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FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

SCHOLARLY
COMMUNICATION CENTER

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George Hodge Receives 2002 NCSU Libraries Faculty Award

BY CAROL VREELAND, RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SERVICES

George L. Hodge, an associate professor in the Department of Textile and Apparel, Technology and Management at NC State's College of Textiles, received the 2002 NCSU Libraries Faculty Award. This award is presented annually to an NC State faculty member in recognition of his or her outstanding contributions that support the Libraries' mission and its role within the university. The award was presented at the Friends of the Library's annual Fall Luncheon on November 1, 2002 (*see* "Part IV, Friends of the Library" for a photograph of Hodge receiving his award on page 4).

Hodge is a strong advocate of the Libraries, fully supporting its role as an essential component of the university's mission. Since fall 1998

he has collaborated with librarians at the Burlington Textiles Library to integrate information literacy instruction into his courses using an innovative curriculum-based approach. Library staff and Hodge jointly designed assignments for his course "Production Management Decisions for Textile Operations." Hodge's success in fostering research-level information literacy among his students, his successful linkage of information assignments directly to the course curriculum, and his incorporation of significant library instruction sessions into the course laid the foundation for a move to a curriculum-integrated instruction model within the College of Textiles (*see* <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/textiles/instruction/>). ❖

Twenty-four Hours of Library Service—Invaluable

BY NANCY VAUPEL, SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Budget reductions, never welcome and often deeply traumatic, can help focus an entire community on what it values. Campuswide budget cuts at NC State, the result of an anticipated major state budget shortfall, were taken at the start of the 2002 summer semester. The cuts had an immediate and profound impact on the NCSU Libraries and its users, especially with the reduction of library hours. To counteract this, NC State Chancellor Marye Anne Fox and Provost Stuart Cooper decided to shift funds as quickly as possible to the Libraries, reinstating the most valued of its lost services, a move that was highly lauded by the news media and university user community.

The restoration of Saturday hours and twenty-four-hour service involved NC State students, faculty, and administrators, as well as the local media. When the Libraries began to lay off some of its staff and all of its security guards and reduce its hours, many friends and champions of the library voiced their support of critical services. The media published articles telling the Libraries' story—focusing on how the Libraries has risen in just over ten years to be one of the top academic research libraries in the nation. Stories pointed out that the budget cuts were going to hurt the Libraries' reputation, standing, and services. Students made it clear that having their library open remained essential and pressed their point by staging a peaceful "read-in" at the D. H. Hill Library, led by NC State's Student Body President Michael Anthony. Chancellor Fox, who addressed NC State students in September, said, "As soon as we get a budget, it's our first priority to restore library hours." When a final budget was eventually released to the university, Chancellor Fox and Provost Cooper allocated additional money to the Libraries to support twenty-four-hour service.

The Libraries thanks the chancellor and provost for their support, NC State's students for expressing their concerns, the many faculty

members who spoke generously on behalf of the Libraries, and the journalists of the university and local newspapers who followed the story and gathered opinion. As stated by Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan Nutter,

Restoration of these services comes at a particularly critical time for the NCSU Libraries. Research library use seems to be growing—a trend that's been observed nationwide. Our facilities are now more than 50 percent over capacity. Resuming Saturday and overnight hours helps ensure equitable access to our resources for all NC State students and faculty. ❖

"Learning should be a constant occurrence on the NCSU campus, and D. H. Hill is the symbol of this. Shutting the doors only makes learning more difficult for students."

KEVIN McABEE, STUDENT.

FROM *TECHNICIAN*, AUGUST 30, 2002

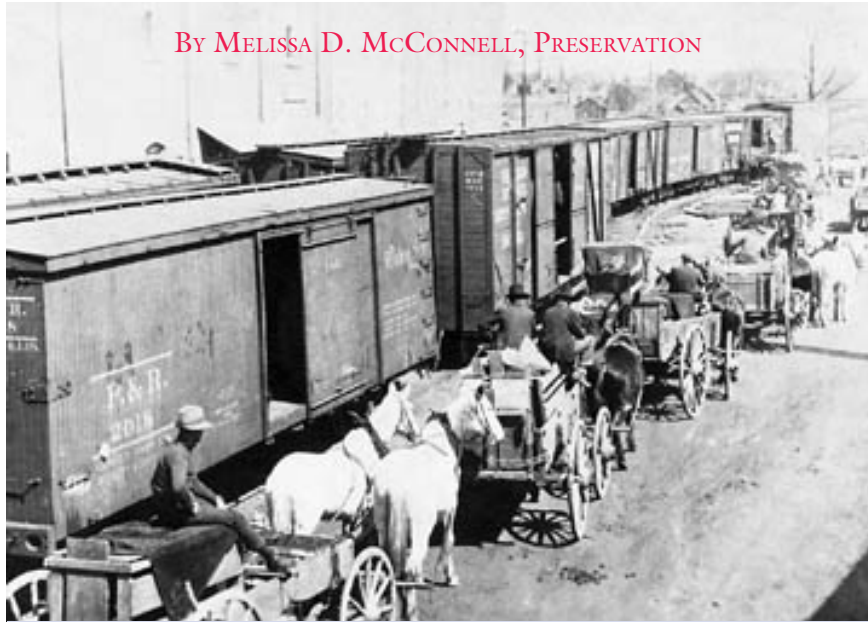
"We have made this decision because of a strong belief that the NCSU Libraries [is] the lifeblood of this university. Our students must not be deprived of access to this center of knowledge and campus life."

CHANCELLOR MARYE ANNE FOX AND
PROVOST STUART COOPER.

QUOTE FROM MEMO SENT TO THE NC STATE UNIVERSITY
COMMUNITY, JUNE 21, 2002

NCSU Libraries Receives Major Microfilming Grant

BY MELISSA D. McCONNELL, PRESERVATION



Local farmers wait to load their produce into railroad cars in this 1916 photograph, which captures the changes that North Carolina farmers faced as agricultural practices and traditions evolved in an increasingly industrialized South. From Special Collections, NCSU Libraries.

The NCSU Libraries has received a \$124,000 grant from the United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to microfilm rural agricultural material printed between 1820 and 1945. This grant will allow the Libraries to microfilm resources selected from a 1,200-item bibliography of significant material related to the agricultural history of North Carolina. The bibliography, developed by NCSU Libraries' staff early in 2002 as part of USAIN's National Preservation Project, is an NEH-funded effort to identify and preserve state and local literature relating to agriculture and rural life in America between 1820 and 1945. It is currently available on the Web at <http://jacob.lib.ncsu.edu/preservation/usain/Search.cfm>. Over the course of the current two-year grant, the NCSU Libraries will

microfilm approximately 600 volumes and will work to develop the Web site to include additional information on the history of North Carolina agriculture.

The diverse publications represented in the bibliography serve an important role in documenting North Carolina's rich agricultural heritage. Information was obtained from major university collections in North Carolina, the State Library of North Carolina, the North Carolina Office of Archives and History, and various special collections throughout the state.

The books and documents identified in the bibliography are in many ways typical of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century materials: most are printed on acidic paper that is rapidly deteriorating, thereby limiting access to the materials. Preserving the material on microfilm will provide the opportunity for more people to read and use these influential texts.

The bibliography's creation represented a collaborative effort between several library departments. A panel of three North Carolina historians who specialize in agricultural history reviewed the bibliography as well. Panel member Peter A. Coclanis, a professor in the Department of History at UNC–Chapel Hill, has been involved in the Agriculture Historical Society of North Carolina and has written a book on the history of southern agriculture, *The Shadow of a Dream: Economic Life and Death in the South Carolina Low Country*. Panel member Lu Ann Jones, an assistant professor in East Carolina University's Department of History, teaches North Carolina history and oral history methodology. From 1986 to 1991 she directed "An Oral History of Southern Agriculture," a project for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American

History. In 2002 the University of North Carolina Press published her latest book, *Mama Learned Us to Work: Farm Women in the New South*. Ann R. Phillips, the third panel member, is a visiting professor in NC State's Department of History. Phillips's past experiences as an oral historian and project director for Washington and Falls counties in Texas contributed to her involvement with the Oral History Association, the National Women's Studies Association, the Southern Association of Women, and the Southeastern Women's Studies Association of Historians. Her research interests include North Carolina agricultural history and the role of women in a farm economy.

The USAIN National Preservation Project is an outgrowth of a 1993 USAIN proposal to establish a national preservation program for agricultural printed material. In the 1993 proposal, agricultural literature is defined

as covering "agricultural economics and rural sociology, agricultural engineering, soil science, food science and human nutrition, animal science, forestry, crop improvement and protection, and human ecology." Microfilming southern agriculture literature from North Carolina will provide an excellent source for research into American cultural values and environmental conditions during a time when living and working in farming communities remained a dominant American experience. Currently, seventeen states—including New York, Alabama, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Iowa—and the National Agricultural Library are working with Cornell University, USAIN, and the NEH in this important preservation program. Eventually, program coordinators hope to involve all fifty states in the project. ❖



An agricultural extension agent and two tobacco farmers inspect a tobacco crop circa 1940. From Special Collections, NCSU Libraries.



NC State Students Create a Research Site for the Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive

BY LOIS FISCHER BLACK, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Members of the Animal Rights Research Site Senior Design Center Team are [left to right] Sherry Pitz, Matthew Senter, Alan Seales, P. Shane Smith, Brenda Loehfelm.

In 2000 the NCSU Libraries received funding from an anonymous donor to establish the Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive in the library's Special Collections Department. The library is using this funding to organize, preserve, and provide access to the collection, which consists of Regan's personal papers and books documenting his key role in the animal rights movement as well as material from other people and organizations active in the movement. In addition, Special Collections has fostered the creation of the Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive Online Research Site (<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/arights/>), also funded by this gift. This site, using a tiger and paw prints in its design, publicizes the library's holdings in the field of animal rights and serves as a clearinghouse of information for this discipline through links to other relevant sites. Senior Design Center students Brenda Loehfelm, Sherry Pitz, Alan Seales, Matthew Senter, and P. Shane Smith created the site for the library in 2002. The students worked in collaboration with the Senior Design Center, part of NC State's Department of Computer Science, and with the library's Special Collections, Digital Libraries Initiatives, and Systems departments.

The Senior Design Center provides student teams with "real-world" problems and settings, usually in the private sector. Through their work to create a viable product for a customer, students develop technical writing and public-speaking abilities, build teamwork and collaboration skills, and gain experience with software engineering. The fee for a sponsor to participate in the program is a donation or an unrestricted gift to the Excellence in Undergraduate Computer Science Fund. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the NCSU Libraries secured funding for a student team.

Participation in the fifteen-week program, which is described as a "link between education and practical business," included a Senior Design Center Sponsor Workshop, where prospective sponsors met with Senior Design Center staff and past sponsors to learn about the program. Projects, once approved, have three phases. The first phase of the library's project began with a feasibility study that addressed the project's goals and identified application requirements. In the second phase, the students designed a Web site that met sponsor-defined requirements. Finally, in phase three, the project team delivered and installed the application.

Students documented their work throughout each phase of the project to facilitate the compilation of a user manual and prepared a presentation for each phase of the project, which allowed library staff to review the students' progress and facilitated communication among project participants. For instance, the library considered not only the latest technologies, but also whether the Web site was visually interesting. In return for its investment, the NCSU Libraries expected an end product that would offer a world-class animal rights online research site showcasing the Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive and facilitating research in this discipline. Student participants took these ideas as well as their own to mold a comprehensive project for the library. Center staff also monitored the work and evaluated the completed Web site.

Special Collections supplied the students with the initial content for the Web site. Working in consultation with Tom Regan and others, manuscripts curator Lois Black assembled a list of Web sites and other electronic resources for inclusion in the project. The content committee also identified a list of categories—including animal experimentation, animal rights, animal rights law, animals in entertainment, clothing, culture and animals, diet ethics, exhibitions, farmed animals, organizations, veterinarians, and wildlife—as subjects that researchers can search. Each category contains a focused series of sub-categories. The site allows users to explore manuscript collections relating to animal rights; offers links to guides to these collections, including the Tom Regan Collection; provides a link to the Special Collections Department home page, and indicates how those wishing to contribute animal rights collections to the Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive can do so. Another component of the site is its search engine, which allows visitors to explore resources by entering keywords into a box on each page of the site.

The student team incorporated link-checking software into the structure of the online research site that ensures that visitors to the site

will not encounter inactive links. The site administrator continues to receive regular reports from the logging system notifying her if the status of a link has changed. She then has the opportunity to pursue the “dead links” and determine whether the site was discontinued or whether the URL simply needs to be updated.

Testing of the site occurred before it went live. Members of the project team conducted usability studies with library staff and potential researchers in the field to learn about the effectiveness and value of the final product. The Digital Library Initiatives Department ensured that the project met the technical and systems requirements of the NCSU Libraries.

Brenda Loehfelm continued work on the project for several months beyond completion of the Senior Design Center's commitment, expanding the content and fine-tuning the work that had been done earlier in the year. With her assistance, the library established relationships with several animal rights groups that will be important as the library continues to build its collection. The library plans to microfilm in 2003 the five most significant journal titles in the literature of animal rights.

The Senior Design Center's program provided an effective method for augmenting the NCSU Libraries' resources while furthering the education and training of the university's students. The Libraries found many advantages in collaborating with the students, who designed a Web site that met the library's needs and allowed the library to benefit from their technical skills and marketing experience. ❖

The main Web page for the Tom Regan Animal Rights Archive Online Research Site.



J. V. Hofmann Joins the “Birthplace of American Forestry” Web Site

BY RUSSELL S. KOONTS, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The NCSU Libraries Special Collections Department, in collaboration with UNC–Asheville, the Biltmore Estate Company in Asheville, and the Forest History Society in Durham, has received a \$50,000 North Carolina ECHO (Exploring Cultural Heritage Online) EZ-Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) digitization demonstration grant. Building on the “Birthplace of American Forestry” Web site (<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/archives/forestry>) established with a 2001–2002 EZ-LSTA NC ECHO grant, the goal of this collaboration is to create a virtual archive of forest history resources that researchers can search seamlessly.

The project, by providing access to resources from four significant collections and to interpretative Web pages, will increase research opportunities in exploring forest history. The resources provided through this collaboration will expand the visual and textual information available on the Web on southeastern forests, forest management, and forestry education. These materials are currently used primarily by researchers who either travel to North Carolina to view them firsthand or by researchers outside the state who ask archivists at the four institutions for help in examining the materials. The institution then usually sends photocopies of small portions of



Classes of the Forest School at North Carolina State College often spent the spring term of their junior year at the Hofmann Forest. In this photograph, the class of 1941 poses in front of its bus. (Special Collections, College of Natural Resources Record Group, UA140, NCSU Libraries.)

the collections in response to these long-distance queries. Now, these digitized materials and finding aids will assist researchers in several ways. Many researchers will not need to travel to use the materials. They will not necessarily need to have previous knowledge of the subject to find materials that will answer their questions. They will be able to examine a virtual copy that will more accurately reflect the actual document than a photocopy does, and the virtual copy can be examined repeatedly without damaging the original copy in the archives.

The initial focus of the “Birthplace of American Forestry” concentrated on Carl Alwin Schenck and the Biltmore Forest School. During the second LSTA grant phase, this focus will be expanded to include statewide and southern United State forest history materials. Many new resources will be added to the Web site:

- The Biltmore Estate Company plans to provide access to digitized versions of the body of Carl Schenck’s correspondence described in finding aids that were produced during the first phase of the project.
- The Forest History Society will digitize photographs, correspondence, and oral histories that further detail the development of the forestry profession in the United States.

- UNC–Asheville will provide access to materials from the National Forest Service (NFS) Region 8 collection housed at that university. The collection is comprised of some 3,249 images, field study notes, and an oral history that relates directly to the work of the regional research station.
- The NCSU Libraries Special Collections Department is digitizing photographs, correspondence, reports, and publications found in the NC State College of Natural Resources Hofmann Forest collection.

Materials from the NFS Region 8 resources that are digitized as a result of this grant will enable users to assess forest management, review the geographic area for environmental concerns, and trace the development of NFS activities in the southeastern United States. Digitized access to the Hofmann Forest materials will permit researchers to make direct comparisons of nineteenth- and twentieth-century educational methods and forest management approaches between western (Pisgah National Forest) and eastern (Hofmann Forest) North Carolina. Resources will be made available on the Web site as they are completed, with a “grand launch” planned for July 2003 after the end of the grant cycle. ❖

Assistive Technologies Center Update

BY KATHERINE DEXTER WILLIS, RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SERVICES

The NCSU Libraries’ Assistive Technologies Center (ATC) is located in Room 1402 on the mezzanine in the D. H. Hill Library (see <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/risd/atc/>). The facility houses special computers and technology solutions that facilitate library research and alternate-format access to materials for users having vision, hearing, or mobility-related disabilities. The ATC provides magnification software, scanning equipment, screen reading software, and other equipment. It is open during the D. H. Hill Library’s hours of operation and

is available to any member of the NC State community who has a need for the information technologies it provides.

Katherine Dexter Willis coordinates services to patrons with disabilities. David DeFoor, a computing consultant in the Research and Information Services Department, is responsible for technical support in the ATC. Together, they work with patrons, library staff, and other campus units to promote awareness in the NC State community regarding the services and equipment available at the ATC. ❖

Library History Highlight: A Tribute to Helen Abel Brown

BY I. T. LITTLETON, DIRECTOR EMERITUS, NCSU LIBRARIES

Helen Abel Brown, a life member of the Friends of the Library of North Carolina State University and former head librarian of St. Mary's college in Raleigh, celebrated her one-hundredth birthday on July 6, 2002, at a gala with friends and family. Brown, who was born in 1902 in Naugatuck, Connecticut, enjoyed a wonderful marriage for forty-seven years to Harlan C. Brown, associate director and then director of the D. H. Hill Library from 1939 to 1971. Harlan Brown provided the leadership needed to develop the library from a small college library into a major university library. Mrs. Brown, who has been a supporter of the NCSU Libraries for sixty-five years, established the Harlan and Helen Brown Incubator Endowment at the Libraries in 1982 after her husband's death.

Helen Brown had a distinguished career as an educator and librarian. She graduated *cum laude* with high honors in Spanish from Middlebury College, Vermont, where she also earned a master's degree in Spanish. She began her career by teaching Spanish at the Freeport Long Island High School, and she also taught two years in Mexico before earning her degree in library science at the University of Michigan in 1935. She worked as head librarian at Russell Sage College in Troy, New York, before coming to Raleigh to serve as head librarian of St. Mary's



Harlan and Helen Abel Brown.

College from 1937 until her retirement in 1971. She was a member of the North Carolina Library Association and of the American Library Association (ALA), having served as secretary of the Junior College Section of ALA.

Helen Brown's remarkable intellectual curiosity sparked a broad range of hobbies and interests. She traveled extensively, visiting among other places Mexico, Canada, most European countries, Russia, and China. Her interest in people from other cultures led her to teach classes in English as a second language for ten years. She befriended many students and faculty from other countries, finding them places to live and work. For many years, she participated in the Triangle Radio Reading

Service, reading poetry for the visually impaired. She and her husband were well-known animal lovers, who avidly supported the SPCA, the North Carolina Zoological Park, and the College of Veterinary Medicine at NC State University.

In addition to generous contributions to the NCSU Libraries, Brown established several other memorials in her husband's name, reflecting the couple's broad range of interests. These included a scholarship in the College of Veterinary Medicine; a bench in the aviary at the North Carolina Zoological Park; and a bas-relief mural by Alice Pohl Proctor for the Community United Church of Christ in Raleigh.

Brown is a life member not only of the NCSU Friends of Library, but also of the Friends of the St. Mary's College Library, the North Carolina Zoological Society, and the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine. She has been a member of the North Carolina Museum of Art, the NCSU Woman's Club, the Dickens Fellowship, and Alpha Xi Delta Sorority.

Helen Brown's many friends and colleagues give thanks for her distinguished career and for her many contributions to the NCSU Libraries. We congratulate her for living one hundred interesting and productive years! ♦



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/>