

# TRLN ANNUAL MEETING 2007: DIRECTORS' REPORTS

North Carolina State University Libraries

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

## The Most Exciting Things That Your Library Did Last Year

**Renovation of Library space:** After the completion of the renovation of the D. H. Hill Library's East Wing in March, students surged into the new learning spaces enthusiastically, especially the Learning Commons. The Commons offers access to significant technology and information resources, including multimedia tools and the full Unity suite of software applications, help in using those resources, and areas for both collaborative work and self-directed study. Students filled the Learning Commons for the remainder of the academic year and rated it as one of the most productive and appealing places on campus. This intellectual and social center has rapidly emerged as a highly valued asset for the university, and new partnerships with faculty and students are being identified based on innovative uses of the space. The Libraries has raised the bar in terms of students' expectations, and we anticipate continued intensive use during the 07/08 academic year. Renovations also included expansion and improvement of the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC), with a museum-quality exhibit gallery and a reading room with bookshelves dedicated to displaying the scholarship of NC State faculty.

The Libraries continued to maximize the use of space in the D. H. Hill Library by relocating the Course Reserves service point from the West (Erdahl-Cloyd) Wing to the Main Circulation Desk. The move created more student seating space in the West Wing, allowed the library to combine staffing for the merged service points, and provided the convenience of 24-hour, one-stop access to full circulation and course reserves services for faculty and students.

**Collections for Researchers and Students:** Expanded the Special Collections Research Center's digital collections with an additional 1,000 images for the University Archives Photo collection; over 1,300 images for the B. W. Wells image collection; and over 25,000 images (visual and texts) documenting NC State's agricultural and 4-H extension and engagement activities during the twentieth century.

**Opening of B. W. Wells Exhibition:** Held inaugural exhibition, *B. W. Wells: Pioneer Ecologist*, in the new gallery space. The exhibition documents the Big Savannah (Pender County, NC) in the context of Professor Wells' many contributions to NCSU and the citizens of the state. The gallery will enable the Libraries to display unique materials from state and university history, magnificently exemplified by this first show. The exhibition runs through 10 August 2007.

## The Biggest Challenges Facing Your Library in the Coming Year

**Space:** Delay in construction of the James B. Hunt, Jr. Library on Centennial Campus will escalate pressures for off-site storage of collections essential for research.

**Money:** The erosive effect of inflation on the library's purchasing power for collections and the high demand for digital materials.

## Other Developments

NCSU Libraries Annual Report 2007

<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/administration/annualreports/reportch07.html>