

## Academic Library Services' Response to the UNC Tomorrow Commission's Final Report: Executive Summary

This executive summary highlights a few of the major contributions made by Academic Library Services (ALS) toward accomplishing the recommendations included in the Final Report of the UNC Tomorrow Commission. The complete response from ALS lists past contributions and future plans, using the numbering structure from the UNC Tomorrow Commission's Final Report.

### **Our Global Readiness**

- *Academic Library Services contributes to improving students' information and digital literacy by providing online information literacy tutorials, course-integrated instruction and research tools for face-to-face and online classes, and individual research consultations for students. ALS faculty are involved in integrating the soft skills through the curricula at various stages, ranging from first year through majors and graduate programs. A few examples include library skills sessions, which teach students how to identify and evaluate research sources, held for nearly every COAD class section; research sessions conducted for all incoming Biology and Psychology graduate students; and intensive work with students in MGMT 4842, the capstone course for the Department of Management in the College of Business.*
- *The ScholarShip institutional repository (IR) being developed by the ECU Libraries will "encourage faculty, when appropriate, to make their research available to the public at-large on a local, national, and global basis in language that the public can understand and use." As the university transitions to electronic theses and dissertations, the IR will provide access to our graduate students' research, as well. Pilot projects involving several departments are underway this spring. The IR has been demonstrated at a Deans meeting and will be presented to the Faculty Senate this spring. ALS is also involved in a statewide IR initiative.*

### **Our Citizens and Their Future: Access to Higher Education**

- *The UNC Tomorrow report calls on institutions to broaden and innovate delivery of course and degree programs through additional online and distance education programs. Current library support for online and distance education programs includes document delivery; reference assistance via IM, e-mail and telephone; integration of library resources and services in course management software; online tutorials; podcasts; 24/7 access to more than 400 databases, 55,000 e-books, and 45,000 online periodical; a presence in Second Life; and visits to satellite campuses and community college cohorts.*

### **Our Citizens and Their Future: Improving Public Education**

- *ALS holds workshops for public school teachers on how to use primary source documents in the classroom. The Teaching Resources Center co-sponsors and hosts the annual Librarian to Librarian Networking Summit. ALS offers a free Educator's Card for educators in eastern North Carolina as well as Interlibrary Loan Services to eastern North Carolina classrooms via school media centers. As part of ALS's participation in Wachovia Partnership East, the library purchased and makes available elementary textbooks at cohort locations and through interlibrary loan services for DE students.*

### **Our Communities and Their Economic Transformation**

- *ALS regularly offers artistic and cultural programs to the public. These include the annual Eastern North Carolina Literary Homecoming, exhibits in the North Carolina Collection and Special Collections areas, digital exhibits that are viewed by persons worldwide, and book signings. In celebration of ECU's Centennial, Joyner Library will host a showing of works by sculptor Hanna Jubran. The Teaching Resources Center sponsors regular art exhibits featuring the artwork of public school students in eastern North Carolina. It partners with ECU's School of Art to organize the ECU Youth Arts Festival.*
- *The Eastern North Carolina Digital Library was created through a collaborative partnership with three museums across eastern North Carolina – the Country Doctor Museum, Historic Hope Plantation, and the Tobacco Farm Life Museum. The Digital Library promotes their collections and makes these and other materials openly available to the public. Future collaborations with other museums are planned.*

### **Our University's Outreach and Engagement**

- *Inter-institutional collaborations include Carolina Consortium for the licensing of electronic resources and ULAC for interlibrary loan and a shared library catalog.*