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| May 31, 2024 | Contact:  John Burger  [jburger@aserl.org](mailto:jburger@aserl.org)  404-218-4207 |

Old Dominion University is Newest ASERL Member  
Receives Unanimous Support from Southeastern Research Libraries

May 31, 2024 -- ATLANTA – At their 2024 Annual Meeting, members of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) voted unanimously to admit Old Dominion University (ODU) as the newest member of the association.  Old Dominion is the first new member to join ASERL since 2021, for a total of 39 institutional members in 12 states.  ASERL focuses much attention on professional development, community building, collaborating on large-scale shared print library collections, as well as a very active resource sharing community.

"The excellent people at Old Dominion University prepared a very compelling application to join the ASERL community," commented Jeff Steely, ASERL's Board President and Dean of Libraries at Georgia State University.  "Including ODU as part of ASERL's membership and programming was a very easy and natural decision for us. We are very pleased to count them among our ranks and look forward to years of mutually beneficial collaborations."  
  
Added Timothy Hackman, Dean of Libraries at Old Dominion, “The librarians and staff of the ODU Libraries are beyond thrilled to join the elite institutions of ASERL and to collaborate with our new colleagues to continue developing innovative collections, services, and expertise to serve ODU and the broader Hampton Roads community.”  
  
The libraries at Old Dominion University offer a wealth of knowledge and resources with the core purpose to “inspire and empower users to learn, grow, and create.” ODU’s Special Collections and University Archives focus on primary and historical materials on the development of Hampton Roads, Virginia politics and politicians, local LGBTQIA+ and African American history and culture, military and maritime history, medicine and public health, fine and performing arts in Virginia, and more. Naro Video @ ODU Libraries, which opened in March 2024, is a one-of-a-kind collection of more than 42,000 DVDs in every conceivable genre and era of film. ODU’s dedicated librarians are readily available to assist with research inquiries, help users build information literacy skills, and provide expert support for academic success. The Libraries’ strategic plan, *Forward-Focused Together*, outlines major goals in academic services, research collections, physical facilities, and staff engagement for 2023-2028.

Founded in 1956, ASERL is ASERL is one of the largest of regional research library consortia in the United States and recognized as a national leader in cooperative research library programming. ASERL provides highly acclaimed programming, cultivates important conversations, and nurtures relationships among library leaders in the Southeast. By working together, ASERL members provide and maintain unique, top-quality resources and services for the students, faculty, and citizens of their respective communities.  ASERL is housed within the [Robert W. Woodruff Library](https://libraries.emory.edu/woodruff) at [Emory University](https://www.emory.edu/home/index.html) in Atlanta, Georgia.

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