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PART II LIBRARY SEMINARS AND EVENTS

A RESEARCH LIBRARY OF THE
FUTURE FOR NC STATE

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A Research Library of the Future for NC State

BY PEGGY HOON, SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION



STORY PHOTOS: TERRY CROW, NCSU LIBRARIES.

[Front row, left to right] The first panel consisted of Carolyn Argentati (NCSU Libraries), Randall Thompson (Veterinary Medicine), Rebecca Cowles-Swanson (Distance Education Administrative Services), Lynda Aiman-Smith (Management), and Hugh Devine (Natural Resources).

[Left to right] Members of the second panel were Amanda Myers (undergraduate student, Communication), Christopher Gould (Physics), Brad Mechlenbacher (English), Bob Janka (graduate student, Management), James Wilson (Industrial Engineering), and Joseph Herkert (Multidisciplinary Studies).



North Carolina State University faces the challenges of an aging and crowded main library facility at the D. H. Hill Library that is inadequate for meeting the future information and space needs of its students and faculty. At the same time, the university must be prepared to support the needs of a growing user population on the Centennial Campus, especially for its engineering faculty and a projected increase in its student enrollment of more than 6,000 students within the next decade. To meet these challenges in an

efficient and enlightened manner, the NCSU Libraries has launched a major effort to ascertain the needs of its primary user communities and provide a forum for discussion and exploration of the research library of the future.

This past spring, the library hosted two brown-bag lunches and panel discussions on the “Research Library of the Future.” The first panel discussion, held February 8, 2001, focused on the needs of the university’s library users. The panelists, representing faculty, students, and staff, were Hugh Devine (Natural Resources), Lynda



[Left to right] NC State panelists Joe Janka, James Wilson, and Joseph Herkert reflect on their vision of a library of the future for NC State.

Aiman-Smith (Management), Rebecca Cowles-Swanson (Distance Education Administrative Services), Randall Thompson (Graduate Student, Veterinary Medicine), and Carolyn Argentati (NCSU Libraries) as panel respondent. Karl Bowman (Veterinary Medicine), chair of the University Library Committee, served as moderator. A summary of the conversation—including such topics as future desirable library resources and services, ways the library is used today, the role of the librarian in the future, and issues of privacy and ownership—can be found at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/scc/sem1.pdf>.

The second panel discussion, held April 2, 2001, addressed the needs of different academic disciplines as reflected in the composition of the NC State community. The representative panelists were Christopher Gould (Physics), Michael Hyman (Microbiology), Bob Janka (Graduate Student, Management), Brad Mehlenbacher (English), Amanda Myers (Undergraduate Student, Communication), Sarah Rajala (Engineering), James Wilson (Industrial Engineering), and Argentati as panel respondent. Joseph Herkert (Multidisciplinary Studies), chair of the Scholarly Communication Subcommittee, served as moderator. The discussion covered such topics as discipline-specific library services, the role of

the librarian, the composition of the collection in terms of specific disciplines, and library services on Centennial Campus. A summary is available at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/scc/seminar2.html>. As in the first panel discussion, attendance was very good. Highlights of the lively and informative discussion can be found at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/scc/sem2.pdf>. Both panel discussions were videotaped and are available at the Libraries' Media Center. Those who were unable to attend can still contribute thoughts and ideas through the Research Library of the Future Web Forum at <http://hegel.lib.ncsu.edu/stacks/lists/futurelibrary/>.

Plans for an additional panel discussion during the fall 2001 semester are being developed. This panel will address the physical facilities of the library of the future. The goal of all three panel discussions is to provide an opportunity for NC State's library users to voice their vision of what kind of library—including services, collections, and physical environment—they would like to have in the future. Ideas from the seminars will culminate in a spring 2003 colloquium on "The Research Library of the Future." Further information on these upcoming events will be forthcoming. Please plan to join the library for these important and interesting discussions. ♦

Herbert Van de Sompel Speaks at I. T. Littleton Seminar

BY DEBORAH WESTMORELAND, DIGITAL LIBRARY INITIATIVES



[Left to right] Seated are former library director I. T. Littleton and the guest speaker, Herbert Van de Sompel. Standing are members of the NCSU Librarians Association Steering Committee Tripp Reade, Deborah Westmoreland, Jennifer O'Brien Roper, and Josh Boyer.

For a second year, the NCSU Librarians Association (NCSULA) sponsored the I. T. Littleton Seminar. The event, held on April 18, 2001, was free and open to the NC State community and interested colleagues from across the state who work with information technologies. Association officers Deborah Westmoreland (president), Jennifer O'Brien Roper (vice chair/chair elect), Josh Boyer (secretary), and Tripp Reade (liaison to the Staff Association), together with Karen Grigg (NCSULA Food Committee) planned the seminar and following reception.

Herbert Van de Sompel, a visiting professor with the computer science department at Cornell University and cofounder of the Open Archives Initiative (OAI), was guest speaker. He outlined the efforts of the OAI project (www.openarchives.org), which is a collaborative initiative to adopt and promote interoperability standards to facilitate efficient dissemination of content via metadata harvesting. He also discussed his latest work on content-sensitive reference linking (SFX), which permits context-sensitive linking between Web-based resources. The SFX project (<http://www.sfxit.com/>)

allows librarians to define the library's electronic collection, including licensed and freely available resources, and to determine the manner in which the component resources can be linked to meet the needs of library users.

The I. T. Littleton Seminar Endowment, established in March 1987 to mark the retirement of I. T. Littleton as library director at NC State, provided funding for the seminar. The

seminar series addresses major issues that affect libraries across the nation and explores diverse perspectives. Individuals interested in making a contribution to the Littleton endowment should write a check to "Friends of the Library" and specify the endowment name. Send contributions to Friends of the Library, NCSU Libraries, Campus Box 7111, Raleigh, NC 27695-7111. ❖

NCSU Libraries Hosts USAIN Conference

By DEBBIE CURRIE, COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

In April 2001 the NCSU Libraries hosted the Seventh Biennial Conference of the United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN). Composed of more than 100 librarians and other information specialists in agriculture and the related sciences, USAIN provides a forum for the discussion of agricultural issues and the opportunity to share ideas, expertise, and support.

The conference, held in Raleigh from April 20 through 23, 2001, featured the theme "Extending Our Reach: Redefining and Promoting Agricultural Information through Partnerships." This theme reflected NC State University's strong tradition in extension and outreach and its outstanding reputation for the innovative use of partnerships and application of information technologies. In the keynote address "No More Fences," Wanda D. Sykes (North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service) urged attendees to look beyond typical or expected means of forming partnerships and sharing information to remove barriers to communication and cooperation.

The first USAIN Information Technology Expo, held at the McKimmon Center on April 23 and fashioned after NC State's highly successful Instructional Technologies Expo, was organized by a team of NC State faculty and library staff members chaired by Debbie Currie (NCSU Libraries). The event featured exhibits, demonstrations, and presentations by members of the USAIN and NC State communities. To cover expo and other conference expenses,



ROGER WINSTEAD, NCSU.

James Oblinger, dean of NC State's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Currie and conference co-chair Amy Paster (Pennsylvania State University Libraries) received nearly \$7,000 in sponsorship monies, including a generous donation from NC State's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Additional support for the conference, in the form of donations of North Carolina in-kind products, was provided by Goodness Grows in North Carolina, House-Autry Mills, Lance Foods, Mt. Olive Pickle Company, and TW Garner Food Company. The hard work of the conference planning committee, led by Currie and Paster and comprised of USAIN and library staff members, clearly set a new standard for future conferences.

The conference closed with an elegant reception hosted by the Libraries for all conference

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Jinnie Davis Retires from the NCSU Libraries



Jinnie Y. Davis.

STORY PHOTOS: TERRY CROW, NCSU LIBRARIES.

NC State library director I. T. Littleton, who hired Davis in 1980 as assistant head of the Serials Department, described how Davis came to NC State following an ardent endorsement from the library director at Auburn University. Everyone in attendance also enjoyed a humorous slide presentation highlighting Davis's career at NC State.

Davis began her professional career at the Smithsonian Institution as an assistant librarian

On May 7, 2001, more than 100 colleagues and friends from across campus and from neighboring university libraries gathered to honor Jinnie Yeh Davis, who retired at the end of May after twenty-one remarkable years of service to the NCSU Libraries. With support from many of Davis's colleagues, family members, and friends, the library has established the Jinnie Y. Davis Endowment for Publications and Public Relations at the NCSU Libraries to honor her contributions to the library.

During the elegant high tea, senior library administrators described Davis's contributions to the Libraries and to them personally. In addition to her unrivaled institutional memory, her colleagues noted that Davis could always be counted on to provide impeccable editorial guidance.

Several distinguished faculty members who worked closely with Davis on the University Library Committee over the years, including Duncan Holthausen (College of Management) and Ross Whetten (College of Natural Resources), remembered some of her extraordinary attributes and accomplishments. Former



[Right to left] Jinnie Davis at retirement party with her daughter Emily and fellow NC State student Juan Carlos Rodriguez.

at the Freer Gallery of Art. Following several years in cataloging at Ohio State University and two more in acquisitions at Auburn University, Davis earned a doctorate in library science at Indiana University.

Davis, as assistant director for Planning and Research at the NCSU Libraries, helped the library to reach many goals through her talented

and discreet touch. The Libraries became the first academic library in the nation to have a copyright attorney on staff as part of its Scholarly Communication Center (SCC). Under Davis's direction, the SCC has initiated and guided discourse on the rapidly changing environment of scholarly communication, and it has become the model for similar programs in research libraries across the country.

Davis also orchestrated several public relations campaigns that brought recognition to the Libraries: the CASE Award of Excellence in 1998 for the library's publication *Inaugurating an Architectural Archive: the George Matsumoto Exhibition*; the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award in 1990 for innovatively integrating all fund-raising and publicity activities during the year-long celebration of the library's centennial; and, most notably, last year's prestigious Excellence in Academic Libraries Award presented by the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Although Davis intends to travel and devote time to writing in retirement, the library is fortunate that she has agreed to help prepare the Libraries' annual report for publication in 2002. She is also a life member of the Friends of the Library and an active volunteer in many campus activities. ❖

USAIN conference, continued from page 5

participants. After viewing the library exhibit "The Sodfather: A Friend of Agriculture in North Carolina," which celebrated the career of former North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture Jim Graham, the attendees enjoyed live music performed by library staff members Brad Warren and Angela Wong. Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan Nutter provided a gracious welcome, and Dean James Oblinger of NC State's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences discussed North Carolina agriculture. To read more about the USAIN conference, visit its Web site at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/usain/>. ❖

[Left to right] Jinnie Davis and Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan K. Nutter enjoy Davis's receipt of the Order of the Longleaf Pine, awarded by North Carolina Governor Michael F. Easley.





Focus, a newsletter published three times a year, seeks to promote the services, activities, needs, and interests of the NCSU Libraries to the university, the Friends of the Library, and beyond.

Editor: Terrell Armistead Crow.

NCSU Libraries Homepage: <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/>

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS EXHIBITS SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 13 TO DECEMBER 7, 2001—
“DAVID YOUNG: ACQUIRING THE FREIDRICH
TIPPMANN COLLECTION.” D. H. Hill Library.

OCTOBER 5, 2001, TO JANUARY 11, 2002—
“AN AMERICAN PHILOSOPHER: THE CAREER OF
TOM REGAN.” D. H. Hill Library.