

# FOCUS online

NCSU LIBRARIES  
VOLUME 28 NO. 2  
2007

## PART II LIBRARY SEMINARS AND EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS TAKE A BOW

GALA OPENING OF *THE AMERICAN SOLDIER: A PHOTOGRAPHIC TRIBUTE, THE CIVIL WAR TO IRAQ*

VOLUME 28 NO. 2, PART 2  
LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 28 NO. 2, PART III  
NEW LIBRARY PERSONNEL

VOLUME 28 NO. 2, PART IV  
DEVELOPMENT

VOLUME 28 NO. 2, PART V  
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY



COURTESY AMERICAN AERIAL PHOTOS, CHAPEL HILL, N.C.

Aerial view of site of future James B. Hunt Jr. Library (red dot marks the spot), Centennial Campus, NC State University. See story on selection of architects in the "Library News" section.

# Exhibitions Take a Bow

BY KEVIN SCHLESIER, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER

Three hallmarks of an excellent exhibition—striking imagery, powerful stories, and a captivated audience—were evident in the latest two exhibitions displayed in the D. H. Hill Library. **The American Soldier: A Photographic Tribute, The Civil War to Iraq** along with **B. W. Wells: Pioneer Ecologist** demonstrated the NCSU Libraries' continued commitment to hosting and producing exhibitions that educate, intrigue, provoke, and delight patrons.

North Carolina, with its large military population, has always been heavily affected by war. The NCSU Libraries is extremely proud to be the only North Carolina host of *The American Soldier*, a remarkable exhibition curated by NC State alum Cyma Rubin that will tour the country. The exhibition features more than 100 large images showing the grim results of some of the Civil War's bloodiest days, the early worldwide military excursions of American troops on foreign soil, the terrors and triumphs of World Wars I and II, along with the difficult conditions faced by soldiers in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Modern conflicts such as the Gulf War, Afghanistan, and the Iraq War bring home the sacrifices made by those in uniform. Throughout the exhibition, the camera gives the perspective of the GIs and illuminates the sacrifices of the common soldier.

With *The American Soldier* the Libraries continues its tradition of hosting exhibitions developed for a national audience but that also



have relevance for audiences here on the NCSU campus and in the larger Triangle community. Past exhibitions from the Newseum, the Smithsonian, and other respected institutions have made the NCSU Libraries a destination for those looking to see intellectually stimulating exhibitions. The exhibition program will continue to provide exhibitions that combine art, history, science, and drama.

*B. W. Wells: Pioneering Ecologist* was the first exhibition to be featured in the new East Wing exhibition gallery and was curated by the library in partnership with NC State's Department of Plant Biology. The gallery permits the showcasing of local history, science, and art. The exhibition featured the hand-tinted lantern slides Wells created during his tenure as one of the leading early professors of the university. Wells, who taught from 1919 to 1954, created lantern slides to communicate the beauty of North Carolina's ecology to students as well as to the larger com-

munity to get them to appreciate and preserve some of the state's treasured botanical resources. These images—combined with materials from the SCRC and a display of his scientific publications, tools, and gardening books he wrote for general audiences—bring to life Wells's story and continue his goal of engaging others in the natural majesty of North Carolina.

Currently the exhibition program is researching the many contributions NCSU has made to the medical field, including scientific knowledge, technological innovation, and the education of the next generation of medical practitioners. A future exhibition will highlight the results of this research.

Wonderful exhibitions tell interesting stories while displaying fascinating documents and artifacts. The exhibition program will do just that by displaying materials addressing national issues as well as developing original exhibitions focused on the collections of the library and the research and academic goals of the university. ❖



ALL PHOTOS PAGES 2 AND 3, KPO PHOTO, CHAPEL HILL, N.C.



*Gala opening of **The American Soldier: A Photographic Tribute, The Civil War to Iraq***



*[Left to right] Cadet Draughon; FOL President and exhibition curator Cyma Rubin; NCSU Executive in Residence and North Carolina First Lady Mary Easley; and Susan Nutter open The American Soldier exhibition.*



*[Below] Jinnie Y. Davis, formerly with the NCSU Libraries and a library donor [see Development section, "Getting the Story Out"].*



*Mac Newsom, FOL member and army Vietnam veteran.*



*[Left to right] Col. Carol Ann Redfield, Army ROTC; Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Susan Nutter, and NCSU professor emeritus of crop science, army veteran, and distinguished library supporter Donald E. Moreland.*



*[Left to right] Charles Brown and John Cassara of New York; Associate Vice Provost for Library Advancement Suzanne Weiner, Director of the Friends of the Library Jim Ruth, Director of the North Carolina Museum of Art Larry Wheeler, and Chief Deputy Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources Staci Meyer.*



*Jose Picart, NCSU vice provost for diversity and African American affairs and a former colonel in the United States Army.*



*John H. Guthrie Sr. of Chattanooga, Tennessee, who is the father of NCSU Assistant Professor Elizabeth Nichols [pictured on page 6].*



*Sir Douglas Dickerson, a founding member of the 82nd Airborne, served throughout World War II. For his service, he received the highest honor of French Knighthood and the Légion d'honneur. Before the war, Dickerson was quarterback for NC State's football team.*



*[Left] NCSU Assistant Professor of Environmental Technology Elizabeth Nichols and Lt. Col. Timothy Nichols, associate professor with Navy ROTC and on active duty with the Marine Corps.*



*[Left to right] Friends life and board member Sory Bowers and NC State Executive in Residence and N.C. First Lady Mary Easley.*



*[Left to right] FOL board member Anna Ball Hodge and Jay Sedberry.*



*Army ROTC Cadet Glenn Brewer Draughon, Wolfpack Battalion, addressed gala attendees during the exhibition program.*



*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/>