by Rachel Schipper, Dean, Library and Instructional Technology Center, Georgia College and State University

This year, librarians across the state are reviewing resources offered in GALILEO. In an exercise entitled, GALILEO 2, teams of librarians representing public and private libraries, K-12, and technical/academic colleges and universities have begun to conduct database comparisons, identifying gaps in offerings, and looking for potential cost efficiencies. Teams are chaired by Lydia Knight (Dalton State College), Bob Glass (Piedmont College), Rachel Schipper (Georgia College & State University), Shawn Tonner (North Georgia College & State University), and Kirsten Pylant (Augusta Preparatory Day School). Merryll Penson, Deborah Shackelford, and Katie Gohn from Library Services offer technical support, advice, and are the conduit for vendor contact.

A review of GALILEO was suggested by members of the GALILEO Steering Committee. The project volunteers are investigating adjustments needed for changing learners, interests, and for maximizing resources given limited funding. Participants focus on what is best for GALILEO as a whole; the big picture approach.

Volunteers on the e-collection development teams look at criteria for inclusion in GALILEO, the Core, and compare and make recommendations about online resources. A template for comparison of database resources was developed by the team chaired by Lydia Knight and will be used as small groups compare similar databases. Whether or not changes result from the investigations, the goal for this exercise will be to identify the types/formats of resources needed to support Georgia libraries.

Questions were added to the annual GALILEO survey to help obtain input and feedback about the GALILEO 2 project (November 3-9, 2008). In December, the GALILEO Steering Committee will receive preliminary recommendations from the GALILEO 2 project and consider the written feedback from the survey. The collaboration between diverse constituencies is meant to foster the best, balanced and broadest access to resources.

Review of GALILEO will be an ongoing focus for the e-Collection Development Committee. Suggestions and comments may be sent to the project facilitator, Rachel Schipper (rachel.schipper@gcsu.edu).

CRDL “GHRABS” The Prize

By GALILEO Staff

GALILEO Congratulates the Civil Rights Digital Library (CRDL), recipients of the 2008 GHRAB (Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board) Award for Innovative Archival Program. Accepting the award for the CRDL are Ruta Abolins, Director, Walter J. Brown Media Archives and Peabody Awards Collection at UGA (center left) and Sheila McAlister, Associate Director, Digital Library of Georgia (center right). Also pictured are Karen C. Handel, Georgia Secretary of State (left) and Ross King, Chair, Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board (right).

Congratulations to the staff at the Civil Rights Digital Library.
Winter Celebrations Around the World: Find Out in GALILEO

By GALILEO Staff

December 8
Eid-al-Adha (Islamic)

December 12
Day of our Lady Guadalupe/ Día de la Virgen de Guadalupe (Mexico)

December 13
Santa Lucia Day (Sweden)

December 16-25
Las Posadas (parties celebrating the Nativity - Mexico)

December 22 (sunset)-December 29
Hanukkah (Chanukah)

December 21, 7:04 a.m.
Winter solstice/First day of winter (Northern hemisphere)

December 25
Christmas

December 26
Boxing Day (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, UK)

December 26-January 1
Kwanzaa

January 1
New Year begins (U.S.)

January 6
Epiphany

January 19
Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday

January 26
Asian Lunar New Year (China, Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam)

Winter is a busy time when you’re talking about holidays around the world, and GALILEO databases are the place to go for finding exciting (and authoritative) information about them. You will find articles with information on the origins and celebrations of holidays, images relating to holidays, and even recipes for special foods enjoyed by celebrators (try your hand at sweet potato pancakes or twelfth-night cake).

Resources on holidays:

· Britannica encyclopedias
  o Search for <holidays> or a particular holiday.
  o Country articles include a section on “Festivals and Holidays.”
  o Don’t forget to explore magazine articles and websites linked from the encyclopedia article you are viewing.

· SIRS Discoverer
  o Click on “Cultures” then “Holidays, Ceremonies, & Observances” and “Food and Drink.”
  o Click on “Spotlight of the Month” then “Winter Holidays Around the World.”

· Discoverer WebFind (websites)
  o Click on “Cultures” then “Holidays, Ceremonies, & Observances” and “Food and Drink”

· SIRS WebSelect (websites)
  o Click on “Culture” then “Holidays and Traditions”

· Kids Search
  o Search for <holidays> or a particular holiday.
  o Use the “Narrow Results by Subject” feature on the left to refine results.
  o Check the “Books and Encyclopedias” to limit results to reference books articles.

· Student Research Center
  o Search for <holidays> or a particular holiday.
  o Check the “Reference Works and Encyclopedias” to limit results to reference books, including World Almanac & Book of Facts.

In your favorite database, you may also try searching individual country articles for information on holidays specific to that country.
GALILEO Staff were recently awarded the Customer Service Excellence Award of the Year - Team. University System Chancellor Erroll Davis (right) presented the award to Lauren Fancher (center), Director of GALILEO Support Services, and Brad Baxter, GALILEO Programmer (left).

Wonderful!! GISA thinks you guys are 24 ct. all the way.
Kirsten Pylant, Augusta Preparatory Day School

Heartiest Congratulations! GPLS is very proud of you!!
Lamar Veatch, State Librarian

This is an award that is supremely deserved. Congrats & thanks for your hard work.
Carolyn T. Fuller, Henry County Public Library

Congratulations to the team on a job well done and a well deserved award!
Bede Mitchell, Georgia Southern University

The winning of the Gold Award doesn't surprise me one bit! Congratulations!!
Judy Serritella, Coordinator of Library Media Services
Georgia Department of Education

We are SO proud of you guys! A wonderful recognition for tireless work on the behalf of the System. Congratulations to your entire crew!
Dr. Rachel A. Schipper, Dean
Georgia College & State University

Congratulations, Merryll and Team! You are fantastic!
Dr. Gordon N. Baker
Director of Libraries, Clayton State University

Subscription Information

• To subscribe to the GALILEO listserv, go to http://www.usg.edu/galileo/about/news/list.phtm.

• To subscribe to the GALILEO Planet, send your email address to galileo.planet@usg.edu.

• For a complete list of GALILEO Subcommittees, see http://www.usg.edu/galileo/about/governance/committees.phtml.

• To learn more about the GALILEO initiative, go to http://www.usg.edu/galileo/about.

• For GALILEO questions and technical support, call 1-888-875-3697.
GALILEO CONFERENCES 2008

GA Council for the Social Studies

GALILEO Users browse the GALILEO Exhibit Booth at GOLD/GALILEO

Blogging at GAETC 2008

Georgia International Convention Center, home of GAETC

Photos courtesy of Courtney McGough

GALILEO Annual Survey IPOD Winner!

Congratulations to Kelly Luke, Instructor of Biology, South Georgia College, this year’s winner of the iPod Nano from GALILEO. Thanks to Kelly and all who took the time to complete the GALILEO Annual Survey. Your feedback is instrumental in helping GALILEO staff create, change, and maintain Georgia’s Virtual Library.

“I use GALILEO extensively; not only to keep me updated on the latest publications that deal with science and technology, but I also introduce my students to GALILEO and how they can use the virtual library as a research tool.”

Kelly Luke, Instructor of Biology
South Georgia College