

TRLN ANNUAL MEETING 2008: 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

New Library Space: The General Assembly appropriated \$17 million in planning funds for the James B. Hunt Jr. Library in July 2007, and the UNC Board of Governors approved the building committee's selection of the lead architectural design firm, Snøhetta, in November. The Hunt Library is envisioned as a "signature" building that embodies the essence of Centennial Campus as a community built around knowledge. Featuring innovative public spaces with inviting areas for both collaboration and contemplation, the building will house multidisciplinary science and engineering library collections as well as the Institute for Emerging Issues. Design is expected to be completed in 2010 and construction in 2012/13.

Collections for Researchers and Students: The Libraries significantly increased its digital collection, and increased exposure and access to its unique and special collections. Highlights of that expansion include:

- We added a new e-book platform (**Ebrary**) and titles emphasizing reference content. We also experimented with e-book reader technologies and acquired Sony Readers and Amazon Kindles for lending.
- The Libraries **acquired streaming digital content** for over 50 video teaching resources, which will greatly increase the accessibility and utility of these materials, especially for distance learners. NCSU Libraries also spearheaded a partnership with NC LIVE to acquire an additional 400 digital videos from PBS.
- NCSU Libraries **began a partnership with the Open Content Alliance (OCA)** to digitize NCSU's public domain books into high-resolution, downloadable, reusable digital files (<http://www.archive.org/details/ncsulibraries/>) that are available on the Internet Archive website.
- In **Special Collections**, the Libraries acquired papers from Richard Bell, a founding father of landscape architecture in the state and architect of the Brickyard; Matthew Nowicki's original drawings of the State Fair Grounds; and the entire recorded history of Council Tools and the Council family, a gift valued at \$2.75 million and described as an "invaluable resource for scholars."
- We created "**The Built Heritage of North Carolina: Historic Architecture in the Old North State,**" an online resource featuring over 4,100 measured drawings and photographs, as well as timelines, historical essays, and K-12 curriculum guides. This project has also employed Google's "My Maps" function to identify locations of buildings and MIT's SIMILE Project's AJAX-driven "Timeline" web application to place buildings in historical context.
- We created the "**Historical State**" portal for the discovery of the university's history through access to timelines, digital photographs, oral histories, and digitized course catalogs; added 4,300 images documenting the university's history.

Next generation digital library: Working with consortia staff and partners, we launched **Search TRLN** (<http://search.trln.org/>), a collaboration to provide faceted, Endeca-driven access to the holdings of the TRLN libraries.

The Libraries developed **MobiLIB**, a suite of library services specifically designed for Web-enabled, small-screen mobile devices such as cell phones and PDAs.

Under the guidance of an advisory council with faculty representatives from across campus, **expanded the Digital Repository** to increase the accessibility, impact, and visibility of NC State scholarship. The Scholarly Publications Repository (SPR) now contains over 600 full-text articles and 27,000 citations.

The Biggest Challenges Facing Your Library in the Coming Year

Money: Severe inflationary pressures are eroding the library's purchasing power for collections by 7 to 8 percent (\$450,000) annually. During 2007/08 the Libraries devoted considerable effort to updating the position descriptions of support staff to reflect the current technology-driven environment. For both professional and support personnel, funds are needed to implement salary adjustments for retention and to offer competitive salaries for recruitment.

Other Developments

See: **North Carolina State University Libraries Annual Report, 2007/2008**
<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/administration/annualreports/reportch08.html>