

North Carolina State University Libraries

Susan Nutter

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

The Most Exciting Things That Your Library Did Last Year

The Libraries has devoted much of its attention in 2009/10 to **two major projects**: the launch of a major website redesign and the James. B. Hunt Jr. Library. Both have involved engagement with the user community, and both promise to enhance service delivery significantly. The new website, which will be introduced during the next academic year, is a complex undertaking encompassing migration planning, content strategy, and information architecture to create an inviting and effective online gateway to research, services, and learning. The Hunt Library, slated for completion in 2012, will be a signature building that will serve as the intellectual and social heart of the Centennial Campus. The Hunt Library will emphasize science and technology, provide opportunities to explore new technologies, and relieve to some extent current deficits in seating and stack capacity. The goal for Hunt embodies the spirit that pervades the NCSU Libraries—to be nothing less than the best learning and collaborative space in the country.

Enabling Student Success: Played a lead role in implementing UNC Library Express so that patrons can search and request materials from all 17 institutions in the UNC system. Expanded the Course Books program by collaborating with the NC State Bookstore and partnering with the Physics Department. Enhanced the online catalog by deploying an integrated research discovery platform, Summon, and developing a virtual shelf browse feature. Developed an application called GroupFinder that helps students find each other in the library. Continued to serve as a technology incubator on campus. Exploited the potential of mobile technologies by developing a smartphone version of the website, and releasing WolfWalk, a location-aware smartphone and iPhone application. Marked a complete year of operation for the Digital Media Lab in its new location adjacent to the Learning Commons.

Developing and Providing Access to Digital Resources:

- Launched Historical State (<http://historicalstate.lib.ncsu.lib>), an innovative online gateway to NC State history.
- Digitized over 700,000 pages of text through the Libraries' partnership in the Open Content Alliance, while gaining access to over 2.25 million texts from the alliance.
- Received a significant grant to digitize 3,831 architectural drawings and 923 photographs documenting approximately 730 buildings constructed from 1900-1940, for the *Beaux Arts to Modernism: Early Twentieth Century Architecture*.
- Expanded the successful electronic book reader program by increasing the number of Kindles and adding iPads to the technology lending service shortly after their public release.

Enabling Faculty and Research Success

- Use of the collections by members of the NC State community has risen to unprecedented levels. The total of 5,764,067 uses includes 2.2 million full-text article downloads from subscribed journals.
- Acquired complete, permanent digital journal archives from the American Institute of Physics, the American Chemical Society, and the journal Nature.

TRLN ANNUAL MEETING 2010: DIRECTORS' REPORTS

- Enhanced the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) with the addition of papers from pioneer landscape architect Lewis Clarke; renowned landscape architect Gil Wheless; major North Carolina architectural firm Holloway and Reeves; and Dr. Major Goodman, William Neal Reynolds Distinguished University Professor of Crop Science and influential plant geneticist.
- Awarded a federal Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) grant entitled, *Changing the Landscape: Exposing the Legacy of Modernist Architects and Landscape Architects*.
- Working closely with the Graduate School, developed and deployed a new web platform to support the university's electronic theses and dissertations program.
- Joined the Quali OLE (Open Library Environment) partnership – led by Indiana University and funded by a \$2.38 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.
- Led efforts on the use of the Shared Electronic Resource Understanding (SERU) as a more efficient alternative to licensing and partnered with a major publisher to be the first library to use SERU in a large electronic purchase.
- Led the re-negotiation of electronic journal licenses for the Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN) with two of the world's largest commercial scholarly publishers.
- Continued work on the Libraries' partnership with the Library of Congress and the North Carolina Center for Geographic Information and Analysis to preserve digital government information.

Realizing the Library of the Future

- Broke ground on the iconic Hunt Library – a new state-of-the-art library on Centennial Campus.
- Prepared and presented the D.H. Hill Library Backfill Plan to the University Space Committee, to guide future renovations to repurpose spaces in the building to better meet users' needs.
- Unveiled the completely renovated William Rand Kenan, Jr. Library of Veterinary Medicine.
- Undertook several projects in the continuing quest to improve learning spaces and increase the number of user seats in D.H. Hill Library.

The Biggest Challenges Facing Your Library in the Coming Year

The new Hunt Library is both an opportunity and a challenge. Staffing the Hunt Library while maintaining services in D. H. Hill will be difficult. The Libraries will face an extraordinary challenge to provide adequate staffing to meet round-the-clock service demands for both facilities. The combination of budget cuts and severe inflationary pressures (\$400,000+ annually) have placed the collection under significant strain. New, continuing sources of funding must be found if the university is to maintain the strength of the collections and to expand the availability of digital content. Being the busiest public space on campus strains resources. Students are hard pressed to find an available seat and computer, and the Libraries is constantly trying to expand the number of user seats. Retaining an excellent staff remains a priority.

Other Developments

See: **North Carolina State University Libraries Annual Report, 2009/2010**

<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/administration/annualreports/channrep0910.pdf>