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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Spring is the time of year when we get ready to say goodbye to our long term student workers, those who are about to graduate and head off on the next phase of their lives. While we're always glad to see them move to that next challenge, many of them have been with us for their entire college careers, so it's bittersweet.

We're always happy to see the plans that our graduates have for the next step, and this issue of Ex Libris allows everyone some insight into those plans. We wish our graduating seniors the best of luck, and hope that they regularly return to update us on where life is taking them.

John J. Small
Clare and Lucy Oesterle Director of Library Services

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA by Tom Gill



To better serve the needs of students, staff and faculty, Instructional Media will begin using RT Tracker during spring term. This is the same software system ITS and Maintenance use to track work orders and other requests. The only change patrons will notice is the automatic generation of a ticket number for each message sent to imedia@noctrl.edu. This system will assist patrons in following up on the status of an equipment request or an equipment repair issue. It will also help Instructional Media keep track of recurring problems and equipment statistics.

All equipment requests need to be placed online using the equipment request form located on the instructional media home page: http://library.noctrl.edu/instructional_media/request.htm. Any other correspondence, such as equipment questions or reports of problems with equipment, should be sent to imedia@noctrl.edu.

Another way we're improving communication is the addition of a chat feature on the Instructional Media web page. If you have a question about equipment, or are having trouble using the Equipment Request form, you can simply click on the chat badge at the top of the page to chat with us. The service is available weekdays from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm, (unless we're on campus helping someone else!) In that case, we ask patrons to wait a few minutes for a reply, try the chat badge again after a few minutes, or send an old fashioned email.



As always, if you have questions, comments or suggestions, please let us know at imedia@noctrl.edu.

GRADUATING LIBRARY SERVICES STUDENT ASSISTANTS

Once again library staff members prepare to bid a group of dedicated student assistants farewell as they graduate and move on to the next phase of their lives.



Brittany Goudie has served as Archives Student Assistant for three years. Asked what she liked about working in the Library, Brittany stated, “The library is kind of like Central Station on North Central's campus. I enjoyed working at the library because it felt like I was contributing to its position as a sort of home-base. The librarians always know what's going on: phone numbers, office hours, on-campus events, etc. Students can always be sure they'll see a familiar face ... there's never a feeling of exclusion.” Specific to her job in the Archives, she commented, “I've been telling people lately that working in the Archives has been more of an internship than just a job. [It] has taught me to be a better researcher; I pay more attention to detail; I think about the context of the documents I'm working with. Of course, I've learned basic skills for preserving historical materials, but perhaps more importantly, I've become a more efficient worker overall.” After graduating with majors in history and speech communication, Brittany hopes to go to the University of Essex for graduate school, probably working on a master's in history. “I just want to find a career that makes me happy and allows for flexibility and travel.”

Jill Howard plans to go on to graduate school after graduating in June with a major in speech communication and a minor in broadcast communication. “My plan is to get a M.A. in communication, transition right into a Ph.D. program, and then establish myself at a small college or university as a professor of interpersonal communication.” Of all the jobs Jill has performed during her four years working at Oesterle Library, “the Information Services Desk (ISD) has been my favorite. This is because, up at the front desk, I have been able to enjoy very valuable interaction with the Oesterle staff members, NCC patrons, and all the other Oesterle student workers. The ISD [job] is the most interactive and rewarding.” When asked what she will remember most about working in the Library, Jill responded, “Some of the best parts about being a student worker have been the understanding and the flexibility of the full-time Oesterle staff, the enjoyable student co-workers, the great balance between school and work, and of course the all-around positive atmosphere of this school's library. The great relationships between students and supervisors have been not only an enjoyable experience, but an educational one as well.” Jill decided to apply for a library job because, “I felt that working at the Library would enhance my research skills. And it has. It has also enhanced my people skills, my organizational skills, and my work ethic. I have even been able to better establish relationships with my professors by working at the Library since they are frequent patrons. I truly believe that having worked for four years at Oesterle Library is a great accomplishment to have on my resume. The sense of loyalty and commitment that I have gained from this job has helped me in my academic career and will continue to help me in my future endeavors.”



Of all the library jobs **Kelly Peterson** has performed in the past two years, “Technical Services is easily my favorite. I get to do so many cool things: process books, process the daily mail, work on special projects... It was hands-on and I was always kept busy...and was able to do small tasks that really directly helped the library. I also really enjoyed the Information Services Desk because ... I love being able to help people and being able to talk to them.” Kelly has many stories to tell about her work in Technical Services. “I had a love/hate relationship with an Abe Lincoln project that I once worked on. I had to sort through hundreds of old newspaper articles and photos and enter all the information into the computer. It was really neat to be able to see all of the old newspapers (most of them were dated between 1900 and 1940) and to be in charge of organizing all of this history. In one of the collections, I found an old fork and part of an arrowhead! The technical Services staff and I were really excited about it! It was such a joy to work with such awesome people.” What will Kelly take with her, along with her degree in psychology with a minor in sociology? “This job has given me confidence. I am proud that I was able to get to know people and become a part of the Oesterle Library team.” Kelly added, “I always laugh that I am working in a library. My mom used to work at the University of Chicago Library as a computer programmer and I said I would never work in a library because it is ‘boring.’ I now fully retract that statement! There is always something going on here and I totally love it. My mom loves to say ‘I told you so.’” After graduation she hopes to enter Elgin Community College's Nursing Program to become a Registered Nurse, working in Labor and Delivery.

Of her three years working at Oesterle Library, **Celeste Pille** “liked working at the Information Services Desk the best because it’s where you get to work with the most people. The rest of the library staff are always fun and you also get to interact with patrons. What’s great about working at the Library is it’s a consistent source of little bursts of happiness throughout the day. I know that may sound cheesy, but it’s all the jokes and stories shared with my co-workers that really make me feel like I have the best job on campus.” Celeste, who will graduate with an English major and studio art minor, hopes to “ultimately end up writing and illustrating. I have an interest in graphic novels and children’s books.” When asked what skills she will carry with her from her work in the Library, Celeste answered, “I’ve learned to be resourceful. Some patrons have come to me with problems or questions way out of left field and I’m always eager to figure something out in order to help them. I think that’s a skill useful in any job. Who knows what life will throw at you!”



Kirsten Shoup has worked in the Library for “four fabulous years! My favorite thing about working at Oesterle Library is the people I work with! The library staff has some of the friendliest people on campus, and seriously, who doesn’t love getting candy on various holidays? I really enjoyed working for former secretary Jan Smallwood because I got to run errands around campus and do odd jobs for all of the staff, which was fun and different from the usual desk positions. I became great friends with many of the student workers of all ages. Working at Oesterle has taught me a lot about how to interact with people, whether they are fellow student workers, library staff, or patrons. I also don’t think I would have ever learned the Dewy Decimal System if I hadn’t worked at a library.” When asked what the future holds, Kirsten replied that she will use her studio art major and art history minor “to become a professional artist and own my own art gallery, studio, and school. I plan to take a year off to develop a cohesive portfolio of artwork, apply to graduate school (hopefully overseas), get my masters degree in art, teach in a college, and finally when I can afford to, start my own art gallery, studio, and school.”



Bridget Holtorf (left) will graduate this spring with a psychology major after working at Oesterle Library for three years. She is planning on continuing her education in the field of medicine.

Katie Kregor (right) has also worked in the Library for three years, two of them as an Assistant Student Coordinator. She majored in Spanish and English: Writing.



LATEST ONLINE RESOURCES FROM THE COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Two new resources have joined the online *College Chronicle: North Central Now*, the alumni magazine and *A Century of Liberal Education* by Clarence Roberts, the 1961 history of North Central written for the College’s centennial celebration. Both sources are now delivered online and can be accessed by anyone at any time, as well as being keyword searchable. All sources can be found at: <https://www.arcasearch.com/us/nc/>

All the publications can be searched at once (the default setting), or by using drop down boxes, a researcher can narrow to specific publications, dates or even issues. Please do not hesitate to contact the Archives if you have any questions or problems using the online resources.

ARCHIVES EXHIBIT: JAMES HENRY BREASTED by Kim Butler

James Henry Breasted is one of North Central College’s most famous alumni. Following graduation in 1890, Breasted went on to become the world’s foremost Egyptologist. He joined the faculty at the University of Chicago and founded the Oriental Institute. Breasted led several expeditions to Egypt, returning with many artifacts for display and research use at the Institute. This spring, the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago has arranged an exhibition featuring Breasted and how his vision shaped the Institute. The College Archives display case also features materials by and about James Henry Breasted’s time here as a student. Included are newspapers, an autograph, and books both by and about Breasted.

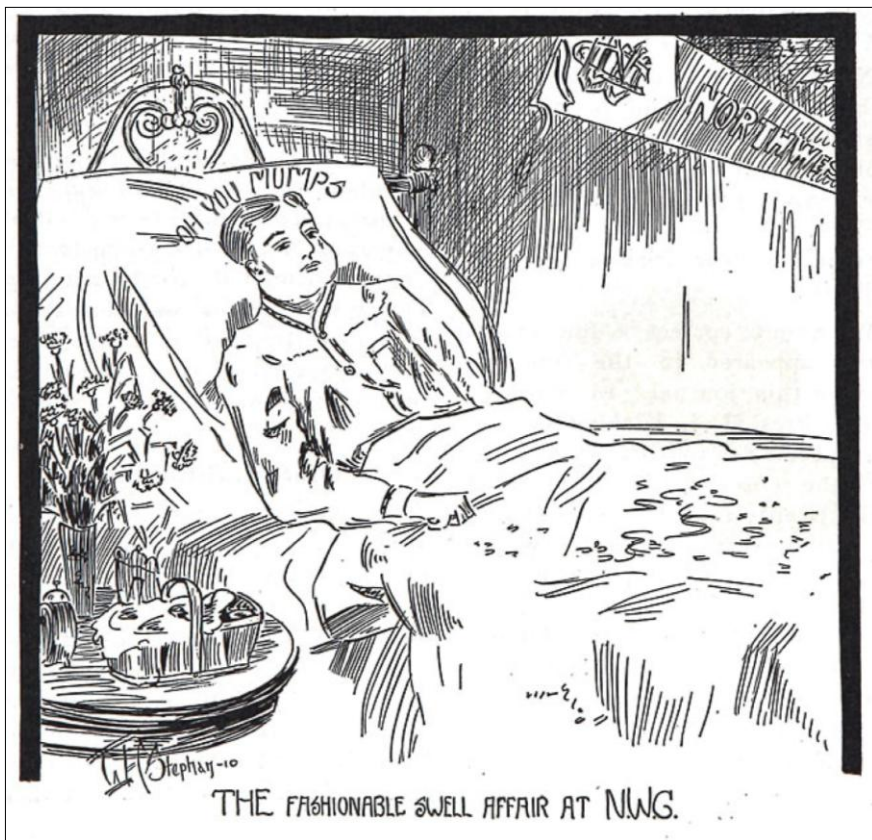
FROM THE ARCHIVES: 100 YEARS AGO THIS TERM by Kim Butler



The College has begun plans to celebrate its 150th anniversary in the 2011-2012 academic year. Leading up to this event, the College will be sharing its history through various outlets. In this column “From the Archives: 100 Years Ago This Term,” Kim Butler, the College Archivist, will highlight items of interest that happened 100 years ago in the history of the College.

This installment features two separate items from *The College Chronicle*.

Late last year and into this fall, an international outbreak of the H1N1 flu virus created a stir on North Central’s campus, including a free vaccination clinic. This is not the first time North Central College students have had to deal with infectious diseases. In the late winter 1910, many students at the College contracted mumps in an apparent outbreak of the disease. The *College Chronicle* includes names of students who had the mumps mentions the outbreak as briefly postponing events on campus. A particularly eye-catching cartoon was printed in the March 1, 1910 issue. Given the tone of the notices in the student newspaper, mumps was more of an annoyance than life-threatening disease and presumably all of the students who contracted it successfully recovered.



CLASS OF 1910.



For almost 150 years, spring has brought the end of another school year with Commencement. North-Western College’s first graduating class in 1866 (four years after opening for instruction on November 11, 1861) included just three individuals. The Class of 1910, graduating 100 years ago this June included twenty, as shown in this photo. The Class of 2010 will likely include more than 450 graduates. The first commencement included oratories presented by the graduates, musical selections performed by College ensembles, and an address directed to the students either by the College President or a distinguished guest.

EX LIBRIS: From the Library is published Fall, Winter and Spring Terms. Also available online at the library's Web site:

http://library.noctrl.edu/about_the_library/ex_libris.shtml

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