TOM WOLFE SPECIAL
EVENT PLANNED

ELAINE ORR HEADLINES
2004 FALL LUNCHEON

2003–2004 NEW LIFE MEMBERS
MARYLU LAWRENCE JOINS
FOL STAFF

IN MEMORIAM
WILLIAM SCOTT CHILTON

PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

VOLUME 25 no. 1, PART I
LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 25 no. 1, PART II
LIBRARY SEMINARS AND EVENTS

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NEW LIBRARY PERSONNEL
FEBRUARY–JUNE 2004

VOLUME 25 no. 1, PART IV
LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

OTHER LINKS OF INTEREST
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION CENTER

Photographs by Becky Kirkland and Daniel Kim, NCSU, unless otherwise noted.

Please direct queries or feedback about this issue to terry_crow@ncsu.edu.
Tom Wolfe Special Event Planned

Tom Wolfe, the renowned and provocative reporter and author of such bestselling nonfiction works as *The Right Stuff* and *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test* and novels such as *The Bonfire of the Vanities* and *A Man in Full*, will be guest speaker at a special Friends reading at NC State’s McKimmon Center. The reading will be held on Wednesday, December 1, 2004, at 7:00 P.M. Wolfe, who has been described as the “father of New Journalism” and who has pursued a successful career as a reporter for newspapers such as the *Washington Post* and the *New York Herald Tribune*, will be on tour promoting his highly anticipated new book *I am Charlotte Simmons*. The novel tells the story of a college freshman from North Carolina who discovers that academic success does not always equal power in an academic environment that often glorifies social, moral, and political corruption. The November release of the book comes four years after the publication of his novel *Hooking Up*.

Tickets are $5 for the general public. NC State students may attend for free with a valid student ID. Tickets are available at the door or in advance from the Friends of the Library and Quail Ridge Books and Music. NCSU students can pick up a free ticket at either location when they present their student ID. Quail Ridge Books and Music also will provide a free ticket with the purchase of *I am Charlotte Simmons* from its location on Wade Avenue or at the McKimmon Center. Wolfe will be available to sign books after he speaks.

For additional information, call the Friends office, Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., at (919) 515-2841.
Elaine Orr Headlines 2004 Fall Luncheon

The Friends of the Library’s guest speaker at its annual Fall Luncheon will be Elaine Orr, professor of English at NC State. Her presentation is entitled “Kindred, Stranger: A Nigerian/American Autobiography.” The event will be held at 12:00 noon on November 10, 2004, at the McKimmon Center.

Orr, who specializes in American literature and feminist theory, recently finished a tour for her creative nonfiction book *Gods of Noonday, A White Girl’s African Life*. The book depicts Orr’s childhood as the daughter of missionaries in Nigeria in the 1950s and 1960s during that country’s struggle for independence from Great Britain. It also conveys the importance of Nigerian culture as a therapeutic influence later in her life. *Gods of Noonday* is currently number two on Book Sense’s “Top Ten” list of university press titles published in 2003. Orr’s poetry and essays have been published in multiple literary journals. To learn more about the author and her book, visit the Web site at [http://www.elaineneilorr.com/](http://www.elaineneilorr.com/).

Another highlight of the luncheon will be the presentation of the sixteenth annual NCSU Libraries Faculty Award to an NC State faculty member who has contributed consistently or notably to the operation and development of the Libraries.

Advance reservations are required for this event. For ticket information, please call the Friends of the Library, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at (919) 515-2841.

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2003–2004 Life Members

C. Frank and Judy Abrams Jr.  
Iris Cantor  
George I. Coats  
Alexander and Linda De Grand  
Lewis Deitz  
Charles Dickinson

Roger A. and Susan D. Gregg  
Alicia Kirwan and Chris Aycock  
Elizabeth McMahan  
Cyma S. Rubin  
Charles and Jay Sedberry  
Lois M. Todd
Marylu Lawrence Joins FOL Staff

Marylu Lawrence is delighted to begin her career by working with the Friends of the Library at NC State. She is a 2003 graduate of UNC–Chapel Hill with a degree in journalism and mass communication and another in media studies and production. Although she graduated from Chapel Hill, Lawrence cheered for NCSU while growing up in Cary and is confident that she will find her NC State pride easy to reawaken. Previously, she worked in the events planning office at UNC–Chapel Hill, scheduling meetings, productions, and special events for campus organizations.

Lawrence has stayed active in Raleigh by joining organized sports teams. Her favorite is soccer, which she started playing when she was five years old. In her spare time, she also enjoys drawing and painting and is working on her calligraphy skills. Lawrence’s talent and enthusiasm will promote the continued success of the NCSU Libraries.

In Memoriam
William Scott Chilton

William Scott Chilton, an NCSU professor in the Department of Botany passed away unexpectedly on August 5, 2004, while on a hiking trip in Washington State. The NCSU Libraries has lost a great friend and advocate.

Chilton loved the NCSU Libraries and spent his life furthering his knowledge in a wide variety of fields. He was a lifetime member of the Friends of the Library and could be found almost daily among the book stacks and computers of the D. H. Hill Library. In addition to botany, he was an expert in mycology and chemistry, and he spoke English, German, Latin, Russian, French, and Spanish.

A Phi Beta Kappa student at Duke University, he graduated second in his class in 1955. He went on to study at the University of Tubingen in West Germany, served in the navy in the 1950s, and earned his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign in 1963.

Chilton joined NC State as a professor in 1983. He developed and taught an extremely popular undergraduate course on medicinal plants, attracting students from various majors. He also taught graduate courses, served as a student advisor, and hosted many foreign students and visiting scientists. Upon his retirement in December 2003, he and his wife established the Chilton Undergraduate Research Endowment in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Just weeks before his death, Chilton completed plans to establish the Scott and Mary-Dell Chilton Library Endowment to support the Libraries’ collections in all subjects and formats. The endowment is a fitting testament to his dedication to learning in so many different fields. He is survived by his wife, Mary-Dell Chilton; his two sons, Andrew and Mark; and two grandsons.
President’s Column

By Suzanne Purrington
President, Friends of the Library
Board of Directors

I am very excited to be serving as president of the Friends of the Library Board of Directors this year. I have been on the Friends of the Library Board since 2000. The Friends of the Library is a volunteer organization that supports the NCSU Libraries by raising funds and sponsoring special events for the university community.

Last year, under the leadership of Assad Meymandi, our past president, we sponsored the NC Literary Festival in the spring, which was a grand success. I want to thank Dr. Meymandi for his past, and what we hope will be continuing, service to the Friends of the Library.

During my two years as president, I will work with library administrators to ensure that library needs are given top priority. The board will assist library personnel in finding new funding opportunities for library initiatives. The goal is to make sure that the library has the resources it needs to continue its excellent tradition of providing the best in services and resources for students and faculty.

We have many exciting events planned for the coming year. First, the Fall Luncheon is on November 10, 2004. The guest speaker is Elaine Orr, associate professor of English, specializing in American Literature and feminist theory. The title of her talk is “Kindred, Stranger: A Nigerian/American Autobiography.” Tom Wolfe, author of notable works such as The Bonfire of the Vanities and The Right Stuff, will give a reading at the McKimmon Center on December 1. As usual, in spring 2005 the Friends will host its annual Book Sale and Spring Dinner (which was displaced by the NC Literary Festival last spring).

The library is also hosting a special exhibit on the GI Bill of Rights and its impact on NC State, which is on display in the lobby of the D. H. Hill Library from October 14 through December 22. This exhibit is free and open to the public. I encourage all FOL members to take advantage of this terrific exhibit that showcases images and materials from the Libraries’ Special Collections Research Center.

I want to recognize and thank the donors listed on the Honor Roll of this edition. Their support is crucial to the excellence of the NCSU Libraries. I also would like to take this opportunity to introduce our newest board members, some of whom have served on the board before. We deeply appreciate their dedication to the Friends of the Library Board and to the NCSU Libraries. New board members not listed below will be featured in the second issue of the Focus.

Charleen Clark is an information scientist at Bayer CropScience in the Research Triangle Park. She works with toxicologists, ecotoxologists, environmental chemists, formulation chemists, and regulatory scientists. She has been a chemical information scientist for nineteen years, beginning with Burroughs Wellcome and then moving to the Bayer CropScience legacy companies, Rhone-
Poulenc and Aventis CropScience. Clark graduated from St. Louis University with a B.S. in chemistry. She has been affiliated with the NCSU Libraries through the Friends’ Corporate Partners Program since 1999.

Bobby Purcell has worked at NC State for twenty-three years and is currently executive director of the Wolfpack Club. He has already served one term on the Friends of the Library Board and was reelected to serve another term. Purcell proved instrumental in obtaining the Wolfpack Club’s $100,000 gift to the Libraries in 2003. He is currently leading the $50 million Goal Line Drive Campaign for the expansion of Carter-Finley Stadium.

W. Trent Ragland III was reelected to serve another term on the FOL board. He is the owner and president of Ragland Properties, Inc., a Raleigh-based real estate development company. Ragland, a 1980 NCSU business management graduate, is actively involved with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Wake County, St. Mary’s School, and Peace College.

Ron Spivey has been a superior court judge in Forsyth County since 2001. Before that he served as a district court judge in Forsyth County from 1994 to 2001. He graduated from NC State in 1982 with a degree in political science, and he received his J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law in 1985. Spivey is a member of the North Carolina Domestic Violence Commission, the Governor’s Crime Commission, and Stop Child Abuse Now.
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/