

digital library and archives

annual report 2002/2003

It was a year of increases

Over \$100,000 awarded in grants and donations

More and more images available online to be used in significant publications and formal exhibitions

Pictorial essay about Blacksburg for Arcadia Press, Robert Straw

Matewon Train Station refurbishing and exhibition, Tim Hensley, Ken Miller

German Club history, Henry Dekker and students

Alumni Date Book, Andy Hall

Increased access to unique DLA resources

Over 200 cu. ft. of primary historical documents preserved and organized with 25 EAD finding aids

New staff fully integrated: O'Brien, Lane, and Pande (GA)

Lots fewer student assistants, effecting web access and Reading Room services

And more! But below are only three examples in each category. [Blue underlining indicates active web link.](#)

SPECIAL PROJECTS



BLACK HISTORY AT VIRGINIA TECH

50th Anniversary of black students at VT: [contributed to](#)

- o bookmarks, souvenir publications, "Paving the Way," [Virginia Tech](#) magazine (spring 2003); "Come Share Your Story," 30 walk-in oral histories, videotaped by VTTV; [Virginia Tech Conductor](#) (Feb. 21, 2003) and several web sites, for example, [Dr. LaVerne Higgins Hairston](#), oral history and images



<http://spec.lib.vt.edu/archives/depthistory/biochem/>, including inventories, image gallery, oral histories, for example, Bruce M. Anderson [interview](#), Head of the Department, 1970-1981, includes sound clips

✦ **Virginia Heritage Project** completed NEH funded grant awarded to VIVA Special Collections.

Contributed to



[SOLINET's Outstanding Library Program Award for 2003](#): exceptional accomplishment in Preservation and Electronic Information.

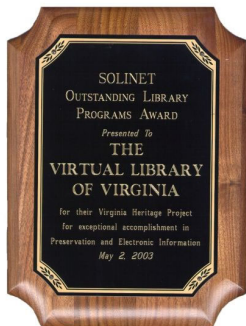
- *Best Practice Guidelines*

<http://www.lib.virginia.edu/vhp/download/VHPBPG.doc>

- [Final report to NEH](#)

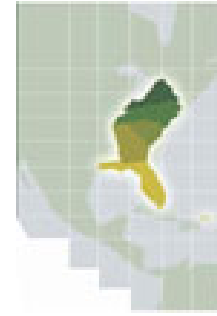
- VT's report: p. 29-31

- "Summary of VHP: User Satisfaction Assessment," Appendix A: 39-42.



ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENT

\$20,000 “[WOMEN WITH T-SQUARES](#): Tracing Forgotten Architects and Design Professionals” to upgrade content and programming to improve the IAWA Biographical Database.



\$60,000 “[Democratizing Access to Archives](#): Developing the Digital Library for the South Atlantic Humanities Center” Building on its experience in the NEH-funded Virginia Heritage Project and the ETD (electronic theses and dissertations) initiative, Virginia Tech will bring together programmers, librarians, and humanities scholars to develop locally and distribute regionally state-of-the-art software for creating researcher-friendly databases of manuscript and archival finding aids.

German Club Alumni Foundation donated \$2500 “in recognition of the conspicuous and dedicated service of the Special Collections staff to the students and alumni of Virginia Tech,” to support Special Collections public spaces, online and Reading Room (monitor for ImageBase editing, equipment/cart for Reading Room audio-visual use, and materials to upgrade exhibition spaces).

Copyright Awareness

- Educated members of the university community through individual and classroom instruction, e.g., Dr. Kathy Jones Digital History Seminar, HIST 5644; [Faculty Development Institute](#)
- Instigated University Legal Counsel’s drafting a university policy required by TEACH Act

ImageBase: Significant additions following the pricing changes in Digital Imaging, for example

- [University Relations](#) partial slide collection (501)
- [Landscape architecture](#) (195)
- [Watercolors of Fungi](#), 184? (100) See Addison: CALL NUMBER: Ms93-012, OCLC: 29041137
- Norfolk Southern [Glass Plates](#) (579)

SPARC Institutional Repository Checklist & Resource Guide includes DLA

Collections Processed *just a few example*

University History

- Kendall King, scientist, humanitarian, former head of Biochemistry Department, [MS2002-002](#), .8 cu. ft.
- Walter S. Newman, Records of the Office of the President, 1947-1962, [RG 2/10](#) University Archives, 23 cu. ft.
- VPI&SU DANCE CARDS, 1909-2002. 1.0 cu. ft. [Ms2002-023](#)



Railroad Archives

- Wabash Railway Records 1836-1954, [Ms2003-001](#), 5.5 cu. ft.
- *Norfolk Western Bridge Drawings (preliminary inventory)*, 61 cu.ft. [Ms94-004](#)
- Norfolk Western Personnel Records, 1874-1957, [Ms92-058](#) (11.5 cubic feet)



- Vera Jansone, drawings, ca. 1940-75, while a student at Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts, Paris, and as an architect in California. 9.5 cu. ft. [Ms2001-026](#)
- Jane Hall Johnson, structural engineer/architect, papers (1955-1986), drawings, blueprints, presentation boards, portfolios, photographs, sketches, correspondence, brochures. 8 cu. ft., [Ms2000-051](#)

Local/Regional Interest

- Lindsay Butte West (born 1934), member of the Montgomery County (VA) Board of Supervisors from 1976-1987; first elected woman (1976). [Ms2001-013](#)
- Mary McClintock Ryland Fessler (1912-2000), active in Montgomery County Democratic Party, local government, and civic organizations from the late 1960s through the 1990s. [Ms2001-012](#)

Civil War

- Homer Davis: photographic record of the gravesites of Civil War generals and other prominent personalities. [Ms2001-051](#), 16 cu. ft.

Significant Donations *just a few examples*

Culinary History

- American Dietetic Association library donated to the Peacock-Harper Culinary History Collection

Local History

- Montgomery White Sulphur Springs Guest Book, 1886-1890, [Ms2003-00707](#)

IAWA

- Iris Alex, 8.5 cubic ft.
- Diana Balmori 8 cubic ft.
- Lois Gottlieb 10 cubic ft.
- Jane L. Hastings, 10 cubic ft.
- Barbara Parker Robinson, 3 cubic ft. (from Wrenn)
- Lilia Sopher Skala 5 cubic ft.

Civil War

- *Wounded Soldier*, Soldiers' Tract Association, Richmond, No. 30, Donated by Ruth Drewry Wills Smith via the Virginia Episcopal School. See Addison: CALL NUMBER: E635 W78 1862
- Bud Robertson, manuscripts, 22 cu. ft. [Ms 94-021](#)

DEPARTMENTAL PUBLICATIONS

Web sites mentioned throughout this report and

“Anna Wagner Keichline, 1889 – 1993,” architect and inventor of Bellefonte, PA;

<http://spec.lib.vt.edu/iawa/Keichline/annak.html>



http://spec.lib.vt.edu/culinary/CulinaryThymes/2003_04/

Exhibitions

- “Remembering the Past, Creating the Future: Celebrating 50 Years Since the First Black Student Enrolled at Virginia Tech,” Squires, March 2003
- “Hard Times Meade: First Virginia Tech Mascot,” Newman Library, February 2003
- “IAWA watercolors,” Newman Library, October 2002
- “Virginia Tech Dance Cards,” Squires, July 2002
- “Earl Palmer Photographs,” Galax Leaf and String Festival, June 21-22

New Services



VAES research, impacts, and publications; [available from](#) DLA at by programmatically mirroring the appropriate files

Began discussions fall semester with Statistics Dept. to create an ETD-like database where student reports could be available to the campus community.

DLA GA, Rishi Pande wrote the submission software and database management applications with guidance from Lance French, Systems, and Carolyn Kletnieks. Spring discussions with planners of the annual Bertoti "Innovative Perspectives in History" Graduate Conference may lead to similar availability of graduate student works. [security issues have precluded full implementation]

PERSONNEL CHANGES

- Trina Lane**, joined DLA in July when CAM closed. A particularly welcome addition to the permanent staff, especially in light of significantly reduced budget for student assistants. Responsible for getting publications online (e.g., journals, *Spectrum*) and database maintenance (e.g., ETD, IAWA, ImageBase); assisted with DLA computer and software installation and maintenance
- Catherine O'Brien**, Manuscripts Archivist, April 2002 – May 2003. Made a major impact on collections processing (>90 lf, 9 finding aids, 17 accessions), reference services, grant preparation
- Rishi Pande**, Graduate Assistant, Sept. 2002-May 2003. Programming assistant: migration of flat files to web-accessible databases (e.g., Willis, Ulster Scots), student web submissions, etc. Retained through IAWA ASPIRES grant as summer wage employee to upgrade biographical database

PROFESSIONAL AND SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Publications

- Gunter, Jennifer. Book review, *XML in Libraries*, ed. Roy Tenant (2002), *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, vol. 29, no. 4 (summer 2003)
- Gunter, Jennifer. "Encoded Archival Description: Solution to Archival Automation and Access?" *RAONEWS: Newsletter of the Reference, Access, and Outreach Section*, Society of American Archivists, [Issue 9](#), Spring 2003.
- Kennelly, Tamara. "Oral History on the Internet: Narratives from Pioneering Black Students." *Power of Oral History: Memory, Healing and Development*, [conference proceedings] edited by Philippe Denis and James Worthington. Pietermaritzburg: International Oral History Association and Sinomlando Project, University of Natal, 2002.
- Kennelly, Tamara, and Penny Burge. "Silenced Voices of the First Black Women Students at Virginia Tech." *Memories and Voices*, vol. 1, no. 1 (August, 2003)
- McMillan, Gail. "ETD: Electronic Theses and Dissertations," *Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science*, Miriam Drake, ed. New York: Marcel Dekker, 2003: 1034 – 1040 [[Preview](#)]
- McMillan, Gail. "The Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations: Changes in the University Community," with Fox, E., Goncalves, M., et al. *Journal of Computing in Higher Education*, 13: 2 (Spring 2002): 102 -124.
- McMillan, Gail. "NDLTD: Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations," with Fox, E., Suleman, H., Goncalves, M., for *Digital Libraries: Policy, Planning, and Practice*. Judith Andrews and Derek Law, eds. Great Britain: Ashgate, 2003.
- McMillan, Gail. [IAWA Archivist's Report for 2001/2002](#)

Presentations

Gunter, Jennifer, and Kathryn Morgan (UVA). "Preservation of Archives and Rare Books," Virginia Association of Museums, Hot Springs, VA. Feb. 2.

Gunter, Jennifer. "Access to Historic Collections in a Digital Environment," VT History Graduate Student Association Seminar, Jan. 30.

Kennelly, Tamara. "Documenting a Quiet Revolution: First Black Women Students at Virginia Tech," Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, Trenton, New Jersey, April 26.

Kennelly, Tamara. "Oral History on the Internet: Narratives from Pioneering Black Students." 13th International Oral History Conference, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, June 25

Kennelly, Tamara. "Building Digital Bridges: Special Collections in Cyberspace," Virginia Library Paraprofessional Forum, University of Richmond, May 21, 2002

McMillan, Gail. "[Excited About Research: Women with T-Squares: Tracing Forgotten Architects and Design Professionals](#)," ACRL conference, Charlotte, NC, April 11

McMillan, Gail, and Caryl Gray. "[Culinary History Collection at Virginia Tech](#)," Virginia Association for Family and Consumer Sciences, Hotel Roanoke, March 28

McMillan, Gail. "[Know Your Copy Rights: Applying Copyright in Scholarship and Instruction](#)," Virginia Tech's *Preparing the Future Professorate*, March 25

McMillan, Gail. "[ETDs: Building an Institutional Asset](#)," Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Feb. 28

McMillan, Gail. "Library Issues and Responsibilities: Theses Come Off the Shelf to Become Institutional Assets," ALA Midwinter, ALCTS Electronic Resources Discussion Group, Philadelphia, Jan 25.

McMillan, Gail. "Copyrights," HIST 5644, Digital History Seminar, Dr. Kathy Jones, Nov. 18

McMillan, Gail. "[NDLTD and the ETD Initiative: Enhancing Graduate Education](#)," with Dr. Fox and David Pluska, Ohio State University/Virginia Tech Video Conference, Oct. 24, 2002

McMillan, Gail. "[Theses Come Out of the Attic to Become Institutional Assets](#)," Society of American Archivists, Birmingham, AL, Aug. 25

McMillan, Gail. "[ETDs: Building an Institutional Asset for a Global Context](#)," Joint Information Systems Committee/Coalition for Networked Information, JISC/CNI, Edinburgh, June 26

DIGITAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES OUTLOOK FOR 2003/2004

- Improve access to DLA's unique resources by
 - Implementing new web-accessible databases
 - Improving functionality of existing databases
 - Purchasing a new search engine

- Improve resources in DLA by garnering new resources through outreach to
 - Donors of collections
 - Editors and authors of publications

- Garner support for DLA
 - Outreach to donors
 - National grant application