



University Relations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 24, 2016

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North Carolina Central University James E. Shepard Memorial Library To Host Open House and Dialogue With Library Officials

DURHAM, N.C. – The Friends of the [North Carolina Central University](#) (NCCU) [James E. Shepard Memorial Library](#) will host an open house and dialogue on Sunday, Nov. 6, at 3:30 p.m. in the library on campus to discuss plans for digital library development.

The forum, entitled Enhancing the Intellectual Capital and the Study of Knowledge for the 21st Century Learners: Meeting them at the Point of Need, will feature Jon Gant, Ph.D., dean of the NCCU School of Library and Information Sciences (SLIS), and Theodosia T. Shields, Ph.D., director of library services for the James E. Shepard Library.

Attendees will have an opportunity to engage with the newly appointed dean and learn about the library's services, special activities and new enhancements. Gant and Shields will also share how the SLIS and James E. Shepard Library will partner to enhance course offerings and the student experience.

Gant has conducted groundbreaking research in the areas of Internet access and use, broadband adoption, and new models for delivering digital literacy training in public libraries and community anchor institutions. He established a number of programs and initiatives to improve digital literacy skills statewide in digital fabrication, digital media production and data analytics.

Gant received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Carnegie Mellon University and his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan. He was formerly a faculty member at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he had been employed since 2007. He also held faculty positions at Syracuse University and Indiana University.

Under Shields' leadership, the James E. Shepard Library has implemented an interactive and collaborative research and learning environment. Shields has presented at a number of national conferences, including most recently at the National Conference of African American Librarians. She received her B.S. from South Carolina State University. Shields also earned an M.L.S. from Atlanta University School of Library and Information Sciences now known as Clark Atlanta University and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh.

To attend please register here: <http://friendsofthelibrary11-06-2016.eventbrite.com>.

North Carolina Central University prepares students to succeed in the global marketplace. Selected as 2016 HBCU of the Year by HBCU Digest, NCCU offers flagship programs in the sciences, technology, nursing, education, law, business and the arts. Founded in 1910 as a liberal arts college for African-Americans, NCCU remains committed to diversity in higher education. Our alumni excel in a wide variety of academic and professional fields. Visit www.nccu.edu.

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