Mississippi

MSU Libraries Opens G. V. “Sonny” Montgomery Congressional Collection

In celebration of the 95th birthday of the late Congressman G. V. “Sonny” Montgomery, the Mississippi State University Libraries’ Congressional and Political Research Center announces the opening of the G. V. “Sonny” Montgomery Congressional Collection. Consisting of over 1,200 cubic feet of correspondence, memos, speeches, floor statements, photographs, and memorabilia, the Montgomery Collection covers the life of the Congressman from his time as at the McCallie School in Chattanooga, Tennessee, his leadership as a student athlete at Mississippi State University, his service in Europe in World War II (where he was awarded a Bronze Star with valor), his work in the Mississippi state legislature, and his thirty years in the United States Congress from 1967 to 1997.

During a ceremony on August 5, 2015, university and library administrators, members of the G. V. “Sonny” Montgomery Foundation and Congressman Gregg Harper officially announced the opening of the Collection. Dr. Jerry Gilbert, Provost and Executive Vice President, spoke on behalf of the University recognizing and applauding Montgomery’s life-long service to the State of Mississippi and the nation. “From his years as a Mississippi State student throughout his lifetime, Sonny Montgomery was considered a leader who worked tirelessly on behalf of those he served”, said Gilbert. He added “Montgomery’s leadership and people skills served him well throughout his career. He was a devoted and loyal friend of Mississippi State’s and one who frequented the campus often throughout his life and whose legacy can been seen throughout the campus.”

During his time in Congress, Montgomery worked on behalf of American military veterans, visiting Vietnam throughout the war, assisting in the return of POWs, and, most notably, on the extension of the G. I. Bill, which now bears his name as the “Montgomery G. I. Bill.” Also within the collection are materials highlighting the close friendship between Montgomery and former President George H. W. Bush. The two met on their first day in Congress in 1967 and remained friends for the remainder of the Congressman’s life. Congressman Montgomery passed away May 12, 2006.

“Congressman Sonny Montgomery served the Third Congressional District of Mississippi and our country with integrity, compassion, and hard work in the U.S. House of Representatives. His efforts on behalf of our country’s veterans and the people of Mississippi are still realized today, and we are eternally grateful,” said Congressman Gregg Harper. He added “Sonny loved Mississippi State University and I know that he would be proud of the new G.V. “Sonny” Montgomery Collection. I hope that this collection will be a reminder of Sonny’s esteemed public service for generations to come.”

The Montgomery collection is housed in the Congressional and Political Research Center at the Mississippi State University Libraries’ Mitchell Memorial Library. The CPRC is open Monday-Friday, 7:30am-5pm. For more information please visit the CPRC’s website at: http://library.msstate.edu/cprc/index.asp.

Mississippi Governor Barbour to Discuss, Sign Books at Library Event

On August 24, former Mississippi Governor and author Haley Barbour spoke and signed copies of his new book “America’s Great Storm: Leading through Hurricane Katrina” at an event in the John Grisham Room of Mitchell Memorial Library.
When Hurricane Katrina hit Mississippi on August 29, 2005, it unleashed the costliest natural disaster in American history, and the third deadliest. Haley Barbour had been Mississippi's governor for only twenty months when he assumed responsibility for guiding his pummeled, stricken state's recovery and rebuilding efforts. "America's Great Storm" is not only a personal memoir of his role in that recovery, but also a sifting of the many lessons he learned about leadership in a time of massive crisis.

For the book, the authors interviewed more than forty-five key people involved in helping Mississippi recover, including local, state, and federal officials as well as private citizens who played pivotal roles in the weeks and months following Katrina's landfall. In addition to covering in detail the days in September and October of 2005, chapters focus on the special legislative session that allowed casinos to build on shore; the role of the recovery commission chaired by Jim Barksdale; a behind-the-scenes description of working with Congress to pass an unprecedented, multi-billion-dollar emergency disaster assistance appropriation; and the enormous roles played by volunteers in rebuilding the entire housing, transportation, and education infrastructure of south Mississippi and the Gulf Coast. A final chapter analyzes the leadership skills and strategies Barbour employed on behalf of the people of his native state, observations that will be valuable to anyone tasked with managing in a crisis.

University of Southern Mississippi Updated Admission Requirements for LIS Graduate Programs

Undergraduate Record - Students qualifying for regular admission to the master's program must have a 3.0 (4.0 scale) grade point average for the last two years (60 hours) of undergraduate study. For conditional admission, the School of Library and Information Science adheres to the policies of the Graduate School as stated in the Graduate Bulletin.

Standardized Exam: Graduate Record Examination - official GRE scores for verbal, quantitative, and written analytical sections or Miller Analogies Test – official MAT scores

Letters of Recommendation - Three letters of recommendation on institutional letterhead stationary by professionals in the field and/or professors/academics assessing the readiness of the applicant for graduate work.

SLIS Application - Online application on the Graduate School Web site

Application Essay - Essay discussing the student's interest in library and information science, the types of libraries, archives, or repositories of interest, and statements about the student's potential contributions to the field; 750 - 1,000 words are required.

Resumé

If you are interested in the MLIS program, MLIS with AA Licensure program, Graduate Certificate in Archives and Special Collections, or Graduate Certificate in Youth Services and Literature, apply online through the Graduate School: http://usmgrad.admissionpros.com/default.asp

Contact information:

- MLIS with AA Licensure: Dr. Catharine Bomhold (catharine.bomhold@usm.edu)
- Graduate Certificate in Archives and Special Collections: Dr. Matthew Griffis (matthew.griffis@usm.edu)
- Graduate Certificate in Youth Services and Literature: Dr. Stacy Creel (stacy.creel@usm.edu)
- Teresa S. Welsh Teresa.Welsh@usm.edu, Ph.D., Professor and Director School of Library and Information Science

North Carolina

TRLN Announces 2015 Management Academy Class

The Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN) announces the 32 participants in the 2015 TRLN Management Academy: The Business of Libraries, to be held in Chapel Hill, NC, October 26-30. The program prepares current and potential mid-level managers in academic libraries to operate with entrepreneurial and business acumen in the management of financial and human resources. Faculty from TRLN member institutions, which include Duke University, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University, and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will conduct sessions customized for a library environment. This year’s instructional team also includes experts from the University of West Florida and Pattern Research, Inc.

Fourteen U.S. states, as well as Canada and Saudi Arabia, are represented in this year’s class. In keeping with the design of the program to meet the management training needs of its members, 12 of the participants hail from TRLN libraries. Since the inception of the Academy in 2007, librarians from 59 distinct institutions have benefited from the program.

In finalizing the cohort, the Selection Committee gave preference to applicants with responsibility for managing people or projects and those whose statement of interest and letter of recommendation from the library director best matched the Academy objectives. The 32 participants selected are:

- Angela Bardeen, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Rachel Besara, Florida State University
- Jessica Bowdoin, George Mason University
- Amy Brennan, Duke University
By signing another pioneering content mining agreement—this time with Adam Matthew, a SAGE company—the NCSU Libraries has established itself as a leader in the research library world when it comes to licensing blanket access to commercially-vended historical collections.

This comes not long after their unprecedented data mining deals with Gale and Unlimited Priorities.

By agreeing to provide NC State researchers electronic access to ‘Mass Observation Online,’ sourced from the University of Sussex, England, and the ability to mine archival data on university servers, Adam Matthew Digital joins Gale as a leading-edge example for commercial vendors.

Darby Orcutt, Assistant Head of Collection Management for the NCSU Libraries, developed this library-vendor content mining model and considers it mutually beneficial: “Adam Matthew has added another facet of value and attractiveness to their products for researchers, while researchers have gained a valuable corpus that was previously unavailable for robust computational exploration.”

National Medal of Technology & Innovation Recipient Donates Papers to NCSU Libraries

Dr. Jayant Baliga, an internationally recognized leader in electrical and computer engineering, has donated his papers to the North Carolina State University Libraries. Lauded by Scientific American as one of the heroes of the semiconductor revolution, Baliga received this year’s Global Energy Prize.

In addition to being a distinguished professor of electrical and computer engineering, Dr. Baliga is the director of NC State’s Power Semiconductor Research Center. Among his many accomplishments, he is perhaps best known for his invention of a power semiconductor device, the insulated-gate bipolar transistor (IGBT), often used as an electronic switch in modern appliances, from electric cars to air conditioners to portable defibrillators. The IGBT, as he describes it, has had “a major impact on creating a sustainable world-wide society with improved living standards while mitigating the environmental impact.”
According to Dr. Louis A. Martin-Vega, Dean of Engineering at NC State, Dr. Baliga’s “groundbreaking scholarship and leadership have been instrumental in addressing major global societal challenges and helping the College of Engineering and NC State become a research powerhouse. Throughout his career, Jay has generously shared his expertise with our students and faculty so I am not surprised and very pleased that he has chosen to share his life’s work with future students and faculty through the NCSU Libraries.”

Baliga has received numerous awards during his distinguished career, some of which include the 2014 IEEE Medal of Honor, the 2011 National Medal of Technology and Innovation from President Obama, the 2012 North Carolina Award for Science, the 1999 IEEE Lamme Medal, the 1998 IEEE Ebers Award, the 1998 O. Max Gardner Award, the 1993 IEEE Liebman Award, the 1992 Pride of India Award (First Recipient), and the 2011 Alexander Quarles Holladay Medal for Excellence.

He is a Member of the National Academy of Engineering, the Electronic Design Engineering Hall of Fame, the Rensselaer Alumni Hall of Fame, the European Academy of Sciences, and he is an IEEE Life Fellow. Baliga has authored or edited 19 books and over 500 scientific articles and has been granted 120 U.S. Patents.

Baliga received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering (1974) and his M.S. in Electrical Engineering (1971) from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. He spent fifteen years at the General Electric Research and Development Center, leading their power device studies. There, he received the highest scientific rank of Coolidge Fellow. Baliga joined NCSU in 1988 as a Full Professor and was promoted in 1997 as Distinguished University Professor.

His papers will be housed in the Special Collections Research Center at NCSU Libraries and include records from the Power Semiconductor Research Center—meeting documents, vendor information, software agreements, technical working group meeting reports, and related administrative files. Also included in his Papers are Electric Power Research Institute patent applications and other like materials.

The SCRC holds research and primary resources in areas that reflect and support the teaching and research needs of the students, faculty, and researchers at the university. By emphasizing established and emerging areas of excellence at NC State University and corresponding strengths within the Libraries’ overall collection, the SCRC develops collections strategically in order to support NC State’s growth as a world-class academic institution.

NCSU Libraries to Offer Second Round of Alt-Textbook Grants

In Fall 2014, the NCSU Libraries, with support from the NC State University Foundation, awarded a first round of Alt-Textbook grants to faculty to adopt, adapt, or create free or low-cost alternatives to expensive textbooks. The first round is in progress and is expected to save NC State students more than $200,000 in the first year.

Textbook costs have outpaced inflation by 300% over the last 30 years. These runaway prices have become a major strain on students, with textbooks averaging $1,200 a year and 7 out of 10 students admitting on a recent Public Interest Research Group survey that they have not purchased a required text because of its cost.

The NCSU Libraries is committed to fostering change in the current textbook publishing environment. The Alt-Textbook Project will empower faculty to innovate pedagogically; enhance access for NC State students to high-quality, tailored educational materials; and reduce the financial burden of expensive textbooks.

Led by Will Cross, Director of the NCSU Libraries Copyright and Digital Scholarship Center, a committee made up of librarians will be available to partner with faculty members on licensing resources, using digital repositories, and creating and publishing their own open educational resources.

Ranging between $500 and $2,000, the competitive Alt-Textbook grants will be awarded to help faculty pursue innovative uses of technology and information resources that can replace pricey traditional textbooks. Larger grants may be available for larger-scale or especially high-impact projects.

Grants are available to develop textbook alternatives for the Spring 2015 and Fall 2016 semesters. Possible approaches include:

- creating a new open textbook or collection of materials
- adopting an existing open textbook
- assembling a collection of open resources into new course materials
- licensing an e-textbook, video, or other media content for classroom use or e-reserves
- using subscribed library resources

As faculty work on their proposals, NCSU librarians and staff are available to collaborate and share expertise in copyright, licensing, open access, course management software and tools, electronic reserves, subject-matter content, and multimedia resources.

The NCSU Libraries will hold several information sessions about the project. Faculty can learn more about the project, review the call for proposals, sign up for information sessions, and download grant applications at the Alt-Textbook Project website.
NCSU C.A.T.S. Events

Join us this fall for the Creativity and Technology Symposium, or C.A.T.S. for short. Using our feline friends as a theme, we will explore a variety of topics that relate to the ever-expanding and complex work of libraries and academic institutions including: GIS-data enabled location tracking and the implications for privacy rights; the use of social media in research; how new technologies are expanding the possibilities for data gathering; and digital archiving as it relates to common computer usage and pop culture. Plus, we have a few special guests who will be paying a not-to-be-missed visit to the Libraries. All C.A.T.S. events are free and open to the public.

Track Your Cat
Sunday, October 25, 3 - 4 p.m.
Cameron Village Regional Library

Cats are mysterious, dangerous and far more unpredictable than one might expect from an animal that is, theoretically, domesticated. Some of the mysteries of cats relate to where they go and what they do; this is especially true of cats that go outdoors. In this program, researchers from NC State and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences will share some of the fascinating findings from their Cat Tracker research program that uses GPS technology to collect data on where cats go, what they eat, and what microbes they bring back to our homes. You will also learn how you and your feline pets can participate in the Cat Tracker program, which gives researchers valuable information about outdoor cats’ movement, diet and health.

Image Macros, Memes, and Viral Content with Tumblr’s Amanda Brennan
Monday, October 26, 3 - 4 p.m.
Auditorium (Hill), D. H. Hill Library

What can memes and other viral phenomena tell us about current events, cultural trends, and the Internet as a historical storytelling platform? Amanda Brennan of Tumblr’s Content and Community team will discuss how beloved and instantly-recognizable memes like LOLCats relate to our online interactions and what they say about us as a society. Brennan is the former librarian-in-residence for Know Your Meme, organizing and cataloging the memes in their collection.

A Life-Changing Cat: Mike Bridavsky and Lil BUB
Monday, October 26, 3 - 4 p.m.
Auditorium (Hunt), James B. Hunt Jr. Library

Lil BUB is one of the most famous cats in the world. A true phenomenon, Lil BUB has a documentary and internet and cable specials about her, a book published by Penguin Publishers, and millions upon millions of YouTube, Instagram, and Tumblr views. Lil BUB’s owner Mike Bridavsky is a sound engineer who owns Russian Recording in Bloomington, IN, and formerly worked as a sound archivist for the Indiana University Archives of Traditional Music’s Sound Directions project. Mike leveraged his knowledge of digital archives, his skills gained from years of independent marketing of his own bands and his recording studios, his sense of humor, and his love for cats to unintentionally create a business that is based on and requires a very detailed understanding of social media, archiving, and technology. Hear from Mike and see Lil BUB in person in this special program. Ticket reservations to this program are required. Please reserve your seats here.

As part of this program, the NCSU Libraries will be hosting a pet food drive for Safe Haven Cat Shelter & Clinic. Beginning at 6:00 p.m., volunteers from Safe Haven will be available at the Hunt Library to take your donations of pet food or other supplies on their wish list. Earlier this year, Safe Haven was a recipient of a grant from Lil BUB’s BIG Fund for the ASPCA.

I Know Where Your Cat Lives: How Computers Know Everything About You (With Information You Provide)
Tuesday, October 27, 3 - 4 p.m.
Auditorium (Hill), D. H. Hill Library

I Know Where Your Cat Lives is a data experiment that visualizes a sample of 1 million public pictures of cats on a world map, locating them by the latitude and longitude.
coordinates embedded in their metadata. The cats were accessed via publicly available APIs provided by popular photo sharing websites. The photos were then run through various clustering algorithms using a supercomputer at Florida State University, and the project was covered by The New York Times, USA Today, MSNBC, and others. Owen Mundy, creator of *I Know Where Your Cat Lives*, will describe the project and explain some of the implications of decreased online privacy and increased access to your data by startups and international megacorps.

**Animals, Technology, and Us:**

**How the Internet is Affecting Participatory Science**

Tuesday, October 27, 7 - 8 p.m.

Auditorium (Hunt), James B. Hunt Jr. Library

A recent study by the Pew Research Center shows that citizens and scientists often see science-related issues through different sets of eyes. However, by involving our pets as research subjects, and by harnessing the Internet’s amazing power of connectivity, scientists have an unprecedented opportunity to involve everyday people in “citizen science.” Join us for a panel discussion with Dr. Rob Dunn, associate professor of biological sciences at NC State, Amanda Brennan of Tumblr, and Professor Owen Mundy of Florida State about what they are finding in their work.

**Using Technology to Measure Pain in Animals**

Wednesday, October 28, 7 - 8 p.m.

South Theater (College of VM), Veterinary Medicine Library College of Veterinary Medicine

Evaluating pain in animals is no easy task, as they cannot tell us where or how much they are hurting. In this informative session, Dr. Duncan Lascelles, professor of small animal surgery and pain management at the College of Veterinary Medicine at NC State, will discuss his pioneering research using accelerometers (similar to the wearable fitness trackers used by humans) to access information about movement patterns of domestic cats in their home environments. Lascelles will explain how he uses this data to inform his treatment decisions—from diet to medication—to help manage cats’ pain. This session is geared toward anyone interested in how veterinarians are using leading-edge technologies, as well as pet owners who want to learn more about what researchers are discovering about chronic pain.

**NCSU Libraries Makerspace Offers CRDM Graduate Research Assistantship**

This new NCSU Libraries Communications, Rhetoric, & Digital Media (CRDM) Graduate Research Assistantship offers graduate students the opportunity to collaborate with skilled information professionals to gain experience providing technology services in an academic setting. The access to spaces and service programs, with an emphasis on emerging technologies, is designed to enhance graduate student education through practical assignments that introduce participants to key issues and practices in educational technology.

Jessica Handloff, the first recipient of the assistantship, is a former U.S. Army Captain and comes to NC State most recently from East Carolina University, where she received a Masters in Anthropology.

According to Adam Rogers, Emerging Technology Services Librarian, "Jessica has already established herself as a crucial member of the D.H. Hill Makerspace team. She has enriched the Makerspace with excellently designed learning resources, supported students and faculty in learning the processes and tools of making in innovative ways, and identified great opportunities for collaboration with her CRDM cohort and its faculty. I look forward to her contributions in the coming year and know they will do a lot to establish the Hill Makerspace as a premiere space for critical and creative thinking and making on campus."

The Libraries opened its first Makerspace in January 2013 with the opening of Hunt Library, making new tools accessible to users at NC State University and taking a leadership role in the growing movement for makerspaces in libraries. The Makerspace program includes 3D printing and laser cutting services, a variety of methods of 3D scanning, electronics prototyping kits to borrow, and a series of workshops and course collaborations that has grown each semester. These efforts have brought the Maker movement into the Libraries and grown its profile on campus by providing access to exciting high-end tools as well as entry-level learning and making experiences to all students, faculty, and staff.

This past June, the D. H. Hill Library opened its Makerspace. A major addition to the Makerspace program, and to the Libraries as a whole, this high-profile location provides ample space for collaborative work and teaching and is well situated to empower more of the NC State community with the creative tools and processes of making. In this space, the Libraries continues to focus on 3D printing and scanning, laser cutting, and electronics prototyping, while adding new tools such as sewing and...
soldering and emphasizing hands-on access. The NCSU Libraries has a full slate of programming, workshops, presentations, and opportunities for serendipitous making already in the works.

**NCSU Libraries Announces 2nd Annual Code+Art Student Visualization Contest**

The NCSU Libraries is now accepting submissions for the 2016 Code+Art Student Visualization Contest. Graduate and undergraduate students, individually or in groups, who are interested in creative coding, generative art, animation, or data visualization are invited to create visualizations for any of the four large video walls at the James B. Hunt Jr. Library, including the 20-foot wide Art Wall. Students graduating in December 2015 can submit entries and participate as members of competing teams, but are not eligible to win the cash prize.

Participants will compete for cash prizes of $1000, $500, and $250 to be awarded at the Code+Art reception held in April at the Hunt Library. All entries that are technologically viable and appropriate will be displayed on one of four video walls in Hunt Library and viewed by thousands of visitors every month.

Libraries have long been places where people have explored new ways of interacting with information. The video walls at the James B. Jr. Hunt Library were installed to create a dialogue with library visitors and show the work of students and faculty at the university. The NCSU Libraries developed this contest as a way for students to showcase visualizations created for this digital space. These visualizations will greet library visitors and give them a preview of the possibilities that await them inside the Hunt Library.

Judges are looking for attractive visualizations that are created with a computer. Submissions in these categories are strongly encouraged: data visualization / data art, generative art, procedurally generated environments (e.g. game environments), and animated GIFs. Submissions in these categories will also be considered: digital art, new media art, and animation/motion graphics.

Read about the 2015 winners here: [www.lib.ncsu.edu/stories/codeart-different-kind-data-experience](http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/stories/codeart-different-kind-data-experience)

**UNC-Chapel Hill’s Wilson Library to Host Lecture on North Carolina’s Fort San Juan Archeological Site**

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Wilson Library will host archaeologist David Moore on Oct. 21 for a lecture on the excavation of Fort San Juan, the first European settlement in the interior of what is now the United States.

Fort San Juan was built at the site of the Native American town of Joara, near present-day Morganton, North Carolina. It was one of six sixteenth-century Spanish forts that pre-date English colonies in the area that is now North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee and may have been one of the largest Native American towns in the Piedmont region of North Carolina.

In January 1567, Spanish soldiers led by Juan Pardo reached the community as they marched toward Mexico from coastal South Carolina. The settlement they built ended violently eighteen months later, when the people of Joara burned and destroyed the fort.

Moore, a professor of anthropology and archaeology at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, North Carolina, is the senior archaeologist for the Exploring Joara Foundation and supervisor of the excavations at the Berry archaeological site, where Fort San Juan and Joara are being excavated. He has worked at the Berry site for more than 25 years, and is the author of “Catawba Valley Mississippians: Ceramics, Chronology, and Catawba Indians” (2002).

The free, public talk will take place at 5:30 p.m. in the Pleasants Family Assembly Room. Beginning at 5 p.m., visitors may also view the Rare Book Collection exhibition “Chronicles of Empire: Spain in the Americas,” in the Melba Remig Saltarelli Exhibit Room.

“Chronicles of Empire: Spain in the Americas” will be on view through Jan. 10, 2016.