



- IN THIS ISSUE:**
- From the Director
 - “Community Speaks” Series
 - New Archives Suite Opens
 - Instructional Media Services Moves
 - U.S. Constitution First Amendment Exhibit
 - Archives Exhibit
 - Introducing New Library Services Staff
 - The Final Word: The 1960s from NCC Points of View
 - Library Read-Out
 - Library Orientations

FROM THE DIRECTOR



In the October 5, 1984 issue of the *North Central Chronicle*, Dean James A. Taylor heralded the remodeling of the main and upper levels of Oesterle Library. However, it was noted, “The basement, for now, will not be included in the remodeling. Dean Taylor explains that after Carnegie, the old library, is remodeled, the staff located in the basement of Oesterle can move their offices over there, and then work can be started on the basement.”

However, after Carnegie was remodeled, two campus units, the Advising Center and the Arts and Letters Division, moved into Oesterle Library and occupied a major portion of the lower level of the building. Those units did not move out of the library until February 23, 1999, when a three phase renovation plan for Oesterle Library was drafted by architect John Kraai.

Phase 1 of the library renovation – the east side of the lower level - was begun in April 2001 and completed in March 2002. Phase 1 created a new Periodicals Room and Technical Services area. Phase 2 – the renovation of the west side of the lower level - began this spring, thanks to the generosity of the late Ruth Powers’32, who spent her working life as a librarian.

Twenty-one years after Dean Taylor’s estimate, the lower level of Oesterle Library has been beautifully remodeled. The renovation created new restrooms, a lounge/vending machine area, staff kitchen, and separate suites for Archives and Instructional Media operations and services. Although no date has been set for Phase 3 (which will include the renovation of the main and upper levels of the library), patrons can now enjoy an entirely remodeled lower level.

Carolyn A. Sheehy
Director of Library Services

“COMMUNITY SPEAKS” SERIES

Programs in Oesterle Library’s “Community Speaks” series are held each academic term on Tuesday of Week 10 from noon -1:00 p.m. in the Periodicals Room on the lower level. The first program of this year’s series features Dr. Richard Wilders, Professor of Mathematics, and Dr. Lawrence Van Oyen, Associate Professor of Music, presenting "Formal Systems in Math and Music" on Tuesday, November 15.

NEW ARCHIVES SUITE OPENS

After years of being shuffled into nooks and crannies, the North Central College Archives moved into a newly renovated suite in the lower level of Oesterle Library in September. The new facility includes the Archivists' office, a reference room, and secure storage for the Archives' holdings. The College Archivist, Kim Butler, expressed her excitement over the renovation plans. "By definition, all material in the Archives is the only copy and irreplaceable, but due to physical constraints, we were not able to house these materials in the manner they deserved. Now, we will be able to do them justice."

The new Archives space includes a secure storage area with Spacesaver compact moveable shelving which allows maximized storage in the allotted space. A separate thermostat and dehumidification system will provide environmental control for the records in the Archives. "After years of being shuffled between rooms with no shelving and minimal temperature and humidity control, the new storage area will absolutely prolong the life of the Archives' materials."



AFTER: Archivist Kim Butler files documents in the new compact shelving in the Archives storage room.



BEFORE: The Roberts Room combined Archives storage and reference.

Previous researchers will immediately notice the improved space, with increased work area, electrical and network connections for laptop use, new lighting, and a more comfortable environment. The new Archives Reference Room includes a permanent display cabinet which will feature items from the Archives. A new addition to the College Archives also on display in the Reference Room is a beautifully decorated safe used by the College at least since the late 19th century. The Archives Reference Room is open Monday through Friday, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. and by appointment.

Archives staff certainly appreciate the improved facilities. The Archives Student Assistants have dedicated work and project storage space, a definite improvement over sitting on the floor or using the same areas as researchers. Butler summarized, "We've waited so long for adequate facilities for the Archives, I cannot begin to say how thrilled I am over the new space. It has everything necessary for a truly modern Archives program."

INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA SERVICES MOVES

Not unlike the Archives, Instructional Media (IM) Services has also been scattered around campus. Some instructional media equipment was stored in a room in the lower level of the library, in Goldspohn 41, and in a secure closet on the main level of the library. According to Instructional Media Coordinator Tom Gill, "It was difficult to operate because there were so many places equipment and supplies were kept. In addition, equipment maintenance and repair was in Goldspohn 41, far away from my office. The Instructional Media Lab was in the lower level of the library, not close to my office on the main level, so it was not easy for users to find me when they had a problem. It was also difficult to multitask because when I had to be near the computer that was rendering a video in the lab I couldn't work on other things in my office."



BEFORE: The old Instructional Media Lab housed in an unused former Technical Services area.



AFTER: Looking from the new IM storage area into the new IM Lab.

Located in the newly renovated lower level of Oesterle Library, the Instructional Media suite houses all of that unit: equipment, supplies, maintenance/repair workshop, office, lab, and student assistant workspace. Now instructional media equipment and supplies are no longer in three different areas.

The new Instructional Media Lab is available to all North Central College faculty, staff and students who wish to learn about and create multimedia presentations for College related tasks. Specialized equipment and software are available to perform a variety of tasks including: digital image manipulation and CD-ROM video

duplication; video editing; video conversion; audiotape duplication; digitizing video and 35mm slides; digital image transfer from a memory card to the computer; digital videotape conversion to DVD, VHS, MPEG, AVI etc.; audiotape duplication (high speed); Macromedia Flash authoring; digitizing video/audio from analog sources; scanning 35mm slides and film negatives; and burning CDs, VCDs and DVDs.

The Instructional Media Lab is open by appointment only, Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm when the Instructional Media Coordinator is present. Gill provides training for all equipment and processes in the Instructional Media Lab needed for College related tasks. Contact him at 637-5723 for further information, or consult the Instructional Media Web site http://www2.noctrl.edu/library_ncc/instructional_media/lab.htm.

U.S. CONSTITUTION FIRST AMENDMENT EXHIBIT

“We the People...,” an exhibit in the library lobby fall term, commemorates Constitution Day (September 17) and Banned Books Week (September 24 – October 1) by highlighting the rights afforded United States citizens by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, including the right to free speech.

ARCHIVES EXHIBIT: THE NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE ARCHIVES STORY

The fall term Archives exhibit currently on display in the Oesterle Library lobby tells the story of the North Central College Archives. The display features photographs outlining the history of the Archives program, from Professor Clarence Roberts’ efforts to preserve the College’s history, the hiring of the first professionally-trained archivist, and through what the newly renovated Archives suite means for researchers and the materials.

INTRODUCING NEW LIBRARY SERVICES STAFF



Jennie Johnson assumed the duties of Periodicals Assistant in July. She is responsible for maintaining the library’s Periodicals Collection by ordering and managing subscriptions, as well as processing periodicals as they are received. Jennie graduated from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois in May of 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a minor in history. She worked three years at the Augustana Tredway Library for the Circulation Department. The third year she was one of three student supervisors who was in charge of the Circulation Department evenings and weekends.

Jennie is enjoying walking to work from her downtown Naperville apartment, a definite contrast to growing up on a farm in Nebraska. Although her family are all back in Nebraska and Kansas, she has many college friends living in the area. In her spare time Jennie enjoys reading, listening to music, watching movies, spending time with her friends, and exploring new places. She was attracted to her new job by the opportunity to work in a library at a small liberal arts college Jennie plans to go on to earn a Masters in Library and Information Science eventually, but for now she’s just really enjoying working here and exploring the area.

Victor Stover joined the Technical Services staff as Acquisitions Assistant in April. His primary duties include ordering, receiving, and paying for library information resources. Before coming to Oesterle Library Vic worked at the Aurora Public Library's Eola Road Branch. Originally from Ann Arbor, Michigan, where his family still resides, he received a bachelor of arts degree from Kalamazoo College with a major in economics and business and a minor in history. Vic, who currently lives in Aurora, is an avid swimmer. He started swimming competitively when he was five years old, and continued all four years in college. He recently began practicing with the Naperville Waves Swim Club, a master's swim team.



Vic was drawn to the Acquisitions Assistant position by his desire to be a part of a small college community. Vic states, “I feel that North Central is an excellent institution and it seemed like a place where I could have an important impact and also learn a lot. In addition, I really like the Naperville area.”

THE FINAL WORD: THE 1960s FROM NCC POINTS OF VIEW

The audience was transported back in time over forty years as students in a spring term 2005 English 116: Theater and Literature of Protest, team taught by Jack Shindler and Deborah Palmes, presented unique theatrical works. These works were written in response to 1960s *NCC Chronicle* articles they had researched under the guidance of Kimberly Butler, Archivist/Associate Director of Archives. In presenting “Voices of NCC’s Past: the Social Protests of the 1960s,” a reader’s theatre performance of original scenes and monologues, these students displayed an amazing understanding of and sensitivity to issues belonging to another generation: the draft, the Vietnam War, the beginnings of the drug culture, the sexual revolution, and the fight for racial equality.

Prior to using the College Archives, this class received two sessions of information literacy instruction from Instructional Services Librarian Rosemary Henders. In addition to instruction in the use of general information databases, Henders introduced the class to *America: History and Life*, a database indexing scholarly articles published since 1954 and chronicling the history of the United States and Canada from prehistory to the present.

After mastering the basics of library research, Shindler and Palmes’ students were ready to tackle the Archives. In an introduction to the Archives, Butler ‘took the Archives to the class’. She found articles in the *NCC Chronicle* concerning the topics the students were studying and created a citation list for the class. Butler then passed out pencils for note-taking and distributed original issues of the *NCC Chronicle* for in-class use. This introduction encouraged students to go to the Archives and find an article, editorial, or photograph that inspired them for their creative writing assignment. “Although the students originally seemed hesitant about public presentations of their work, I was absolutely impressed with their creativity and insight as displayed in their final products. I thought it was a fabulous experience,” Butler commented. She hopes that this required exposure to the Archives will open the students’ eyes to possible uses of these types of sources for future classes. Shindler echoes this sentiment, “I think more faculty should consider ways of using the Archives, and thus give their students the valuable experience of working with primary documents. This is an enjoyable research activity that many may not experience again. I, for one, will definitely do it again with students in future classes.”



Left to right: Jeff Chow, Kendel Brady, Jill Bures, Stephen Fleagle present “Voices of NCCs Past: Social Protests of the 1960s.”

LIBRARY READ-OUT

Oesterle Library’s fourth annual Read-Out, honoring the Freedom to Read, and featuring faculty, staff, and student readers, will take place during Campus Coffee on Wednesday, October 5, in the newly renovated lower level of the library. Selections from books that have been frequently challenged or banned will be read at 9:45, 10:15, and 10:45 a.m.

LIBRARY ORIENTATIONS

Orientations to Oesterle Library will be held Tuesday, September 20 from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. and Saturday, September 24 from 12:15 - 1:00 p.m. No advance registration is necessary. Participants meet in the lobby of the library.

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