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Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Alabama State University Connection

by Dr. Howard Robinson

The Levi Watkins Learning Center (LWLC) is featuring an exhibit entitled “Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Alabama State University Connection.” Charles Varner, who works with the National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African American Culture at ASU, provided the research and much of the information needed to create this exhibit. The three-panel exhibit explores Rev. King’s 1954 arrival in Montgomery, his role in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and his ascendancy as a key spokesman for the burgeoning civil rights movement.

This exhibit addresses the various ways and reasons Rev. King visited the campus and interacted

with the faculty and staff of ASU. The exhibit begins with King’s trial sermon at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, known as the “College Church.” Dexter was dubbed the “College Church” for its large number of members who were ASU faculty, staff, administrators and students. The exhibit also looks at King’s decision to spend his first night in Montgomery on the campus of Alabama State University, at the “Faculty Circle” home of Dr. J. T. Books, ASU Vice President. Considerable attention was paid to the relationships that King maintained with specific men and women at ASU, particularly those individuals who attended Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. The



exhibit chronicles King's activities on ASU's campus from 1954 to 1960. One segment deals with King's use of the ASU library to finish researching and writing his dissertation. Another segment looks at his frequent appearances in Paterson Hall, where King attended meetings and receptions in the Home Economics Department Dining Hall. The exhibit also identifies Rev. King as the keynote speaker at ASU's 1955 Commencement, and King's 1958 speech on campus for the

Alpha Phi Alpha Founder's Day celebration.

The exhibit titled "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Alabama State University Connection" is one in a series of exhibits created by the Levi Watkins Learning Center (LWLC) Exhibit Team. The LWLC Exhibit Team is a talented group of individuals including Dr. Howard Robinson and Evelyn Bowen as co-chairs; Dr. Dorothy Autrey as copy editor, and Derrick Bryant as the graphic designer. Min Pan, Yolanda Smith Evans,

and Brandon Owens work on the fabrication, while Jason Trawick erects the framework for the exhibit. Other themes explored by the exhibit team include displays on the Selma to Montgomery March, the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Black History Month at ASU, and the life and contributions of Nat King Cole.

The exhibit, "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Alabama State University Connection," will be on display until September 2016, on the first floor of the LWLC.

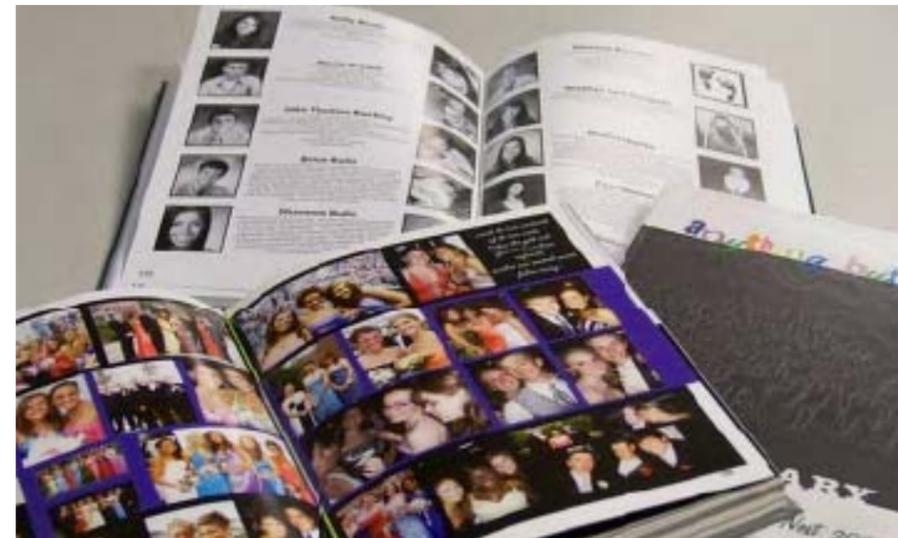
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The LWLC Yearbook Collection

by Jian Zhang



The LWLC Yearbook Collection is a rich resource containing photo evidence of student, faculty, staff, and alumni activities. Levi Watkins Learning Center began digitizing ASU yearbooks (Hornet) and uploading digital versions to the Digital Library in 2014. The ASU Digital yearbooks collection is in

PDF format, supporting page flip view and are full-text searchable. Digitalization team members, especially Ms. Min Pan and Ms. Yolanda Smith-Evans, have been working diligently to digitize, process, and upload digital yearbooks into the collection. To date, digital yearbooks spanning

18 years are available online. Users can browse each book by flipping pages or by using search terms online. The team is working hard to add additional yearbooks to the collection. To access the LWLC Yearbooks Collection, please visit: <http://lwlcdigitallib.alasu.edu/cdm>

HOURS OF OPERATION

NORMAL HOURS

Monday - Thursday
8:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Friday
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sunday
2:00 PM - 9:00 PM

SUMMER HOURS

Monday - Thursday
8:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Friday
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sunday
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM



“The club functions as a liaison between the Levi Watkins Learning Center and Alabama State University’s student body.”

The Levi Watkins Student Library Club continues to be a catalyst for the Levi Watkins Learning Center and Alabama State University as club members participate in activities and events both on campus and in surrounding communities. The club functions as a liaison between the Levi Watkins Learning Center and Alabama State University’s student body. The connectivity is strengthened as members of the Levi Watkins Student Library Club are energized to involve themselves in events and activities, to develop into strong leaders and to seek to make a difference in the lives of others and in the

Inside the Levi Watkins Student Library Club

by Edna Foxhall and Clarissa Broughton

surrounding communities. The Levi Watkins Student Library Club was established in 1949, reorganized in 1982, and named after Alabama State University’s 6th President, Dr. Levi Watkins. In the Fall Semester of 2015, the club members and library advisers participated in the following activities: Voter Registration Drives, Food Drives, the Zelia Stephens Halloween Parade, LWLC Club Halloween Social, Snack Sales, ASU Campus Homecoming Parade, and the Library Club Christmas Social. The club members also participated in the 92nd Annual Turkey Day Classic.

In the Spring Semester of 2016, the Library Club members participated in Discovery ASU Day, Voter Registration Drives, The Valentine’s Day Social, End of the Year Social, Mardi Gras Beads Giveaway, and Snack Sales for the university community. Future events and activities for the Levi Watkins Student Library Club include visiting a local nursing home, participating in National Library Week, as well as in the “End of

the Year Social”. The advisers (Clarissa Broughton, Edna Foxhall, Yolanda Smith-Evans, Min Pan, Charlotte Daniel-Carr, Madhu Kadiyala, Rosa Moore, Robert Calloway, Randy Curtis, Timothy Vasser, Evelyn Bowen, Brandon Owens, Huimiao Mo, Ricci Taylor) of the Levi Watkins Student Library Club would like to extend thanks to the following participants that made 2015-2016 a memorable year to be treasured for years to come: THANK YOU!

- Student Library Club Membership Roster 2015-2016:**
- Kahadijah Bryant
 - Henry Louder
 - Bre’yona Daily
 - Shundrea Montgomery
 - Brianna Fletcher
 - Lydia Owens
 - Clifford Grant
 - Jonathan Slaughter
 - Narkeylia Hooks
 - Erica Tyson
 - Jamia Jones
 - Jessica Williams
 - Kevin Coleman
 - Sadie Marshall
 - Zantasia Jordan
 - Shawn Woods
 - Shayla Kelly



DEAN’S CORNER
The Strategic Planning Process in the LWLC
by Dr. Janice R. Franklin

“If you don’t know where you are going, any road will get you there.”
Lewis Carroll

Strategic Planning in libraries follows an organizational management model that has been in practice for many years. By definition, strategic planning is used to “set priorities, focus energy and resources, strengthen operations, ensure that stakeholders are working toward common goals, establish agreement around intended outcomes/ results, and to assess and adjust the organization’s direction in response to a changing environment (The Balanced Scorecard Institute, Strategy Management Group, <http://>

balancedscorecard.org/, Web. 14 March 2016).”

The need to think strategically or to make progress in a specific, planned direction also follows the ideas of the scientific method that to problem solve. The steps of strategic planning may be viewed as similar in nature to concepts of the scientific method. Both processes involve systematic reasoning and should result in conclusions or findings that are the result of strategic investigation. The steps of the scientific method include making observations, posing questions, constructing hypotheses, designing, executing, and evaluating experiments, making predictions, and establishing theories that

become natural laws based on the knowledge or evidence derived. In a similar fashion, the strategic planning steps allow organizations to formulate their direction, systematically, by observing their organizational environment, determining goals and objectives after careful analysis, choosing methodologies to reach strategic goals, and, by examining or evaluating outcomes realized, for effective organizational change and growth.

The Levi Watkins Learning Center has employed strategic planning methods through the years in keeping with the University’s planning process. Each fiscal year, the LWLC leadership team engages in strategic thinking exercises to develop an annual plan

that connects to the University's strategic vision, and more specifically, to strategic goals of Academic Affairs. This year, Academic Affairs has identified goals and unit priorities that were published in a document known as the "Academic Affairs Strategic Roadmap." With this emphasis on aligning the goals of colleges and departments to that of Academic Affairs, the LWLC has continued its own practice of strategic planning using the new Academic Affairs roadmap priorities.

At a time of challenge in which financial resources are limited, it is essential that the LWLC carefully considers its strategies for effective change and productivity. In light of budget reductions, LWLC administrative decisions are made to insure that the overall mission of the organization is achieved even though priorities and adjustments must be made.

The LWLC has a formal strategic planning process that is followed annually. A planning team operates in the library as oversight for reviewing and steering the library's strategic plan. This team includes managers, faculty, and staff representatives, specifically organized for this purpose. In preparation for determining priorities each year, the administration reviews its planning documents with representation from the team members. The intent is

to examine the relevance of the mission, vision, and values documents over time as the instruments by which the success or failure of the strategic plan is measured. Generally, foundation documents like these are reviewed annually, but revised biannually or as needed after their review. The strategic plan is built upon these documents and is an outgrowth of the mission and vision of the LWLC. A five year plan that looks ahead toward a larger view of the learning center's future direction is also reviewed annually and updated, as needed, to move the library toward achieving its long range vision. The overall vision is thereby achieved by taking "small bites," annually and in five year increments, toward its fulfillment as plans are implemented.

After planning documents are made ready, a strategic planning session is held each year with the planning team to gather input necessary to explore the current and future direction of the library. The findings grow out of a SWOT analysis of the library's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. The fiscal year 2015-2016 plan reflects input from all levels of the organization. Budget constraints are also weighed by the library leadership team to determine the feasibility of pursuing certain directions or goals that emerge out of the faculty and

"Strategic planning at the LWLC is a routine practice that has insured our success in reaching higher heights of accomplishments in our Learning Center."

staff input received.

Out of these annual discussions, goals and objectives are agreed upon and each member of the library's leadership team of managers is asked to champion assigned goals from the strategic plan after it has been fully vetted. These "champions" from the library administration insure that goals and objectives that they lead are fully addressed with documented outcomes.

The next step involves a dissemination of the plan to the general library faculty and staff for implementation based on the strategies or measurements identified. Departments, library teams and committees execute assigned objectives as action plans with specific time lines for completion. Monthly reports are prepared by each department based on departmental outcomes together with LWLC member's individual job performance progress reports, faculty APRs, and team reports. Data derived are evaluated

Database Resources @ the LWLC

by Madhu Kadiyala

The acquisition of Databases/Electronic resources for the Levi Watkins Learning Center each academic year involves a process that is both tedious and fruitful, as it enriches the curriculum needs of the various departments on the campus of Alabama State University. The acquisitions process is largely dependent upon the availability of fund allocations for the Library for the fiscal year combined with the needs of faculty for resources to fit their courses. The Library plays a very important role regarding the assessment of the databases available from vendors and their usefulness in supporting the multi-disciplinary areas of the University. FY2015 was a tough year for Library Acquisitions due to budget constraints which naturally had an affect on the resources that the Library could afford to purchase. Many databases that

were considered useful were not bought last year as the pricing was not affordable. Faculty input, the Library liaisons' recommendations, and the usage statistics were highly factored in retaining some of the databases. Some of the databases were expensive but renewed despite last year's constraints were Science Direct, IBIS World, Lexis Nexis Academic and Wiley Online Library.

FY2016 which started in October, 2015 has a more streamlined process for Acquisitions. Two new databases are being negotiated with vendors that will fit into the Libraries' affordability range and serve the needs of the various departments. In addition to renewing the databases mentioned above, we are able to acquire the EBSCO databases such as Education Full Text, Education Research Complete and Criminal Justice Abstracts with full text this year. Some of the databases

discontinued in 2015 and are being restored this year are: Academic Search Complete, MLA Bibliography, CINAHL and ProQuest Newsstand. Two new databases focusing on Theatre (Black Drama and Theater in Video) will be available starting in March, 2016.

Although LWLC plays a vital role in negotiating and acquiring a variety of resources, the emphasis faculty places in their classrooms regarding the usage of the databases cannot be stressed in words. The Information Literacy sessions offered by the liaison Librarians focuses on the valuable information that can be accessed by the students through the Library. The usage of the varied sources that the Library provides for all will make the LWLC the place to be.

For more information, visit our homepage at www.lib.alasu.edu or call us at 334-229-4110.

MLK Documentaries

by Linda K. Harvey

Each January, The Cultural Heritage Committee of the Levi Watkins Learning Center sponsors three days of documentaries about Martin Luther King, Jr. The documentaries are about Dr. King's civil rights protests in the South and

his frequent visits to other segregated cities in the United States. He is best known for his role in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent protests which were based on his Christian beliefs.

Our films are only slightly

longer than an hour. The public is invited to attend and all ASU instructors may plan classes around the films. All films are shown on the 5th floor. For more information, contact Linda K. Harvey at x 6839.



Library Faculty

by Jessica Platt

The librarians at the Levi Watkins Learning Center were promoted from staff to faculty in 2015. It is important to note that faculty status is not a static state and may be different across institutions. In a tenure-track position, library faculty must maintain a plan

and meet benchmarks along the way. Proper documentation is a necessity to provide evidence of effectiveness as a library professional, academic citizenship, and community service. Additionally, library faculty must follow and abide by campus and library

policies. This may seem daunting to some who are new faculty members, but a librarian's ability to accomplish these tasks can ensure a successful career, a successful library, and a high-quality parent institution.



to determine the effectiveness of outcomes based on the desired goals of the strategic plan.

At weekly leadership team meetings, each library manager is asked to report on their assigned goals and objectives. Data extracted from departmental monthly reports are analyzed to assess progress toward achieving the strategic plan. Decisions for improvement or for adjustment are made by the leadership team managers based on the data analyzed during these weekly meetings. Findings are compiled in an annual report that documents the year's accomplishments toward realizing the strategic plan. The final report is preserved as an archival document that accurately reflects the library's annual progress.

The strategic planning cycle, although tedious, is an effective method for demonstrating the progress of the LWLC. The final plan, although valuable, is not infallible. Often, unforeseen environmental factors may affect or temporarily derail the fulfillment of the plan. This is often a natural threat that all planning organizations experience when attempting to develop plans in a dynamic society and at a university that is constantly evolving to fulfill its mission. However, it remains true that a roadmap, a compass, or some sense of one's direction results in a higher probability that the road best traveled will lead to the correct destination. Strategic planning at the LWLC is a routine practice that has insured our

success in reaching higher heights of accomplishments in our Learning Center. We can record that our mission of service to the ASU academic community is successfully being met. These accomplishments are realized because of the dedication to effort by all members of an excellent team of managers, faculty, and staff that comprise the LWLC. We are proud of our success that is not only an outcome of our planning process, but also a reflection of the basic intrinsic values that we hold high, to offer the highest level of knowledge-based services to our students, faculty, and staff at ASU. After all, outstanding service to our academic community is our goal, our destination, our long term "plan" and our mission.



Research Gate

by Jessica Platt

Have you heard of Research Gate? It's a social networking site for scientists and researchers to share papers, ask and answer questions, and find collaborators. It is the largest network for scientists, research professionals and affiliated people. According to Forbes, "ResearchGate is changing how scientists share and advance research." NPR says it is "transforming the world through collaboration." The Los

Angeles Times claims this site is "Revolutionizing how research is conducted and disseminated in the digital age." In fact, the site claims 131 of its members work at Alabama State University. Research Gate allows users to share and find academic articles for free. If you're not one of the 131 current members from ASU, maybe it's time you explore Research Gate to see what it has to offer.

"Research Gate is changing how scientists share and advance research."
www.researchgate.net



The I-Café at the LWLC

by Monica Hodge

The state-of-the-art Internet Cafe (or I-Cafe) now provides ASU students, faculty, staff, and visitors with a variety of their favorite Starbucks coffee flavors, teas, muffins, cookies, and other foods to enjoy. Individuals may use their laptop and tablet devices to

access and browse the Internet while enjoying foods and drinks that are available for purchase. Also, open spaces are readily available with high-top and low-top tables and chairs, in addition to mounted plasma televisions to provide a more relaxed setting while customers surf

the web, perform online research, or collaborate with peers for group meetings.

Winter/Fall hours of operation for the I-Cafe are Monday - Thursday from 7:30 am - 7 pm, and on Friday from 7:30 am - 3 pm. Summer hours are Monday - Friday, 7 am to 3 pm.



Introducing LibGuides 2.0

by Natasha Jenkins

LibGuides are online research guides that make it easy for us to find creative ways to bring students the specific resources, instruction, and support that they need to succeed at their research assignments—all in one easy-to-use electronic guide! Originally purchased in 2011, the content management system from Springshare, known as LibGuides, has evolved into a more intuitive, time saving platform that libraries across the country have welcomed.

Known as LibGuides 2, this version of LibGuides was officially adopted by librarians at the Levi Watkins Learning Center in July

2015. Prior to adopting the latest, greatest version from Springshare, a small team began the process of migrating to the new platform. This team consisted of Fagdeba Bakoyema, Natasha Jenkins, and Kelly Wilson. This team analyzed the use of LibGuides 2 at comparison libraries, tested a Beta site, and informed Subject Specialists/Liaisons of their responsibilities during the migration. Upon completion of the migration, Natasha and Kelly provided hands on workshops to introduce LibGuides 2, share tips, answer questions, and alleviate any concerns. Guides have been

created for various subjects, specific courses, and other information literacy topics such as Citing Resources. There are also guides for the First Year Experience and Faculty. Librarians work with teaching faculty to provide guides that work for their students, can be embedded in Blackboard, and meet their specific needs.

The ORI 100: First Year Experience guide is pictured above as an example. To access the LibGuides go to <http://alasu.libguides.com>. For more information concerning LibGuides 2.0, contact Natasha Jenkins at njenkins@alasu.edu.