writing Circle, which meets weekly at the Library.

For more information about how the Library can support faculty research and writing efforts, contact Dr. Rosaline Odom, Discovery & Access Services department head and Academic Writing Institute coordinator at rodom@auctr.edu or 404.978.2129.









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