



Chapter One

For Friends of the George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida

Summer 2003

Mendenhall Statistics Books Donated to Libraries by Author

by Mandelyn Hutcherson

Professor Emeritus Dr. William Mendenhall, best known as one of the most prolific textbook authors in statistics, has donated copies of his collection to the George A. Smathers Libraries. The 15 college textbooks on probability and statistics that he authored or co-authored grew from notes during his teaching years.

Mendenhall's textbook *Introduction to Probability and Statistics* was a landmark text for introductory service courses that has found extensive use around the world for the past 40 years. His book on mathematical statistics, jointly authored with D. Wackerly and R. Scheaffer, is the leader worldwide. Several of his books have been

translated into Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese, Indonesian, and one is currently being translated

into Korean. He has published articles in some of the top statistics journals, including *Biometrika* and *Technometrics*.

Mendenhall is best known as one of the most prolific textbook authors in statistics.

The donated collection includes copies of all first and subsequent editions, a total of 60 books, with additional copies of solution and instructor manuals and a set of flash cards. One segment of the collection includes the introductory course notes prepared by the author for distribution to his class and the recently discovered handwritten notes of his son, Dr. Charles M. Mendenhall, who took the introductory course many years ago.

Mendenhall was the first chair of the statistics department at the University of Florida from 1963 until 1977 and was awarded professor emeritus status in 1978. He received his doctorate in statistics at North Carolina State University and was a

professor at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania before coming to UF.

"I wasn't out of grad school with my doctorate very long, and a big university like this gave me an opportunity to build a department," said

Mendenhall. "It was quite an offer and an opportunity."

He also included two books written for his granddaughters, Katie, Marisa, Elena and Kristen. The books, *Go in Twelve* and *The Life and Times of Uno Hu*, tell the story of his life growing up in Pennsylvania. The books leave a lasting legacy for the girls and give them something to keep for posterity.

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20th-century Heralds of Science Collection to be Donated to Libraries

by Jeffrey Barr
Rare Book curator

Dr. Raymond D. Cooper of St. Petersburg, Florida, has arranged to donate his still-growing collection of 20th-century heralds of science to the George A. Smathers Libraries. His collection consists of the most important books and journal articles that describe the most significant discoveries that took place during the 1900s.

Cooper earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois, his master's in physics at Iowa State University, and his doctorate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He specialized in nuclear radiation research, holding positions with the U.S. Army, the Department of Energy, the University of Maryland, and the National Research Council Board of Radiation. He is currently affiliated with Eckerd College. In addition to his professional work as a physicist, Dr. Cooper also established himself in the book trade, founding Key Books in Baltimore, Maryland in 1981.

A recent visit with Cooper and his wife Cary was quite a treat; they are both a pleasure to be with. Although we spent several hours going through the collection, we were able to get through only about half. For each title, Ray had a story, either about the importance of the title, or that particular copy, usually both. The collection ranged from off prints and journals to full length books, all divided into subject areas: astronomy, biology, chemistry, geology, mathematics, medicine, physics, and technology. There is also a large collection devoted to the atomic bomb. The dates range from about 1850 to the 1960s, a period that witnessed as much upheaval in the sciences as the Renaissance.

He placed everything in context as he fit the pieces of the jigsaw together. The collection is completely interlinked within the subject areas, although there is some overlap, such as between physics and chemistry. As Cooper is also a dealer, his competence in describing the titles is impeccable. He has also produced a bibliography entitled *Heralds of the Second Scientific Revolution*, intended as a continuation of the famous Burndy Library catalog *Heralds of Science*. He doesn't have everything in the catalog, but is still actively collecting.

The collection is going to make a superb addition to Rare Books for its emphasis on modern materials, compiled by an expert. ~

Dr. Raymond D. Cooper



Mendenhall

(Continued from page 1)

Dr. and Mrs. William Mendenhall



"I just loved writing those last two books, and I'd like to write another," Mendenhall said.

He and his wife Joan have two sons who received their bachelor's degrees at UF: Dr. William M. Mendenhall, a noted radiation oncologist in the UF College of Medicine, and Dr. Charles M. Mendenhall, head of the Department of Radiation Oncology at the Phoebe Putney Hospital in Albany, Georgia.

The Mendenhalls have been long-time supporters of the University of Florida. In 1997 they established the Joan S. Mendenhall Fellowship Fund in the College of Liberal Arts for graduate students with a background of academic excellence. Recently they pledged a bequest to the George A. Smathers Libraries to support research in Florida history. ~

Dr. Mendenhall's statistics books will be featured in a library display during the fall of 2003.

Sponsor a Smathers Library Window Renovation and Receive a Commemorative Sculpture

Donors now have the exciting opportunity to sponsor the restoration and repair of the Smathers Library windows, including the Gothic style Research Room windows. Gifts of \$5,000 will sponsor a window, help preserve the university's architectural heritage, and ensure a better environment for our intellectual heritage.

In appreciation, donors will receive a unique commemorative sculpture made with fragments of the original glass that cannot be reused in the renovation. In addition, a small plaque with the donor's name will be

placed beneath each set of windows in the Smathers Library.

The Smathers Library, formerly Library East, holds the Special Collections Department, the University Archives, and the Latin American Collection. Smathers is the original library for the university; built in 1925 with additions in 1938 and 1949, and a major renovation in the mid-1990s that did not include renovation or repair of the windows.

After 75 years some of the beautiful "granite glass" – a special type of

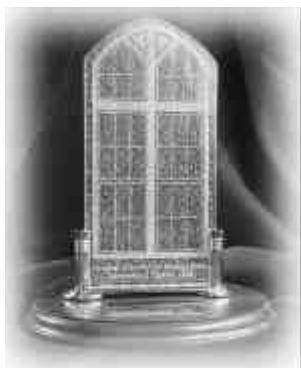
stained glass – has become broken, cracked, or damaged. Wood sash rails have deteriorated and window frames have warped and caused damaging leaks. By carefully restoring the Gothic windows, the current harmful conditions will be remedied. Moisture intrusion will stop, and ultraviolet

light – the enemy of library materials, can be filtered out using invisible modern technology.

Drs Larry D. Harris and Kathleen Deagan were the first to sponsor a window. "As the University of Florida strives toward greatness, only a few distinguished

programs such as the Smathers Libraries Special Collections are strategically grounded and ready for launch. We were heartened by the creative approach to fund-raising and knew that only by acting quickly could we capture an opportunity to be both innovative and renovative in the eyes of posterity," said Dr. Harris.

To sponsor a window and receive a beautiful commemorative sculpture, please fill in and mail the form below, or call Sandra Melching at (352) 392-0342. ~



Please accept my/our contribution for the funding of a Smathers Library window.

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Name(s) to appear on plaques (please print or type) _____

Make check payable to the **University of Florida Foundation, Inc.** and mail with form to: Director of Development, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, PO Box 117001, Gainesville, FL 32611-7001. Your gift may be eligible for a charitable contribution deduction.

Athletic Association continues partnership with libraries

The University of Florida Athletic Association recently donated \$83,000 to the George A. Smathers Libraries from proceeds of last season's pay-per-view televised football games.

The library's partnership with the Athletic Association has lasted for more than a decade. Their assistance has been invaluable when state budgets are down and the library needs funding to provide new services or important library materials for students and faculty.

"We are proud of our long-standing commitment to the academic community at the University of Florida," said UF Athletics Director Jeremy Foley.

Earlier this year, the Athletic Association purchased the library's four millionth volume – *Urania Propitia*, by Maria Cunitz. These millionth-volume books, marking the growth of our research collections, are important milestones. They signal to the academic world that the University of Florida provides first-rate support for its students and scholars.

"We will also use some of this year's funding to improve our capacity to digitize rare and hard-to-find print materials, making it much easier for students to access popular materials from their dorms and apartments," said Director of UF Libraries Dale Canelas. "At the same time, these projects make UF's collections available to everyone in Florida, or indeed, the world. This partnership strengthens and enriches the library, making us more responsive to the needs of our many constituencies. It also provides us that margin of excellence that allows us to do something special for our users." ~

After 150 Years, a Lost Manuscript Comes to Light

by James Cusick
Florida history curator

Pages of the manuscript that Florida author and historian John Lee Williams was hoping to publish into a second edition book have finally been reunited after 150 years. Nancy Meers, Williams' great-granddaughter, acquired half of the pages in 1984 and in 2003 began to investigate the origins which led to the discovery that the other half of the pages were housed in the Smathers Libraries' P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History.



Pages from the manuscript are included in *Portraits of Florida: rare items from the collections of the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History*, on display in the Smathers Library exhibit area through September 15

John Lee Williams published *Territory of Florida* in 1837 and it has enjoyed a mixed reception from scholars. Williams, a native of Massachusetts, was trained in law in New York, resided for a while in Virginia, and then moved to Florida just after its transfer from Spain to the United States. His primary purpose in coming south was to restore his health, but he soon entered into the pioneering spirit of other settlers, establishing himself in Pensacola, where he opened a law office and served as a justice of the peace.

Florida at this time had two official capitals – Pensacola and St. Augustine, a legacy from the merging of East and West Florida into a single political unit. To resolve the problem of establishing a permanent capital, representatives from each of the colonial capitals (Williams from Pensacola and Dr. William Simmons from St. Augustine) were commissioned to choose a new site. This task gave Williams an opportunity to explore much of the northern half of the peninsula. He and Simmons eventually decided upon Tallahassee,

in part because it was approximately halfway between the former capitals.

Williams' first published work on Florida, *A view of West Florida, embracing its geography,*

topography, etc. came out in 1827. Shortly afterwards he moved from the panhandle and took up residence at Picolata on the St. Johns River, where he began to compose a history and guide to the territory as a whole. An intense interest in Florida's wilderness always permeated his being.

Among Williams' acquaintances were the historian Charles Goodrich, the essayist and writer Washington Irving, and the naturalist John James Audubon.

While living at Picolata, Williams gradually finished what is considered his most important work, *The territory of Florida: or, Sketches of*

the topography, civil and natural history, of the country, the climate, and the Indian tribes, from the first discovery to the present time, with a map. Written in 1837, *Territory*



Williams

sold well enough to justify a second printing in 1839 yet often garnered little respect from subsequent writers and historians. "A mere compilation, dry and difficult to wade through," was the comment of Daniel Brinton (born in 1837, the same year that *Territory* came out).

Williams himself was well aware of *Territory's* shortcomings, though some were beyond his control. The Seminole War was at its midway point when he published the book, and he had to leave off his account of the war without a definitive conclusion. His knowledge of Florida was limited to his own travels and those of his sources, and he therefore had little to say about the southern reaches of the peninsula. Hoping to amend these problems, he spent the last twenty years of his life conducting research and interviews for an expanded version of *Territory*.

Unfortunately, he was never able to find a publisher.

“When John Lee Williams died in 1856 he supposedly had in preparation a revised history of Florida,” noted Ray Eldred Held in his 1955 dissertation on the historiography of the state. “If it would have shown as much improvement over the 1837 publication as the latter had shown over [A View of West Florida], it is especially unfortunate that the work was not finished and published.”

Ironically, just about the time Held wrote these words, the manuscript to which he referred was about to resurface. Sometime in 1958, a substantial portion of Williams’ revised *Territory* (approximately 100 leaves of handwritten text) was donated to the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History. It included a full account of the Second Seminole War, plus various other changes and additions. Library records do not

clearly document the provenience of this manuscript, but it probably came as a gift from Edward S. Kelly of Atlanta, Georgia, a great-grandson of John Lee Williams.

Even this collection of papers was not complete, however, and the saga of Williams’ unpublished book only came to a conclusion this year, when another descendant, Nancy Meers of Georgia, brought the missing part of the manuscript to the University of Florida.

Meers had been safeguarding a sheaf of Williams’ papers ever since 1984, when she first came across them in a rather unexpected way at the home of a great aunt. Sharing her

aunt’s interest in tracing the family tree, she often visited her, and recalls clearly the occasion when she first saw the manuscript for *Territory*.

“I was at my aunt’s apartment and she was taking out bits and pieces of family history, and at one point she took out a folder of papers and said, ‘Oh, I don’t even know what this is,’ and tossed it in the trash. But it looked extremely old and I asked her if I could have it.”

Meers took the folder home, but paid little attention to it, because she was more interested in other materials that her aunt had given to her.

Eventually, she looked through the folder and realized it was the work of her great-grandfather John Lee Williams. “I knew Williams was an author but not much about him.”

A few years later, though, Meers took the manuscript to an antiquarian book fair in Atlanta where, she says, it

elicited tremendous interest. Book dealers immediately made offers to buy it from her, offers which continued for years. Unwilling to sell (“I really felt it was a family possession, and not just mine”), she locked the manuscript away in a safe deposit box at her bank.

There it remained until 2003 when Meers began to investigate the origins of the manuscript. She knew of the Williams papers housed at the University of Florida, and came south, with her manuscript, to compare it with the holdings in the P.K. Yonge Library.

Only then did it become clear that Meers’ manuscript and the handwrit-

ten papers at the Yonge library were two halves of the same work – the pages, so long separated, had identical stains and tears along their margins. Williams apparently was still at work on *Territory* at the time of his death, for the reunited manuscript consists of three distinct but slightly different opening sections for the book, each between 30 and 40 leaves long, followed by several hundred pages from the 1837 publication with slight emendations, and then the long account of the Seminole Indians and the Seminole War that Williams’ used to conclude the piece. The materials donated by Meers also included Williams’ “Preface to the Second Edition” and his dedication to General Thomas S. Jesup, commander of U.S. forces in Florida at the time of the controversial seizure of Osceola and other Seminole leaders under a flag of truce.

Meers has donated her manuscript to the library as the gift of the Burtchaell and Jones families who, along with the Kellys, are direct descendants of the author. Plans are already in the works to bring Williams’ dream of a second edition of *Territory* to reality by editing and publishing the work in conjunction with an introductory biography about the author. ❧

Sources:

O’Sullivan, Maurice, and Jack C. Lane (editors) *The Florida Reader, Visions of Paradise from 1530 to the Present*. Pineapple Press, Sarasota, 1991, p. 76

Held, Ray Eldred. *Spanish Florida in American Historiography, 1821-1921*. Ph.D. dissertation, University of Florida, Gainesville, 1955.

Burtchaell, Mattie. “John Lee Williams.” Paper presented to the Historical Society of Jacksonville, May 11, 1942.

“I was at my aunt’s apartment and she was taking out bits and pieces of family history, and at one point she took out a folder of papers and said, ‘Oh, I don’t even know what this is,’ and tossed it in the trash. But it looked extremely old and I asked her if I could have it.”

– Nancy Meers

Smathers Libraries Inaugurates Leadership Board

The recently established George A. Smathers Libraries Leadership Board is composed of 21 members who are dedicated to helping the libraries increase their visibility and resources. The board held its first meeting on February 28 with editor and publishing consultant Susannah Borg of Ponte Vedra serving as the inaugural president.



Board members – Back row, left to right: Anne Haisley, Dale Canelas, Marilyn Adkins, Cathy Thompson, Ann Smoot, R.J. Wiltshire, Keith Douglas. Front row: Beverly Bartlett, Georgia Wahl, Susannah Borg, Madelyn Lockhart, Charlotte Porter.

Message from the Director

(Continued from page 8)

year. The libraries have frequently gone six or seven years with no increase in funding even though library materials are rising in cost each year at approximately twice the rate of inflation. When six or seven years without increases are followed by a reduction in a bad budget year, the damage to the libraries is substantial.

By national standards, the UF Libraries have had an unusually erratic materials budget. As a result, we have often missed purchasing library materials needed by students and faculty that were published in a poor budget year. When this problem is combined with the fact that scholarly books are published in very small runs that go out of print quickly, it can be devastating to the coherence of the library's collections. It can be very difficult to purchase missing books at a later date because one has to look on the out-of-print market which deals with one of a kind, older books. Many scholarly books are never resold. This leaves the library with collection gaps in specific subject areas that make it harder for students and faculty of the future to do their research.

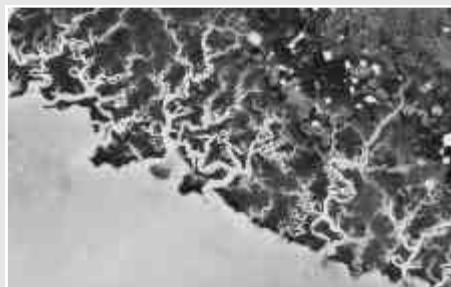
For the Smathers Libraries therefore, faculty collections are especially useful. They help to fill in the gaps created by inconsistent budgets and they substantially improve the breadth and depth of UF's collections. They allow the libraries to increase support for future students and scholars by incorporating into the collections materials of lasting value as is evidenced by their inclusion in faculty personal libraries. We are very grateful to the faculty who contribute to the libraries in this way and welcome discussions with other faculty who might consider this sort of gift to the libraries.

*Dale B. Canelas
Director of UF Libraries*

On the Digital Front...

The Digital Library Center continues to build cooperative projects with University of Florida departments and beyond that can be viewed on the Publication of Archival Library and Museum Materials (PALMM) Web site (<http://palmm.fcla.edu>),

Coming in September! FROM THE AIR: the photographic record of Florida's lands. The Digital Library Center, in partnership with the Map & Imagery Library, is digitizing the 40,600 aerial photographs and 600 photo mosaic indexes of Florida captured by the U.S. Department of Agriculture between 1937 and 1951.



Aerial photo of Taylor County, Florida

Desiderata

Students, faculty, and librarians are always looking for the perfect resource to complement their research. While we do our best to be responsive to special needs, there are always a few titles or equipment needs that lie beyond our grasp. If you are interested in helping the Smathers Libraries acquire any of the following, please contact Sandra Melching, director of development, at (352) 392-0342.

City: Critical Concepts in the Social Sciences; edited by Michael Pacione. Routledge, 2001. This five-volume set draws together important research on the concept of "city". Topics include the city in the global context, land use and economic structure in western cities, society and politics, and an overview of cities in the third world. This interdisciplinary approach would support research in urban & regional planning, construction, and the design disciplines. \$895

Sage Electronic Journals. A stable of important "core" journals in the social sciences with many of its titles available electronically in full text back to 1982. E-journals support off-campus access and distance learning. The four collections include mass communications, political science, criminal justice, and sociology. \$30,000

Victorian Yellowbacks and Paperbacks, 1849-1905, by Dr. Chester Top. Five-volume series of bibliographies on publishers of Victorian Yellowbacks and Paperbacks. Yellowbacks were originally published to be sold inexpensively in railway stalls and encompass all of the popular authors of the Victorian era. Each volume is richly illustrated with thirty-two color photos. \$150 per volume

Hebrew Books from the Harvard College Library. This microfiche collection of 4,934 volumes of choice Hebraica held by the Harvard College Library consists of 11,448 microfiche of carefully selected out-of-print rabbinical and secular works. Purchase of the collection permits scholarly access to older Hebraica that is difficult to obtain, if at all, in today's antiquarian book market. It supports the long-term preservation of the Price Library of Judaica's brittle holdings. \$32,000



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 - African Studies Collection
 - Asian Studies Collection
 - P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History
 - Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature
 - Belknap Performing Arts Collection
 - Rare Books
 - Manuscripts
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Smathers Libraries Web address: <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu>



Chapter One

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A Message from the Director

Undergraduate students are the most numerous users of university libraries.

Ubiquitous at our computers, studying in the stacks and reading rooms, lined up at the reference desk, checking out reserves, and copying materials for their term papers, the library is filled with their youth and energy. Graduate students are the heaviest and very sophisticated users of research libraries. On a per capita basis, they use the library for longer hours, check out more books, and systematically evaluate every book we hold in their research areas. Faculty have a long term relationship with the library that transcends any of the student relationships because faculty use the library repeatedly for many research projects over the course of many years. Because of this, faculty are generally the most avid supporters of the library and they make many

special contributions to library health and welfare.

The importance of faculty gift collections is a case in point. Over the course of their careers, many faculty build strong private libraries in the areas of their research. Filled with scholarly books, these collections generally have lasting value not only for their own work, but also for future scholars. The history of research libraries contains many a story about the gifts of faculty whose scholarly careers have come to a close, and who have donated their collections to the library they used most heavily during their careers. Libraries all over the world have benefited from these gifts as has the University of Florida.

Faculty are also important authors. Spending their lives developing expanded knowledge in many disciplines, they write their conclusions and publish them for the use of

other scholars and students. Sometimes, as in the case of

Dr. Mendenhall, they are able to give the library a complete set of all the books they have published over an entire career. The series of publications not only documents a scholar's contributions to his/her discipline, it also shows how his/her ideas developed over a period of time and the books become valuable research tools for other scholars.

Over the years, the library materials budget in Florida has been classified as a capital expenditure, that is, the same as equipment. The Legislature has always considered equipment a non-recurring category that can be decisively cut in times of extremity. And as a non-recurring category, it needs to be defended each



(Continued on page 6)