

TRLN ANNUAL MEETING 2010: DIRECTORS' REPORTS

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University Library
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<http://www.lib.unc.edu>

The Most Exciting Things That Your Library Did Last Year

The Library hosted the **North Carolina Literary Festival**, Sept. 10-13, 2009, on the UNC campus. More than 12,000 visitors attended the festival, including 3,000 visitors to the Festival's first children's activity tent. One hundred authors spoke at the 67 programs and 250 volunteers gave their time during the Festival.

The Library adopted a **new collection development system**, effective May 1, 2010. Subject librarians now provide coordinated collection development and public services in their assigned areas. The Davis Library Reference Department is now the Research and Instructional Services Department.

The Library successfully **completed the actions outlined in *Library Directions***, its planning document covering the years 2005-2010. Following an inclusive library- and campus-wide planning process, we are preparing to inaugurate *To Collect and to Serve: A Plan for the University Library, 2010-2012*.

This summer, the first floor of Davis Library received **new paint, carpeting, and furnishings**, providing an airy, welcoming space for research and study. Chairs, benches, and a new reception desk have also been added to the lobby of the Wilson Special Collections Library.

The North Carolina **Digital Heritage Center**, based in the North Carolina Collection in Wilson Library, inaugurated its service to the state. The Center works with cultural heritage institutions across North Carolina to digitize and publish historic materials online. Learn more at <http://digitalnc.org/>.

The Biggest Challenges Facing Your Library in the Coming Year

Both Davis and Wilson Libraries are in **need of significant upgrades** to replace aging systems and bring the buildings into compliance with current code requirements. These infrastructure improvements are a prerequisite for any renovation projects, but are prohibitively costly. It is unclear when sufficient funds will be raised or allocated to permit this important work.

As the UNC Library approaches the celebration of its 7 millionth volume, it shares the challenge with most research libraries of managing growing print collections in the face of **limited shelf space** and the increasing use of electronic resources. We are exploring options for expanded off-site storage and service.

For the second consecutive year, the state budget will not provide **raises for employees**. This is not only a hardship for employees, but the stagnant wages make hiring difficult, as offering market salaries would introduce inequities with our current workforce.

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Other Developments

On April 1, at the direction of UNC Provost Bruce Carney, the **Health Sciences Library** and the University Libraries were combined under University Librarian Sarah Michalak. In the coming year, the libraries will work closely together to realize the goals of this convergence by finding ways to reduce costs while strengthening the libraries' combined services.

The **Wilson Special Collections Library** will continue efforts already underway to provide a more unified and satisfying user experience. Staff are exploring ways to provide a combined registration system and reading room, expected to open in early 2011. An NEH grant will also provide significant funding toward the installation of a fire suppression system in the special collections stacks.

The University plans to open "**New Venable**"—the long-awaited physical sciences building—in time for the fall term. The facility will be home to the Kenan Library, a technology-rich library and information services facility devoted to the physical sciences.