Summary of January & February 2009 Key Activities

During January and February 2009, RENCI@NCSU completed its Partners I Suite 1500 renovation and participated in NC State University’s Institute for Emerging Issues Forum 2009. There were additional visualization and outreach activities that we note below.

RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 Renovation Completed:

The recent Partners I Suite 1500 renovation was completed in mid-January with the staff moving back in on January 20, 2009. In addition to visualization activities, the RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 location now supports the Breakable Experimental Network (BEN) at NC State University.

Visualization Framework on Display at the Institute for Emerging Issues Forum 2009:

The RENCI@NCSU team joined the RENCI anchor site and RENCI@UNC Charlotte as exhibitors during NC State University’s Institute for Emerging Issues Forum 2009. The event was held February 9 & 10, 2009, at the Raleigh Convention Center. In addition to featuring the RENCI anchor site’s touch table and RENCI@UNC Charlotte’s Urban Growth Model, the RENCI@NCSU visualization framework was also shown. This visualization framework was developed in collaboration with the Institute for Emerging Issues to support the mapping of social and economic factors in the state of North Carolina and has evolved to support other North Carolina data. During the Forum 2009 event, the visualization framework featured data sets recommended by the Institute for Emerging Issues as well as data from NC State University’s Friday Institute for Education Technology.
Visualization Wall Upgrade:

Our colleagues in the RENCI Collaborative Environments group of the RENCI anchor site were able to upgrade the RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 visualization display wall to support more massive data sets. Below, in the image on the left, we show an astrophysics visualization from Dr. John Blondin’s research on our upgraded display wall. The RENCI@NCSU team additionally designed ways to use the large display wall to show the visualization framework associated with the Institute for Emerging Issues and Friday Institute for Educational Technology collaborations. Below, at right, we show a working session with the visualization framework.

RENCI@NCSU Outreach Activities: Supporting NCSU & RENCI Activities:

The RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 facility hosted several outreach activities in February 2009. These include:

(1) February 18, 2009 tour, arranged by Dr. Patricia Sobrero (Associate Vice Chancellor for Extension, Engagement and Economic Development), with Dr. Lisbeth Borbye (Assistant Dean for Professional Education in the NC State University Graduate School) and Dr. Joe Zublena (Associate Director and Director of County Operations for the NC State University Extension Service).

(2) February 19, 2009 tour, arranged by Dr. Patricia Sobrero (Associate Vice Chancellor for Extension, Engagement and Economic Development), for the Senior Administrative Team in the NC State University Office of Extension, Engagement and Economic Development.

(3) February, 19, 2009 co-host and visit of Michael Pack, Director of the University of Maryland at College Park’s Center for Advanced Transportation Laboratory (CATT) with Dr. Billy Williams, Assistant Professor in the NC State University Department of Civil Engineering.

(4) Feb, 24, 2009, video conference between RENCI@NCSU, RENCI@ECU, and the UNC Coastal Studies Institute in Manteo, North Carolina. Dr. Steve Smutko of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics represented NC State University.

RENCI@NCSU at the Engineering Building II Room 1235 location and in collaboration with Dr. Barbara Jasmine Adams (Director of Undergraduate Advising for the NC State University’s Department of Computer Science), provided tours for prospective student and their parents on January 30, February 6, and February 11, 2009.

The RENCI@NCSU Team:

The RENCI@NCSU team is currently composed of Steve Chall, Senior Research Visualization Software Developer, Sidharth Thakur, Senior Research Visualization Software Developer, Chris Williams, Student Intern, and Theresa-Marie Rhyne, Director.