

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 – 2022



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University | LIBRARY



Dedicated to student success.
TODAY. TOMORROW. **ALWAYS.**

ALPHARETTA
ATLANTA
CLARKSTON
DECATUR
DUNWOODY
NEWTON

WE ARE THE **GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**



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JEFF STEELY

Dean

TAMIKA BARNES

Associate Dean for Perimeter Library
Services

LAURA BURTLE

Associate Dean for Collections, Resource
Acquisitions, Digital Services, &
Scholarly Communications

BRYAN SINCLAIR

Associate Dean for Public Services

ERNEST DUNCAN

Administrative Officer

IAN WEBB

Director of Communications

PHOTOGRAPHY

Meg Buscema, Kenzie Luke Petrow,
Kelly Murray, Ian Webb

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Georgia State University Library
Library South, 7th Floor
100 Decatur Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

EMAIL: libcomms@gsu.edu

PHONE: (404) 413-2700

WEB: lib.gsu.edu

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@gsu_library



from the desk of...

The start of the Fall 2021 term was quite a shock to the system. After the previous year, which was very quiet as many students were learning at home, our gates exploded with about 7,500 students per day entering the downtown library and with a similar return to something approaching pre-pandemic business at our Perimeter College locations. Our staff adjusted to the surge with enthusiasm and a little bit of fear, as we endeavored to provide great service while also keeping each other safe.

I am immensely proud of the work of our team through these very challenging years. They have been creative and compassionate, both in service to our students and faculty, and in caring for each other. Many have had to shoulder extra duties to cover for a colleague's illness or to fill gaps as the "great resignation" saw a number of colleagues advance in their careers with a move

or as co-workers left for more personal reasons.

One important step we took during the year was making salary adjustments for the staff in our lowest paid library classifications. A market study revealed how far we were falling below prevailing wages in comparative institutions. Within our own budget, we prioritized adjusting salaries for 39% of our non-librarian staff.

As I look forward, I am very excited about numerous initiatives we have underway which will support the four pillars President Blake has outlined for the university's next strategic plan.

- **RESEARCH & INNOVATION** – We will begin fundraising for a critical storage facility for our collection of nearly 10 million photographic prints and negatives. An



DEAN JEFF STEELY

irreplaceable collection of images documenting the history of Atlanta, these materials need a new home to ensure long term preservation.

- **STUDENT SUCCESS** – In response to a national trend of student disengagement, which we also saw at GSU last year, we are launching a “personal librarian” program to connect with incoming students on a regular basis. We will also be working to address the challenge of textbook prices as a newly selected member of the OpenStax Institutional Partner Network Program.
- **COLLEGE TO CAREERS** – Our Research Data Services department will continue to provide opportunities for students to gain real-world data skills with projects such as co-sponsorship, with the Social Action Alliance, of a Hack4Good hackathon to address transportation issues; our “data ready” micro-credential program; and a grant-funded initiative to develop a data “lab” for students to explore issues related to hunger insecurity.
- **IDENTITY & PLACEMAKING** – This year we are offering the #aboutATL series, sponsoring book talks and

Data in the ATL sessions to highlight research about Atlanta. We are also developing a website which specifically highlights research about Atlanta by Georgia State faculty and students. Finally, we look forward to completion of the new Study Commons as our biggest contribution to creating a “college town downtown” (more details on p. 18).

We have an exciting journey ahead as Georgia State launches into its next strategic plan. We invite your interest, your encouragement, and your support as we “enhance student learning and success, inspire creative expression, enable the creation of new knowledge, and facilitate informed dialogue.”

Curious? Want to learn more about any of these projects? Let's set up a time to talk!

JEFF STEELY
Dean of Libraries
Georgia State University

jsteely@gsu.edu

NEW & NOTABLE

RESEARCH DATA SERVICES LAUNCHES MICRO-CREDENTIAL BADGING PROGRAM

The Research Data Services department launched a new badging program in 2022. GSU students, faculty, and staff can earn micro-credentials that demonstrate data literacy or software and coding skills. They can then share these badges via social media or online profiles. Some faculty have incorporated the Library's badges into course requirements. Learn more at lib.gsu.edu/data-ready.



MULTIMEDIA STUDIO WORKROOMS OPEN FOR STUDENT USE



During the 2021-2022 academic year the University Library opened two new Multimedia Studio Workrooms, available for students to reserve and utilize any time the library is open. The rooms in Library North are equipped with state-of-the-art hardware and software including Mac Pros, podcasting hubs, noise-cancelling microphones, and mixing boards.

Students can utilize these spaces to complete class projects or passion projects and are reservable for up to 3 hours per-student, per-day.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY FINALIZES WORK FUNDED BY THE WATSON BROWN FOUNDATION

A critical responsibility of any research library is ensuring long-term access to its unique holdings. Audio-visual media are among the most endangered holdings. Thanks to a generous grant from the Watson-Brown Foundation, Digital Library Services and Special Collections & Archives have been digitizing fragile 8 mm and 16 mm films in the Southern Labor Archive over the past two years. As that project comes to a close, we are pleased to be able to provide access to many one-of-a-kind videos. Discover some of these gems at lib.gsu.edu/watsonbrown



GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT LANDS A FULL-TIME JOB AT GEORGIA ARCHIVES BEFORE GRADUATION



GSU senior, **Kayla Moorhead**, secured a full-time permanent position at the Georgia Archives as a Preservation Technician and started in October 2022. Moorhead worked in the University Library Special Collections and Archives working on a variety of preservation projects and secured a brief internship with Big River Bindery in Norcross in the spring of 2022. Her experience in the University Library and at Big River Bindery landed her a coveted paid internship at the Georgia Archives over the summer which allowed her to gain the experience needed to land a full-time position at the archives before graduation. Moorhead is expected to graduate from GSU in May 2023 with a BA in Fine Arts.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY PLANNING A HOME FOR 10 MILLION PHOTOGRAPHS WITH NEH GRANT

Special Collections & Archives has been awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in the amount of \$48,691 to create a plan to convert a 10,000 square-foot space on the Atlanta campus into a state-of-the-art cold-storage facility, with capacity for a growing collection, which currently includes 10 million photographic prints, slides, negatives, as well as videotape and movie films. These fragile media are subject to ongoing degradation without proper storage. Special Collections is seeking, from the NEH and private supporters, the additional funding required for this conversion.



PERIMETER COLLEGE LIBRARIAN WINS RESEARCH AWARD FROM GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



Sheeji Kathuria, Reference & Instruction Librarian and Honors College liaison, was the recipient of the 2021 Georgia Library Association Academic Library Division Research Paper Award. Awarded for her work on the paper "Library Support in Times of Crisis: An Analysis of Chat Transcripts during COVID," Kathuria's research evaluated the efficacy of chat as a viable reference support option for a research library. Kathuria said that "embarking on a research project and writing a scholarly, peer reviewed paper completely by myself has been a huge professional goal of mine." Congratulations, Sheeji!

POPULAR READING & BROWSING COLLECTION MAKES A COMEBACK IN LIBRARY NORTH, ATLANTA CAMPUS



After several years away from the Atlanta campus, the Popular Reading & Browsing Collection has returned to Library North, first floor. Faculty, staff, students, and community borrowers can now check out pleasure reading books for 28 days.

"We're so excited to bring this highly requested collection back to the library here at GSU, and we look forward to expanding it as demand grows," **Skye Hardesty**, head of Collection Development & Discovery, said about the collection's return.

ANNUAL LIBRARY EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT DAY RETURNS FOR 2022

Library Employee Development Day (LEDD), an annual library tradition, returned as an in-person event after a canceled event in 2020 and a virtual event in 2021. Hosted on the Atlanta campus in August 2022, the University Library welcomed over 90 faculty & staff for a day of learning, growth, and team building. We look forward to its return in 2023!



RESEARCH DATA SERVICES HOSTS FIRST ANNUAL LOVE DATA WEEK CELEBRATION



Research Data Services, the University Library's newest department, hosted the first annual "Love Data Week" during the week of Valentine's Day with the intent of getting students to fall in love with data.

"The idea is to get students to not be as scared of data and to actually love working with it," **Ashley Rockwell**, Data Literacy & Learning Specialist, said about hosting the event. "By using simple charts & graphs that students have a foundational knowledge and encouraging them to add their own captions, it made students realize working with data isn't as scary as it's often made out to be."

NEW & NOTABLE

FIVE NEW FACULTY MEMBERS JOIN THE ATLANTA CAMPUS

Research Data Services hired Halley Riley (top right) in the role of Data Services Specialist, effective September 2021. Brittany Newberry (bottom left) started in Special Collections & Archives as the Popular Music & Culture Archivist in February 2022. In March 2021, Ashley Rockwell (top left) moved from a limited-term, sponsored position into a permanent faculty role in the newly created position of Data Learning and Literacy Specialist. Research & Engagement added two new librarians in April 2022: Charlene Martoni (top middle) as Social Science Librarian and Rachel Chandler (bottom middle) as Science and Data Visualization Librarian.



GRADUATE SCHOOL MOVES GRADUATE STUDENT WRITE-IN TO THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



The Graduate School and the University Library teamed up to establish a new home for the annual Graduate Student Write-In events. Now taking place in the Library, graduate students working on dissertations, theses, or assignments have a dedicated workspace with access to librarian consultations and any of the library's available materials or equipment.

When asked about how the event helped her, PhD candidate **Ebony Gibson** said, "This week has made me fall in love with the physical space of the library again — instead of just stopping through to grab a book from the shelves. I'll be returning here more often as a place to write comfortably."

TWO LIBRARY DEPARTMENTS COLLABORATE ON A PROGRAM FOR THE CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF STUDENTS AND ALUMNI

Jill Anderson, Humanities Librarian, worked with **Jordan Frost**, Library Assistant II in User Services & Technology Support, to present extended instruction sessions to the Center for the Advancement of Students & Alumni's Humanities Inclusivity Program. The Humanities Inclusivity Program (HIP) creates a pipeline and support network for humanities majors from underrepresented groups to enter and succeed in Master's and PhD programs. The University Library is a proud campus partner of the HIP and looks forward to continued collaboration.

SIGNIFICANT ACQUISITIONS

MUSIC AND POPULAR CULTURE COLLECTIONS

Collection Name: Ed and Sheila Hula collection

Amount: 60 linear feet

Description: The collection includes items related to Ed and Sheila Hula's work as journalists and producers for public radio and CNN, audio recordings and VHS tapes on the subject of radio and TV broadcasting, posters, *Around the Rings* (a web-based publication covering the business and politics of the Olympic Movement in Atlanta), and more. Topics include Atlanta events from the 1980s to 2010s, including the 1996 Olympic Games

Significance: This collection complements and expands our holdings on the history of radio broadcasting and the Atlanta Olympics.

Collection Name: Atlanta Street Art Map website collection

Amount: 25 GB

Description: The collection includes photographs, social media, and website crawls from the creator of the Atlanta Street Art website, Art Rudick. It documents the murals and street art found in Atlanta neighborhoods from 2018 to present day, some of which no longer exist.

Significance: This collection complements and expands our popular culture holdings, as well as provides materials on the Atlanta street art.



UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Collection Name: Rose V. James Papers

Amount: 3 linear feet and 636MB

Description: Correspondence, sketch books, business records, and photographs of artwork. James (1922-2019), an Atlanta painter and sculptor, was a graduate of Georgia State University and an advocate for women in the arts.

Collection Name: College of Business Administration – Dean's Office Records, 1970s-2000s

Amount: 3 linear feet

Description: Includes strategic plans, self-studies, accreditation reports, and other materials supporting decision-making and compliance.

Collection Name: Andrew Young School of Policy Studies – Georgia Health Policy Center Records, 1994-2014

Amount: 9 linear feet and 79MB

Description: Records in multiple formats documenting the Center's work in its first two decades. The Center "provides evidence-based research, program development, and policy guidance to improve health status at the community level."



WHO WE ARE



6

campus libraries



55+

reservable spaces



55

faculty librarians



67

staff members FTE

WHAT WE DO



1.7M+

full-text downloads



1M+

visits to 6 libraries



1.2M+

ScholarWorks downloads



1M+

website visits

WHAT WE OFFER



3.4M+

titles held



1.8M+

volumes held



1.4M+

e-books held



1,050+

research guides

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT - EQUIPMENT LOANS

As the world we live in grows increasingly more digital, students turn to the University Library to help fill the gap and check out equipment that they may not have access to at home.



4,744

calculator loans



2,794

Mac/PC laptop loans



191

DSLR camera loans



2,122

Chromebook loans



3,520

headphone set loans



13,588

dry erase marker loans



PERIMETER LIBRARY SERVICES HOST PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

As the COVID-19 pandemic spread around the globe and learning moved from in-person classrooms to online, Alpharetta campus reference & instruction librarian Sheeji Kathuria, along with other Perimeter Library Services faculty and staff members, had an idea...

What if we brought library instruction into the homes of our students?

"We started the Library Essentials Workshop Series due to social distancing during the height of COVID. Although the library had always offered workshops in some form or fashion, they were not uniformly marketed across all Perimeter campuses. With the virtual environment, we were able to enhance our online teaching skills, share our unique talents, and (most importantly) connect with students where they were, at home, just like us," Kathuria said about the introduction of the workshop series.

Kathuria and her colleagues brought the idea to associate dean Tamika Barnes, who was ecstatic about

the opportunity to bring the library's resources to the students.

The series started as a set of simple Library 101 workshops, but over time morphed to expand the depth and breadth of the series, showcasing the relevance of library resources not just for the classroom, but also beyond its walls as students build career-ready skills as current or future members of the workforce.

"Sheeji and I talked extensively about how we could best market these workshops. By dividing them up into subject areas, it allowed us to connect students with the topics that they wanted and needed," said Ian Webb, the University Library's director of communications.

Separating the organization of the workshops into categories in the marketing materials was a success: attendance has grown, students are returning for refresher sessions, and becoming actively engaged with the educational process.



TEACHING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

“Even after reopening, our workshop offerings continue to have broad appeal, not only with Perimeter students but also with Atlanta students, as well as faculty and staff looking to enhance their skill sets in certain area,” Kathuria said of the current state of the workshop series.

The workshops are offered year round to faculty, staff, and students, with schedules of all workshops released at the beginning of each semester, allowing students to plan ahead.

OUR COLLEGE TO CAREER COMMITMENT

The University Library firmly believes that student success does not start or end in the classroom, that the skills students take with them from Georgia State should serve them in the workplace. From soft skills like critical thinking to hard skills like data analysis, the library’s faculty & staff are focused on preparing students for life after college and success in the workforce.



SARAH HARRISON

GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



From the classroom to the farm, Sarah Harrison (M.S. '22) found her calling to help children who struggle with speech & communication.

By deciding to enter a graduate program after being out of school for several years, Sarah Harrison (M.S. '22) knew she would face some challenges with re-entry into an academic environment. What she didn't expect, however, was a global pandemic that shut down the campus and the world around her.

As a student in Georgia State University's Master of Science in Communication Sciences and Disorders program, Sarah's interest was in speech language pathology. Her goal is to work in private practice to help young children who are unable to produce speech sounds correctly or fluently, or who have problems with their voice or resonance.

The Communication Sciences and Disorders program is a nationally-renowned program that sees students thrive, not only in the classroom environment, but also



in a clinical environment. Students like Harrison must complete 400 hours of clinical experience through Georgia State's Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic.

However, with the pandemic raging and her clinical sessions moving online, Harrison had to find a suitable place to work with her patients. During this time she found home and solace in the reservable study rooms that the University Library offers Georgia State students.

"Living with housemates and pets presented a real logistical challenge for me to prepare for sessions and work with my kids, so I will be forever grateful to the University Library for being open and available for my use throughout my program," Harrison said about her time as a student at GSU.

Harrison now works as a speech language pathologist at McKenna Farms, a therapy farm for children with speech and developmental disabilities in Dallas, Georgia.

In my work with students, we've used spaces in every corner of the GSU library! We offer everything from traditional to flexible classrooms to spaces for individual and small group work.

– Denise George
Education Librarian

OUR COMMITMENT TO STUDENT SUCCESS

Student success does not just live in the resources we provide our student: it lives in the support and safety we can provide students during their time with us on any of our six campuses (Alpharetta, Atlanta, Clarkston, Decatur, Dunwoody, and Newton).

The Georgia State University Library's Atlanta Campus provides over 300,000 sq. ft. of space with seating for over 2,000, 55 reservable study spaces, and access to cutting-edge technology.



Experienced as an international journalist, trained as a researcher, and shaped by the social sciences, Kelly Murray's professional purpose has become clear: to discover, evaluate, and implement solutions for the world's most marginalized and vulnerable people.

Kelly Murray is a professional chameleon: someone who has grown and changed, but built upon the environment that has shaped her. As a proud triple Panther (B.A. '11 in Anthropology, B.A. '11 in Journalism, and MPH '22), Murray knew that she wanted to change career trajectories when she returned to school.

"Originally, I wanted to be an anthropologist!" Murray said while discussing her varied degrees. Eventually, Murray landed at CNN, where she has been a leading journalist on stories about marginalized communities in the United States and around the world.

"Although I have had incredible challenges and successes working with CNN, including three years living and working in Hong Kong, I no longer want to simply tell stories of marginalization — I want to create transformation in those communities," Murray said about her transition. Murray believes that the transformation she wants to create will come through the use of data.

Her advisor in the School of Public Health informed Murray about the virtual workshop series offered by the University Library's Research Data Services department. "Because most of my degree was completed online due to the pandemic, it was the perfect solution to fill my knowledge gaps about statistical software," she said.

Murray completed her thesis, "Associations Between Gender, Alcohol Marketing Exposure, and Hazardous Drinking Among Young Adults in Uganda and the United States: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Analysis" through secondary data analysis of a survey conducted by a team of other Georgia State researchers.

In order to recode variables and complete her analysis, Murray needed a deeper understanding of statistical software and the code behind it. That is where the

KELLY MURRAY

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

University Library stepped in: Dr. Halley Riley of the Research Data Services department provided Murray with intensive, hands-on technical assistance on SAS while also teaching the coding language during multiple reference sessions throughout the semester.

I APPRECIATED HER FLEXIBILITY, PATIENCE, AND ENCOURAGEMENT. RDS WAS ABSOLUTELY INSTRUMENTAL IN COMPLETING MY MPH THESIS ON TIME. NOW, I'M ABLE TO CARRY WHAT I LEARNED FROM MY TIME AT GSU INTO MY PHD PROGRAM AS I CONTINUE WITH SAS AND OTHER PROGRAMS LIKE STATA, SPSS, AND NVIVO.

After completing her MPH at Georgia State, Murray moved on to Tulane University, where she is a PhD candidate and continuing to use her data skills to solve problems for marginalized communities.



OUR COMMITMENT TO RESEARCH

The Georgia State University Library is committed to the basic principles of research & innovation in the context of a higher education environment. From providing introductory level workshops for Perimeter College students to advanced data analysis and technical support for our Master's and Doctoral students, we're committed to supporting GSU's growing research impact.



NO PARKING ZONE

*An unsightly parking lot will
become a vibrant study space in
2023*

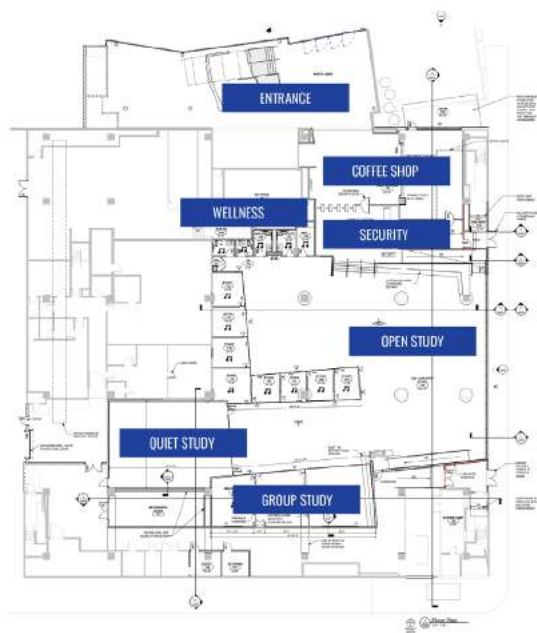
The University Library is responding to the crowded conditions in the Atlanta library by converting an underutilized parking area under Library North (C-Lot) into a modern, student-focused library expansion. The addition of the Library North Study Commons will bring approximately 200 additional student seats to the library, increasing overall capacity by nearly 10 percent.

“We are grateful to the Board of Regents for approving the project, to the university for its support, and especially to our students, who voted with their fees for expanded and improved library spaces and services,” said Dean Jeff Steely.

“We recently finished the new, state-funded Library North entrance, with its beautiful rooftop terrace. This adjacent, ground-level space will add much needed indoor capacity. The Study Commons also offers a terrific opportunity for alumni and friends to support our students and recognize a loved one with a naming gift.”

Georgia State’s Women’s Philanthropy Network (WPN) recently announced an





GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
LIBRARY NORTH STUDY COMMONS

award of \$25,000 to name the Wellness Room, a space for parents provide care to their young children. GSU alumni Anna Humnicky and Benjamin Williams will both name study rooms in memory of their respective mothers, a beloved school librarian and a proud Panther mom.

Alumnus and current doctoral student at Georgia State, Benjamin Williams, knows the critical role the library plays in connecting students,

community, and academic interests. "I spent my fair share of time in the library as a student and the new Study Commons will enhance our student success mission. Naming a room to honor my mother's legacy as a proud Panther mom is a wonderful legacy to leave."

The Study Commons will also nearly double the number of gender-neutral, single-occupant restrooms on campus. With its own secure entrance, separate from the rest of the sprawling Library North-Library South complex, the space will allow for the library to respond to student requests for additional late night and weekend hours.

Demolition started late this summer.

Construction will continue throughout the 2022-2023 academic year. The Study Commons is scheduled to open during the Fall 2023 semester.

To keep up with the project, visit lib.gsu.edu/reimagined. To learn more about how to support the University Library, including naming opportunities in the Study Commons, contact the University Library's Director of Development, at libdev@gsu.edu or 404-413-2707.





VISIT US

University Library
100 Decatur Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

CONTACT US

library@gsu.edu
(404) 413-2820
lib.gsu.edu

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@gsu_library

