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## WRL Newsletter March 2012

Maryke Barber  
*Hollins University*

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MARCH 2012

# WYNDHAM ROBERTSON LIBRARY NEWS

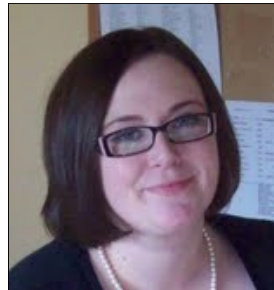
[WWW.HOLLINS.EDU/LIBRARY](http://WWW.HOLLINS.EDU/LIBRARY)

## SUSAN VANDALE JOINS LIBRARY STAFF

Susan Vandale started at the library on March 1<sup>st</sup> as the new Cataloging & Periodicals Librarian. Her most recent position was at the University of Georgia Libraries, where she served as a monographs original cataloger since 2008. We asked her to tell us some things about herself:

### Q: What is your academic background?

A: I have a B.A. in French from the University of Pittsburgh, and an undergraduate certificate in Women's Studies. Even though I majored exclusively in French, I have a solid background in a variety of languages, including Spanish, Italian,



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## NEW VIDEO DATABASE

Academic Video Online is the library's new video database. It offers videos in all academic areas and in a wide variety of formats from ethnographic field recordings to dance performances, and from documentary films to speeches. Currently at 10,000 films, the database is adding new videos until it will double in size by 2013.

The database takes search to a new level: it can find words in the transcripts of the films. Searches can be subject-specific, making it easy to target relevant results.

Try it out! You'll find Academic Video on the library's databases page: [www.hollins.edu/library/databases.shtml](http://www.hollins.edu/library/databases.shtml) If you have any questions about its content or features, our reference librarians will be happy to help: stop by, email [askref@hollins.edu](mailto:askref@hollins.edu) or give us a call at 540-362-7465.

## SAVE THE STUDENTS ...FROM NOISE



Our portable world brings us tremendous convenience. In a space where people search, work, study and socialize, it can also bring us challenges. At the request of our students and the suggestion of the

library's advisory committee, the library is starting a marketing campaign to urge civility when using cell phones, music players and other devices whose sound can disturb those working nearby.

For students who view the library as a place to escape a busy dorm and get their homework done, noise can be a tremendous distraction. This librarian has overheard students simply dismissing the library as "too noisy." While none of us on the library's staff relish the idea of becoming known as the scary type who shush others all day long, we do want to help those who need the library as a working space.

So, we ask for your understanding and your cooperation. Take your phone into the coffee commons or on a nice day, enjoy the sunshine on the porch. Bring headphones, or borrow them from us (just ask at the front desk). With all of us aware of noise levels, we can save the students. Thank you!

—Maryke Barber, Arts & Outreach Librarian

## THERE'S MORE ON PAGE 2:

- Susan Vandale (cont.)
- The Art of Recycling

# MORE LIBRARY NEWS

## SUSAN VANDALE CONTINUED

German and Latin. This knowledge has been very helpful in my career as a catalog librarian, as I have often been required to work with non-English-language materials. My MLIS (Master of Library & Information Science degree) is also from the University of Pittsburgh (2007.)

### Q: What do you like to read?

A: I'm very much a science fiction and fantasy fan, but I'll read anything as long as it's entertaining. I spend so much of my work day thinking that I really just like to switch off my brain when I get home, so no theoretical physics texts during my free time, thanks!

### Q: Why Hollins?

A: Before coming to Hollins, I worked at the University of Georgia, which is a nine-hour drive from my hometown of Charleston, West Virginia. I've never wanted to move back to Charleston, but I did want to be closer to my family, so Hollins fits the bill! I was also really excited to be offered this position because everyone here seemed so nice when I interviewed. My coworkers at the University of Georgia were a great group of people, so it was good to know that I would be working with a similarly awesome group.

## THE ART OF RECYCLING

Visitors were in for a treat this month with the display of works from the "Making Art Out of the Margins" competition. Students from Hollins – including Artist-in-Residence Beverly Rayner's entire mixed materials class – and from Community High School, used discarded books to create new works of art. The results were wonderfully varied: some were provocative, others beautiful, surprising, funny. A text-covered, high-heeled shoe – Kelly Sheehan's ('13) "CLM - Come Learn Me" stood next to a sculpted and painted



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## ECO-FRIENDLY ART

volume with one opaque eye looking out. Stitched, bloodied, "Flesh Book" by Brittany Hayes ('13) indeed looked like paper come to gory life: a great repurposing of Steven King's *The Stand*.

Three winning pieces emerged from the competition. In the Creative Writing category, Amanda Dibben's ('12) untitled work used a found text method known as "blackout poetry." Scraped, burned, and cut, her book gave the viewer a feeling of desolation, perfectly matched to the text emerging from it. For "Six Impossible Things Before Breakfast," Julie Andrews ('12) transformed a book of black and white photographs of medieval art by inserting shockingly bright figures from Tim Burton's and Disney's *Alice in Wonderland*. On one page the Mad Hatter stared out from behind a rose window; on the next, the Caterpillar smoked serenely below a crucifixion scene. Rich with detail, this trippy work beat out some tough competition in the Two-Dimensional category.



Arden Cone's ('12) Three-Dimensional "Print is Dead" pondered the demise of the book itself. She offered the following thoughts about her piece: "We are living in a time of fascinating transition into a digital world... My piece mimics the changing personality of information in

today's society by taking advantage of the structure of a book in print while removing the sense of reverence once associated with the printed word. Mimicking the common CANCELLED stamp, PRINT IS DEAD is slapped across the face of the book, leaving no room for ambiguity."

Whether poetry or sculpture, transformation or annihilation, the results of "Art Out of the Margins" were enjoyed by all. Before you recycle an old magazine or book, stop and think what you might create!