

SONYA S. GAITHER, M.S.L.S., ED.D.

Dean of Libraries
Clayton State University
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EDUCATION

Degrees

- Ed.D., Educational Administration, Georgia Southern University, 2003
Dissertation Title: *The Relationship between Computer Skills and the Levels of Technostress among Faculty and Academic Librarians from Selected Institutions within the University System of Georgia*, Dr. Michael D. Richardson, Dissertation Chair and Advisor
- M.S., Library Service, Clark-Atlanta University, 1995
- B.S., Computer Science with Minor in Mathematics, LaGrange College, 1993

Certificates

- Change Leadership Certificate, December 2019, Cornell University, 60 contact hours (6 CEUs)
- Training Management Series I and II, Georgia Southern University, October 2007
- Evidence-based Library & Information Practice, May 7-9, 2007, EBLIP4 Conference, 19 contact hours
- Disaster Preparedness and Recovery, July 20-21, 2004, Southeastern Library Network, 8.5 contact hours
- Graduate Student Workshop Series, Georgia Southern University, January 18-April 12, 2001, Division of Continuing Education and Public Services, 24 hours of instruction, 2.4 continuing education hours

ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

A.	Dean of Libraries	March 2019 - present
B.	Director of Library Services	June 2014 – March 2019
C.	Internship Site Supervisor	2003-2005 2009 – 2011 2014 - 2019
D.	Deputy Title IX Coordinator	August 2017 - February 2019
E.	Student Supervisor	July 1996 – May 2009 August 2013- March 2019
F.	Acting Associate Department Head	June 2002 – May 2004
G.	Associate Department Head	February 2005 –October 2011
H.	Staff Supervisor	January 2008 – October 2011

TENURE STATUS AND RANK

A. Tenure – Georgia Southern University

- a. Temporary Faculty January 1995 – June 1996
- b. Tenure Track July 1996 – March 2001
- c. Tenured April 2001 – July 2014

B. Promotion Rank & Graduate Faculty Status – Georgia Southern University

- a. Assistant Professor January 1995 – March 2004
- b. Associate Professor April 2004 – June 2010
- c. Full Professor July 2010-March 2014
- d. Graduate Faculty status April 2004-May 2019

C. Promotion Rank – Gordon State College (non-tenured)

- a. Full Professor July 2014-March 2019

D. Promotion Rank – Clayton State University (non-tenured)

- a. Librarian IV July 2021 – present

WORK EXPERIENCE

Academic Library

Clayton State University Dean of Libraries	March 2019 – present
Gordon State College Director of Library Services	August 2014- March 2019
Georgia Southern University Library Assessment Officer	October 2011-July 2014
Georgia Southern University Learning Commons Director	April 2008-October 2011
Georgia Southern University Instructional Technology Librarian	May 2001 – March 2008
Georgia Southern University Information Services Librarian	October 1995 - May 2001
Georgia Southern University Assistant Government Documents Librarian	January 1995 - October 1995

College of Education

Georgia Southern University

Adjunct Teaching Faculty

January 2004 – July 2014

Georgia Southern University

Dissertation Committee Member

2007 -2014

Internship Site Supervisor

Gordon State College

Dorothy W. Hightower Library

2014-2019

Georgia Southern University

Zach S. Henderson Library

2003-2004, 2005, 2009, 2011

Strayer University

School of Professional Studies

Adjunct Higher Education Professor

March 2010 – August 2013

Other Accomplishments

- Published 13 scholarly articles and book chapters
- Reviewed 2 scholarly works
- Edited 1 book
- Presented 50 conference or workshop presentations
- Received nearly 30 academic awards or recognitions including 2007 LaGrange College Outstanding Alumni

Professional and Community Service

- Serve on numerous professional and social/service organizations
- Served on academic library and higher education committees on local, state, and regional levels
- Served 6-years on LaGrange College Leadership Council (secretary, committee chair, President)
- Serving 4-year term on LaGrange College Board of Trustee (member, Academic Affairs & Student Enrollment Committees)
- Serve on College & Young Adult Ministry (Tabernacle of Praise Church International)

Brief Summary of Clayton State Accomplishments

Job Performance/Teaching

- Maintain high performance evaluations annually
- Supervise staff of 12 library faculty members and 7 professional staff members
- Restructured library budget
- Reviewed and updated all library policies including the formalizing of library strategic planning process and goal setting
- Oversaw revision of and sought approval for library faculty promotion guidelines and handbook changes
- Opened 50th Anniversary Time capsule and resealed the 75th Anniversary Time capsule
- Oversaw implementation of the Kirk Lawton Little Free Library
- Received approval for library faculty to be added to faculty laptop replacement rotation cycle
- Re-instated the Library Committee
- CSU 1000 Guest Lecturer

Scholarship/Publications/Presentations

- Earned Certificate from Cornell University in Change Leadership
- Library Update presentation given during Administrative Council meeting
- Library Overview sessions provided to Colleges/Departments each Fall semester
- Library Overview sessions provided to Clayton State graduate students both in-person, via Teams, and recorded session
- Library Overview session provided to Student Government Association
- Library Overview session provided to Our Genealogy group (OGG)
- Laker Lessons Guest speaker – The Question of U (March 2022) and Never Say Never (Nov 2022)
- Library Leadership and Management Guest Lecturer, Valdosta State MLIS 7200 Library Management Course
- Library Updates provided during “Stack Talks”

Service

- Co-founder, co-sponsor, and co-planner for the Southeastern Library Assessment Conference
- Served as Guest lecturer on multiple occasions for MLIS 7200: Management of Libraries and Information Centers taught at Valdosta State
- Interviewed by multiple Valdosta State and U. of West Georgia graduate students interested in the management and operations of Clayton State Library
- Served on LaGrange College Leadership Council as President and Past President
- Approved as LaGrange College Board of Directors member 2021-2025
- Served as Regents Academic Committee on Libraries (RACL) President, Past President, and At-Large Member
- Served as RACL Liaison on and Chair to the RACL Assessment Working Group
- Serve as Co-Chair, RACL GALILEO Interconnected Libraries (GIL) Library Management System Request for Proposal (RFP) Committee (FY22)
- Represent RACL as ex-Officio Member on Friends of Georgia Library (FOGL) Board of Directors
- Represent Clayton State Library on the ARCHE Library Council
- Serve as President Elect (FY21) and President (FY22) for Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County
- Search Chair, Directory of Archival Studies Program

Awards/Recognition

- Recognized during Clayton State's Women History Month Celebration (2021)
- Honored as Inaugural Faculty Advisor, Georgia Southern University National Panhellenic Council (2022)