



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR INFORMATION:

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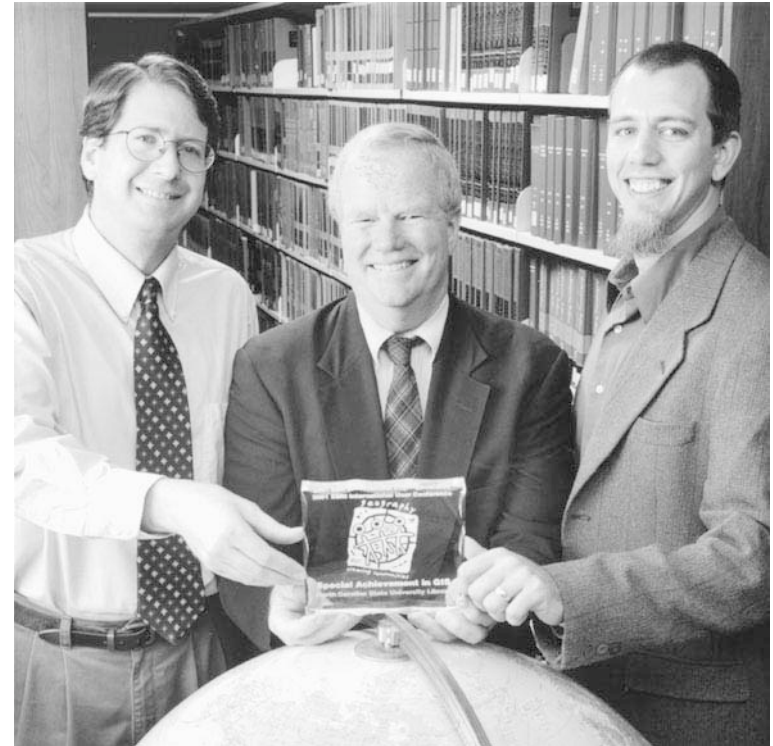
September 10, 2001

NCSU Libraries' GIS Service Wins International Award

The NCSU Libraries, chosen from more than 60,000 organizations worldwide, has received a Special Achievement award recognizing its accomplishments in geographic information system (GIS) technology from the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI).

The award ceremony, which honored the Libraries and 124 other recipients, took place in July at an ESRI-sponsored conference in San Diego, California. According to ESRI President

[Left to right]: Steve Morris, head of the library's Data Services; Professor Hugh Devine, NCSU College of Natural Resources and chair of the Graduate GIS Faculty; and James Jackson Sanborn, also with the library's Data Services. They are holding the ESRI award.



HERMAN LANKFORD, NCSU.



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Jack Dangermond, these organizations “embraced GIS technology to better serve the world. . . . Their contributions to society through GIS are phenomenal, and their accomplishments have set new precedents throughout the GIS community.”

The full list of recipients is at http://www.esri.com/events/uc/results/sag_list.html. Winning organizations from the U.S., in addition to the NCSU Libraries, include USA Today, U.S. Department of State, and the University of California at Santa Barbara. Winning recipients from other countries include Michelin France and the Geological Survey of Norway.

A geographic information system is a computer-based tool for mapping and analyzing objects and events. It combines the power of a database with

the visualization capabilities offered by maps. The NCSU Libraries provides students, faculty, and staff with online access to GIS data resources and offers users technical support, training, and workstation access.

During the 2000-2001 academic year, the Libraries' spatial data collection expanded by 312 gigabytes. A vast amount of North Carolina local government data was acquired through multiple statewide partnerships, including a partnership with University Extension.

Steven P. Morris (Data Services) leads the GIS Team in the library, with the assistance of James Jackson Sanborn, data services librarian. See www.lib.ncsu.edu/stacks/gis/ for more information.