

The NCSU Libraries Newsletter

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/news/>

VOLUME 35, NUMBER 3 • OCTOBER 2007 • NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY • TERRELL ARMISTEAD CROW, EDITOR

Shoah Visual History Archive

Researchers and students at NC State now have access to the **Visual History Archive**, a digital collection of video testimonies of nearly 52,000 survivors of the Holocaust. Film-maker Steven Spielberg spearheaded this project after directing *Schindler's List*, which inspired his continuing interest in preserving the memories of individuals who lived through the Holocaust. To accomplish this, he founded the nonprofit Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation with the mission of interviewing survivors, archiving their oral histories, and cataloging each segment to enable detailed searching. The foundation seeks to make these archives available to the public by offering them through selected educational institutions. To make the archive available to local researchers, the University of Southern California's Shoah Foundation Institute has partnered with the Triangle-based collaborative venture RENCi (Renaissance Computing Institute) to offer access at NCSU, Duke University, and UNC-Chapel Hill. To access the archive, go to <http://vha.renci.org/>.

At NC State, access is restricted to computers with an NCSU IP address. In addition, individual registration is required for use of the system. Once registered, searching is flexible, allowing users to look for names of specific individuals or to search by "experience group," such as Jewish survivors, homosexual survivors, rescuers and aid providers, etc. The average length of a video testimony is about 2.5 hours. After identifying a testimony for viewing, users will usually need to request the file, since most are not automatically available on the local server. Delivery can take up to forty-eight hours. An e-mail notification will be sent once the requested file is available, and users can go back to the site to access the video.

If you would like more information or are interested in attending a training session, please get in touch with Cindy Levine in the Research and Information Services Department by sending an e-mail message to cindy_levine@ncsu.edu or calling (919) 515-2915. ♦

Historical North Carolina Topographic Map Images Online

The NCSU Libraries has compiled an extensive collection of historical topographic map images of North Carolina that can be downloaded for free from the Web at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/gis/historictopos.html>. The collection contains superseded United States Geological Survey and army topographic maps, with dates ranging from 1891 to the 1960s. Over one third of the maps were published prior to World War II and are known as "15-minute maps" because they cover fifteen minutes of latitude and longitude. Many of the printed originals are maintained in a collection by the North Carolina Geological Survey (NCGS). Others were loaned by UNC-Chapel Hill's Maps Collection for scanning.

The digital collection is composed of both georeferenced JPEG 2000 format images and lossless (unaltered) nongeoreferenced JPEG 2000 images. The JPEG 2000 format is a relatively new, yet widely supported image format that offers superior compression performance.

The georeferenced images may be used in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software to provide a historical base map when overlaid with other current spatial data to identify changes in landscape features. The lossless images, when plotted, appear nearly identical to the original scanned map.

To find a map image to view, users can scroll the list online and pick from the map-sheet names. Alternatively, users can use the index shape files or

Google Earth KML index files to identify the maps that cover the area of interest.

Senior Geologist Jeff Reid provided the maps and led digitization efforts at NCGS. As part of a partnership with the Library of Congress under the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP), NCSU Libraries staff georeferenced the map images and performed additional rectification, compression, file manage-

ment, and indexing steps before putting the digital maps online.

There are likely additional superseded topographic maps for North Carolina that are not included in this collection. If you know of maps that should be added, please call Data Services Librarian Jeff Essic at 515-5698 or send an e-mail message to jeff_essic@ncsu.edu. ♦

Two NCSU Librarians Tapped as Emerging Leaders

Two NCSU librarians have been selected from a competitive pool of applicants for the Emerging Leaders 2008 program sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA). **Mary Chimato**, head of Access and Delivery Services, and **Jacquie Samples**, serials and electronic resources librarian, were accepted for the program, which enables 120 young librarians nationwide to get on the fast track to ALA and professional leadership.

Participants are expected to put their leadership skills to use by accepting a term of service on a committee of the ALA or one of its divisions, such as the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). Emerging Leaders 2008 will begin with a day-long training session during the 2008 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, followed by six months of online work. It culminates at the June 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California.

Chimato, who joined the NCSU Libraries in January 2007, manages a department that encompasses several key public services areas: circulation, reserves, current periodicals, media/microforms, interlibrary loan and document delivery, and stack services. She holds an M.S.L.I.S. and M.S. in information systems from Drexel University.

Samples, who has been at NC State since April 2003, negotiates the Libraries' numerous licenses for serials and digital resources, oversees their processing and description, and manages the monographs unit in the Acquisitions Department. She manages the SFX KnowledgeBase and is co-leading the implementation of E-Matrix, an innovative management system for print and electronic journals, serials, databases, and aggregated resources. She holds an M.A. in library and information sciences from the University of Iowa. ♦