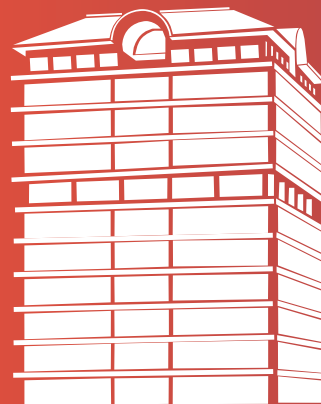


COLE TRAIN

Library Newsletter

https://digitalcommons.jsu.edu/lib_ac_coletrain

Houston Cole Library's 50th Anniversary

By: Kim Westbrooks

HCL kicks off its celebrations to mark the building's 50th birthday with a tailgate party

On September 27th from 11am – 2pm Jacksonville State University students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends celebrated the 50th birthday of the current Houston Cole Library building with a Tailgate. The birthday celebration was well-attended, with an estimated 300 in attendance to enjoy hot dogs, chips, soda, and an enormous, multi-layer cake — nearly 4 feet high — made in the likeness of the building. The celebratory atmosphere overflowed from the Library Lobby outside into the front porch, including music, cornhole, side-

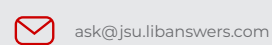
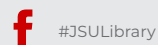
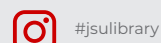
walk chalk, and a visit from none other than Cocky, the majestic mascot!

Although the Library is celebrating the 50th birthday of the current building, the Library's history dates back much further. The Library's collection, which began with books acquired from Calhoun College, existed prior to the official founding in 1883 of what would become JSU. The Library's collections have moved multiple times in its existence; before the completion of the new building, the Library was housed in Ramona Wood from 1939-1972.

The modern Houston Cole Library is an expansive 170,000 square foot facility, the tallest academic building in Alabama. Opening in 1972, it was named for University President Houston Cole.

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"Tailgate" continued on Page 3

College for Kids Returns

By: Laura Pitts

Post-pandemic, HCL brings back its child-friendly favorite

This past summer, chatter and laughter filled the air on the 5th Floor of the Library. After a short hiatus due to the pandemic, the College for Kids Summer Program returned to the Children's Corner, with renewed excitement for learning and opportunity.

More than 100 children participated. Forty of those children attended enough programs to "graduate" in July, receiving a special diploma from JSU President Don Killingsworth and his wife, Kristi. Cocky, the JSU mascot, made an appearance to celebrate.

This was the third year of the Library's summer program for children, and program creator and director Laurie Heathcock was thrilled with the turn out.

"I am so grateful for this program that we are able to offer children in our community," says Heathcock. "The kids come in and are so excited to not only be here, in the Library, but to be at the college. They truly feel like college students."

And that feeling is one of the main reasons Heathcock ensures that children are presented with the best of the college experience, tailored for their age group.

Throughout the daily program, which spans from June to July and is geared for children between the ages of four and eight, JSU faculty run workshops centered around a certain theme or activity within their specialty. Stargazing, the importance of working out and eating healthy, how to control



Above: Dr. Laura Weinkauff, JSU Associate Professor of Physics, has set the stage for her stargazing class. Below left: Librarians Kim Westbrooks and Laurie Heathcock celebrate the kick-off of College for Kids.

emotions, and embracing creativity were just a few of the program topics.

"The professors are the heart of what we do during the summer, as their service to help with the program and to teach the children really make the program possible," Heathcock notes.

Children are given a notebook and are encouraged to bring it daily to the programs and can earn study stickers as part of a learning initiative Heathcock developed. Before each daily activity, Heathcock presents students with "Words of the Day" as related to the instructor and the type of program students will take part in. Children are encouraged to write these words down, along with their definitions, memorize them, and go

..... ”

Kids really felt like they were in college. They were so proud...

.....

over them with their family members. This little bit of "homework" helps bring the children's college experience alive.

"Kids really felt like they were in college," says Heathcock. "They were so proud to bring their notebooks in each day and write in them just like the big kids."

Along with the programs, families are encouraged to peruse the 5th Floor's shelves for children's books, which can be checked out for further reading at home.

One new area of the program Heathcock implemented was a minute mindfulness section, designed to teach the students how to settle down, engage with their surroundings, and prepare for the daily lesson.

"There is anything but silence when the children arrive," says Heathcock. "I found that it was a good lesson for all of us to take a moment, breathe in and out, and get ourselves ready to learn."

College for Kids will begin again in June of 2023. Anyone interested in supporting the program can contact Heathcock at lheathcock@jsu.edu.



ALL-IN Giving at JSU

By: Linda Reeves



ALL-IN Champions for JSU Annual Giving was launched last Fall by President Killingsworth and Dr. Emily Messer, VP of Advancement, asking all employees to contribute annually to the JSU Foundation, so that employees are ALL-IN to support JSU.

Interested in giving? Visit www.jsu.edu/givejsu or text GIVEJSU to 91999 to explore ways to give. All colleges, and almost every department, program, and initiative, have a JSU Foundation account, including the Library. You can designate your gift to support anything that you would like to select. For additional information about how to make a difference through your donations to the JSU Annual Fund, contact Amy G. Schavey, Assistant Director of Annual Fund, at aschavey@jsu.edu or (256) 782-8240.

"50th Anniversary Tailgate" continued from Page 1...

Houston Cole zealously pursued federal grants to help fund the new building, which featured a cutting edge layout dividing collections by subjects into 8 mini-libraries, stacked on top of one another. It was built as the "showplace of the campus."

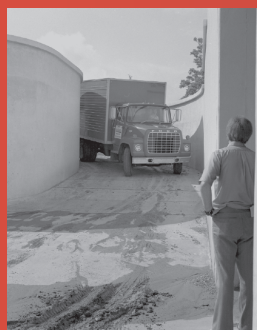
Be sure to celebrate the Houston Cole Library's 50th birthday with us by exploring the digital exhibit on the Library's architecture at <https://digitalcommons.jsu.edu/exhibit/houston-cole-library-celebrates-50-years/>. Join us in Spring 2023 for a Library 50th Gala celebration, details forthcoming!



Top: President Emeritus Houston Cole (left) stands in front of his unveiled portrait at the Library's dedication. Then-president Ernest Stone is shown at right. Above left: The tallest academic building in Alabama gets a recreation in cake for the tailgate party. Above right: The building features front and center in a Homecoming parade held before construction was completed..

Houston Cole Library: Moving In

The Houston Cole Library building opened its doors in 1972, and students, faculty, and community members couldn't wait to see what this new monument to knowledge would have in store.





Left to right: Laura Pitts, Jamarcus Houston, Kelli Schultz, and Sandi Maroney

Library Welcomes New Faculty and Staff Members

By: Kim Westbrooks

The HCL team welcomes a new 7th Floor Subject Specialist Librarian and three Circulation Assistants

Laura Pitts, General Works and Literature Librarian, has filled the position vacated by the retirement of long-time Library faculty Harry Nuttall. Pitts grew up in Walker County and currently lives in Scottsboro, where she was the Public Library Director for nine years before coming to JSU. She holds an MLIS from The University of Alabama, a Master's in English and Creative Writing from UAB, and is currently pursuing a PhD in Communication at The University of Alabama. Pitts enjoys crocheting, spending time with her pets, watching Huntsville Havoc hockey, and sleeping. Her reading tastes tend towards audiobooks: "There is just something about the theatrics in an audiobook that catches my attention. The top books I've listened to in 2022 are Bonnie

formerly worked as a Detox Counselor and as a Dorm Assistant at the Georgia School for the Deaf. Houston's favorite author is Stephen King, and he enjoys spending time with his wife and children and playing video games. His fun fact: "My first cousin is Martin Houston, fullback for The University of Alabama's 1992 National Championship team."

Kelli Schultz, who has been employed at JSU since 2017, joins Houston on the night shift. Schultz, from Pleasant Valley, likes to draw, and her favorite author is William Shakespeare. Her fun fact: "I can read upside down and write backwards."

Sandi Maroney joined the Library back during the summer as a daytime Circulation Assistant, filling the position left by the retirement of another long-time Library employee, Bill Batchelor. Prior to her employment with JSU, Maroney was the director of the Ragland Public Library for seven years. Originally from Hillsdale, Michigan, Maroney moved to Fort Payne a week before her thirteenth birthday, and she notes, "I'm a Southern girl at heart." This is reflected in her reading tastes, with her favorite books being "The Widow of the South" by Robert Hicks and "Gone with the Wind" by Margaret Mitchell. Maroney loves to read, do crosswords, and spend time with her family. Her fun fact: "I LOVE anything plane related! I would love to have a retired jet in my backyard that I could just live in."

These are such lovely books about what it means to be human.

Garumus's "Lessons in Chemistry," and Steven Rowley's "Guncle." These are such lovely books about what it means to be human." When asked for a fun fact about herself, she notes, "I am on a quest to have my photo made at every state welcome sign in America. So far, I have 21 state sign photos."

Night-shift Circulation Assistant Jamarcus Houston replaces Toby Falk, who retired last year. He hails from Piedmont, and has

Stop by the Circulation Desk and the Library's 7th Floor and meet the newest members of the HCL team.

Spotlight on Digital Collections

By: Allison Boswell

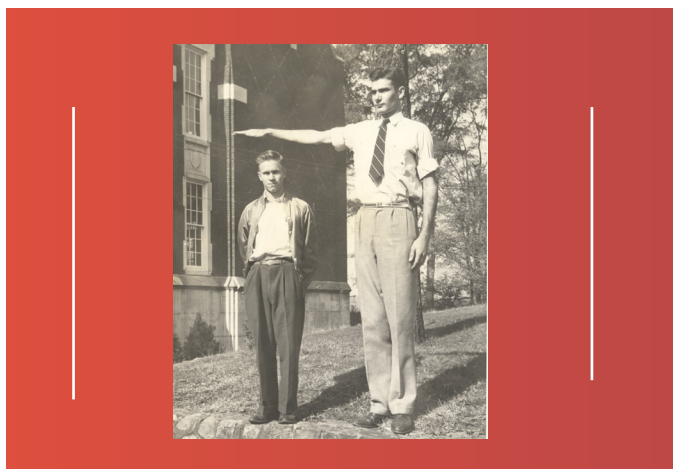
See the spotlights below to explore popular items in JSU Digital Commons



JSU Digital Commons houses the Library's digitized archival collections, and also serves as an openly-accessible repository for JSU faculty and student scholarship. Through this resource, the Library can help you showcase your scholarly output, greatly increasing the reach of your work. We can provide an online conference presence, host open access journals, and much more. Digital Commons gives

users permanent, open links to their work and offers a variety of metrics. Users can schedule monthly, customized emails to see how many times their scholarship has been downloaded and the geographic distribution of their users, worldwide. Scholarly articles, presentations, theses/dissertations, artwork, lectures, journals, posters, and creative writing are just a few of the types of content in Digital Commons,

and the Library is actively seeking your contributions. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Allison Boswell (amboswell@jsu.edu, (256) 782-8137). More information and instructional videos are available at https://libguides.jsu.edu/digital_collections/jsudc.



Spotlight: Archival Photographs

The Library's digitized [historical image collection](#) features over 60,000 images and counting, and sees significant downloads. As seen in the [photographic print at left](#), they sometimes show the whimsical side of the institution. The tallest (Glenn Howard Sides) and shortest (Calvin Coolidge Sims) residents of the Forney Hall dormitory pose outside Bibb Graves (now Angle) Hall in November 1942. Sims was freshman class president, and Sides was a senior and Marine Reservist.

Spotlight: New Collection ROTC Archive

The Library has partnered with the JSU Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) to preserve scrapbooks, photographs, and other resources that document the history of the JSU ROTC unit, which was established in 1948, and the young men and women who have participated in it. At [right](#), ROTC cadets and their dates attend the military ball in 1951. The original items are housed in the Library's Alabama Gallery Special Collections.



Users in 170 countries have accessed DC scholarship



150,564 downloads from JSU's collections



Users from 3,816 unique institutions

Library Research and Scholarship

By: Yingqi Tang

Houston Cole Library faculty have had another productive semester of research, publications, and honors.

Allison Boswell, Assistant Professor



Sum 2022 Conference Presentation

Boswell, A. (2022, August 1) Tips from Sir Cluckerton: Effective and Fun Social Media with a Library Mascot. [Poster Presentation] Alabama Library Association Annual Conference.

Karlie Johnson, Assistant Professor



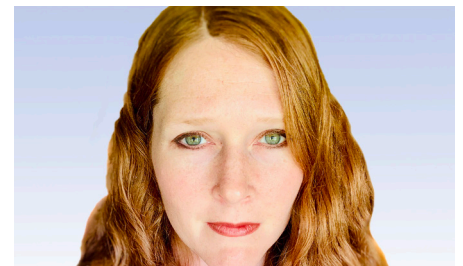
Sum 2022 Conference Presentation

Whittemore, T., & Johnson, K.L., (2022, August 2) Great expectations: Assumptions vs. reality of a long-time staff member turned full-time academic librarian. [Poster Presentation] Alabama Library Association Annual Conference.

Jodi Poe, Distinguished Professor



Bethany Latham, Professor



Kimberly Stevens, Professor



Sum 2022 Funded Grant

Poe, J., Latham, B., & Stevens, K. (2022, August) National Endowment for the Humanities Preservation Assistance Grant for Smaller Institutions: Houston Cole Library (HCL): Assessment and Preservation Training. (Awarded 8/31/22, Principal investigator: Jodi Poe.)

Laura Pitts, Assistant Professor



Fall 2022 Conference Presentation

Pitts, L. (2022, September 16) Collection development for marginalized communities [Conference presentation]. The Association of Small and Rural Libraries (ARSL) Convention, Chattanooga, Tenn., United States.

Yingqi Tang, Professor



Sum 2022 Funded Grant

Tang, Y. (2022, May) JSU Faculty Research Grant: Academic Librarians' Perception and Attitude towards OER. (Awarded 5/10/22)

Spg 2022 Peer-reviewed Publication

Tang, Y., Tseng, H., Tang, X. (2022). The Impact of information-seeking self-efficacy and online learning self-efficacy on students' performance proficiency. Journal of Academic Librarianship, 48(5), 102584.

HCL Lobby: Coffee & Art

By: Allison Boswell

The Fall saw the addition of a book art installation and the opening of Starbucks.

In Spring 2022 Jacksonville Opera Theatre presented the musical adaptation of “Little Women.” After their performance closed, they donated the book art background to the Library, and the art now adorns the Lobby ceiling for all to enjoy. Starbucks also opened in the Lobby in Fall 2022, replacing Jazzman’s.



It’s Game On at the Houston Cole Library

By: Laura Pitts

When Associate Professor Laurie Heathcock set up a table of donated board games, little did she know the response that families and students would have. “I have been really surprised, but happy, with how students and families have used the games,” says Heathcock.

The collection of card and board games began with donations, and from there it grew, now spanning the wall of wooden bookshelves near the 5th Floor’s elevators. Some games are educational and relate to younger children, while others are designed for larger groups of adult players and require more skill and strategy. The collection contains mindfulness games and games that promote learning new languages, as well as everything from strategy board games to the classics, such as Monopoly, checkers, and Scrabble. For the youngest users, there are blocks and manipulatives, along with coloring sheets and crayons that stay out year-round.



A new board and card gaming collection brings even more fun to the Library’s 5th Floor

“For me, this has been an experiment in trust,” said Heathcock. “All a person has to do is find their game, sign it out, and use it.”

The only request is that the games remain in the Library and be returned to their proper place.

“Coming out of COVID, I really wanted to make this area a place that is not just Library related, but has something fun to do,” Heathcock shares.

The gaming collection has provided many in the campus and Jacksonville community with an opportunity to connect with others and take a break from the often-daunting task of school work.

Heathcock notes the gaming collection is currently accepting new and used games. The sole requirement is that donated games include all pieces.

“Sometimes students just need an outlet between studying, a way to relax and do something fun with friends,” she says. “I plan to keep this collection out for this purpose, as a way to bring a little bit of happiness to others.”

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Above: Dr. Houston Cole and Dr. Alta Millican, Dean of the Library, with an artist's rendering of the building.

Become a Member of the Friends of the Library

Support your Library, and enjoy the benefits of Friends of the Library membership.

While Library resources have been a fundamental building block of education at Jax State since its inception, the campus didn't have a designated Library building until 1939, when the Ramona Wood Library was constructed. The Library quickly outgrew its home on the quad, and by 1972, construction was complete on a new, 13-story Library building intended to serve as the heart and hub of the campus. The structure, which is the tallest academic building in Alabama, was named after JSU President Emeritus Dr. Houston Cole. Dr. Cole was a committed scholar who believed in the pursuit of knowledge as the overarching ideal for an institution of higher learning. He valued

the Library as the centerpiece of that ideal. Through its multitude of resources and expert faculty dedicated to helping patrons meet information needs, the Library supports every aspect of JSU's curriculum, as well as offering services to the local community. The Friends of the Library plays an integral role in promoting the Library and helping enhance Library resources in a time of reduced budgets. Friends membership brings with it check-out and other privileges. The Library greatly values your support, and we'd love to welcome you to the Friends. Visit the Circulation Desk or <http://www.jsu.edu/library/pdfs/friends/friendsmembership.pdf> and become a member today.

Houston Cole Library

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