

University Library Committee
Standing Subcommittee on Institutional History
Monday, 1 February 2016
2nd Floor Conference Room (2CR), #2111
DH Hill Library

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

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

Institutional History Documentation Initiative progress update

Virginia Ferris gave an update on the progress of the Institutional History Documentation Initiative. Narratives have been written and published online for the departments of Materials Science and Engineering, and for Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering. Ten additional video oral history interviews have been conducted since the last committee meeting. The scope of the interviews has broadened to focus on other under-documented areas of university history, including a focus on women in STEM and higher administration at NC State. Interview recordings and transcripts are being uploaded for digital access.

Alumni outreach and Wolf Tales

Virginia Ferris described recent outreach events focusing on alumni and gave an introduction to the Wolf Tales project. The SCRC launched Wolf Tales in fall 2015, through funding from an NCSU Libraries "Good Ideas" Grant, to create a mobile recording booth and recording stations to capture multiple short interviews with alumni at outreach events.

Kristen Schaffer suggested focusing Wolf Tales recordings on faculty and retired faculty, and mentioned College of Design faculty Paul Tesar, Meredith Davis, and Roger Clark as possible subjects. Art Cooper offered to help communicate about the project to the Association of Retired Faculty. Craig Friend suggested bringing together alumni with their former professors or faculty advisors to record interviews together in the booth.

- **Action item:** Virginia will incorporate suggestions from committee members into Wolf Tales as it develops in the coming year.

Ed Caram negatives

Todd Kosmerick gave an update on processing of photographic negatives taken by Ed Caram during his time as a student at NC State, 1969 to 1975. SCRC staff members have finished arranging and describing the negatives in the finding aid online. Blog posts and a press release were published to promote awareness of the collection. The negatives show images of campus, Raleigh, the State Fair, and other local scenes in addition to athletics photos. About 18,000 images were taken in a short period of time. Relatively few of the photographs have been digitized, but they are accessible to patrons in the SCRC reading room and can be digitized. For the spring, the SCRC will look at digitizing more of the photographs to display in the Immersion Theatre at the Hunt Library. More of Caram's photographs and negatives may be with his family in Florida.

- **Action item:** Todd Kosmerick will let committee members know when Ed Caram photographs are on display in the Immersion Theatre.
- **Action item:** Tim Peeler will let Todd Kosmerick know if he finds leads or contact info for Ed Caram's family who may have more of his photographs and negatives.

Greg Raschke noted that the Agromeck yearbooks have all been digitized and are online. The Technician will be fully digitized and online later in the spring of 2016. The Nubian Message will be online this year as well. These resources can be promoted to alumni as a story of interest. Tim Peeler pointed out that in February 2020 the Technician will celebrate its 100th year, which could be an opportunity for promoting the digitized issues.

Todd Kosmerick noted that the Red and White, an early student publication sponsored by the athletics department that ended during World War I, is also in the list of publications that are being considered for digitization.

JC Raulston update

Greg Raschke gave an update on the progress of an exhibit on the life and career of JC Raulston, founder of the Raulston Arboretum at NC State. The opening reception will take place on March 18 in the D.H. Hill Library gallery space. Members of the committee will be invited. An exhibit catalog will be published by UNC Press.

- **Action item:** Virginia Ferris will coordinate invitations for members of the committee.
- **Action item:** Todd Kosmerick will look into displaying B.W. Wells glass slide images in the Immersion Theatre.

Ira Weiss papers

Eli Brown announced the SCRC's desire to approach Ira Weiss, Dean of the Poole College of Management, for his papers. Paul Williams said that he would be willing to help in developing the conversation.

Announcements

Tim Peeler gave an update on the Reynolds Coliseum project. Work has been underway for two years on a Walk of Fame with interactive exhibit displays in the lobby. There will be interactive features, photo and video displays, exhibit cases with artifacts, and timelines for each of the 23 sports. The Athletics Department has brought artifacts and is acquiring new donations, including Irwin Holmes' letterman sweater. If someone has artifacts to contribute, they can contact Tim Peeler or Georgia Brown, project manager.

Kristen Schaffer suggested that campus spaces like Reynolds could be good candidates for digital recreations of spaces like the Virtual Pauls Cross project in the Teaching and Visualization Lab at Hunt Library. Tim Peeler said that a company in Baltimore is designing the displays for the Reynolds lobby, and is accounting for other spaces where NC State athletes competed that are no longer here. The display spaces can be changed to show different content after the Reynolds opening.

Next steps

Art Cooper and Paul Williams suggested that the committee and SCRC staff continue thinking about possibilities for documenting buildings and the physical landscape of campus, including capturing more stories about Harrelson Hall, using construction plans and topological maps to show visual representation of the evolution of campus, and other possibilities.

Craig Friend mentioned that other people on campus are working on history projects, and we can include them in our committee meetings to see what is being captured and preserved. Any leads should be directed to Virginia to plan for the next meeting.