

# COLE *Train*

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## McAbee named Alumna of the Year

The Library School Association of the University of Alabama's School of Library and Information Studies



*McAbee (with Hubbard, right) receiving her award from Renee Blalock of UA SLIS.*

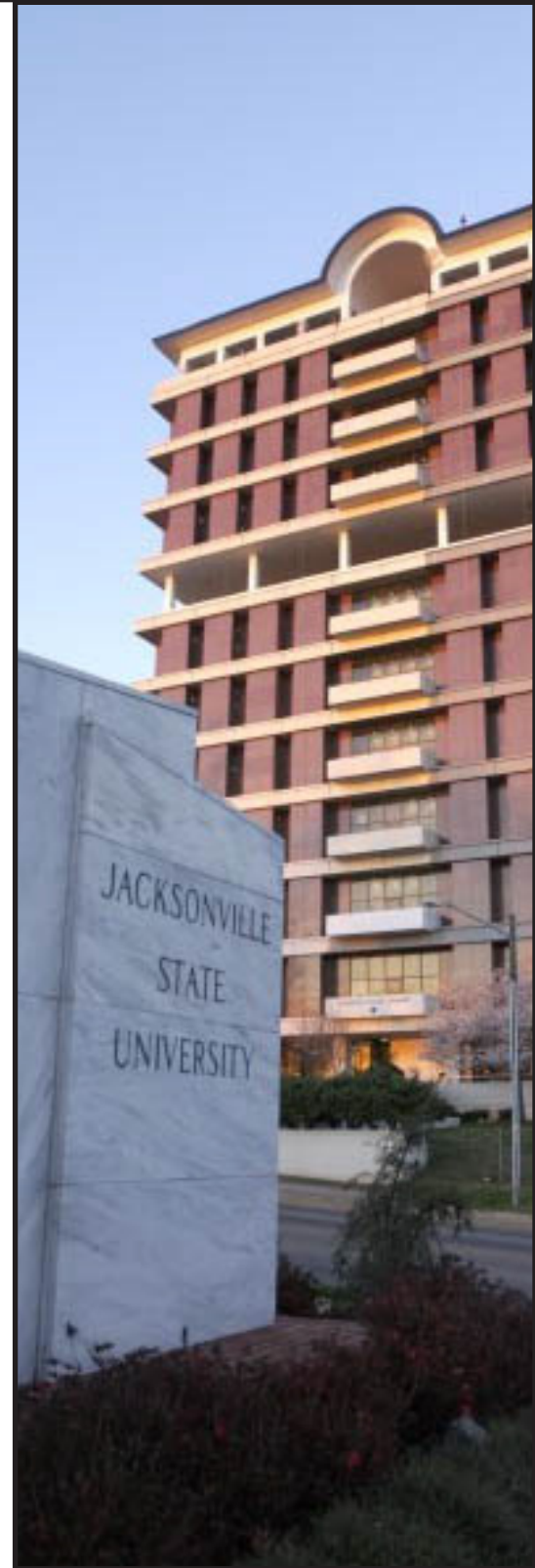
honored Sonja L. McAbee, Head of Library Services at Houston Cole Library, as its 2005 Distinguished Alumni. The award was presented at the LSA Alumni Day Luncheon

in Tuscaloosa on November 4, 2005. According to the LSA's guidelines, "The Distinguished Alumni Award will recognize those alumni who have made an outstanding contribution to the library, information, and media professions and who have thereby achieved distinction."

An impressive glass award was presented to McAbee before a room full of friends, co-workers and fellow SLIS alumni. McAbee said that she was deeply honored by the recognition, and added that she was grateful to her colleagues at JSU, and to University Librarian William Hubbard, who nominated her for the award.

McAbee, who has held positions ranging from paraprofessional acquisitions assistant to Full Professor and Head of Library Services during her career at JSU, is active in state and national organizations. She has also mentored numerous young professionals and paraprofessionals and has written a number of articles that have been published in professional journals. McAbee holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Jacksonville State University, and completed her MLS while working full time at Houston Cole Library.

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### In this issue...

- Miles for Melanoma ..... Page 2
- Gamecock Gallop ..... Page 2
- Faculty Research Awards ..... Page 2
- Comings and goings ..... Page 2
- Employee of the Year ..... Page 3
- Publications and presentations ..... Page 3

## Miles for Melanoma ❖ Miles for Mom

Librarian Kim Stevens ran the Mercedes Marathon in Birmingham, Alabama on February 12, raising money for the Melanoma Research Foundation (MRF). Kim's mother, "Buddie" Weatherford, is battling this



Stevens (right) and her mother, Buddie Weatherford

cancer. The MRF's "Miles for Melanoma" program is a very low-key program, according to Stevens. Runners agree to run an event representing "Miles for Melanoma," print up brochures based on a template furnished by the MRF, and solicit donations. There is no minimum amount of funds to raise as in some other charity-sponsored runs, and all donations to a "Miles for Melanoma" run go directly toward research grants.

The nonprofit MRF, founded by melanoma patients and families, funds melanoma research. The mission of the MRF is three-fold:

- to support medical research for finding effective treatment and eventually a cure for melanoma;
- to educate patients and physicians about the prevention, diagnosis and treatment for melanoma;
- and to act as an advocate for the melanoma community to raise the awareness of the disease and the need for a cure.

While malignant melanoma is the least common form of skin cancer, it is the most deadly. It is also highly preventable and treatable, if caught early. No significant advances in medical therapies (or survival) for patients with advanced melanoma have occurred in the last 30 years.

This was Stevens' second marathon run to raise funds for cancer research. In 2002 she ran the inaugural Mercedes Marathon as a member of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's "Team in Training."

Keeping it in the family, Stevens' husband, David Stevens, trained with her and also ran the marathon. "It was great running the marathon with David. We did most of our training runs together, which made the time go by more quickly," Stevens said. Fellow librarian and runner Laurie Charnigo also ran the recent Mercedes Marathon and was Stevens' frequent training partner. Charnigo's husband, Wayne Phillips, ran on a marathon relay team.

Stevens said the marathon was a rewarding experience and knowing that she was raising money for a worthy cause to help her mom made it that much more meaningful. She's not sure if she's going to tackle another marathon, but does see half marathons in her future.

## Library Gallopers Defend Title

For the fourth year in a row, the Houston Cole Library team took the President's Cup Award in the Gamecock Gallop 5K held October 29, 2005. Jim McLaughlin of the JSU Wellness Center presented the award to the team. The President's Cup Award, given to the department with the highest number of participants in the annual event, will remain on display in the library lobby for another year.

The 2005 Library team members were: Laurie Charnigo, Kim Stevens, Arland Henning, Paula Barnett-Ellis, Bill Hubbard, and Sonja McAbee.

## Faculty Research Award Recipients

The following faculty members received a Faculty Research Award at the 2004/2005 ceremony: John-Bauer Graham, Sonja McAbee, Paula Barnett-Ellis, Jodi Poe, Laurie Charnigo, Hanrong Wang, and Bethany Skaggs.

### Comings and Goings...

The Library bid a fond farewell in October 2005 to ColeTrain editor and acquisitions assistant Angie Finley. Finley was promoted and now works in the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. The Library welcomes Joshua Holmes, who joined the Library staff as a Public Services Assistant in July 2005. Holmes, who works the night shift, holds a B.A. in History and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in History at JSU.

## 2005 Employee of the Year Award goes to Cleveland

Noah Cleveland, who was named Employee of the Month for July 2005, was named Employee of the Year 2005 during the annual staff awards luncheon that was held on Monday, December 19, 2005. Cleveland was given a plaque and President Meehan presented Cleveland with a check in the amount of \$500.00.

Cleveland, who has been a JSU employee since 2000, is a serials assistant in the Library's Technical Services Department. He enjoys good working relationships with librarians and staff all over the library, and co-workers have long appreciated his outstanding attitude. His helpfulness, kindness,

dedication to his job, and pleasant demeanor are only a few of the attributes which make him a valued member of the Library staff.

Also at the luncheon, service pins were awarded and employees of the month were recognized.



*Cleveland (right) receives his award from Keith Thomas, Chairman of the Staff Advisory Council*

## COLE *Train*

The official newsletter of the **Houston Cole Library Jacksonville State University** is published each semester as a means of communication between the Library and the JSU community. Submissions and comments are welcome and may be sent to the following editors:

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## Publications and Presentations...

Once again the librarians at the Houston Cole Library were busy publishing and presenting papers. Here is a list of a few of their accomplishments...

Laurie Charnigo, 5th Floor Librarian, presented a paper, "From Library Instruction to Finished Paper: Tracking Education Students Awareness and Use of Information Sources" at the Georgia Conference on Information Literacy.

Hanrong Wang, 10th Floor Librarian, presented a paper co-authored with William Hubbard, entitled "A proposed Collection Analysis Model for the China-US Million Book Digital Library" at the Inaugural International Conference on Universal Digital Libraries in Hangzhou, China.

Laurie Charnigo and Paula Barnett-Ellis, 9th floor Librarian, published, "Offer it and they Will Come: The Use of Wireless networks in Medium Sized Academic Libraries" in *Information Technologies and Libraries*, March 2005, vol.24 no.1, page 13-21.

Bethany Skaggs, Documents Librarian, published, "Next-Gen: Happily (Mostly) Ever After," in *Library Journal*, January 2006, vol.131 no.1, page 66.