

# F O C U S **online**

NCSU LIBRARIES  
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UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE  
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*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 this section.*

# Selection of Architect for the James B. Hunt Jr. Library

BY JEANNE HAMMER, CAPITAL MANAGEMENT AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS



COURTESY AMERICAN AERIAL PHOTOS, CHAPEL HILL, NC.

With the allocation of \$17 million to plan the James B. Hunt Jr. Library on Centennial Campus, the first phase of the selection process for the design team of architects, engineers, and related consultants is under way. This first phase involves selecting the lead architectural design firm for the Hunt Library. The unique addition of a design charrette to the process is indicative of the Hunt Library's importance to the future of North Carolina State University and, in particular, the Centennial Campus.



*“The heart of any successful campus is its library. We envision the James B. Hunt Library becoming the heart of NC State’s Centennial campus and playing an integral part in the lives of all of our engineering students and faculty as we continue our growth on Centennial campus.”*

—LOUIS A. MARTIN-VEGA, PROFESSOR AND DEAN,  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, NC STATE UNIVERSITY

The typical selection process involves advertising for interested architectural firms to present their qualifications. The building committee reviews the materials each firm submits and narrows the list to a few that appear to be the most qualified for the particular project. Architects from this “short list” of firms make presentations before the building committee, highlighting the relevance of their previous work, and are interviewed by the committee. The committee evaluates the presentations and the responses to questions, and a selection recommendation is compiled for Board of Trustees approval.

For the Hunt Library, a design charrette was added to the mix to provide a window into the creative process of each firm. The goals of the charrette were to understand how each firm approaches and works through a design problem and to help the building committee envision what a working relationship with the firm would be like.

On the day before the charrette, the building committee, along with two members of the Board of Trustees, interviewed each architectural firm after the firms’ presentations. The next day, each firm visited the building site and was given a design problem related to the Centennial Campus site but not directly tied to design of the library project, along with space in which to work. During the day, members of the building committee observed each firm as they worked on the design problem. Student volunteers from the College of Design assisted the architects with technical issues such as printing and participated in the work. A jury of architectural faculty from NC State and elsewhere also observed.

On the third day, each architectural firm presented its solution to the design problem to the building committee. The jury separately presented its evaluations to the building committee. The building committee ended the day with a session to discuss each member’s perspective and to prepare a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

The first day of interviews was open to anyone interested, but the jury evaluations and building committee deliberations were closed sessions. The two members of the Board of Trustees participating in the interviews were Derick Close and Burley Mitchell. The jurors assisting the building committee were:

**Georgia Bizios**, Professor of Architecture, NCSU;

**Kofi Boone**, Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture, NCSU;

**Thomas Fisher**, Professor and Dean, College of Design, University of Minnesota; and

**Patricia Belton Oliver**, Senior Vice President, Educational Planning and Architecture, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California.

Altogether, thirty-four firms submitted their qualifications, and the building committee invited the following six firms to participate in the charrette:

**Croxtan Collaborative Architects**—  
New York, New York;

**Duda Paine Architects**—Durham, North Carolina;

**Fentress Architects**—Denver, Colorado, and Washington, D.C.;

**Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee**—Raleigh, North Carolina;

**Shepley Bulfinch Richardson & Abbott**—  
Boston, Massachusetts;

**Snøhetta**—Oslo, Norway, and New York, New York.

The committee recommended **Snøhetta**, an internationally recognized firm with offices in Oslo, Norway, and New York City. Craig Dykers and Kjetil Thorsen are the founding partners of Snøhetta, which takes its name from a mountain peak in central Norway that, according to Norse legend, is the site of Valhalla, the resting place of dead heroes.

Since its formation in 1989, Snøhetta has won numerous international design competitions and has been represented in exhibitions around the world. The firm is best known for its completion of the Alexandria Library in Egypt and major projects such as the Norwegian embassy in Berlin and the New National Opera in Oslo. Snøhetta was also selected to design the World Trade Center Museum Pavilion, the Wolfe Center for the Arts at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and the performing arts center at Queen’s University in Ontario, Canada.

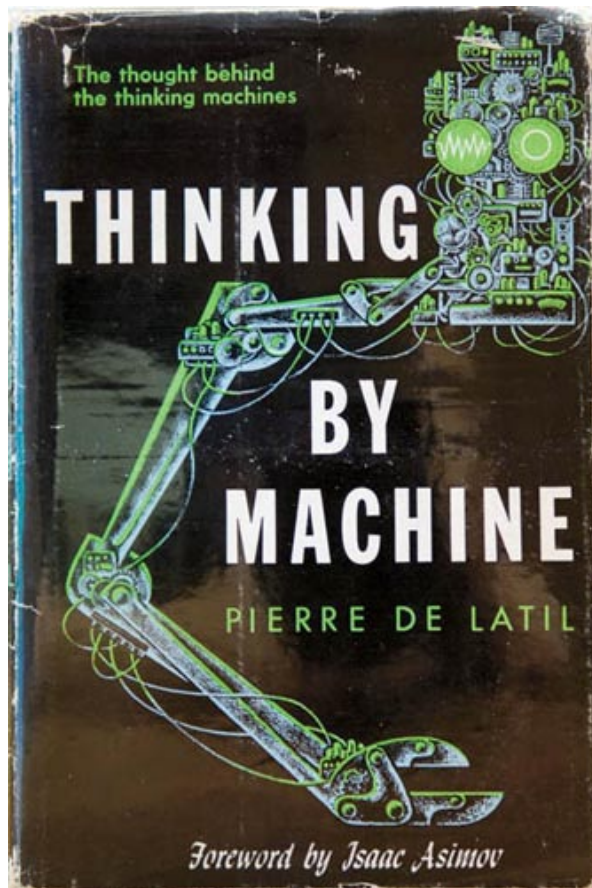
Snøhetta’s approach to architecture focuses on the total environment, not just the structure, and its work has been characterized as having a presence that resonates with the surrounding context. The firm is noted for having a collective, egalitarian structure that emphasizes teamwork. ❖

# Building Momentum for History of Computing and Simulation Collections

BY GREG RASCHKE, COLLECTIONS AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

Friends of the Library life member John F. Ptak has donated more than 600 seminal books and rare journal volumes to the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC). Concentrated in the history of computing and simulation, the Ptak donation provides cornerstone materials documenting the earliest developments in the history of computing and related disciplines such as linguistics, artificial intelligence, logic, machine translation, and electrical engineering. The collection also includes several books and journal articles documenting the formulation of simulation as a discipline of practice and research. The Ptak collection features materials from 1891 to 1987; the majority of the collection was published in the continental United States, but it also includes important works from Germany, France, Japan, and the former Soviet Union.

The history of computing is a primary collecting area for Special Collections and includes the papers of several NC State faculty members and of important scholars in the development of computer science, rare books, and seminal texts from the early and mid-twentieth century. Computing has its roots in the nineteenth century and Charles Babbage's Analytical Machine, but it came to maturity in the twentieth century out of the extensive



research and development done during and after the two World Wars. The bulk of the material in the Ptak collection ranges from 1940 through 1965, capturing the most important eras in the history of computing research and development, that of World War II and post-World War II. Notable authors and organizations represented by the Ptak gift from these important eras include Carlo Arcelli, Yehoshua Bar-Hillel, Robert Baron, Gordon Becker, Harry Blum, Walter M. Elsasser, George E. Forsythe, J. K. Hawkins, Alton Householder, William Karush, Felix Klein, Clifford Maloney, Jacob Marschak, Franco Modigliani, Frederick Mosteller, Ulric Heinz von Foerster, the Association for Computing Machinery

(ACM), Curtiss-Wright Corporation, General Electric, Hewlett-Packard, and IBM.

The Simulation Archive is another primary collecting area for the SCRC that has been developed in collaboration with and through the support of NC State faculty from the Department of Industrial Engineering. Combining elements of the history of computer science with those of industrial engineering, simulation arose as a discipline of research and practice during the 1940s, with many seminal works in simulation published from 1940 to 1965. Papers of pioneers in the history of simulation, including

Robert G. Sargent, Julian Reitman, Richard Nance, and Alan Pritsker, are represented in the archive. The Ptak gift complements the existing set of papers by filling gaps with a number of rare and important books and conference papers in the history of simulation—adding momentum to an archive that is emerging as a premier source for researchers interested in the history of the field of simulation.

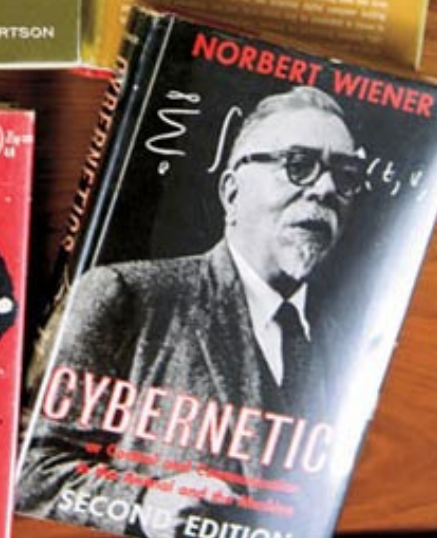
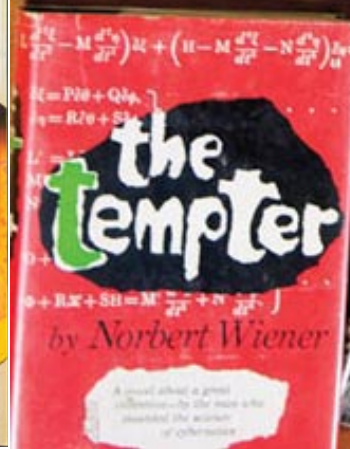
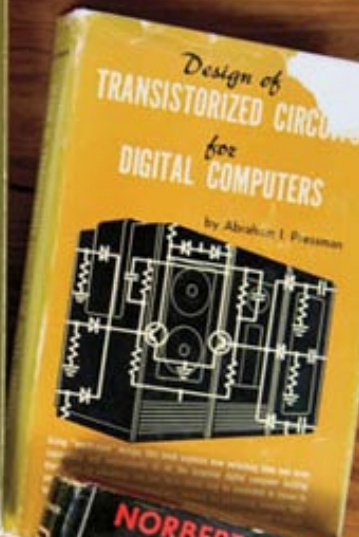
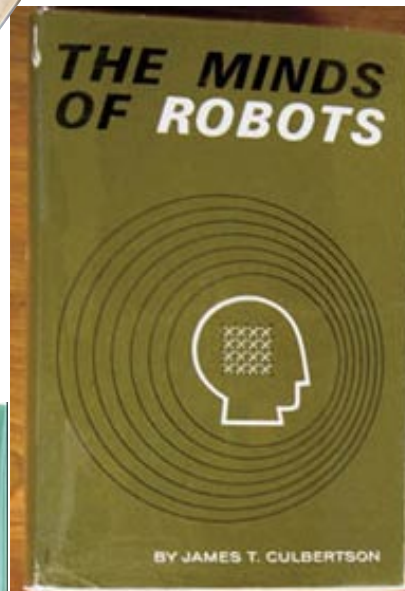
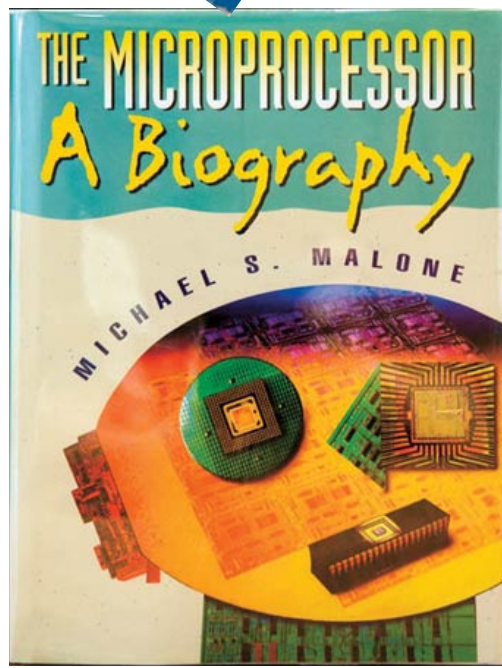
John Ptak is the retired proprietor of J. F. Ptak Books, Maps, and Prints in Georgetown, near Washington, D.C. The Ptak store specialized in used, rare, and antiquarian manuscripts, reprints, journals, maps, and prints in mathematics, the sciences, and the history of technology. He is a life member of the Friends of the Library and continues to partner with the Libraries in building its history of science collections. All materials

are available in the SCRC through an individual XML-encoded finding aid and through the Libraries' groundbreaking Endeca catalog.

With the assistance of friends and donors, the Libraries' most prominent special collections continue to develop the comprehensiveness necessary for scholarly research. For more information on the Ptak donation or to advance the Libraries' collecting initiatives in the history of computing and simulation, please contact Greg Raschke, associate director for collections and scholarly communication, at (919) 515-7188 or send an electronic-mail message to [greg\\_raschke@ncsu.edu](mailto:greg_raschke@ncsu.edu). Questions may also be directed to Suzanne Weiner, associate vice provost for library advancement, at (919) 515-7188 or via electronic mail at [suzanne\\_weiner@ncsu.edu](mailto:suzanne_weiner@ncsu.edu). ❖



Some of the many captivating titles to be found in the Ptak donation to the Special Collections Research Center.



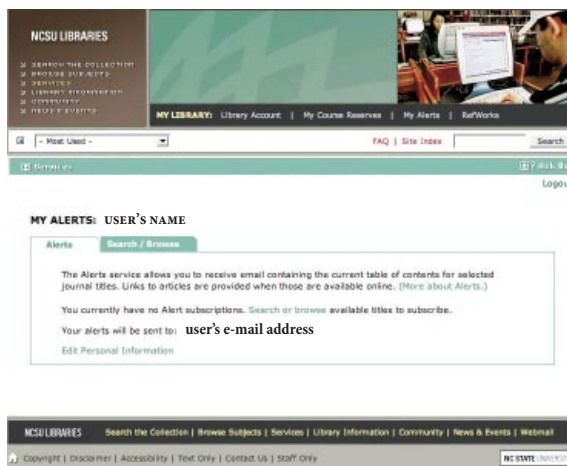
# Staying Current at the Libraries

BY JOSH WILSON, RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SERVICES,  
AND KAREN CICCONE, NATURAL RESOURCES LIBRARY

The NCSU Libraries offers various services that provide alerts to make it easier than ever for library patrons to keep current with information in their fields. Patrons can receive alerts when new issues of journals are published, when new books are added to the Libraries' collection, and when new articles are published on specific topics.

Library news, new book alerts, journal tables of contents, and search alerts are available via "Rich Site Summary" syndication (also known as "Really Simple Syndication" or RSS) feeds. The RSS feeds allow users to subscribe to information from their favorite sources to receive new content as soon as it is published. The feeds are read using a reader such as Google Reader, Bloglines, or any of many others freely available on the Web. For more information about using RSS, send a request to a librarian at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/libref/>.

The Libraries provides feeds covering news of interest to library patrons—library events, workshops, new book titles, new faculty publications, and new resources and services. These feeds are accessible at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/news/newsblogs.html>. Additionally, an RSS feed that tracks



announcements and discussions related to the Learning Commons can be found at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/learning-commons/>. The "Talk" area on the Learning Commons site serves as an interesting focal point of public discussion about the physical library space, and this can be monitored easily with the site's RSS feed.

The Libraries' catalog also recently became RSS-enabled. Patrons may conduct any search, then set up an RSS feed to track new titles that match their search criteria. This is a terrific way to learn about new items available at the library as soon as they appear in the catalog. More information is available at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/catalog/rss.html>.

My Alerts is another way to keep up with new material. Through this service, library patrons can sign up for notification of new journal content.

After selecting journals of interest, patrons can opt to receive electronic-mail notices containing each new issue's table of contents, including links to the online articles when those are available. Alternatively, patrons can subscribe to RSS feeds for the tables of contents of journals. Access the My Alerts service more by clicking on the "My Alerts" link on the Libraries' home page.

Many of the databases available through the Libraries also have alerting features, sometimes known as SDIs (Selective Dissemination of Information). Different databases handle their alert services in different ways, but all share similar functionality. Typically, users must create personal accounts within given database platforms. Saved searches and alerts can then be maintained through these accounts. Users can save their search histories so that complex searches do not need to be re-created, and they can set up electronic mail and RSS alerts for these searches so they are notified when relevant new items are added to the database.

Librarians are happy to work with patrons to set up search alerts. Please let the Libraries know what you think of these new services. For more information or for help setting up alerts, go to the link at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/libref/>. ❖

## Michael Hyman Named 2007 Faculty Award Winner

By SUZANNE WEINER, LIBRARY ADVANCEMENT

**M**ichael R. Hyman, associate professor and director of graduate programs in NC State's Department of Microbiology, is the recipient of the nineteenth annual NCSU Libraries Faculty Award. This award is presented to an NC State University faculty member in recognition of outstanding contributions that support the Libraries' mission and its role within the university. The award was presented to Hyman at the Friends of the Library's Fall Luncheon on November 12, 2007.



Hyman came to NC State in 1998 and shortly thereafter was appointed to the University Library Committee (ULC). This committee is charged with advising the provost and the director of libraries on library policy, the collections budget, allocation of library space, and library services. He served on the ULC for six years, three as chair, and was on the original advisory committee creating the Hill of Beans coffee shop that opened its doors in 2002 to provide a convenient and safe place for students and faculty to meet or find coffee late at night. The ULC studied traffic patterns in the Libraries and surveyed student, staff, and faculty preferences for products and services to develop a proposal for University Dining for such a facility.

During the three years of Hyman's tenure as chair, the Libraries faced a number of major challenges. Under his leadership, the ULC, working in collaboration with library administration, enabled the Libraries to continue to serve the university at the level students, faculty, and staff have come to expect. In 2003, when the NCSU Libraries joined other university librar-

ies in tough negotiations with the large scholarly publisher Reed Elsevier over its bundling and billing practices, Hyman played a leadership role in promoting an understanding of the issues among his colleagues in the Faculty Senate and across campus and in drafting a resolution supporting the library administration's strategy. This approach gained international recognition, and the resolution served as a model for other universities across the country in their negotiations.

Hyman's informed involvement was again critical during the 2005–2006 academic year when the library faced a significant cut in overhead funding. Such a loss in funding would have severely eroded the collections budget. Hyman worked closely with ULC members and librarians to determine the effects on research and scholarship, and he led the committee in making the case to university administration for maintaining the collections budget. His efforts in bringing the needs and concerns of the scholarly community to the administration resulted in

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## WANTED: A New Generation of Librarians

BY KATHY BROWN, PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Looking ahead to the next decade, the library profession will soon confront a monumental challenge. Denise Davis, director of the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Research and Statistics, estimates that 45.4 percent of practicing librarians will reach the age of sixty-five between 2010 and 2019. Replacing them is a daunting prospect. Add to that the need to attract people from diverse backgrounds to the profession, and the challenge is even greater.

Why is diversity an issue? Consider the environment here at NC State. Minority and international students currently make up approximately 25 percent of the student body, and that number is expected to grow. Minorities, however, comprise only 12 percent of the Libraries' professional staff, a figure in line with the 13 percent average reported by the Association of Research Libraries.

Organizations at both the local and national levels are trying to tackle the multifaceted problem. The NCSU Libraries recruits aggressively, offers numerous training opportunities for staff, and targets the best and brightest library school graduates for its highly regarded Fellows program, initiated in 1999. In 1998 the ALA established its Spectrum Scholars program, which provides a one-year \$5,000 scholarship and \$1,500 in professional development opportunities for minority students to attend an ALA-accredited graduate program in library and information science. The ALA awarded eighty scholarships for the 2007/08 academic year. The federal government has recognized the importance of replenishing the nation's supply of librarians. In 2006 the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded the School of Library and Information Sciences at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) a grant that will support up to twenty minority students as Diversity Scholars. Students receive free tuition and fees as well as a \$5,000 annual stipend.

Two of the Libraries' staff members, **Judy Allen Dodson** and **RaShauna Brannon**, are NCCU Diversity Scholars for 2007/09. Allen Dodson holds a B.A. in communication from Western Michigan University and works twenty hours a week in the Special Collections Research Center. Brannon, who double majored in English and African American studies at UNC-Chapel Hill and works forty hours a week in the Acquisitions Department, is also an ALA Spectrum Scholar for 2007/08. Both recently marked their one-year anniversaries with the Libraries.

Kathy Brown sat down with the pair in early October for a wide-ranging discussion about their graduate program, the profession, and diversity. The two share a passion for service, and their pursuit of the master's degree in library science is changing their lives. Allen Dodson and Brannon will, in turn, be changing the face of librarianship.







Judy Allen Dodson.

#### WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO NC STATE?

**RB:** I knew that the library had a wonderful reputation, and I was transitioning out of a role as a reading teacher in a charter school. I knew that I wanted to pursue a career in library science. It was just a natural fit for me, and I'm glad to be here. . . . Looking from the outside in, I wasn't aware that there are *so* many different levels and departments within the library.

**JAD:** What drew me was the library. My [two] kids usually come to NC State for summer camps, and we always come to the library. I said, "I'm going to work there one of these days," and my kids were like, "Yah, right." I had tried to get in for two years, and nothing. I saw an ad for an opening in Special Collections and said, "That's my job." People never know all the different departments that are in a library. And now that I know about academic special collections, I go into public libraries, and they have special collections as well. I didn't really notice that division of the library before, until I started working in special collections.

YOU BOTH STARTED WORKING FOR THE LIBRARIES THINKING YOU'D BE A LIBRARIAN. WHEN DID IT FIRST DAWN ON YOU THAT YOU WANTED TO BE A LIBRARIAN? WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO THE FIELD?

**JAD:** I wanted to be a librarian about five years ago. I kept applying for the public libraries, and they kept saying, "You have to have a master's degree." I thought, a master's degree to be a librarian? No way. I kept telling my kids, "Mommy's going to be a librarian." But you know what attracted me? It's a position of service, and I want to be of service to the community. . . . I volunteer for the Wake County Public Libraries, and I'm in my children's libraries all the time. I'm always promoting literacy, learning, education, and knowledge. . . . I always want to be in a place where people are excited about learning. I knew that if I came to the library, I would always be around people like that—like me.

**RB:** The deal for me was working in the charter school library. I was hired as the librarian. . . . Once I got that exposure, I knew that I wanted to learn more about the field. I knew what the requirements would be as far as getting an M.L.S., so I was constantly pursuing any types of information I could about librarianship and, like Judy said, providing books to the children and promoting literacy. On a wider scale, providing access to information and being here at NC State gives me a whole new dimension of service, because we're exposed to the student population, the professional population. You have so many different types of people that you work with and so many different trends that are happening in the field. Especially with the Learning Commons being re-opened, we see how the students interact. I think the variety is really what attracted me to the field and being of service to people from age nine to ninety-nine no matter what arena.

#### HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE DIVERSITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM?

**RB:** I had been searching for funding opportunities as early as last summer, the summer of 2006. I went to NCCU's Web site. They had the news brief there that they had been awarded the IMLS grant and to apply ASAP. And that's what I did.

**JAD:** Mine was totally different. When I came on board, my goal was to be a librarian, and *everybody* knew it. . . . **Wendy Scott** [assistant director for Organizational Design and Learning] said, "They have a great program at North Carolina Central. You'd better jump on it." **Greg Raschke** [associate director for Collections and Scholarly Communication] and **Linda Sellars** [head of technical services for Special Collections] both told me immediately that they knew it was the best opportunity for me, and that I was an ideal candidate [laughs].

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#### HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE SPECTRUM PROGRAM?

**RB:** I've known about Spectrum since I began my professional career. I came across Spectrum through my former supervisor at the charter school. She learned about the program, and I also came across it through ALA's Web site looking for different opportunities. Their Web site is really informative. It's also good to have people like **Wendy Scott** and supervisors who know your interests forward things to you.

**JAD:** They even have the staff come together and do workshops about library schools. . . . How many other places do you know that promote, that want you to go to school? It's good to work in a research library, because they always want their librarians to be in the know. They always want you to go back to school. . . . They keep feeding you the information. . . . I didn't even know until I got into Special Collections that there was an archivist conference where just archivists got together.

**RB:** We have serials conferences and NASIG [North American Serials Interest Group]. I didn't know about them until **Jackie Samples** [serials and electronic resources librarian] and **Liz Burnette** [head of Acquisitions] were telling me—so many professional associations specialized just for your interests.

#### YOU'VE BEEN IN COURSES FOR ABOUT A MONTH NOW. WHAT ARE YOU TAKING?

**JAD:** We have a diversity seminars class, which is *very* good. I knew I was going to like that class, but it definitely brings it full circle for us. We are African American women. We *do* want diversity in our field, so that course helps us see the trend of how it used to be to where it is now.

**RB:** We've had several guest speakers, including Dr. **Mark Winston** from UNC–Chapel Hill. He's in the field of library science. But we've also had several professors from NCCU from the psychology department, and that's been a pleasure to hear how you can incorporate all of these ideologies from other fields to help you progress.

**JAD:** With this course we have four professors teaching us. We have the dean, we have the assistant dean, we have **Dr. Bracy** and **Dr. Ballard**. So we get the cream of the crop. . . . And that's an honor—to have **Dean Owens** teaching us, investing in us, saying, "You are going to take the wand next, you are going to pick up and run with the wand."

**RB:** We have three of four classes together. Her fourth class is "Users and Uses of Information." Mine is a management course. Diversity seminar, reference course, foundations. . . .

**JAD:** That's the most important one. It gives you the foundation you need to build on. And **Dr. Abdullahi** is so wonderful. He is widely traveled. He gives us an experience locally, regionally, and globally. We didn't even think about global librarianship.



*RaShauna Brannon.*

**RB:** It gives us the basis to understand how librarianship started, how it began . . . current issues, the types of libraries, professional associations, physical buildings, trends, the history. It's interesting.

**JAD:** The history—I really wanted to know the history, because everything is changing so much. I wanted to go back to the scrolls, how librarians started. . . . When I walk into the library, any library, I'm a totally different person. I'm studious, my brain is open for learning, and I'm excited. Every day my kids ask me about my day at work. I say, "I had a GREAT day at the library."

#### FOUR COURSES IS A HEAVY LOAD ON TOP OF WORKING TWENTY AND FORTY HOURS. HOW LONG DOES THE PROGRAM TAKE?

**RB:** Two years. It really helps that there are evening classes. It's very friendly for the library professional.

**JAD:** They want you to be active within your library, whether it be public, school, or academic. . . . **Dean Owens** does not leave until after the 6:00 P.M. classes start every night. She wants to be able to see all of her students, not just us. Her door is always open. That's another thing that gives us a really good feeling

about the program. Not only are the professors available for us at any time, we have a sense of community because we're all in the same courses together. It's ten of us in the second cohort. We do pretty much everything together. It makes it more of a community, more of a family, when we know we have somebody else to lean on.

**WHAT I HEAR FROM BOTH OF YOU IS A REAL ENTHUSIASM AND AN APPRECIATION FOR THE FIELD. HOW WOULD YOU MARKET OUR FIELD TO GET PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THE FIELD AS A POSSIBLE PROFESSION?**

**RB:** If we could focus on the variety. . . . As I've already said, you can find your niche in the library field: digital libraries, working one-on-one with patrons, archives. . . . If we could showcase the diversity as far as the options available, that's one way, especially the new innovations toward the electronic. The Learning Commons is an advertisement as to what's to come and what is now. We have to remember that we are a public face, and we need to keep ourselves thriving.

**JAD:** That's really good. With any profession, you need to hook them as young as you can. I had actually planned on going into my sons' schools and letting them know, "Yes, I'm the new face of librarianship." It has to start in elementary school. Once they even get to middle school, they're already looking at other fields—something that's on television or on a video game all the time. I think librarianship needs a video game. I don't even know how I'd design it—just something to get our message out there to say look at us, look at our new libraries. We're not the stale, stiff, quiet place any more. We're where it's happening. . . . We need to have librarians from all fields doing career networking or career talks with children, to go in with some kind of advertising tool to hook the kids. If you're just sitting there holding a book, these kids are like, "No, it's not moving and it's not doing anything for me." You've got to be hot and exciting.

**RB:** Hot and exciting, yes. . . . But the traditions of the field. . . . It's an interesting profession and it speaks for itself. No matter what the times and trends are changing, the commitment to service is always there. That's one thing that we can continue to sell—that service quality.

**JAD:** In our foundations class we were discussing how the names of librarians are changing. . . . If someone says "media specialist," you don't really know what that is. But if you say "librarian," you're right. Historically, people know that's the keeper of information, that's the person who keeps the books. There's prestige that goes along with that. You're right. . . . we do need to market that part as well.

**A WHITE PAPER PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES IN JULY (ACHIEVING RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY AMONG ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH LIBRARIANS) STATES THAT VOLUNTEERING IS ONE OF THE STRONGEST INDICATORS FOR PREDICTING WHO WILL BECOME LIBRARIANS. DID YOU VOLUNTEER WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG?**

**RB:** I volunteered in my public library from about the age of ten until I was seventeen. When I was seventeen, they hired me. I worked for a year and then went off to college. So, the seed had been planted. When you find your interests, it just lends itself to the natural progression. That's probably how I ended up wanting to be a librarian and a teacher, too.

**JAD:** I worked in my high school library. All the other positions were gone, and I thought, the only ones left are at the library? You have to be quiet, and I'm not quiet. But I'm telling you, when I got in there. . . . I still remember my librarian's name. . . . She was the best. She planted the seed, and I think it has been here all along.

**YOU'VE BOTH BEEN ACADEMICALLY SUCCESSFUL. ARE THERE THINGS THAT WE SHOULD BE DOING AS AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY TO REACH OUT TO STUDENTS OF COLOR?**

**RB:** If students of color can see librarians of color and identify with those who have similar cultural backgrounds. . . . no matter what cultural background the librarian is, just remember to provide excellent service to anyone, no questions asked.

**JAD:** Before my diversity seminars class, I used to think of diversity as being a race, a color. And it's not that. . . . The class brings different aspects into the diversity pool, and I'm constantly fishing from the pool. Now I know that it's not just about race. It's not just about color. It's also about the patrons or the employees who have handicaps, who have disabilities. Of course, you're going to feel more comfortable if you see somebody like you. Traditionally, historically, the librarian has been the white older female. . . . you don't see that many men, you don't see that many Hispanics, or Native Americans, or African Americans, or people with disabilities. . . . We need to reach out more. When you see the ad online, you see "equal opportunity employer." But what does that really mean? Are we actively pursuing diversity? And I'm on the Libraries' diversity committee. We *are* actually doing a lot more. I shouldn't say a lot more, because this is my first year, but we're keeping up with the trend. There's always room to grow as far as promoting diversity and actually recruiting for diversity.

*continued on page 11*

YOU'VE BOTH MENTIONED THE VARIETY AND COMPLEXITY OF THE MODERN LIBRARY ORGANIZATION. HAS THERE BEEN ANYTHING ELSE THAT HAS REALLY SURPRISED YOU ABOUT THE FIELD?

**JAD:** I've been surprised at how much I've learned and how much the library actually has changed for the better. . . . As far as what I'm surprised about? The complexity of the digitization of our field. . . . Libraries have always been on the cutting edge, whether it be technology, whether it be serving the community. . . . We have to be there with the coffee houses, as well as being open and free to have a commons area so people can talk and do their schoolwork together and not feel that they have to be shushed. The competition is pretty stiff out there, but I think library as place will always stand the test of time.

DO YOU THINK THAT PEOPLE WHO ACCESS REMOTELY REALIZE WHAT THE LIBRARY HAS DONE TO ORGANIZE ALL OF THAT INFORMATION? DO WE HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BRANDING AND CONVEYING THE LIBRARY STAMP OF APPROVAL?

**JAD:** Do you mean what makes us any different than Barnes and Noble? I would like to think about that further. I do know that people prefer to come to our Web site over any other Web site or catalogs, because we do have the best catalog. I've heard that from TRLN, from other librarians. That's a brand to me. That's our brand.

**RB:** Our services . . . the information is free of charge to the patrons, to our students, to our professors, to whomever. That is a brand . . . and if we just continue in that tradition of excellence. . . .

PEOPLE WOULD BE SHOCKED IF THEY KNEW HOW MUCH SOME OF THESE DATABASES COST.

**RB:** That's something that was surprising to me, if I can go back to that question. Information is rather costly. There's a *lot* of value in the library. We *are* the brand. But how do we market ourselves?

**JAD:** That's a good question. You have to put a face on it. As librarians we're traditionally known to wait for people to come to us. I think we need to be more proactive and go out to the community a little bit more. Stand up. Because if we're not waving our flag and patting ourselves on the back, then who else is going to do that? We need to be out there in the schools, in the communities. There's an election coming up. We need money for libraries. We need librarians standing out there saying, "Look. This is the value that I'm holding up here." That's the brand. You need to put that face with the building. When people say, "Oh, library—that's just a bunch of books." No, It's a lot more. That's the brand. We need to be out there more. Not just academic librarians. All librarians. The North Carolina Library Association (NCLA) is coming up next week. That's a good time for us to network with other librarians.

WILL NCLA BE YOUR FIRST CONFERENCE?

**RB:** Both cohorts attended the Black Caucus of the ALA in Fort Worth, Texas, for three days at the beginning of August. That was our first exposure to a conference of that size. We were able to network and learn more about the field, to see how the information was presented at the conference . . . librarians detailing their own innovations and what's working in their settings. There were public, academic, special, and school librarians. It was good to be in that interaction. We will probably be going to the ALA conference next summer. I will be going to ALA as a part of Spectrum, also.

FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVES, DO YOU HAVE A MESSAGE FOR READERS OF THE *FOCUS*?

**JAD:** What I would like the readers to know, as a Diversity Scholar, is that we are growing as a library. But for us to meet the needs of our patrons now and in the future, we need to make sure we have diversity. We need to be well represented in all facets of the library, from administration all the way down to Special Collections. That's what I would like the readers to know. . . . We are honored to have been selected for this diversity scholarship and to be able to take that charge and diversify the field of librarianship.

**RB:** That's beautiful. I love what you said.

LET ME PLAY DEVIL'S ADVOCATE. DO YOU HAVE AN UNFAIR BURDEN? THERE'S A MISSION COMPONENT TO YOUR PROGRAM THAT THE TYPICAL LIBRARY STUDENT DOESN'T ENCOUNTER.

**JAD:** The expectation is *very* high.

**RB:** I like to think of it as "To whom much is given, much is required." As a Diversity Scholar, I have this opportunity. I'm going to do my best to take in everything that I can and produce it back to the university or whatever setting I find myself in. . . . I'm thankful for the support from the institution, my department, and my co-workers. All the way around, it's just a great opportunity. It's going to be a wonderful experience for us. I don't think that it's an unnecessary challenge. We knew the expectations going in; we knew that we were going to be expected to be full-time students. It's all about stepping up to the plate and hitting those home runs.

**JAD:** It's also to plant that seed. To bring us in, so that we can reach back and bring in the next generation of African and multicultural librarians. The face of librarianship has to change, because patrons want to see people who look like them. We want to be of service to everybody, but we want people to feel comfortable coming into the library and seeing a diverse group of staff. ♦

*Faculty Award Winner, continued from page 7*

more than 50 percent of the proposed cuts being reinstated and, to a large degree, averted the funding crisis.

His steadfast support and distinguished service to the Libraries over his years at NC State have been recognized by his colleagues in the faculty and are echoed in this statement made by one of the nominators:

Over years of formal association with and support for the Libraries, Dr. Hyman has taken on various roles in which his insight, his commitment, his humor, and his diplomacy have all contributed to the standing of the NC State University Libraries among research libraries around the world. His efforts and successes in supporting the Libraries make him an obvious choice for this important award. ❖

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Negela Moaddeb	Graduate Student/College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

### *Ex officio*

Susan K. Nutter	Vice Provost and Director of Libraries
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