



## **ALS Collections: A Newsletter**

### **Summer 2009 Issue 5**

Hello everyone, and welcome to ALS Collections: A Newsletter of Collection Development, highlighting resources available to ECU and issues related to developing and managing Academic Library Services' collections. This fifth issue comes to you in the middle of the summer terms. Look for News in Brief and feature articles in each issue; this issue has three feature articles: The ScholarShip: ECU's Institutional Repository, Added Databases Available from NC LIVE and A Wide Range of Materials in the East Carolina Manuscript Collection. Feel free to suggest future features, or to send comment to [thomasw@ecu.edu](mailto:thomasw@ecu.edu). Thank you, Joseph Thomas

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#### **News in Brief:**

**Budget News:** The library will experience a reduction in its acquisitions budgets for next year. We do not have the final amount yet, but it is possible that the amount will total more than \$1.7M. These cuts will result in reduced book purchases and cancelled journals and databases. Liaison librarians will seek feedback from departmental faculty as we conduct the necessary cancellations. Cancellation lists and information will be posted to the Collection Development Web page. (Look for the link to Budget Information here: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/techsrv/cdv/index.cfm>.) Faculty members, feel free to direct questions to your liaison librarian or to Joseph Thomas, Head of Collection Development.

**Changes to the Current Periodicals Area:** If you've stopped by our Current Periodicals Area lately, you'll have noticed some changes. The collection has been compressed to fit on two shelving ranges instead of the four it used to take up. Joyner Library subject liaisons are also actively involved in a review of the Current Periodicals Area and are hoping to switch many journals over to electronic access. The space gained will be used for student group study areas.

**Welcome David Hisle:** David is a second year Library Fellow and a selector for Construction Management. He has an MFA from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and an MLS from North Carolina Central University. We're very pleased that he will be continuing his fellowship with us.

**Reference Collection Has Moved:** The Reference Department has relocated to the area formerly occupied by the Digital Learning Center area in the rear of Joyner Library. The Department hopes to increase public service in the larger area and increase its visibility, responsiveness and approachability among patrons. Soon there

will also be a mix of group seating and computing distributed more evenly throughout the new Reference area. It is hoped that this repurposing will improve traffic circulation, provide comfortable work and study areas, and heighten visibility of resources, space and services. It should also create a more welcoming, bookstore-like area near the entrance with comfortable seating, popular monographs and magazines, open space, and the consolidation of copiers, printers and cash-to-card machines.

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## **The ScholarShip: ECU's Institutional Repository**

Cindy Shirkey, Collection Development Librarian

What is an institutional repository? An institutional repository is a collection of archived articles or digital files that makes its content freely available. Many universities and colleges all over the world have created institutional repositories. Some even mandate that all articles written by their faculty need to be able to be placed in their institutional repository or else the author must get permission for an exception. Another variation on the institutional repository is discipline-based repositories such as arXiv.org for physics and mathematics or BioMed Central for medical research. ArXiv.org is collection a pre- and post-print articles, while BioMed Central is a collection of Open Access journals that are peer reviewed.

What is Open Access? Open Access is a movement to ensure a free, archival copy of an author's work is made available to anyone who wants to use it for legal purposes. The Open Access movement is a worldwide phenomenon that is changing the way research is conducted.

What can it do for me? ECU's ScholarShip (<https://thescholarship.ecu.edu/>) can save a copy of your article permanently for access by other researchers. Placing articles in a repository means they will be more accessible to readers. It also means they will be indexed by Google, raising their visibility. In short, placing an article in ScholarShip means more people will read it and it will have a greater impact on the research community.



What is the process like? The first thing a researcher must do to place an article in the ScholarShip is make sure who owns copyright for that article. This information can be found in several places. First, it will be in the publication agreement originally signed with the publisher. Second, the publisher itself will be able to provide this information. Third, a web site called Sherpa RoMEO (<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>) keeps track of this information for most major journals. Once a researcher has determined that he or she retains copyright, the researcher must then create an account in the ScholarShip. At this point the article can be deposited into the ScholarShip using an easy-to-use web form found at the ScholarShip site. Once an article is uploaded into the ScholarShip, it is kept there permanently.

Contact Joseph Thomas ([thomasw@ecu.edu](mailto:thomasw@ecu.edu)) for more information about the ScholarShip.

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## Added Databases Available from NCLIVE

Cindy Shirkey, Collection Development Librarian

ECU belongs to a consortium of libraries across the state called NC LIVE. Membership in this consortium allows us to have access to packages of databases. Recently, four new databases were added to our collection from NC LIVE.



Interested in primary text research? ArchivGrid is a database used for "searching for historical documents, personal papers and family histories held in archives throughout the world." It provides detailed archival descriptions for collections held by "libraries, museums, historical societies and archives." It has a simple search box and a very powerful search engine. It retrieves finding aides for archival collections related to one's search term. Clicking on a link for each result brings one to a detailed screen that describes the archival holdings. Also included is a link to the organization holding the archival material. This tool neatly puts everything necessary to prepare for historical research in one place.

**ARCHIVEGRID<sup>SM</sup>**  **Open the door to history**

SimplyMap is a powerful geospatial data tool for the United States. When first logging in, users have to register to create a personal workspace. Once this is done, researchers can navigate to a specific geographic location. Locations can be displayed by states, counties, zip codes, census tracts and census block groups. After choosing the geographic location to be explored, users can go to the Variables tab and have different types of data, such as census data, mapped in their personal workspace. Maps and reports can be exported using a special export feature.

OAIster is a collection of links to "digital resources from open archive collections." It contains digitized books, articles, born-digital texts, audio files, images, movies, datasets, theses, technical reports and research papers. It has collections from over 1,000 worldwide contributors. Its true strength is that once a search is done, results connect the searcher with a link that allows permanent, one-click access to the digital object.

ArticleFirst is a database that indexes more than 16,000 journals in all fields of study. Some citations are linked to full-text, but most are not. All provide a link to a list of libraries that subscribe to the journal in question. If ECU owns a journal a prominent icon is displayed to alert searchers to this fact. ArticleFirst is a great basic research tool. It also allows you to create an account and save searches for periodic use.

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## **A Wide Range of Materials in the East Carolina Manuscript Collection**

Maury York, Assistant Director for Special Collections

The East Carolina Manuscript Collection in Joyner Library's Special Collections Department offers a wide range of primary sources for study by students and faculty members. The collection includes personal papers and institutional records pertaining to North Carolina, military history, the tobacco industry, and the work of Christian missionaries worldwide. Many researchers do not realize that these areas of concentration have resulted in a body of research material that is international in scope and pertinent to diverse areas of study. For example, the papers of missionaries and tobaccoists working in China during the early twentieth century offer insight into the people and culture of that country. Historians might use the papers to document America's attempts to shape China's future. Cultural anthropologists might benefit from letters that describe or photographs that depict such Chinese customs as the binding of feet. Military collections, especially those pertaining to the United States Navy, shed light on America's involvement in conflicts of worldwide scope. Collections pertaining to World War II are especially strong.

Many North Carolinians have enjoyed careers that took them to far-flung places. Capus Waynick, who served as editor of the High Point Enterprise and managed the successful gubernatorial campaign of Kerr Scott in 1948, received an appointment from President Harry Truman as ambassador to Nicaragua. Waynick's papers reveal a great deal about that country and its dictator, Anastasio Somoza. Other collections document the lives of people in various African countries during the twentieth century. The papers of Inglis Fletcher, for example, include her sketches of natives in Nyasaland and transcriptions of their drum beats.

Digital finding aides for the Manuscript Collection can be searched at <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/>.

The Special Collections Department welcomes researchers and offers instruction to classes. Hours are 8-5, Monday-Friday and 1-5, Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call 328-6671.