Summary of November & December 2008 Key Activities

During November and December 2008, RENCI@NCSU produced new visualization work for Lee Sartain, Educational and Policy Lead for the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation at NC State University. This work was shown by Chris Williams and Lee Sartain during the demonstration sessions of the December 12th, 2008 State of North Carolina Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Information Technology held at the Friday Institute.

On November 7th, 2008, the RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 location was a stop for NC State University Graduate School’s Advisory Board and invited guests tour of Centennial Campus. During this visit, Kelly Mahoney (graduate student under the direction of Dr. Gary Lackmann in the Department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences) and Stacey Frederick (graduate student under the direction of Dr. Nancy Cassill in the Department of Textile & Apparel Technology & Management) presented their research and visualization collaborations with RENCI@NCSU. RENCI@NCSU also provided tours on November 12th & 13th for the Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity Program, coordinated by Erin Banks in the NCSU Graduate School.

On December 2nd, 2008, a Triangle Universities Center for Advanced Studies Inc. (TUCASI) Board meeting was held as a high definition video conference between the RENCI Europa anchor site in Chapel Hill, RENCI@Duke and RENCI@NCSU. TUCASI board members were distributed across each of the three campuses and conducted board business via this virtual event. The RENCI@NCSU team also contributed to a December 17th RENCI wide - all engagement centers - Visualization Brown Bag session. These brown bag sessions use the web-based iLinc technology to allow RENCI engagement centers and the RENCI anchor site to share and highlight their ongoing visualization work.

From December 3rd through 5th, 2008, the RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 location was disassembled to enable an architectural expansion activity to support the future installation of the RENCI@NCSU portion of the Breakable Experimental Network (BEN). The RENCI@NCSU team is now temporarily relocated to Engineering Building II space and will provide demonstrations out of its Engineering Building II Room 1235 facility. We hope the architectural expansion and reassembly of the Partners I Suite 1500 facility will be completed by March 2008.

November 7th, 2008 Tour for the NCSU Graduate School’s Advisory Board:

Kelly Mahoney is shown in the left image below, lecturing on her meteorology research and her visualization collaborations with RENCI@NCSU. Stacey Frederick is shown in the right image below, presenting her textiles research and collaborations with RENCI@NCSU.
Visualization for the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation:

Chris Williams, Sidharth Thakur, and Theresa-Marie Rhyne designed the imagery shown below using the visualization framework that Dr. Thakur initially developed for the Institute for Emerging Issues mapping application in early autumn 2008.

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December 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 2008 TUCASI Board Meeting:

The RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 Conference Room was upgraded to support high definition (HD) videoconferencing. Our first HD session was in support of a board meeting of the Triangle Universities Center for Advanced Studies Inc. (TUCASI) that included three participating sites: the RENCI Europa anchor site in Chapel Hill, RENCI@Duke and RENCI@NCSU. The photo below shows the session underway from the RENCI@NCSU viewpoint.
RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 Facility Under Construction:

The RENCI@NCSU Partners I Suite 1500 facility is now under renovation. The equipment room is being expanded to support a RENCI research project between UNC Chapel Hill, Duke University and NC State University entitled the Breakable Experimental Network (BEN). More information on BEN can be found at: (http://ben.renci.org).

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.

We wish all a Happy New Year in 2009!!