## Other Serials & E-Resources News

### New Tricks for Old Dogs:
### Serials Control and Access
### 19th North Carolina Serials Conference
### Chapel Hill, NC, April 15, 2010
Reported by Dianne Ford

This popular one-day conference was jam-packed with creative sessions. Tim Rogers, executive director of NC LIVE, gave the keynote address, "Running in Packs: A Consortial View of Serials Use," about the many advantages of consortial journal purchasing and access. The serials content provided in NC LIVE is a huge resource for patrons of academic and public libraries in North Carolina, and provides continued access to scholarly journal content for our students after graduation.

Breakout sessions covered topics like project management (by Bud Benscoter, Duke University), vendor records (by Jacquie Samples and Erin Stalberg, NC State University), professional development for paraprofessional staff (by Tiffany Allen, UNC-Chapel Hill), "New Tricks," i.e., new technologies and workflows (by Jason Alston, UNC-Greensboro, and RaShauna Brannon and Keisha Poole, NC State University), and time management (by Michael Crumpton, UNC-Greensboro).

A roundtable discussion about electronic resources management, moderated by Beth Bernhardt, was especially well attended and useful for sharing ideas

about evaluating ERM products and designing workflows. Other roundtable group topics were "Changing Roles of the Serials Paraprofessional," "Keeping Skills Current," "Redesigning Job Descriptions and Workflows," and "Valuing Employees." A general session led by Lauren Pressley brought us all up to date on technology trends.

The day concluded with an excellent panel discussion on "Evolving Collection Development Strategies for Electronic and Serial Resources." The panel included perspectives from Beth Hoskins at Duke University Press, Victor Lao at Springer, Joseph Thomas at East Carolina University and Kathy Winslow at NC Wesleyan College. Especially useful were discussions of films on demand, using backfile purchases to weed print, cancelling print for aggregator access, negotiating pricing with publishers, and integrating e-books into approval plans.

Conference attendance was excellent, and the usual useful networking took place.

The topics I hope to follow up on in our library are: 1) based on the NC LIVE presentation, planning a transition class for graduating students about continuing access to journals and e-resources; 2) using ideas from the project management session for our documents weeding project; 3) trying some of Lauren's new technologies; 4) sharing Duke's experiences with circulating Kindles; 5) exploring the "Public Knowledge Project" presented in "New Tricks," as a possible template for e-journals coming out of Elon University;

and 6) being better prepared to evaluate pros and cons of various ERM products and exploring new ideas for ERM workflow.