GALILEO Gets a Makeover: Four New Styles Now in Production

By GALILEO Staff

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When GALILEO woke up on March 17th, it was wearing a whole new wardrobe: fresh green, vivid red, and glowing purple, in addition to the original smart GALILEO blue. The new colors adorn the faces of the four new user views: Library, High School, Teen, and Scholar. Especially tailored for the unique needs of each community, the new user views represent the culmination of months of designing, stitching, and fitting by many dedicated people, including the Community Customization Working Groups, who developed the functional requirements and participated in the user-centered design process; the GALILEO staff, who developed prototypes and an entire new system to support the customizations; and the staff in libraries throughout the state, who participated in beta testing and provided feedback along the way. This collaborative spirit of GALILEO continues to yield exceptional results; everyone can feel proud to be part of such a unique statewide effort to serve library users.

The user interfaces offer multiple new “accessories,” including:

- subject-based discovery of databases, journals, and federated search results
- default federated searches tailored to each user view
- bookmarkable pages
- browsing by material type
- library catalog searches
- database spotlights featuring thumbnail previews
- links to local library information
- faster page loading

Although the new users views have been available in beta for review by libraries and users for some time, now that the new styles are available in production, many will recognize some details that they hadn’t really noticed yet and have questions or suggestions. GALILEO will be capturing suggestions for change and going into the change review process. So while much has been accomplished, changes will continue as we all get more experience with the new interfaces and make suggestions for improvement. Who knows where all of this fashion sense will lead? GALILEO Upgrade Project Runway? Stay tuned…
The Georgia Official and Statistical Register

By GALILEO Staff

The Georgia Official and Statistical Register was published from 1923-1990 by the Georgia Archives. Considered an important reference work for historical research, the Register covers Georgia’s executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government, providing biographical sketches of elected and other state officials. Georgia members of U.S. Congress and federal judges are included, as are county officials and regents of the university system. The Register contains election returns, provides basic reference data on Georgia counties, and covers Georgia miscellany, such as the state flag, state flower, state song, rosters of Georgia governors, and legal holidays.

The Georgia Official and Statistical Register site is a project of the Digital Library of Georgia as a part of the Georgia Government Publications program.


Meet the Staff: Bill Williamson

By GALILEO Staff

Bill Williamson started work with GALILEO in 2007. He has responsibility for supporting the New Georgia Encyclopedia, as well as other GALILEO programming activities. Bill graduated from University of Central Florida in 1984 with a BS in Computer Science. Bill comes to GALILEO from the corporate world and is excited to be a part of an educational environment. His introduction to GALILEO was through his sons (two) who are avid users of GALILEO. Now that Dad is working on the New Georgia Encyclopedia, Bill’s sons have become advocates of NGE and are insisting that all their teachers use NGE. In addition to programming, Bill enjoys woodworking, barbeque/grilling, gardening, birdwatching, and camping. He also enjoys genealogy and photography. The combination has led Bill to have a digitized collection of over 17,000 photographs. Just to give you perspective, the Vanishing Georgia collection has over 18,000 photographs!
Members of the Department of Technical and Adult Education (DTAE) Library Council pause for a photo during their committee meeting held at the COMO Conference at Jekyll Island, October, 2007.

KUDOS!

Congratulations to Camilla B. Reid, Associate Director of the Augusta State University Library, winner of the 4th annual SirsiDynix-ALA-APA Award for Outstanding Achievement in Promoting Salaries and Status for Library Workers.

The award is given to an individual, group of individuals, or institution that have made an outstanding contribution to improving the salary and status of library workers in a local, regional or national setting.

CONGRATULATIONS CAMILLA!!

Congratulations to Mandy Jarriel -- Winner of the 2007 GALILEO Annual Survey IPod!

Mandy Jarriel is an Instructor of Kinesiology at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, Georgia.

CONGRATS MANDY!

Is your Institution Participating in SFX-LRI?

Find It @ GALILEO

Did you know, SFX (Find It @ GALILEO) can now be localized with your institution’s local resources? This means journals in your locally purchased databases can be included in the “Journals A-Z” search. Also full-text articles found in local databases but not in GALILEO databases can be linked to from a results list in GALILEO.

If your institution is interested in participating in localization of SFX, or if you have questions about the process, please submit a request to GALILEO via the Contact Us link located in the top right corner of the GALILEO Homepage.

Please see our FAQs for more information about Find It.


Print the last two pages of this edition of the GALILEO Planet to produce a two-page handout of the National Science Digital Library. print front-and-back for a two-sided document.
New Tools for 21st Century Education: Examples from the National Science Digital Library

GALILEO exemplifies the geometrically expanded possibilities of information access available to today’s students and educators. In addition to the journal titles and subscription databases to which GALILEO connects all Georgia citizens, the virtual library is also allowing its users to search millions of science and math learning resources through a new partnership with the National Science Digital Library (NSDL).

The National Science Digital Library

NSDL was established by the National Science Foundation as an online library of exemplary resources for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and research. Like many digital libraries, it holds descriptive information about the 2.5 million resources it catalogs, and provides an organized point of access to these resources, as well as associated tools and services. As an educational digital library, NSDL’s collection focuses on teaching and learning materials contributed by a network of more than 200 resource providers including professional societies, universities, museums, commercial publishers, and government agencies. NSDL supports all levels of education, from preschool through adult, with materials ranging from journal articles and lesson plans to interactive animations, and from blogs and podcasts to scientific data sets. No fees or registrations are necessary to use NSDL, although such requirements may be associated with some of the resources to which it links.

Beyond the Search Engine

To optimize support and provide context for education communities, NSDL created a series of focused partner libraries known as Pathways. Pathways are discipline-specific (Biology, Chemistry, Computational Science, Engineering, Materials Science, Mathematics, Physics) or education level-specific partnerships (Middle School, K-12 Multimedia, Community and Technical Colleges, Informal Education) that provide stewardship for the educational content and services needed by major communities of learners; contribute in-depth knowledge of the educational needs of that audience; and are the primary means by which NSDL creates connections between the scientific research community and the classroom. Eleven Pathways support K-12 and higher education including community colleges and informal learning. A full list of Pathways appears at http://nsdl.org/about/?pager=pathways.

Susan Van Gundy
Director of Education and Strategic Partnerships
National Science Digital Library
Navigating NSDL: A Faculty Member’s Experience

As a chemist, I initially learned about NSDL through an online workshop offered by ChemEd DL, NSDL’s Chemistry Pathway. I quickly discovered the utility of the library by exploring the Chemistry and Physics resources. NSDL resources of special interest to school teachers in your district can be found by choosing the National Digital Science Library link in GALILEO then choosing the appropriate tab at the top. After choosing the Chemistry and Physics tab you will find that the next page displays links on the left side to Resources for K-12 and Higher Ed Teachers. K-12 teachers frequently ask about the availability of a virtual chemistry lab, one of which can be found in the NSDL. To access the virtual lab choose the Resources for K-12 Teachers, click on the Resources of Interest link, then scroll down to the ChemCollective: Online Resources for Teaching and Learning Chemistry. The Virtual Chemistry Lab appears after you click on the Find Activities link. You will have to download some software onto your computer but included in each lab are instructions for the experiment and simulated beakers, glassware, pH meters, and so forth. Your students can literally perform a lab from their computers. The Virtual Chemistry lab includes lesson plans and assessment ideas for high school and undergraduate level Chemistry courses.

A second highly useful resource is the Teachers’ Domain Pathway to Multimedia Resources for the Classroom which is found near the bottom of the K-12 Teachers Pathways link. To use this free resource you will have to register as a member but nothing else is required. When the Teacher’s Domain page appears, choose the Physical Science link to have access to nearly 400 different multimedia pages for classroom use. Your students will certainly enjoy some of the clever activities under the Chemical Change link. Choosing the movies link on the right side will allow them to see rockets and cars propelled by the reaction of lemon juice and baking soda or how fireworks are designed to generate their dazzling displays. The NSDL is a huge resource that every teacher in Georgia can now access and use in their classrooms. Please direct them to this new GALILEO link: http://www.galileo.usg.edu/express?link=nsdl.

Charles Atwood, University of Georgia