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Kristin Antelman, associate director for the digital library at the NCSU Libraries, holds the attractive trophy received by the Libraries as the recipient of the 2006 Endeca Navigator Award—an exact working replica of a sextant used in the early-twentieth century.

ENDECA NAVIGATOR AWARD 2006

BY KRISTIN ANTELMAN, DIGITAL LIBRARY

The NCSU Libraries' Endeca-powered catalog continues to gain accolades from on campus and beyond. In May 2006 the Libraries was selected by Endeca Technologies, Inc., to receive its prestigious Endeca Navigator Award, which is given to select customers to

recognize the most successful solutions built on the Endeca platform . . . showcasing the most cutting edge and strategic applications of Endeca technology.¹

The award, a limited-edition brass replica of an early-twentieth-century sextant, was presented to the library at the 2006 Endeca Users Conference in Boston, Massachusetts. Steve Papa, founder and CEO of Endeca, said “the entire Endeca team is very pleased to play a small role in inspiring the NCSU students to spend more time appreciating the great treasures in the library.”

In addition, the Libraries' catalog was selected as one of only fifteen finalists from a pool of more than 130 nominations for the SirsiDynix Building Better Communities Award. The Libraries received a framed certificate at a ceremony held during the American Library Association's annual meeting in New Orleans this past June.

A librarian writing in a popular blog about NC State's Endeca catalog highlighted the value of actually being able to browse the collection through the online catalog.

I love the idea of browsing the collection in the OPAC. Long have librarians extolled the virtues of the serendipity of shelf browsing. Our catalogs can and should try to replicate this experience online, and allow other sorts of browsing our shelves don't provide.²



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The ability to browse helps students to find quickly what they need. At the Libraries' main reference desk, a librarian used the new catalog to guide a student with the following complicated information need: “Do you have any books about the historical context in which Shakespeare

¹<http://endeca.com/discover/navigatorawards.html>

²<http://inquiringlibrarian.blogspot.com/2006/01/next-generation-catalogs.html>

wrote?” By starting with a simple keyword search (“Shakespeare”), the librarian showed the student how to use the facets to narrow the result set down to the best books on the topic.

The broader library community is eager for more information on this project. Library staff members have been invited to give numerous talks across the country and are also consulting

with other libraries that are interested in following NC State’s lead. This fall an article will appear in the journal *Information Technology & Libraries* reporting on usability tests that show how much easier the new catalog is to use.

To see how fun searching a library’s online catalog can be, visit the NCSU Libraries’ catalog at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/catalog>. ❖

“The new Endeca system is incredible. It would be difficult to exaggerate how much better it is than our old online card catalog (and therefore that of most other universities). I’ve found myself searching the catalog just for fun, whereas before it was a chore to find what I needed.”

—ANDREW HUTZEL, SENIOR,
STATISTICS, NC STATE



TITO SIERRA NAMED MOVER AND SHAKER



Tito Sierra, the NCSU Libraries' digital technologies development librarian, was named one of the 2006 "Movers & Shakers who are transforming libraries for the future" by *Library Journal*, which described him as a "dot-com guru." Sierra joined the NCSU Libraries in January 2004 after capping off several years of experience at Amazon.com. He has applied his skills toward numerous digital initiatives at the NCSU Libraries, including Quick Search, the Libraries' customized Web site search engine, and its revolutionary new online catalog.

Sierra was selected to participate in the Minnesota Institute for Early Career Librarians from Traditionally Underrepresented Groups, held in July 2006. The institute combines training in

leadership and organizational behavior while developing practical skills in key areas for academic librarians. In 2005 he was awarded a Digital Library Federation (DLF) Forum Fellowship for Librarians New to the Profession to defray the costs of attending the DLF's Spring Forum. Only five information professionals are selected each year for the prestigious fellowship. At the forum, Sierra co-presented "In Search of the Single Search Box: Building a 'First-step' Library Search Tool."

Sierra holds a B.A. in government from Harvard University and an M.S. in information management from Syracuse University. At Syracuse, he received the Master's Prize in information management. ❖



Moreland Fellows Announced

From left to right, Verdie Moreland, Janelle Joseph, and Donald Moreland. Joseph is the Donald E. and Verdie S. Moreland Library Faculty Fellow for 2006–2007.

The NCSU Libraries is pleased to announce the establishment of the Donald E. and Verdie S. Moreland Library Faculty Fellowship, founded to support the Libraries' recruitment and retention of the most scholarly, dedicated, and creative members of the library profession. The Moreland Library Faculty Fellowship provides funds to offset the cost of relocating, which gives the Libraries an edge in recruiting the best library professionals throughout the country. Through this generous gift, the Morelands take an important step to assure the best library service for NC State students and faculty today and in the future.

The NCSU Libraries is proud to introduce the first two Donald E. and Verdie S. Moreland Library Faculty Fellows: **Kevin Schlesier** (2005–2006) and **Janelle Joseph** (2006–2007). Schlesier, the exhibits and outreach librarian for Special Collections, came to the NCSU Libraries from the National Library of Medicine, where he received the National Library of Medicine Special Act Award in 2004. He has an M.A. in museum studies from George Washington University and a B.A. in history *cum laude* from SUNY–Binghamton.

Joseph is a member of the class of 2006–2008 NCSU Libraries Fellows. Joseph holds an M.A. in information resources and library science and a B.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Arizona. She is a graduate of the University of Arizona's Knowledge River, a center for the study of information resources and technology issues related to Native Americans and Hispanics. Joseph will work in Collection Management and on a project to plan and deliver services in the new Learning Commons. ❖



Kevin Schlesier is the Donald E. and Verdie S. Moreland Library Faculty Fellow for 2005–2006.

Audio to go . . .

NCSU Libraries New Digital Audio Resources

BY KEITH MORGAN, DIGITAL LIBRARY INITIATIVES

In addition to the diverse assortment of books, journals, databases, movies, and other electronic resources that the NCSU Libraries provides to the NC State community, a full array of digital devices are available to help students and faculty create and use digital media. Laptops, digital cameras, digital camcorders, and portable hard drives have been available for loan for several years. As new technologies appear, the Libraries strives to expand this menu. In early 2006 the library initiated a program to loan digital audio players to the NC State community and introduced two new devices into the lending service to enhance the learning experience.

First, the Libraries purchased fifty Zen Micro digital audio devices. These small devices are similar to Apple's popular iPods but with the added benefit that they will play the library's new collection of netLibrary audio books. Online audio books became available last January when the NC LIVE statewide electronic-resource collection added the netLibrary eAudiobook collection. There are currently more than 1,300 titles available with additions being made all the time. These titles range

from classic literature to history, science, and medicine. There are also over 140 titles in the well-regarded Pimsleur foreign language series, as well as many current fiction and nonfiction best sellers. These titles can be played easily on a home com-

puter. Those who wish to take audio books for a walk, to the beach, or for a drive can transfer netLibrary titles to many portable audio devices such as the Zen Micro. Once copied to a digital audio device, they may be listened to anywhere.



[Below] NC State students Michael Freenor [left] and Zachary Gillan [right] examine the new Zen Micro and iPod Shuffle in the Digital Media Lab at the D. H. Hill Library. The devices are available for loan to download audio books [download process shown at left] and podcasts assigned for study by NCSU professors.



Second, the Libraries also purchased twenty Apple iPod Shuffles. Although the netLibrary format does not at this time support Apple computers or any iPods, there is an ever-expanding collection of digital audio available through the new phenomenon of “podcasting.” Prestigious journals such as *Nature*, *Science*, and *Scientific American* are providing weekly podcasts, and news organizations such as National Public Radio, the BBC, ESPN, and ABC are providing news updates through podcasts. Business and financial information is available through podcasts at the *Wall Street Journal* and *Business Week* Web sites. Educational lectures and foreign language instruction can be heard on regular podcasts. Many instructors at NC State are making podcasts of their lectures available to students. Professional organizations such as EDUCAUSE

deliver conference presentations via podcast. NC State’s Wolfcast@NC State, a new service, is testing podcasts as a method of delivering multimedia content across campus.

Zen Micro players and iPod Shuffles are available for loan to NC State University students, faculty, and staff for a period of thirty days. The devices are available in the Digital Media Lab at the D. H. Hill Library and at the circulation desks in the branch libraries.

More information is available on the following Web pages:

<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/guides/audio/>

<http://wolfcast.ncsu.edu/>

http://connect.educause.edu/folksonomy/educational_podcasts ❖

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LEARNING COMMONS OPENS

MARCH 12, 2007

FOR THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY TO USE

**Watch for the future announcement of
East Wing grand opening celebration in April 2007.**



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/>