North Carolina
DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

Quarterly Report, April – June 2011

This has been a busy quarter for the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center, with staff members participating in conference presentations and workshops, the annual meeting of the Center's advisory board, the addition of several new partners, and the continued digitization of a wide range of materials.

New Partners

Several new organizations had materials published through the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center for the first time this quarter.

Wayne County Public Library

The Wayne County Public Library provided 68 historic images of downtown Goldsboro, primarily from the early to mid-20th century. These depict buildings, people, and events, including several parades.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/wayne-county-public-library

Edgecombe County Community College

The Digital Heritage Center worked with the library at Edgecombe Community College to publish several local and family histories. Produced primarily by students at the college, these materials include the histories of several churches in Tarboro, a few family histories, and a fascinating anecdotal history of Nash County.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/edgecombe-community-college

Greensboro Historical Museum

The Greensboro Historical Museum holds original copies of the newspaper produced at the Basic Training Camp (later the Overseas Relocation Depot) located in Greensboro during World War II. The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center is digitizing these rare, fragile issues and will publish them online as part of the North Carolina Newspapers project.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/greensboro-historical-museum

Saint Augustine's College

Shaw University

Mt. Olive College

Bennett College

UNC-Pembroke

Gardner-Webb University

UNC-Wilmington

Student yearbooks from the colleges and universities listed above were digitized during this quarter and published in the North Carolina College and University Yearbooks project.

http://digitalnc.org/collections/nc-yearbooks

Continuing Projects

In addition to the projects described above, the Digital Heritage Center continued to add to existing collections. New additions during this quarter included:

- Eight early 20th-century scrapbooks from students at Elon College, documenting all aspects of campus and social life.

- A large scrapbook from the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount documenting the activities of the Rocky Mount Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1951 and 1952.

- Three issues of extremely fragile newspapers from the Braswell Library.

- Several scrapbooks from the library at Fayetteville Technical Community College, adding to materials already digitized by the Digital Heritage Center.

North Carolina College and University Yearbooks

The college and university yearbook collection continues to be one of the most popular and most visible projects developed by the NC Digital Heritage Center. We have now heard from a majority of the public and accredited private colleges and universities in the state, and have yearbook digitization scheduled through the summer of 2011. By the end of the next quarter we will have completed student yearbooks from nine of the eleven historically black colleges and universities in North Carolina, and 13 of the 15 UNC system colleges and universities. Over the course of the whole project, 487,504 yearbook pages have been digitized and made available online.

http://digitalnc.org/collections/nc-yearbooks

<u>Yearbooks Currently Available Online</u>

Appalachian State University

Belmont Abbey

Bennett College

Brevard College

Campbell University

Chowan University

Duke University

East Carolina University

Elizabeth City State University

Elon University

Fayetteville State University

Gardner-Webb University

Greensboro College

Guilford College

High Point University

Johnson C. Smith University

Louisburg College

Meredith College

North Carolina Central University

Peace College

Sacred Heat College

Saint Augustine's College

Shaw University

St. Andrews College

Surry Community College

UNC-Asheville

UNC-Chapel Hill

UNC-Charlotte

UNC-Greensboro

UNC-Pembroke

UNC-Wilmington

Wake Forest

Yearbooks to be Digitized

College of the Albemarle

Fayetteville Technical Community College

Mars Hill College

Mount Olive College

North Carolina Wesleyan

Queens University

Winston-Salem State University

Wake Forest School of Medicine

North Carolina Newspapers

In response to regular demand from our partners, the Digital Heritage Center is continuing to experiment with newspaper digitization. This quarter we loaded over 400 issues of *The Carolina Times*, a prominent African American newspaper from Durham, we digitized and published nearly 300 issues of the student newspaper from Bennett College, and we began work on a set of World War II military base newspapers from the Greensboro Historical Museum. At the end of the quarter, there were more than 20,000 newspaper pages available on DigitalNC.org.

We are continuing work on our effort to digitize student newspapers from North Carolina's historically black colleges and universities. We have completed papers from Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina Central University, and Bennett College. We are scheduled to work on papers from Winston-Salem State University in July, and have had conversations with Fayetteville State University, Saint Augustine's College, and Shaw University about participating.

We have received requests from several public libraries interested in having their local newspapers digitized. Even though we have not yet promoted this collection, we have already received enough requests to keep us busy for years to come. Prioritizing the selection of newspapers to be digitized is going to be a challenge for the Digital Heritage Center. This was a topic of much discussion at the Center's Advisory Board meeting in May. The board members agreed that multiple factors should be considered in selecting newspapers for digitization. For example, we should continue to focus on materials that represent the cultural and geographic diversity of North Carolina, and we should also think about focusing on papers that are no longer being published. In order to address the many factors that will influence selection, Digital Heritage Center staff members have prepared a decision matrix that will assign points to different selection criteria and help to provide a fair and transparent system for selecting papers. We will ask for nominations of papers to be digitized later this summer and plan to digitize and publish online at least 100 reels of newspapers from microfilm.
http://digitalnc.org/collections/newspapers.

Outreach

The Digital Heritage Center continues to hear from institutions interested in collaborating on digital projects. During this quarter, Digital Heritage Center staff had discussions with the Crossnore School, the Gaston County Library, Historic Stagville, and Rockingham Community College. Program Coordinator Nicholas Graham visited potential partners at Lenoir Community College in Kinston, the Stanford L. Warren Library in Durham, and the Wrightsville Beach Museum. Nick also participated in the quarterly meeting of the North Carolina African American Archivists Group in Sedalia.

Conferences and Workshops

In early April, Nicholas Graham presented at the annual meeting of the Society of North Carolina Archivists in Morehead Society. Nick presented with Kate Boyd from the South Carolina Digital Library in a program about the two statewide projects.

In May, Digital Heritage Center programmer Stephanie Williams gave two presentations at the CONTENTdm Southeastern Users Group meeting in Charleston, S.C. The papers highlighted two aspects of Stephanie's innovative work with CONTENTdm and were very well received by the attendees.

In June, Nick Graham led a digitization workshop at the Wilson County Public Library with Lisa Gregory from the State Library and Audra Eagle Yun from Wake Forest. Sponsored by Connecting to Collections, the workshop was an introduction to working on digital projects. It was well attended by librarians and museum specialists from many different institutions.

Advisory Board Meeting

On May 17, the Advisory Board for the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center held its annual meeting in Chapel Hill. The board members heard updates about Digital Heritage Center projects and progress over the past year, and talked about plans and priorities for the 2011/2012 fiscal year. Several important topics were discussed, including:

- **Newspaper digitization**. Board members offered many helpful suggestions for prioritizing the selection of newspapers to be digitized.
- **City directory digitization**. The board members were enthusiastic about the prospect of the Digital Heritage Center working on digitizing city directories as the yearbook digitization project winds down.
- **Theme-based collecting of museum items**. Several board members suggested focusing on specific themes or materials as a way of reaching out to small museums. One board

member suggested a project focusing on needlepoint samplers, which are widely held by museums across the state.

- **Digitization standards.** The board members agreed that the Digital Heritage Center was the appropriate organization to look at revising the NC ECHO digitization standards, possibly in coordination with one of the statewide professional groups, such as the Society of North Carolina Archivists.

- **Common interface for statewide digital collections.** Many board members spoke about the need for a system that could search across digital collections maintained by different institutions in North Carolina. The Digital Heritage Center staff agreed to investigate the feasibility, functionality, and cost of a system like this and report back to the board members.

Technology

End-user Development

The Applications Analyst continued to adjust interfaces toward the discovery and use of collections and objects, and to better reflect their content. Feedback from presentations given at a CONTENTdm Users Group Meeting provided new ideas for interfaces, in addition to input from users received via the site-wide contact form and comments. The Applications Analyst is working to further improve the user experience with the upgrades of DigitalNC's two web systems, Drupal and CONTENTdm, in the coming months.

Administrative Development

The Applications Analyst continued to assist Library Systems staff with the ongoing maintenance of DigitalNC's servers and software and further assisted in the development of plans for major upgrades to both Drupal and CONTENTdm in the coming months. The Applications Analyst also developed and assisted in the use of batch scripts and processes to prepare and upload growing numbers of outsourced digital files.

Statistics

Items Online by Project and Contributor

Project / Contributor	Number of Items
Images of North Carolina	
Ashe County Public Library	615
Braswell Memorial Library	135
Davidson College	113
Davie County Public Library	672
Haywood County Library	143
Masonic Home, Oxford	36
Elizabeth City State Univ.	110
Orange County Museum	54
Transylvania County Library	217
Tufts Archives, Pinehurst	150
UNC-Chapel Hill	19
UNC-Charlotte	23
Wilson County Public Library	301
North Carolina Memory	
Braswell Memorial Library	3
Edgecombe Community College	16
Elon University	8
Fayetteville Tech. Comm. College	19
Davie County Library	86
Haywood County Library	19
Wilson County Public Library	331
North Carolina Newspapers	(number of issues)
Bennett College	293
Braswell Memorial Library	3
Elizabeth City State	306
Jewish Historical Society	242
North Carolina Central	140
Durham County Library (Carolina Times)	409
UNC-Chapel Hill (Raeford News-Journal)	440
Durham Urban Renewal Records	1,535

NC College and University Yearbooks (all schools)	2,509
Total	**9,122**

Visitors to DigitalNC.org, April 1 through June 30

Unique visitors	15,048
Average visits per day	247
Visits from North Carolina	14,427
Total number of visits	22,488