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Volume 2, Issue 1

Fall 2007

## A Message from Executive Director Rick Moul

Everyone knows that to build a house — or library — you need a solid foundation. But even when the foundation is laid, the work isn't finished. In fact, that's just the beginning. The same can be said of PASCAL: We have built a solid foundation, but we need keep on building to ensure that we sustain the progress we have made and continue to grow.

This year, our construction of the "statewide electronic library for higher education," as the legislature refers to it, has really taken off.

PASCAL staff and librarians from our membership have done some heavy construction work — particularly in building PASCAL Delivers, our rapid book delivery program. Now, over half of all PASCAL member libraries can now put a book they don't own into a reader's hands (and thus knowledge into their head) in days instead of weeks. We're working hard to finish this job.

In the Electronic Resources department, we've focused on adding core scientific research publications such as Nature, Science Online and Access Science to our sizeable core collection of academic journals. Among other things, we plan to add nursing materials in the upcoming year.

We've also expanded our support for local library system operations to improve services, while supplementing our infrastructure and funding-base.

Finally, it looks like the SC digital library will soon hatch, after several years of incubation within PASCAL.

While we should applaud our accomplishments, there are more rooms for us to build — better discovery, access, and collection management capabilities, as well as tools for digital scholarship and teaching, to name a few of these rooms.

Working together, our libraries are supporting higher education's efforts to help South Carolina to compete in the global knowledge economy.

You can get involved and help. Join our listservs, participate, and promote our services. Explain their importance to your faculty, administrators and funding agencies. And send us your suggestions!

rmoul@pascalsc.org

## PASCAL Delivers Faster and Easier

In a world where access is everything, PASCAL Delivers does just that: delivers! Just ask E. Jens Holley of Clemson's Cooper Library. He had a patron who needed a book from Francis Marion right away and, thanks to PASCAL Delivers, he had it in his hands the next day.

How was PASCAL Delivers able to deliver the goods so quickly? Quicker than even interlibrary loan? The secret is in the system's design. PASCAL Delivers is a patron-initiated system and

eliminates the staff processing associated with interlibrary loan. Library users search the PASCAL Delivers catalog, or Pascalcat, locate books in any member library, submit an electronic request for delivery of a book to their home institution, and receive those books within a few days—or sometimes sooner!

If your institution isn't up and running with PASCAL Delivers yet, fear not. PASCAL's staff has

*(Continued on page 2)*

**Each dollar spent centrally on electronic resources returns six to eight dollars in value...**

## Pooling Resources and Leveraging Investments

We are beginning to leverage South Carolina's investments in higher education resources systematically in order to foster a knowledge economy. Access to up-to-date information resources is crucial to this effort, especially for those working in the sciences. To meet these needs, PASCAL continues to augment its inventory of electronic resources, licensing *Liebert Online*, *Science Online* and *Nature* over the last year. Priorities for next year include expanding resources for nursing and allied health sciences.

PASCAL's Electronic Resources program provides access to thousands of academic journals, newspapers, business information and health science databases.

Through central licensing, PASCAL member institutions acquire resources much more cheaply than would be possible if each school licensed resources individually. Each dollar spent centrally on electronic resources returns \$6-8 dollars in value over what could be acquired by a single library.

The electronic resources provided through PASCAL level the educational and economic playing field for many in South Carolina, making us more competitive in the global information economy. Some of our smaller colleges have seen their electronic resources grow by 3,000%. Small schools now have information access beyond the reach of even the largest universities just a few short years ago.



**Innovative Courier John Sims hard at work for PASCAL Delivers**

## PASCAL Delivers *continued from page 1*

been working to build the union catalog. Thirty-nine out of the fifty-nine member institutions have holdings in the catalog, and thirty-eight of those institutions have been trained and are live or soon to be live.

Aside from these already considerable accomplishments, even more exciting developments are just over the horizon. Soon, visiting patrons will be able to use PASCAL Delivers. Any PASCAL member can go to any PASCAL library and check out a book. "How-to" information for this service should be available by the end of the year.

The December 2007 General Meeting will focus on PASCAL Delivers. Victor Jenkinson and Alisa Whitt will give a complete description of updates and accomplishments. There will also be an open forum for the PASCAL membership to discuss PASCAL Delivers policies including lending periods, material types to lend, courier-related issues, and other policies. The Universal Borrowing Committee will use these discussions to refine PASCAL Delivers policies for the upcoming year.



**Jennie Redmond speaks at the 2007 PASCAL Retreat**

## New Questions, No Problem

Jennie Redmond, Dean of Learning Services at Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College, has seen a lot of changes in her thirty years in the public library, public education and higher education environments. Although students' needs are changing and growing more complex, today's librarians are rising to the challenge. Here Jennie speaks of an encounter that brought that fact to light:

"During the last six years, I have seen the willingness and determination of higher education library administrators to collaborate in creating a

statewide library organization, PASCAL, dedicated to affordably providing the best possible electronic resources to all South Carolina Higher Education institutions and their students. This statewide electronic library provides our students and faculty with resources that are far beyond my budget to purchase."

"As our resources have grown and improved, I have seen a corresponding growth in the depth and complexity of our students' research demands. The reality of this hit home when I was handling evening library hours in

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Exciting Progress From the Digital Collections Committee

Making manuscripts, images, maps, crumbling old books and other historical treasures available in digital formats online has become an important component of scholarship, teaching, life-long learning and even economic development in today's library environment. For the past few years, PASCAL has served as one of the incubators for this growing phenomenon in South Carolina's libraries and archives.

PASCAL's digital collections committee has helped to develop a plan for a "South Carolina Digital Library." Initiatives by PASCAL member libraries, particularly at the University of South Carolina and at several public library systems, have generated a growing mass of content that will soon be brought together for use as a single virtual collection in

new and imaginative ways.

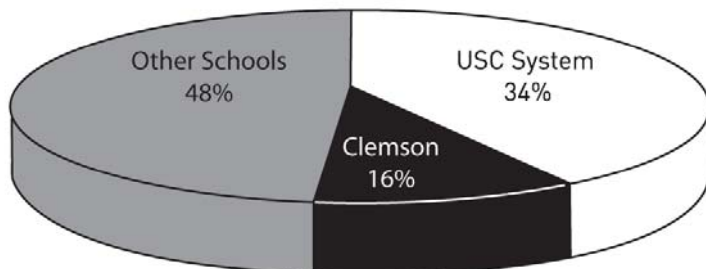
Formal launch of a new website for the SCDL is in the offing for the fall, but you can get a sneak preview at [digilibsc.org](http://digilibsc.org). One of our major activities over the past year has been a statewide planning process, culminating in a series of stakeholder meetings at the Commission on Higher Education in May and June.

Another has been the development of a database-directory that will help folks locate and access digital special collections materials from South Carolina's libraries, museums and archives. We'll be releasing this new tool in conjunction with the new website.



Check out the new developments in the SC Digital Library at [digilibsc.org](http://digilibsc.org).

## PASCAL Pie: Smaller Schools Make Largest Slice



Who contributes holdings to PASCAL Delivers?

Even the largest libraries cannot afford to own every book. Collectively, smaller schools account for nearly half of PASCAL Deliverers' circulating materials. With 38 of 59 member libraries now active, PASCALcat lists more than 9 million volumes.

## New Questions continued from page 2

our Health Science Media Center one night in March. On this particular evening, three or four nursing students were in the center looking for articles for their papers. One student came to the desk to ask for assistance. She needed peer-reviewed articles and wasn't sure if the articles she had found fit the bill. Her question for me was "What are peer-reviewed articles and how do I find them?" Two students sitting near her indicated that they were having the same problems. I explained the criteria for peer-reviewed articles and showed them how to make the advanced search selections needed to get the desired results. Once I was certain they were getting the

results they needed, I returned to my desk. "

"Sitting there it hit me: look at how far we've come. Six years ago, our most common reference requests were for directions to the bathroom and the location of the encyclopedias. I just had students ask me, not only how to identify a peer-reviewed article, but also how to locate those articles in our databases. It reaffirmed for me the continuing necessity of our profession. The skills we are teaching our students will educationally and economically impact their lives forever."



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Check out PASCAL's  
website redesign at  
[pascal.sc.org](http://pascal.sc.org)

### Meet the Staff:

**Kathy Hahn** is the Business Manager for PASCAL. She keeps the office running smoothly and keeps the lines of communication open—a skill she perfected during her twenty-seven years with AT&T. In 2004, she moved to South Carolina from New Jersey. Kathy joined PASCAL in October 2006.

**Victor Jenkinson** is the Technical Programs Coordinator. He is also the Systems Librarian for the Universal Borrowing Project (PASCAL Delivers), the Coordinating System's Librarian for the ALPSC libraries, and the project manager for the PAILS libraries Millennium migration. Victor owns dogs, but is not a "Dog Person." He reads the Harry Potter books, but isn't a "Harry Potter Fan."



**Back: Kathy, Vic, Banda, and Alisa. Front: Brent and Chris.**

**Banda Bakhit** is the Server and Systems Administrator. He maintains and administers the PASCAL servers, office PCs, and website. Originally from the Sudan, Banda is a big fan of soccer and open source software.

**Alisa Whitt**, the Academic Resources Coordinator, is the Pascal Delivers trainer. As the Pascal Delivers system matures, Alisa's time will focus more on

collection development and electronic resource management. Alisa is a veteran of academic libraries in South Carolina, having worked at the College of Charleston for 13 years. She is an avid cyclist and an aspiring yoga teacher.

**Brent Lanford** is a graduate student in library and information science at USC. Since joining PASCAL in February 2007, he has worked with Victor and Alisa on the PASCAL Delivers team.

**Chris Vinson** joined PASCAL in early 2007 to work on digital collections. He is a graduate student in the LIS program at USC.

**Rick Moul** (not pictured) has been Executive Director since 2003. Most days, he loves his job.