Statue of Charles McIver
Turns 100 - A Look Back at a Campus Landmark

Charles Duncan McIver was born on September 27, 1860, to Henry McIver and Sarah “Sallie” Harrington McIver in Moore County, North Carolina. McIver entered the University of North Carolina (UNC) in Chapel Hill in 1877 and graduated in 1881. After graduating from UNC, he accepted the assistant headmaster position at the Presbyterian Male Academy in Durham, North Carolina. McIver was elected principal of the newly established graded high school in Durham in 1882. After two years, he resigned his position in Durham for a teaching position at the Winston Graded School in Winston, North Carolina, where he met his future wife, Lula Martin. They were married on July 29, 1885 and had four children.

McIver accepted the position of head of the literary department at Peace Institute, a girl’s school in Raleigh, North Carolina, in 1886. While in Raleigh, he lobbied for a normal or teacher training school for women.

In 1889, he and Edwin A. Alderman were chosen by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to conduct a series of teacher institutes to instruct teachers and enlighten the public about the need for a normal school in North Carolina.

With an annual salary of $2,500.00, McIver was appointed the first president of the newly established State Normal and Industrial School in Greensboro, North Carolina, in 1891.

Unfortunately, he died on September 17, 1906, at the age of 45; however, he did see his dream of founding a college to educate women in North Carolina realized – that institution is now known as The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Shortly after McIver’s death, a committee was appointed by Governor Robert Glenn to raise funds to erect a statue in McIver’s memory.

The eight-foot statue of Dr. Charles Duncan McIver was sculpted by French-born American artist Frederick W. Ruckstuhl in Paris, France, and cast by the Fonderie Nationale des Bronzes in Brussels, Belgium. Ruckstuhl created two statues. The original statue cost $7,000 and was erected on the State Capitol grounds in Raleigh, North Carolina, and dedicated on May 15, 1912. A duplicated statue cost $1,100 and was erected on the campus of the State Normal and Industrial College now The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The statue was dedicated on Founders Day, October 5, 1912, and stood in front of the McIver Memorial Building until it was moved to the front lawn of Jackson Library in 1960.
The original location of the McIver Statue was on the lawn in front of the McIver Memorial Building, site of the current McIver Building.

After the McIver Memorial Building was razed in 1958 and the current McIver Building was erected in 1960, the statue was relocated to the area in front of Jackson Library, a more central location on campus. Note the Stone Building in the background.

Over the years, students painted and decorated the McIver Statue on numerous occasions such as Easter of 1971, when the statue was painted pink and topped with rabbit ears.

Starting in the late 1950s, students began to paint and decorate the McIver Statue. By the 1980s, the statue was in disrepair due to the weather and being periodically cleaned with cleaning solutions.

In November 1990, the eight-foot statue was prepared to be shipped to Karkadoulias Bronze Art, Inc. in Cincinnati, Ohio, to be cleaned and restored.

In May of 1991, the statue was returned to the campus in time for the university’s centennial celebration. Eleftherios Karkadoulias directed the statue back on its pedestal after being restored by Karkadoulias Bronze Art, Inc.

After the restoration, which totaled $7,500, the statue was returned to the university on May 10, 1991 — two days before graduation.

Posted by Hermann Trojanowski

UNCG Art Student Creates a Library for Reading Day

Alex McKenzie is an interesting fellow.

A senior who graduated in May with a BFA in Painting, Alex is a creative and articulate young man who recently conducted a project to create a “library” on Reading Day in the studio of the Gatewood Studio Arts building on the UNCG campus. Inspired by artists like Harrell Fletcher who recontextualize space and transform it for other purposes, Alex and fellow students and faculty did just that with their etching studio, making it into a library for a day in honor of Reading Day before exams. The project also reflects the sort of ephemeral art shows that artists are creating around the globe.

Alex chose and solicited nearly thirty fellow students
and members of the art faculty each to select 10 books from Jackson Library that they found interesting or inspiring, and brought them to the studio in shopping carts. They also brought in furniture (including half of Alex’s living room, he says), offered free coffee, created a rudimentary “catalog,” and arranged books by the student who selected them. Alex says that the response was extraordinary, with students connecting with books and each other (mostly but not entirely art books) in ways they usually do not. With this kind of arrangement, for example, students learned more about their classmates’ particular interests, as the 10 volume sections gave them insight into what inspires each of the participants. Students were not allowed to “check out” and take the books from the room, but were told that they would be returned to Jackson Library the next day, where they could be circulated. Alex’s group created a reading list of the books selected and made it available to other students in the department.

It seems that Art students at UNCG, having noticed the presence of the Interior Architecture Library in the same building, have long wanted their own library. “We wish we had our own library, like the interior architecture students do,” expressed one participant. So they created one, if only for a day.

“It was about accessibility,” Alex says, “the books were close at hand, and arranged in ways that invited those who came in to pick them up and use them.” The area became a hangout, replacing the lounge that students usually use in the building to study. Some students, who weren’t that familiar with the larger and sometime intimidating collection of Jackson Library were exposed to a selection of books that were interesting to them. Students were engaged with the books and with each other.

Alex counts the experience as an altogether positive one, even though he says he slept in the room with the books for 2 nights since he was financially liable for them. “My nightmare,” he says, “was that I would lose the books or something would happen to the books and I would have to pay for them. I might not graduate.” Then he smiles and reports that he returned every single book in good condition and on time.

In addition to his creativity, Alex is the kind of student we like to see at UNCG in other ways. He looks to be a lifelong learner. “I’m not as big a reader as I’d like to be,” he says. One of my goals is to read as much as I can before graduate school in two or three years.” In the interim, he hopes to find a job in Spain teaching English.

We wish him much success.
Posted by Barry Miller

**UNCG Libraries Employees Honored and Recognized**

The end of the academic year brought a series of awards and recognitions for a number of folks who serve in the University Libraries.

Kathy Crowe was named the co-recipient of the 2012 Student Learning Enhancement Award from the UNCG Senate Student Learning Enhancement Committee.
Beth Filar Williams has been elected Vice-Chair/Chair-elect of the University Libraries Section of ACRL, and Lynda Kellam was elected to the similar post of the Law and Political Science Section. Among the Library faculty, Amy Harris and Mac Nelson have received tenure, and Joe Williams has been reappointed.

Twenty people received service award pins for their years of service, among them. The University Libraries could not provide an exceptional collection and services without the contributions of those who work here. The following persons were recently recognized for their years of service to the University:

- **40 Years**
  - Fran Rubio
- **35 Years**
  - Nancy Ryckman
- **30 Years**
  - Cindy Zaruba
- **25 Years**
  - Keith Buckner
  - Paul Hessling
- **20 Years**
  - Franklin McKee
  - Audrey Sage
  - Karen Ward
  - Edward Waters
- **15 Years**
  - Susan Farr
  - Michael Reeder
- **10 Years**
  - Patrick Kelly
- **5 Years**
  - Brown Biggers
  - Linda Burr
  - Marcie Burton
  - Cheryl Cross
  - Stephen Dew
  - Marilyn Hanichak
  - Stacey Krim
  - Jennifer Mincey

Cheryl Cross (right, with 2011 winner Cindy Zaruba) is the winner of the 2012 Martha Ransley University Libraries Service Award. Cheryl is a Technology Support Analyst in the Libraries’ Electronic Resources and Information Technology Department. Her pleasant attitude and service-oriented approach to solving problems with computers and software, together with her knowledge of information technology, has brought her many expressions of appreciation from all over the Libraries and led to her selection for this year’s award. In addition to all Cheryl’s official duties, she works on a number of projects promoting the Libraries’ services. Some of the projects include producing videos and podcasts, and assisting in the creation of the Computer Accessibility Map for Jackson Library. All of these projects have elicited positive feedback from the Libraries’ patrons, and several people have expressed their particular enjoyment of the “Ask Us” video to other staff. Cheryl has served on the Staff Association Committee and as Social Committee co-chair. She has also been co-chair of the Green Library Group where her accomplishments include the special initiative and work on the “Adopt a Stream” program, which strengthens the Libraries’ and the University’s reputation for sustainability. The University Libraries Staff Service Award was established in 1997 upon the retirement of Martha Ransley, former Head of the Circulation Department. "To recognize and reward members of the SPA Library Staff who provide outstanding leadership and service in furthering the accomplishment of the mission of the Library to provide service to students, faculty, staff and members of the community which the University serves."
Graduating senior Lois Barnes (left) was recognized with the Libraries’ Outstanding Student Worker Award this spring. Lois worked in the Access Services Department, where she was very well regarded by her co-workers and library patrons alike. She was cited for her helpfulness in serving patrons, and her creativity and leadership among the student workers in the Libraries. One colleague described her as "the sort of employee you wish you could clone." The Outstanding Student Worker Award was created through the generosity of David Arneke (right), a member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the UNCG Libraries. Lois received a cash award and a matching award from the UNCG Bookstore.

Coming This Fall: Author, Storyteller and Musical Artist John McCutcheon to Appear at UNCG

Children's book author, storyteller, and musical artist John McCutcheon will appear at UNCG on Monday, September 10, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Elliott University Center Auditorium on the UNCG campus. The program is free and open to the public. NOTE: John will also appear at the BOOKMARKS Festival in Winston-Salem’s downtown arts district on Saturday, September 8, 2012.

His Triad appearances are being sponsored by the University Libraries at UNCG through the generosity of the Pam and David Sprinkle Children’s Book Author and Storyteller Series Fund.

“He has an uncanny ability to breathe new life into the familiar. His storytelling has the richness of fine literature.”

— Washington Post

No one remembers when their neighbors started calling the McCutcheons to complain about the loud singing from young John’s bedroom. It didn’t seem to do much good, though, because after a shaky, lopsided battle between piano lessons and baseball (he was a mediocre pianist and an all-star catcher), he had “found his voice” thanks to a cheap mail-order guitar and a used book of chords.

From such inauspicious beginnings, John McCutcheon has emerged as one of our most respected and loved folksingers and storytellers. As an instrumentalist, he is a master of a dozen different traditional instruments, most notably the hammer dulcimer. His songwriting has been hailed by critics and singers around the globe. His thirty recordings have garnered numerous honors including seven Grammy nominations. He has produced over twenty albums of other artists, from traditional fiddlers to contemporary singer-songwriters to educational and documentary works. His books and instructional materials have introduced budding players to the joys of their own musicality, and children to tales of adoption and respite from battle in World War I. And his commitment to grassroots political organizations has put him on the front lines of many of the issues important to communities and workers.

Even before graduating summa cum laude from Minnesota’s St. John’s University, this Wisconsin native literally “headed for the hills,” foregoing a college lecture hall for the classroom of the eastern Kentucky coal camps, union halls, country churches, and square dance halls. His apprenticeship to many of
the legendary figures of Appalachian music imbedded a love of not only home-made music, but a sense of community and rootedness. The result is music...whether traditional or from his huge catalog of original songs...with the profound mark of place, family, and strength. It also created a storytelling style that has been compared to Will Rogers and Garrison Keillor.

The Washington Post described John as folk music’s “Rustic Renaissance Man. Besides his usual circuit of major concert halls and theaters, John is equally at home in an elementary school auditorium, a festival stage or at a farm rally. In the past few years alone he has headlined over a dozen different festivals in North America (including repeated performances at the National Storytelling Festival), recorded an original composition for Virginia Public Television involving over 500 musicians, toured Australia for the sixth time, toured Chile in support of a women’s health initiative, appeared in a Woody Guthrie tribute concert in New York City, given a featured concert at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, taught performance art skills at a North Carolina college, given symphony pops concerts across America, served as President of the fastest-growing Local in the Musicians Union and performed a special concert at the National Baseball Hall of Fame. This is all in his “spare time.” His “real job,” he’s quick to point out, is father to two grown sons and husband to fellow storyteller Carmen Agra Deedy.

But it is in live performance that John feels most at home. It is what has brought his music and stories into the lives and homes of a broad audience. People of every generation and background seem to feel at home when John McCutcheon takes the stage, with what critics describe as “little feats of magic,” “breathtaking in their ease and grace...” and “like a conversation with an illuminating old friend.” “I was raised on the straightforward folk music of Woody Guthrie and the plain-spoken stories of my midwestern family,” John says. “These have led me to a career (if that’s what I can call it) in composing songs and stories about real people for real people. It is nothing fancy. Some people call my work political. That’s okay, I guess. I just keep writing and singing and talking--and learning, as I did from Woody, not to forget what you stand for or who you stand with. That can happen in a children’s song or a fiddle tune or a song from the day’s headlines. It is like a little slice of life.”

Whether in print, on record, or on stage, few people communicate with the versatility, charm, wit or pure talent of John McCutcheon.

For more information, contact Barry Miller at the University Libraries at 256-0112 or bary_miller@uncg.edu

**Archives at the Alumni Reunion**

On Friday, April 13, 2012, the Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA) mounted an exhibit of historical items related to the university for the Spartan Expo at the Alumni Reunion. The exhibit was displayed in the Cone Ballroom of the Elliott University Center.

The exhibit consisted of historic artifacts, photographs, and textiles with particular emphasis on the 1960s as 2012 was the 50th anniversary of the Class of 1962 and the 45th anniversary of the Class of 1967.

The display of vintage textiles was a particular hit with the alumni. Many had their photographs taken with the 1962 Class Jacket & Skirt and the 1950s Gym Suit on display.

Display of historic artifacts and photographs.
Friends of the UNCG Libraries Elect Officers

The Friends of the UNCG Libraries elected new officers at their recent annual meeting, a celebration of blues featuring scholar and author Bill Ferris and blues artist Logie Meachum and friends. Outgoing chair Tom Kirby-Smith served as master of ceremonies at the event, attended by 250 members and other attendees.

The new Chair of the Friends is Howard Covington of Greensboro. A native of Concord and a graduate of the University of Florida, Covington is a much-respected journalist and author. While with the Charlotte Observer, Covington was the creator and
lead reporter on a multi-part series on occupational health hazards in the textile industry. This series won the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service as well as more than a dozen other national reporting awards, including the Grand Prize of the Robert F. Kennedy journalism awards. He was executive city editor of the Greensboro News & Record before leaving the newspaper business to write and to manage his own publishing company. He and his wife Gloria now write and grow hops for Natty Greene’s Brewing Co on their farm in the North Carolina mountains.

Covington is the author, editor, or co-author of two dozen histories and biographies, including The Story of NationsBank, Changing the Face of American Banking; The North Carolina Century, Tar Heels Who Made A Difference, 1900-2000; Terry Sanford: Politics, Progress and Outrageous Ambition; Favored By Fortune, a three-generation biography of the Hill family of Durham; Lady On The Hill, about the preservation of the Biltmore Estate; and The Good Government Man, Albert Coates and the Early Days of the Institute of Government. His, Once Upon A City: Greensboro, N.C.’s Second Century, was released in February 2008 by the Greensboro Historical Museum.

The Vice-Chair/Chair-elect is Billie Durham of Troy, NC. She recently retired from UNCG’s Library and Information Studies Program, which she joined in 2004 as an adjunct instructor, becoming an Assistant Professor and School library Media Program Coordinator in 2008. She holds the MLS degree from UNCG. Durham’s background includes 17 years as a school library media specialist in Randolph County and five years as a public services librarian at Montgomery Community College. In addition, she served six years as English as a Second language Coordinator for Montgomery County Board of Education. She presently serves as a member of the State Library’s Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Committee.

Newly elected to the Board for three year terms were Jennifer Koenig, Catherine Magid, Karl Schleunes, Rosemary Wander, and Jackie Wilson, all of Greensboro. Evans Garber and Jeri Rowe of Greensboro, and Rebekah Megerian of Asheboro were re-elected to the Board.

Posted by Barry Miller