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PART II LIBRARY SEMINARS AND EVENTS

GI BILL EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS
IMPACT ON NC STATE

NPR'S KEE MALESKY SPEAKS AT
2004 I. T. LITTLETON SEMINAR

THE LIBRARIES CELEBRATES THE
2002-2004 FELLOWS

INSPIRING STORIES UNFOLD
DURING 2004 NORTH CAROLINA
LITERARY FESTIVAL

VOLUME 25 NO. 1, PART I
LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 25 NO. 1, PART III
NEW LIBRARY PERSONNEL
FEBRUARY-JUNE 2004

VOLUME 25 NO. 1, PART IV
DEVELOPMENT

VOLUME 25 NO. 1, PART V
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER, NCSU LIBRARIES.

NC State, ca. 1948. This image and others will be featured in the NCSU Libraries' exhibition *Transforming Society: The GI Bill Experience at NC State*. The exhibit runs from October 14 through December 22, 2004.

OTHER LINKS OF INTEREST

[FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY](#)

[LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT](#)

[SCHOLARLY
COMMUNICATION CENTER](#)

Photographs by Becky Kirkland and Daniel Kim, NCSU, unless otherwise noted.

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GI Bill Exhibit Highlights Impact on NC State

By ANNA DAHLSTEIN, EXTERNAL RELATIONS



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER

[Above] In 1952 educational benefits were extended to veterans of the Korean War. Consequently, the number of veterans at NC State averaged 2,000 students a year through the early 1960s. This image of an NC State classroom was taken in 1954.

The year 2004 has featured commemorations of some of the defining events of the twentieth century. In May 150,000 people gathered in Washington, D.C., for the dedication of the World War II Memorial on the National Mall. On June 6 European and American leaders marked the sixtieth anniversary of the D-Day landings, when Allied troops turned the tide of World War II. Two weeks later, another sixtieth anniversary passed more quietly, although it marked an occasion of enormous significance for American society.

On June 22, 1944, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, better known as "the GI Bill of

[Below] Navy veteran Kathryn Maitrejean, an NC State Air Force ROTC Cadet.



Rights," which has provided approximately 21 million veterans, service members, and family members with \$77 billion in benefits for education and training. The NCSU Libraries is hosting a major exhibit and symposium this fall to celebrate the GI Bill and to honor the veterans who have attended NC State.

The Libraries' Special Collections Research Center has created an exhibit documenting the

local impact of one of the best-loved and most successful public policies ever adopted in the United States. Combining historical materials with testimonies of current NC State students who served in Iraq and the Mediterranean, *Transforming Society: The GI Bill Experience at NC State* is on display in the D. H. Hill Library from October 14 through December 22. Drawing mainly on the research center's rich collections of photographs, campus publications, student essays, letters, and other University Archives and manuscript materials, the exhibit documents how the GI Bill contributed to the growth of NC State and shaped the lives of individual students.

On November 12, the day after Veterans' Day, the Libraries will welcome nationally recognized scholars, North Carolina veterans, and the general public to a symposium at the McKimmon Center beginning at 1:00 P.M. Following a keynote address by **Milton Greenberg**, the former provost of American University who wrote *The GI Bill: The Law That Changed America*, there will be a panel discussion moderated by Professor **Robert Serow** of the NCSU College of Education. Panelists will include Associate Professor of Political Science **Suzanne Mettler** of Syracuse University, who is currently working on a book entitled *Civic Generation: The GI Bill in Veterans' Lives*; Lt. Col. (Ret.) **Sion Harrington III**, the military collection archivist at the North Carolina Office of Archives and History in Raleigh; and NC State alumnus **Ted J. Meyer** (1948), who served in World War II.

Other alumni, students, and members of the community will have the opportunity to share their stories and perspectives in smaller breakout sessions. The symposium will conclude with remarks by former chief justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court **Burley Mitchell Jr.** (Class of 1966), who is president of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors. Both Greenberg and Mitchell used GI Bill benefits for their educations, as did Harrington and Meyer.

Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan K. Nutter is amazed and moved by the number of people she has met over the past year who credit the GI Bill for broadening their opportunities. "So many NC State students were touched by this legislation, and not just follow-



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER

Campus facilities for former veterans and their families included the Mutual Grocery, located in the basement of the Verville YMCA. It was owned and operated by local residents. Circa 1948.



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER

Crowding affected every aspect of campus life. Students got used to standing in line. Leazar Hall, ca. 1947.

ing World War II,” she noted. “Even today, the benefits represent the most generous financial aid for college provided by the federal government.”

Serow and Anna Dahlstein (former NCSU Libraries Fellow) interviewed ten current and former NC State students who served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq, and other arenas before completing their education. Their stories are featured in the exhibit and have become a part of the University Archives in the form of oral history recordings. They and other alumni loaned artifacts, documents, and photographs to the Libraries to help tell the story of the GI Bill—a story that is still unfolding today.

Not long after the original legislation of 1944 was passed, the student body at NC State doubled in comparison to prewar enrollment levels, and campus life changed in many ways. In the late 1940s, half of the nation’s college and graduate students had served in the war effort. At NC State, that figure accounted for roughly 80 percent of the study body. The new educational demands provided a strong incentive for the North Carolina legislature to allocate fund-

ing for a dramatic expansion of NC State’s resources, labs, buildings, and faculty rosters. The United States Congress later approved similar benefits for Korea- and Vietnam-era veterans. The current Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) offers benefits not only to veterans, but also to active duty service members and members of the National Guard and reserves. Congress approved a large increase in MGIB benefits shortly after September 11, 2001.

The NCSU Libraries welcomes outside support for this exhibition project. Contributions may be made by writing a check with a designation for the GI Bill exhibit and mailing it to Friends of the Library, Campus Box 7111, Raleigh, N.C. 27695. For more information, please call Laura Hudson at (919) 513-7315 or Director of Development Jim Mulvey at (919) 515-3339.

For more information about the exhibit, events, hours, or parking, please visit the Web at www.lib.ncsu.edu/exhibits/gibill or call the library at (919) 515-7188. ❖

Worker in rice field, Mai Chau district, Hoa Binh province, 1992.



COURTESY OF GEOFFREY CLIFFORD.

Future Exhibits

Following the exhibition *Transforming Society: The GI Bill Experience at NC State*, the NCSU Libraries will exhibit *Vietnam, A Journey of the Heart* from January 8 through March 6, 2005. The exhibition was organized for travel by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES). It features fifty-two color photographs by Geoffrey Clifford and descriptive text by John Balaban, professor of English and poet-in-residence at NC State. Clifford and Balaban, who first viewed Vietnam during war, have

returned many times to explore the country during peace. The result is a breathtaking view of life in contemporary Vietnam. ❖

NPR's Kee Malesky Speaks at 2004 I. T. Littleton Seminar

BY KAREN STANLEY GRIGG,
RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SERVICES

On April 19, 2004, the North Carolina State University Librarians Association (NCSULA) hosted the fifth I. T. Littleton Seminar. The NCSULA Steering Committee—consisting of Karen Stanley Grigg, Rachel Kuhn, Monica Lopez, and Katherine Dexter Willis—planned the seminar and reception, which was free and open to the NC State community and library colleagues in North Carolina.

Guest speaker Kee Malesky, who is a National Public Radio (NPR) reference librarian, discussed issues that affect many types of libraries today. In her talk, entitled “Information Access and Quality Assurance in a News Media Environment,” Malesky began by providing general information about the NPR library, which operates with minimal staff. The services are in-depth and include not only reference transactions but also fact checking and pronunciation assistance. Malesky related some of her favorite anecdotes from her work at NPR, as well as unusual requests the library occasionally receives from NPR reporters, editors, and hosts.

Additionally, she described the reference librarian's role today as needing to provide more assistance rather than merely guiding users to the appropriate print or online resources. Librarians must ensure that researchers locate the best, most accurate, and comprehensive information for their needs.

She pointed out that librarians in the news media serve a variety of roles and that the lines between journalists and librarians have become blurred as new challenges emerge.

Librarians can now serve as collaborators with journalists by assisting with research and anticipating user needs in advance. I. T. Littleton, former NC State library director, described



Members of the steering committee that planned the 2004 I. T. Littleton Seminar are pictured with [left to right, front] Kee Malesky and I. T. Littleton. Back: Rachel Kuhn, Karen Grigg, Monica Lopez, and Katherine Willis.

Maleksy's message as being “that librarians play a major and essential role in providing information to thousands of NPR radio listeners.” He went on to say,

She is a reference librarian extraordinaire under constant pressure to find and verify facts for commentators and reporters by using both printed and online sources. Her dedicated and creative approach to librarianship can serve as a role model for all librarians. She has written that she was honored to be on the list of Littleton seminars. Obviously, the arrangements committee made an excellent choice.

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 the “Friends of the Library” and specify the endowment name. Send contributions to Friends of the Library, NCSU Libraries, Campus Box 7111, Raleigh, N.C. 27695-7111. ❖

The Libraries Celebrates the 2002–2004 Fellows

By WENDY SCOTT, ORGANIZATIONAL DESIGN AND LEARNING



Monica Lopez, Anna Dahlstein, and Kelsey Libner were honored at the first “graduation” ceremony for NCSU Libraries Fellows. [Left to right] Lopez, Dahlstein, and Steve Morris. Morris accepted the Fellows certificate on behalf of Libner, who could not attend the ceremony.

On July 15, 2004, the NCSU Libraries celebrated the “graduation” of Anna Dahlstein, Kelsey Libner, and Monica Lopez from the NCSU Libraries Fellows Program. Dahlstein, Libner, and Lopez, who comprised the Fellows class of 2002–2004, completed their fellowships on June 30, 2004. The Fellows program provides a two-year, postgraduate appointment to a select group of librarians who are recruited from graduate programs throughout North America.

This year marked the first formal, library-wide event recognizing the Fellows for completion of the program. The occasion featured a graduation ceremony with guest speaker Karin Wittenborg, university librarian at the University of Virginia. A longtime supporter of innovative approaches to recruiting and developing the next generation of librarians, Wittenborg delivered an inspiring address to all library staff, entitled “Building

Your Career Everyday.” With practical advice and illustrative (and often amusing) anecdotes, Wittenborg encouraged audience members to “take charge of your career.”

The Fellows appointment is a challenging and exciting one. Fellows are halftime librarians in a “home department” with a second halftime assignment to an innovative and strategically important project. This combination of responsibilities develops professional abilities on a fast track, which is important during the current worldwide shortage of librarians. In recognition of this accomplishment, Dahlstein, Libner, and Lopez each received a certificate of completion, presented at the ceremony by Susan K. Nutter, vice provost and director of Libraries. Fellows were then treated to a special dinner with Wittenborg and other guests.

The NCSU Libraries Fellows program began in 1999 to help address the significant challenges in recruiting and developing librarians who

represent the intellectual and demographic diversity of NC State's faculty and student population. The program targets recent graduates with master's degrees in library or information science who demonstrate potential for science, engineering, digital librarianship, and management and administration, as well as those from minority backgrounds. The program has been an outstanding success. To date, twenty-two Fellows have completed the program, with 95 percent going to positions in academic libraries (twelve at NCSU Libraries) or to Ph.D. programs in the library science field. Interest in the program, as shown by the number of applicants, has grown each year. In 2004 the Libraries received more than 195 applications for Fellows positions. ❖



Karin Wittenborg, university librarian at the University of Virginia, spoke at the Fellows graduation ceremony.



[Above] Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan K. Nutter presented Anna Dahlstein with her Fellows certificate. [Right] Monica Lopez received a similar certificate.

Inspiring Stories Unfold During 2004 North Carolina Literary Festival

BY LAURA HUDSON, LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT



[Above, left to right] Literary agent Wendy Weil, UNC–Chapel Hill Professor of History William R. Ferris, guest speaker Alice Walker, former UNC–CH University Librarian Joe Hewitt, and NCSU Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan Nutter.

[Below, left to right] Guest speaker Dennis Lehane, Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan Nutter, and special guest Michael Malone.



Visitors came by car, bus, van, and plane, ranging in age from the youngest of readers to senior citizens. Their mission: to see, hear, and interact with the nation's finest southern writers at the North Carolina Literary Festival, hosted by the NCSU Libraries from April 15 through 18, 2004.

The literary journey began on April 15 in NC State's Stewart Theater with a reading by Alice Walker, the award-winning author of *The Color Purple*. In addition to reading from her latest novel *Now Is The Time To Open Your Heart: A Novel*, she read from a book of her

poems and answered questions submitted by audience members.

The next evening, Dennis Lehane, author of *Mystic River*, gave a rare public reading from a novel he is writing. Afterward, the audience enjoyed his candid discussion about working with Hollywood superpowers Clint Eastwood and Sean Penn and his thoughts about writing and publishing.

The ensuing days ushered in beautiful weather and programs offered by more than 100 artists. Orson Scott Card, Kaye Gibbons, John Balaban, Jay Wright, Jill McCorkle, and Lee Smith were just some of the featured presenters. Daniel

continued on page 10



TERRELL CROW, NCSU LIBRARIES

The Brickyard venue featured vendors and wonderful food.



[Right] Tift Merritt delighted the audience.



TERRELL CROW, NCSU LIBRARIES

Two bookmark contest winners with Mr. Wuf.



Two NCSU students talk with writer Jill McCorkle.



TERRELL CROW, NCSU LIBRARIES

[Clockwise from far right] NC State professor Lucinda MacKethan, writers Lee Smith and Jill McCorkle, Algonquin Books editor Shannon Ravenel, and their publisher and mentor Louis D. Rubin Jr. of Algonquin Books at the "Learning with Louis" discussion.



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/>

North Carolina Literary Festival, continued from page 9

Wallace, author of *Big Fish*, and Sarah Dessen, author of *That Summer* and *Someone Like You*, discussed the experience of having their novels turned into screenplays. Afterward, the public watched a free showing of their featured films through the auspices of Campus Cinemas.

Readings, panel discussions, and informal conversations provided the backbone of the biennial literary celebration, cosponsored by NCSU, UNC–Chapel Hill, and Duke University. The Brickyard at NC State provided space for additional activities throughout the weekend, including book sales sponsored by the NCSU Friends of the Library and NCSU Campus Bookstores, an exhibit area, and the chance to enjoy a variety of foods provided by Campus Dining Services. An outdoor stage hosted such southern greats as Grammy Award-winning singer and songwriter David Holt, singer Tift Merritt, Appalachian writer Sharyn McCrumb, and children’s storyteller Willa Brigham.

This year’s festival also included young North Carolinians. In fall 2003 the Libraries hosted a bookmark art competition for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The judges ultimately selected one winner per grade from more than 900 entries. Students in grades nine through twelve participated in an essay contest responding to the theme “Literature Inspires Me To. . . .” Contest sponsors Ann Goodnight, representing the SAS Foundation, and Bernie Reeves, publisher of *Metro Magazine*, were on hand during the awards ceremony to recognize the twelve winners.

The 2004 Literary Festival offered visitors fun, food, and the chance to listen to stories, obtain signed copies of books, and interact with acclaimed southern writers, poets, storytellers, and performers. It was a true celebration of literature during one glorious spring weekend. ❖