

University Library Committee
Standing Subcommittee on Institutional History
Wednesday, 28 January 2015
2nd Floor Conference Room (2CR), #2111
DH Hill Library

Present: Craig Friend, Todd Kosmerick, Eli Brown, Tim Peeler, Kristen Schaffer, and Paul Williams

Staff: Greg Raschke, Associate Director for Collections and Scholarly Communications, and Virginia Ferris, NCSU Libraries Fellow

Institutional History Project Update

Todd Kosmerick described the Student Leadership Initiative panel discussion and exhibit opening in November 2014. A video of the panel discussion with former student leaders will be uploaded on the main SLI website in the coming weeks. The exhibit in the Hill Library gallery space will be up through mid-April 2015. Connections with more former student leaders and 3 oral history interviews came out of the event.

Todd Kosmerick announced the launch of the Technician online archive in fall 2014:

<https://d.lib.ncsu.edu/collections/technician>. Currently issues dating 1920-1990 have been digitized and are available through Historical State and the Rare and Unique Digital Collections websites with full text searching. Issues dating 1990-2002 will be digitized in the coming months, hopefully available fall 2015. Greg Raschke asked about usage statistics, to see what stands out and to let ULC know.

- **Action item:** Todd Kosmerick will look into the Google Analytics data with Brian Dietz.

Craig Friend suggested that there be guidelines for use of special collections materials posted clearly online. Students have been confused about what they are allowed to do with digitized materials and how they can use them without violating copyright rules. Preferred citation information would be helpful for oral history materials.

Virginia Ferris gave an update on the Institutional History Initiative. Work is underway on departmental histories for three departments identified as priorities by the Institutional History Subcommittee: 1) Plant Pathology; 2) Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering; and 3) Materials Science and Engineering. There are draft narratives for the Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering Department and the Materials Science and Engineering Department, and copies of a recent departmental history published by the Department of Plant Pathology. The project is exploring ways to present the narratives in an interactive web format that integrates Historical State timelines and audiovisual content. As part of the research and writing process Virginia is building departmental timelines in Historical State with more visual content and additional historical information.

Tim Peeler described a project through the Communications Department to build a database of NC State students and alumni killed in World War I to include in the Bell Tower website. Todd Kosmerick noted that Alumni Affairs has card files on alumni that may contain this information. Tim Peeler suggested that the success of the Technician online as an example will be helpful in asking for materials like this for Special Collections.

Virginia Ferris described the video oral history interviews that have been conducted for the project so far: Irwin Holmes, first African American graduate of NC State in 1960; Henry Bowers, director of Friends of the College concert series at NCSU, 1957-1987; and three faculty emeriti from the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering, Paul Zia, Harvey Wahls, and David Johnston. Oral histories with four more faculty members in Materials Science and Engineering and in Plant Pathology are scheduled through the next month. The oral history video recordings and transcripts will be made available in their entirety online.

Kristen Schaffer suggested pursuing an article and exhibit highlighting the Friends of the College and history of performing arts at NC State, featuring concert posters. Tim Peeler mentioned that the Rolling Stones played in Reynolds Coliseum and the poster may be in the collections.

- **Action item:** Todd Kosmerick and Eli Brown will look into poster collection to look for Rolling Stones poster and others for a possible exhibit.

Craig Friend suggested targeting “State’s Mates,” for oral history interviews. There are not many still living.

Paul Williams noted that he has files on the Jones Committee relating to the formation of the Poole College of Management.

- **Action item:** Virginia Ferris will get in touch with Dr. Williams to record an oral history
- **Action item:** Todd Kosmerick will be in touch about collecting these and similar records from the College of Management.

Craig Friend suggested conducting oral histories at alumni weekend in April, and at other reunions and events on campus.

- **Action item:** Virginia Ferris will look into planning interviews for these events.

Virginia Ferris is working on a multimedia presentation to display in the Teaching and Visualization Lab in Hunt Library for the 30th anniversary of Centennial Campus in spring 2015. Todd Kosmerick is talking to the Centennial Campus development office about including the presentation in their 30th anniversary event. Craig Friend suggested that a video associated with the presentation could run on city buses. Todd Kosmerick noted that former Chancellor Bruce Poulton is working on a book about Centennial Campus with Karen Helm; it may be available in spring 2015.

J.C. Raulston exhibit update

Greg Raschke described progress on an exhibit about J.C. Raulston that will begin in October or November 2015. Raulston was a leader in horticulture and landscape design and in the early LGBTQ community at NCSU and in Raleigh in the 1980s. The Arboretum has records and Raulston’s papers are at his executor’s house; Special Collections is working on getting these. NCSU Libraries will partner with Friends of the Arboretum. There will be botanical walking tours with Bryce Lane as part of exhibit

programming. Craig Friend suggested reaching out to get Horticulture students involved early in the exhibit design process.

- **Action item:** Greg Raschke will talk to Horticulture professors over the summer, before the exhibit and semester starts.

Tim Peeler asked what audio tours currently exist for NCSU history. Greg Raschke pointed out the Red, White, and Black tour, architectural history walking tours, and Wolf Walk. Tim Peeler is considering making a podcast for runners in the Rock N Roll marathon (April 12) who will be running through Centennial Campus. The podcast will highlight the Hunt Library and Coach Valvano, among other topics. Greg Raschke suggested looking for audio from Youtube videos about Hunt Library, and Todd Kosmerick could help with material on Coach Valvano.

Next steps

- **Action item:** Tim Peeler will help get in touch with Ed Caram's relatives who currently hold additional photographic negatives. He also can help find people to assist in identifying the Ed Caram negatives that archivists in Special Collection are in the process of arranging and describing.
- **Action item:** Todd Kosmerick will talk to David Zonderman, acting head of the Department of History, on how to proceed regarding the papers of the recently passed department head Jonathan Ocko. It was agreed that future protocol will be to contact the department's Administrative Assistant after the death of a department head to discuss collecting papers.
- **Action item:** Craig Friend will help in contacting the daughter of Burton Beers in order to lift a restriction on his papers.