Three women sit around a basket of peaches on the hard cement patio of an outdoor market in Guatemala, picking out pieces of the ripe fruit for eager customers.

The glossy print is just one of 20,000 photos Saul Flores snapped during a summer-long trek across Latin America in 2010; a trip of more than 5,000 miles through 10 countries – often on foot – that took him from Ecuador to the United States.

Next Wednesday, Flores recounts stories from the trip at the D.H. Hill Library to introduce an exhibition of his photos in the library’s Exhibit Gallery. Flores’ talk, scheduled for 4 p.m. in the Assembly Room in the library’s east wing, is part of the Stellar Student series, supported by the Friends of the Library.

Epic Journey

It’s a remarkable opportunity for an undergraduate. But Flores, a member of the university’s Caldwell Fellows program, has been encouraged to think big since he arrived at NC State four years ago to study business administration and design.

The summer journey, which he dubbed, “The Walk of the Immigrants,” was inspired by the long and perilous journey that many Latin Americans make to reach the U.S. border and the chance for a better life. It’s a journey his mother made more than 20 years ago, before he was born.

In an interview with the Bulletin the morning he left for Ecuador, Flores said he had three goals for the trip: to raise awareness about the plight of immigrants, document the beauty and richness of Latin America, and...
A journey of a thousand miles may begin with a single step, but it will take you 2,105,000 steps to walk across North Carolina.

Although that sounds like a long way, it goes faster if you team up with friends. Just ask 165 Facilities employees who took on the distance together in an 11-week challenge last fall.

Going the Distance

Team members invested in $4 pedometers to track their daily steps, both at work and home, and they could take one hour per week at work to walk.

The goal was to complete the equivalent of a circuit from Raleigh over to Asheville, down to Wilmington, up to Elizabeth City and back to the starting point. A wall map in Administration Building III showed the teams’ progress.

The competition to finish first was healthy.

“You could hear people asking each other in the hall, ‘How many steps did you walk today?’” says Nikki Price with Facilities Human Resources, which organized the event with support from Associate Vice Chancellor Kevin MacNaughton and University Recreation.

“It really turned out to be a success in building unity as well as helping people feel better, both mentally and physically.”

Some people walked together. Others pulled out their calculators to figure step equivalents for using a manual wheelchair and biking to work.

Working in Exercise

The first group to go the distance, Team Kudzu, found ways to squeeze in more steps. Team leader Rene Higginbotham kept moving when she talked on the phone and even walked around while brushing her teeth. She asked co-workers to walk, not drive, across campus to deliver paperwork.

“Every email I sent out said, ‘Walk, walk, walk,’” she says.

Team member Analis Fulghum with Waste Reduction and Recycling found herself anticipating how many steps she could add through weekend work with the WE Recycle program. “At home I was
getting outdoors to play ball with my son.”

Though she set new records for her personal best, Fulghum was in awe of teammate Billy Sanders, who regularly racked up more than 100,000 steps in a week’s time. For comparison’s sake, 2,000 steps is the equivalent of a mile and 10,000 steps is often a daily goal.

Sanders, a field supervisor with grounds management, walks not only on the job but seemingly everywhere.

The walking runners-up, the Centennial Wolves, didn’t reach the distance first, but they had staying power, covering more total miles last fall. The Road Warriors stepped up to take third.

A New Challenge

Though top teams won recognition at the Winter Facilities Luncheon, no one was satisfied with a one-time win.

“Right after the holiday break, I was bombarded with questions about when we’re starting this spring,” Price says, laughing.

She’s interested in finding a new challenge, since some of the teams lapped the state multiple times. How many steps would it take to walk the Appalachian Trail? To traverse the East Coast?

“I’m looking for ideas, but there will be a spring 2012 challenge starting in February,” Price says, adding that she’s willing to share tips with anyone interested in starting a similar program in their unit.

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American cultures, and raise money for an impoverished elementary school in his mother’s hometown of Atencingo.

**Photos for a Cause**

Since then, he’s made considerable progress on all fronts. Thanks to widespread publicity about the trip, Flores has raised about $8,000 for the school, primarily through online sales of his photographs. He’s also secured donations of computers and clothing to help the children in Atencingo.

The exhibit in the D.H. Hill Library is not only another opportunity to raise funds, it’s a valuable educational opportunity for Flores, who helped curate the show with Exhibits Program Librarian Molly Renda.

“I love storytelling, and I love photography,” Flores said as helped put the finishing touches on the exhibit. “But design is everything to me.”
Faculty and Staff Notes

Latest on Business Realignment
Wondering what happens next in the business operations realignment? Colleges and divisions are setting up sessions to go over the results of last fall’s work activity inventory, said Don Patty, chair of the business Operations Realignment Steering Team.

More than 1,000 employees completed the inventory survey from ScottMadden consulting, providing information about time they spent on transactions for human resources, financial and budgeting work, contracts and grants, and general management and administrative tasks.

“Our goal is to discuss what we’ve learned and how we can use that information to make good decisions,” Patty said.

In the meantime, new tools are in place to help you stay up to date on the realignment.

A Powerpoint of the consultant’s report on the work activity inventory is posted on the Business Operations Realignment Steering Team site. You can log in with your unity ID to read it.

You’ll also find a new “Fact or Fiction” section with answers to frequently asked questions.

To stay in the loop, sign up to receive automatic updates on the BORST site: http://www.ncsu.edu/finance-business/business-operations/borst/index.php.

Four Elected to AAAS
Four faculty members have been elected as fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world’s largest scientific society and publisher of the journal Science.

Dr. Harald Ade, physics professor, was elected for transformational contributions to X-ray microscopy and soft x-ray scattering. His work has had an impact in disciplines ranging from polymer science to environmental science to meteoritics.

Dr. Jerzy (Jerry) Bernholc, Drexel Professor of Physics and director of the Center for High Performance Simulation, was elected for seminal contributions to the physics of materials, especially C60, nanotubes and semiconductors. He has developed methods that enable calculations of unprecedented size.

Dr. Allen Foegeding, William Neal Reynolds Professor of food, bioprocessing and nutrition sciences, was elected for contributions to research and teaching in food macromolecular chemistry, particularly in the area of protein functionality. His work has generated technologies used by the dairy and food industries to improve functionality of whey proteins.

Dr. Fred Gould, William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor of entomology, was elected for distinguished contributions in ecological genetics, including empirical studies and modeling the impact of transgenic plants on the management of insect pests.

Generating $1.2 Million for Students
Campus Enterprises, which manages NC State’s retail and hospitality operations, recently returned almost $1.2 million to the university for student support and merit- and need-based scholarships.

The total is $198,000 more than last year’s annual contribution.

The money was generated through Campus Enterprises organizations such as Trademark Licensing, NC State Bookstores, University Dining, the AllCampus Network, Catering and Event Management, Lonnie Poole Golf Course and the University Student Centers.

Committee Preference Survey Online
Interested in serving on standing or administrative advisory committees? Complete the online survey by Monday, Jan. 30.

To be eligible to serve on a university standing committee, you must be in a .75 or greater FTE position and benefit-eligible. If you’re selected, the chancellor’s office will notify you this summer.

The survey also allows you to be considered for appointment to an administrative advisory committee.

Questions? Send an email to Donna Johnson at donna_johnson@ncsu.edu.

More Student Affairs to Harrelson
Offices for seven more Student Affairs programs have moved to Harrelson Hall until the Talley Student Center renovation and addition project is completed in 2014.

Here’s a list of the new locations:
> Campus Activities, Room 217
> CSLEPS, Room 344
> Chaplains’ Ministry, Room 362
> Parents and Families, Room 111
> Technology Services, Room 117
> Student Legal Services, Room 337
> Women’s Center, Room 322

Former Coaches to Hall of Fame
Former NC State coaches Sam Esposito and Henry Trevathan will be inducted into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame this spring. Esposito was NC State’s head baseball coach for 21 years. Trevathan was the football special teams coach for nine seasons.

Esposito came to NC State in the fall of 1966 as head baseball coach and assistant basketball coach. During Esposito’s tenure, the Wolfpack never suffered a losing season and won a then-record 513 games. Esposito coached 69 All-ACC players and seven All-Americans. Twelve of his players went on to play Major League Baseball. Esposito’s second team at NC State won the ACC championship and the NCAA District III title, finishing third at the 1968 College World Series. His teams captured three straight league championships from 1973-1975. He was named ACC Coach of the Year in 1984 and 1986.

Trevathan came to NC State as a volunteer assistant coach under Dick Sheridan in 1986. As special teams coach, Trevathan developed five All-ACC kickers and punters, two All-Americans and one Lou Groza Award winner, all originally walk-ons. He is a three-time North Carolina Coach of the Year at the 4-A level.

Esposito and Travathan will be inducted May 10 as part of an eight-member group that includes Wilt Browning, Wray Carlton, M. L. Carr, Dr. Jerry McGee, Kristi Overton Johnson and Lennie Rosenbluth.

Ticket information for the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame banquet is available at www.ncsportshalloffame.org or 845-3455.