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Please direct queries or feedback about this issue to terry_crow@ncsu.edu.
On April 13, 2000, the NCSU Libraries held a reception honoring donors to the Class of 1993 Collections Endowment. The fund produces income to expand the library collections that help undergraduates study and learn. More than 1,000 members of the Class of 1993 gave to the endowment, which was one of NC State’s largest senior class gifts. Ryan Addison, Class of 1993 president, spoke of his fellow students’ recognition of the central role the library played in their education and their generous enthusiasm in pledging such a large senior class gift. He was excited and pleased to learn that the Class of 1993 Collections Endowment now has a principal of more than $210,000.

Participants at the reception enjoyed the a cappella music of the university’s Ladies in Red singing group and toured areas of the D. H. Hill Library that had been renovated since they graduated. Library director Susan K. Nutter noted that the Class of 1993 Collections Endowment marked the beginning of the NCSU Libraries’ rise in the Association of Research Libraries’ rankings from 98 in 1993 to 35 in 1999. She also told how the endowment produced enough income last year to fund the purchase of more than 300 books. Nutter thanked alumni for their generous support of the Libraries, emphasizing that thousands of future library users will benefit from their generosity.
Palmours Establish Library Endowment

BY TONY REEVY, LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

Hayne and Barbara Palmour of Raleigh, North Carolina, founded the Barbara and Hayne Palmour III Library Endowment with the NCSU Libraries earlier this year. The fund produces income supporting library collections, with a preference toward acquisition of materials science and engineering resources. “My relationship with the Libraries,” Hayne Palmour says, “goes back to my early days at NC State. I spent many days in D. H. Hill looking up references for a project when I was a graduate student. Since then, I have sent many a graduate student there to look things up. The library has been a part of my involvement in teaching and research all along.”

Hayne Palmour III, a native of Gainesville, Georgia, holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in ceramic engineering from Georgia Tech and a Ph.D. in ceramic engineering from North Carolina State University. He retired from NC State as professor of ceramic engineering in 1994 after thirty-seven years with the university. His wife Barbara, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, graduated from Agnes Scott College. She is a retired preschool teacher. The Palmours’ generous gift to NC State also included founding the Barbara G. and Hayne Palmour III Gallery Endowment benefiting NC State’s Gallery of Art & Design.

The Palmours’ concern for the library developed during the collections crisis of the late 1980s and early 1990s. Hayne Palmour explains, “I was on the Faculty Senate when the library was in deep trouble. The Faculty Senate took on the library as an issue and asked then-Provost Frank Hart to do a report on the state of the library. Hart took on the issue as well and did a lot for the NCSU Libraries.” Barbara Palmour shares her husband’s concern for libraries, noting “The library is the hub of the university. The whole university is judged by the quality of its library.”

The Friends of the Library has also benefited from Hayne Palmour’s interest in the library. He joined the Friends’ board in 1998 and played a key role in developing its strategic plan. His service on the board...
and its Development Council helped convince him that a library endowment gift is an important investment in NC State’s future:

Our gift resulted from the confluence of several things. First, the gratitude I feel for the institution that nurtured me. Second, my recognition of the library’s needs. Finally, enlightened self-interest: we owned some stock that had appreciated highly. It was prudent to give some of this stock away today and take tax write-offs.

Palmour plans to continue his volunteer efforts to advance the library and its mission. He adds,

In our self-study the Friends’ board described itself as an advocacy group acting on behalf of the Libraries. We made the commitment to know enough about the library’s needs to be effective advocates for it. We also indicated that we are willing to back this commitment up with our own financial support.”

Hayne and Barbara Palmour fulfilled this commitment brilliantly by establishing the Barbara and Hayne Palmour III Library Endowment. It will help to build outstanding collections that serve NC State University now and in the future.

Robert A. Barnhardt, long-term head of North Carolina State University’s College of Textiles, stepped aside as dean in 1999. The Robert A. Barnhardt Endowment for Leadership Development in the Burlington Textiles Library was created to honor this highly respected industry figure. Contributors to the fund include the North Carolina Textile Foundation, Burlington Industries, and many other individual and corporate donors.

Barnhardt plans to remain active at NC State, returning to teach and work with faculty members and researchers in the College of Textiles. His forty-year career includes positions at the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science, the Institute of Textile Technology (ITT), and NC State. Barnhardt holds a B.S. degree from the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science, an M.A. degree from ITT, and an M.Ed. degree and Ph.D. degree in higher education administration from the University of Virginia.

“I was absolutely surprised,” Barnhardt says, “when creation of the endowment was announced. It’s exciting and heartwarming—and it’s a great idea. The gift is important because it will provide a leadership resource for our students. It is very important that the textile industry
has enlightened and visionary leaders. Many of its leaders have come out of NC State.”

Dick Windham is executive director of the Burlington Industries Foundation, which committed one of the largest gifts to the Barnhardt Endowment. He notes, “We were glad to be able to take part in recognizing Bob Barnhardt for his achievements. Bob is a great asset to the college, to the university, to the state, and to the textile industry. We felt it was very appropriate that he be recognized with this honor.”

Income from the Barnhardt endowment will allow the Burlington Textiles Library to acquire leadership resources. It will also allow the College of Textiles and the Textiles Library to hold programs fostering innovative leadership. Suzanne T. Weiner, head of the Textiles Library, will help to oversee these efforts. “The endowment will allow us to do two things,” Weiner explains. “First, we will build strong multimedia collections in the area of leadership, including books, videos, and slides. Second, we will work with the college’s Student Services to help them sponsor an annual leadership event. The event will be open to textiles students at no charge.”

Weiner adds, “This gift is exciting because it will allow the library to be even more of a central focus for textiles students. It also means that we will now have materials to lend to students that will help them acquire the skills they need to go out and get good jobs.”

Barnhardt is very pleased that friends chose to support the Burlington Textiles Library with their honorary gifts. He says,

As dean, I went there frequently at night to get the pulse of what was going on in the college and with students. The library has a strategic location in the college, and that’s by design. When we talked about where the textile library was going to be, we planned it as a beacon for Centennial Campus. We see the Burlington Textiles Library as a lighthouse calling everybody to the campus.


NC State’s Parents and Families Support Hill of Beans Coffee Bar

BY TONY REEvy, LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

During fall 1999 and spring 2000, the NCSU Libraries’ proposed Hill of Beans coffee bar received contributions from 2,000 NC State University parents and families. They raised almost $85,000 to support construction of the coffee bar, which the library plans to open in time to provide full service for users in the 2001/2002 academic year.

The Hill of Beans, which will be located near the D. H. Hill Library entrance, will serve coffee, other hot and cold beverages, and snacks. In combination with the twenty-four-hour Java Joint—a vending service already opened in the library’s West Wing—the Hill of Beans will allow students to purchase premium-quality refreshments in a pleasant environment any time the library is open, without leaving the security of the building.

While student safety is a primary reason for constructing the Hill of Beans, the coffee bar will also provide a comfortable, central location for faculty and students to meet informally over a cup of coffee. Over time, the Hill of Beans will promote the kind of academic interchange that leads to satisfying experience for students and faculty outside the classroom.

Gifts from parents, families, and other friends are making the library and the university a better place. The NCSU Libraries thanks NC State parents and families for looking beyond the tuition, housing, and dining expenses to the extra support that makes NC State truly great.
Focus, a newsletter published three times a year, seeks to promote the services, activities, needs, and interests of the NCSU Libraries to the university, the Friends of the Library, and beyond.

Editor: Terrell Armistead Crow.

NCSU Libraries Homepage: http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/