

# THE STACKS

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY NEWSLETTER,  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA



FALL 2011

## *"Big deals" for E-Book Collections*

The Dean's Corner, Dr. Richard Wood

The so called "big deals" that journal publishers and aggregators such as Elsevier, Sage, Springer, and Wiley have been marketing to libraries since the late 1990s have provided library users with Internet access to, in USA's case, many thousands of additional journal titles. The big deals have been good deals for USA because, for very little money beyond the cost of our subscriptions with that publisher, they bought us back the print titles we were forced to cut due to proration or other budgetary constraints AND have given us

virtual access to many thousands of new titles that we would have otherwise never have been able to afford.

In August, we licensed a 70,000 titles deal for an e-book collection from ebrary at a cost of about \$30,000, or roughly 40 cents a book—certainly, making it a "big deal" for monographic titles no matter how you look at. We also purchased many smaller collections of subject collections in fields such as education resources, medicine, social sciences, and humanities from other publishers or providers such as Sage, Springer, and ebrary at a

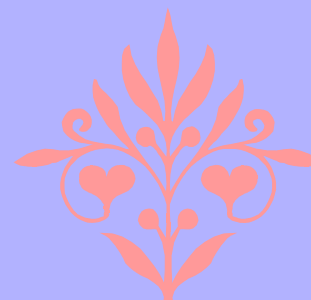
cost per title of \$40 on up.

The University Library has also recently established the means of buying individual electronic titles through one of our principal book vendors; this mean we can acquire specific titles faculty members request as opposed to only whole subject collections. Collections sometimes have requested titles, but most provide access to titles that were never requested—although they very well might be solid academic or scholarly titles that students and faculty should find useful.

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## *The Gallery*

### Local Artist JoAnn Cox Donates Art to University Libraries

Local artist JoAnn Cox has donated a large abstract painting to the University of South Alabama Libraries.

Her piece, *Dawn to Dusk*, was recently hung in the atrium of the Main Library on campus.

Cox commented on donating the item to the library stating, "I was recently invited to exhibit some of my work at the USA Library where Dr. Wood and all of his staff were very supportive." In her own words, "it was a pleasure for me to donate one of my paintings to the library."

USA Libraries Dean Dr. Richard Wood said Cox's gift will be a

focal point to everyone who walks into the main library. According to Wood, "Libraries should be a cultural center of campus [...] Artists can come to get books about other artists and art techniques, and they can come and see the art here, too."

A native of the Mississippi Delta, Cox studied art at the University of Southern Mississippi, as well as in England, France, and Ireland. Her works have won numerous awards and are represented in many public, corporate, and private collections. Throughout her career, she has exhibited in New York City, New Orleans, and Florence, Italy. Locally, she is represented by Ashland Gallery.



*Dawn to Dusk*  
JoAnn Cox

*The Dean's Corner: E-Book Collections (continued)*

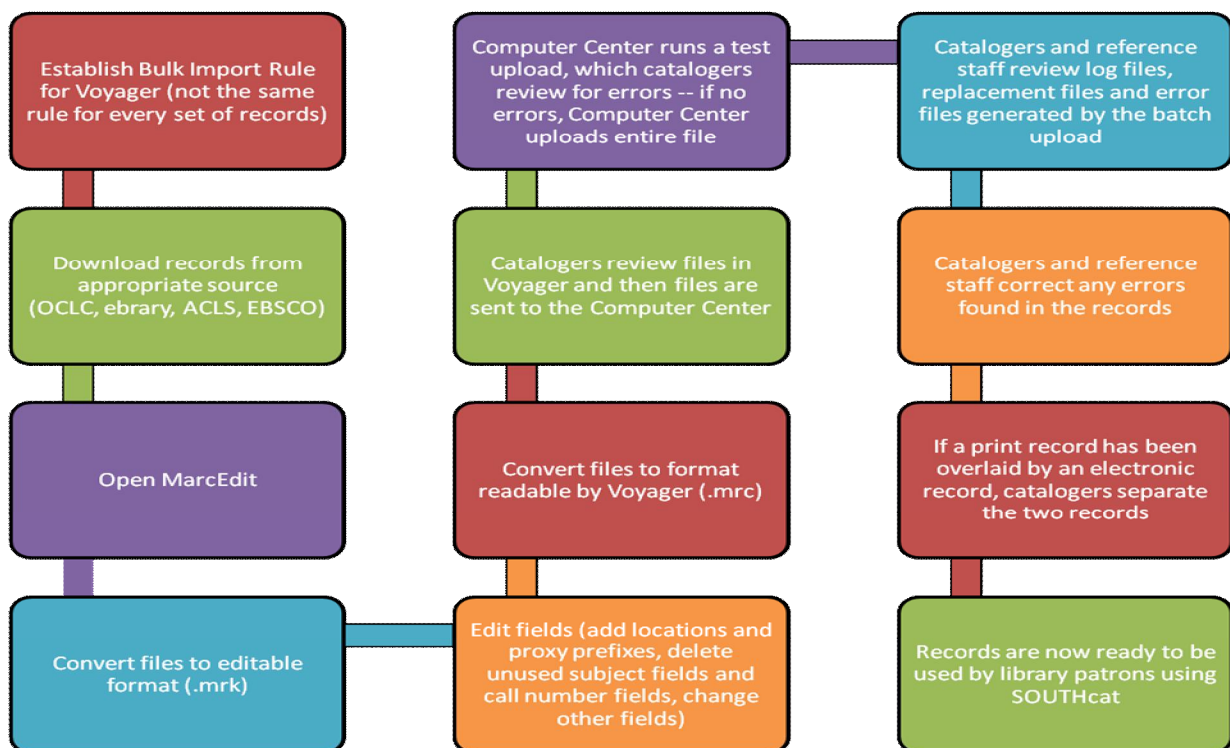
The University Library wants to preserve the ability acquire both at the collection and title level because the e-book industry is still very much in transition. Traditional book publishers have not, for the most part, stopped printing titles.

In just the past two fiscal years, the University Library has been able to purchase over 100,000 electronic books with copyrights from 2005 through 2011 by purchasing collections of e-books. This has offered many advantages. For starters, the library does not need to catalog the books because they come with the bibliographic records that can be loaded into the online catalog. This means that users will see them as “hits” in keyword or subject searches. To see the text, users only need to click on its web address (.url) and read the book instantly online—no need to hunt the book down in the stacks and to worry about paying fines because the electronic version never becomes overdue. Another advantage to the library is that e-books never need to be physically shelved, repaired, bound and re-bound, inventoried, or recalled for other users. In fact, the same title can “circulate” among many users at the same time. Similarly, e-books cannot be “hoarded” for weeks or months—something some users do with print volumes. E-books, that is, are available upon demand. Such advantages set the stage for a major shift away from acquiring print books, particularly in the STEM disciplines where currency of information is hugely important.

Keep in mind that you have seen only the first generation of e-books; they can be thought of as the digital equivalent of the print title. The second generation—the born digital—e-books will gradually move away from the print version with fixed pages, chapters, reference cited, and so forth. The born digital e-books will incorporate such features as multimedia, links to additional content, interactive quizzes, discussion questions, note-taking tools, and highlighting ability. Users will be able to go to the actual reference cited or footnoted text. We look forward to the “liberated” book and hope you do as well.

### How E-Book Records are Included in SOUTHcat

Kathy Wheeler, Electronic Services Librarian  
Muriel Nero, Cataloging Librarian



## *USA Archives Receives Prestigious Collection and a New Name*

This has certainly been an exciting year for the former USA Archives. On May 6, after more than two years of negotiations, we were officially given the papers of Doy Leale McCall Sr. The gift was announced at a press conference held at the Mitchell Center and attended by President Moulton; Dr. David Johnson, vice-president for academic affairs; Dr. Joseph Busta, vice-president for development and alumni relations; Jim Yance, who headed the recent capital campaign drive; Jean Tucker, university attorney; and Doy Leale McCall III, Margaret McCall Rolfsen, and John Peter Crook McCall, the grandchildren of Doy Leale McCall Sr.

The McCall Papers consist of a collection of approximately 1,000,000 documents spanning the years 1757 to the mid-1960s. They were appraised at \$3.1 million and include account books, advertisements, books, broadsides, business cards, business records, catalogs, circulars, correspondence, diaries, flyers, handbills, journals, land grants, ledgers, legal documents, magazines, maps,

merchant receipts, newspapers, pamphlets, periodicals, photographs, playbills, school notes, sheet music, ship manifests, and wills. Represented in the collection are three generations of the Pickens family, including Israel Pickens, Alabama's third governor. The Pickens family lived in the Greensboro area and ran three very profitable plantations – Umbria, Canebrake, and Goodrum – and two of the sons of the second generation served during the Civil War. Also within the collection are the personal and business papers of the John Gano Winter family, innovative entrepreneurs who owned businesses in Georgia and Alabama. Joseph Samuel Prince Winter ran the Winter Iron Works. Located in Montgomery, it was the largest foundry south of Richmond – or perhaps south of Philadelphia. The collection also includes the papers of Philip Weaver, reputedly the richest man in south Alabama in the 1840s and 1850s, as well as the papers of several other Alabama Black Belt families.

As will come as no surprise, there are many interesting stories in the McCall Papers. There's the photo of Margaret Mitchell that tells a tale of her being ostracized from the Atlanta Junior League. They include the series of letters between Joseph Winter and his wife, Lizzie – letters that left us wondering if Joseph was a faithful husband or a philanthropist.

The papers contain the image of an African American named John, the slave whom Samuel Pickens took to war with him. There's the heart wrenching correspondence between Samuel Pickens and his unrequited love Mary Cocke. And so many more stories yet to be uncovered.

The McCall Papers remain closed for now. We are currently organizing the various published material within the collection – the periodicals, newspapers, magazines, advertisements, etc. – which we hope to have open by the first of the year. Then we will move on to other portions of the collection. We anticipate that it will be several years before the entire collection is open for research. Oh – and one other thing – as a part of the donation of Mr. McCall's papers, USA Archives has become The Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library – a name we love.

Carol Ellis

Director, Doy Leale McCall  
Rare Book and Manuscript  
Library



Seated from left to right are Doy Leale McCall III, Margaret Rolfsen McCall, John McCall (grandchildren of Doy Leale McCall Sr.), USA president Gordon Moulton, Senior Vice-President for Academic Affairs David Johnson, and Vice-President for Development Joseph Busta.

## From the USA Archives

Early this year The Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library received from Norman M. Nicolson a small amount of correspondence and photocopied news articles related to local author William Edward Campbell (a.k.a. William March). The correspondence dates from 1971 to the late 1980s. Mr. Nicolson's grandfather, Norman G. Nicolson (1893-1971) was a contemporary of William March and knew him well. Norman A. Nicolson (1925-2010), Norman G.'s son and Norman M.'s father, compiled the material. The bulk of the correspondence was exchanged between Norman A. and Roy Simmonds, the author of a biography on William March.

February brought The McCall Library 724 color slides depicting Alabama wildlife, habitats, aerial scenes, and landscapes. The images show state houses, buildings, and landmarks, as well as the effects of deforestation and pollution.

In March we accepted three separate donations. The first was a survey record book of turpentine activities in Washington County kept by W. D. Durant for Taylor Lowenstein, a local company specializing in naval stores and exporting. The survey appears to be dated around 1920 and includes notes on land owners. The second March gift consisted of thirty mid- to late-nineteenth-century prints

from various local photographers of members of the Toulmin and Davis families. Most of the prints appear to be what are known as carte-de-visites or cabinet cards. Finally, March also brought us twenty-one 35-mm color slides taken by a man named Donald Burnell while he was vacationing along the Gulf Coast, circa 1975. The slides are all identified. The following month we were given eight lithographs and illustrations of notable actors who performed in Mobile during the nineteenth century. They include: Elsie Bishop, John S. Clarke, Edwin Forrest, Edwin Booth, Ada Rehan, Mary Anderson, and James H. Hackett.

They primarily contain information on the health of the writers and about their lives in camp. Some also contain the writers' perspective of battles in which they participated and include a brief family tree, as well as information on the fate of the sons in relation to the war. Of the seven soldiers, Anthony died in 1864 at Dalton, Georgia, from pneumonia. John perished at Gainesville, Georgia, in 1862. Joseph fell in 1862 at Murphreesboro. Samuel died of measles in 1862 during the Battle of Okolona; and Peter succumbed in 1863 to typhoid fever while stationed at a camp near Mobile, leaving behind three small children. Only Alexander and James returned home.



In August we acquired forty-four photocopied letters written by a quartet of McGowin brothers who served during the Civil War. Samuel Lewis McGowin (1805-1892) and his wife, Patricia Martha Mason (1810-1892) lived in Conecuh County and had thirteen children, eight of them sons. Seven of those sons joined the military during the Civil War. Only two of them returned from the war. The letters in the collection were written between 1861 and 1864 from the front lines.

Carol Ellis, University Archivist

“35,482 RECORDS ARE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR SEARCHING IN SOUTHcat. MURIEL NERO AND KATHY WHEELER, WITH THE HELP OF KATHI GRADLE FROM THE COMPUTER CENTER, CONTINUE TO ADD MORE RECORDS.”

## In the News: University Library E-Book Collections

The University Library continues to add to its ebook collection; 35,482 records are currently available for searching in SOUTHcat. Muriel Nero and Kathy Wheeler, with the help of Kathi Gradle from the Computer Center, continue to add more records.

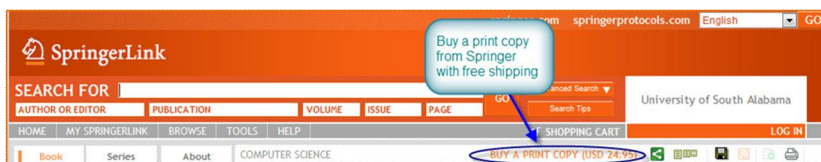
**Springer** The University Library added Springer's 2011 ebook collection to our growing number of ebook titles. These records are not currently in SOUTHcat, but librarians are working to make them avail-

able soon. Springer ebook titles not found in SOUTHcat are accessible from <http://libproxy2.usouthal.edu/login?url=http://www.springerlink.com/books>. They can be sorted by title or date; sort by date to retrieve the 2011 titles not yet in SOUTHcat. Springer titles are in pdf format and can be downloaded to your computer and transferred to an ereader chapter by chapter. Since they are pdf documents they will work with the Kindle, the Nook, the Sony Reader, the Kobo

and the iPad. Because the University Library has purchased Springer ebooks, if you find you need a print copy of a particular book, you can purchase the entire book from Springer for \$24.95 with free shipping.

**ebrary:** In 2011, the University Library subscribed to ebrary's *Academic Complete Collection*, thus adding 70,000 titles on a wide array of subjects to the ebooks that are currently available to students, faculty and staff.

While records for the titles from *Academic Complete* are not yet available for searching through SOUTHcat, librarians are working on this project. To access all ebrary titles, go to <http://libproxy2.usouthal.edu/login?url=http://site.ebrary.com/lib/usouthal> and login with your username and J Number for off campus access. ebrary has useful tools that allow you to annotate, highlight and save books to a shelf.



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This newsletter is published irregularly as a service to the University Community.

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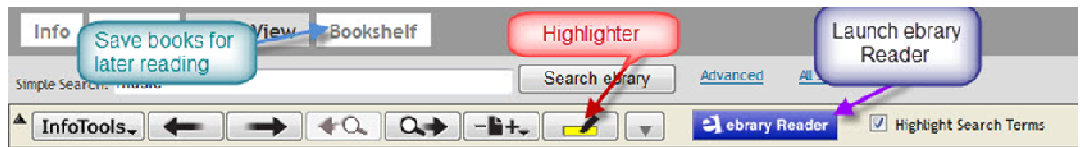
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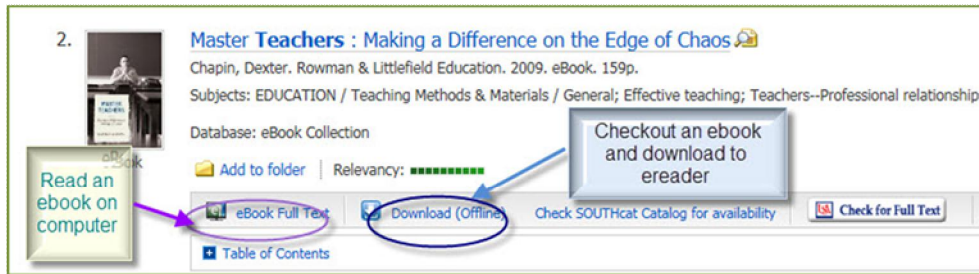
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Kathy Wheeler  
Electronic Services/Reference

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Above: ebrary



Left: EBSCO ebook Collection

## *Movers and Shakers: University Librarians' Professional Activities*

**Elizabeth Rugan & Kathy Wheeler** presented a poster, "Preparing College Freshmen for College-Level Research," at the 2011 USA Research Forum.

**Elizabeth Rugan** presented a poster, "All the Kids are Doing It: Using QR Codes in an Academic Library," at the Alabama Library Association annual Conference in Orange Beach, AL.

**Carol Ellis**, director of The McCall Library, will deliver a presentation at the twenty-ninth annual Gulf South History and Humanities Conference, which will be held in Pensacola Beach, Florida, from October 20 through October 22. The title of her presentation is "Introduction to an Important Collection of Historical Material on the Alabama Black Belt," in which she will discuss the recent acquisition of the Doy Leale McCall Papers to the university.

**Kathy Wheeler**, as a member of the AACRL-STS Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science Materials Committee.

(2011), co-authored the article Essential Readings in E-Science. *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship*. Available <http://www.istl.org/11-winter/internet2.html>.

**Kathy Wheeler** is the current newsletter editor for the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries, where she serves on the Executive Board.

**Ellen Wilson** presented a poster entitled "Creating the Freshman Seminar Library Assignment" at the Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy.

**Amy Prendergast** had four website reviews published in *CHOICE*.