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**FROM THE DIRECTOR**

I’ve been hearing, for the past few weeks, a particular type of North Central welcome. It greets me wherever I go, and from whomever I happen to meet. I’m immensely grateful for it, and have been delighting in my new colleagues, and in learning about the community and the people. For those of you returning from the summer, allow me to welcome you back to campus, or to campus for the first time.

I wish to explicitly thank Carolyn Sheehy, my predecessor. She gave freely of her time, energy and thought, and made absolutely sure that I was as ready as I could be on my first day at North Central. While doing so, however, Carolyn always took care to preface her comments with “The way I did that was...” giving me free rein to make changes or to find other ways to do things. As you all know, Carolyn is a great example, and a joy to work with, and she has left me with a dedicated, professional staff.

With any change in leadership, there are challenges and opportunities. Oesterle Library is well situated to make the most of any adjustments, is a rich and diverse learning environment, with a very well established set of complex and interlocking services. It is a library that serves the culture of inquiry that already exists on campus, yet a library that is also working with a large network of technologies to make that experience richer and fuller. We have many tools, but the heart of the services here is the people. If you haven’t used the library lately, please do stop by; you’ll be amazed at the materials we have, and more amazed at the people who can help you find more.

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

**U.S. CONSTITUTION FIRST AMENDMENT EXHIBIT**

“We the People...,” an exhibit in the library lobby recognizing Constitution Day (September 17, commemorating the signing of the U.S. Constitution on that date in 1787) and Banned Books Week (September 27–October 4) features resources highlighting the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, including the right to free speech. Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to read and reminds all Americans of their constitutional right to express their opinions, including those that are unorthodox or unpopular, and of the importance of safeguarding the rights of all who wish to read them. In observance of Banned Books Week, Oesterle Library will hold a “Read Out” during Campus Coffee in which faculty, staff, and students read selected passages from books that have been banned or challenged.

## **LIBRARY SERVICES STAFF: COMINGS AND GOINGS**

The Oesterle Library staff welcomed **John Small** as the second Clare and Lucy Oesterle Director of Library Services on August 1st. John comes to North Central with experience in a number of library settings, most recently as University Librarian for DeVry University. In addition to managing the 23 DeVry campus libraries and their 34 librarians, John brings to the job an extensive knowledge of technology and electronic library resources. He was heavily involved in the planning for and construction of the James C. Kirkpatrick Library at Central Missouri State University while serving as Electronic Resources Librarian and Assistant Professor of Library Services there.



**Jane Egan** joined last spring as Part-time Reference Services Librarian, working evenings and weekends. She was thrilled to find a job that would allow her to stay home with her two boys, ages five and two-and-a-half, during the day. Prior to moving to Illinois, Jane worked at the University of Wisconsin (UW) - Milwaukee as a Reference Librarian and Library Instruction Coordinator. What does she like best about her job? "Helping people and the challenge of assisting students to find particular data or articles on their topics. The most important part of my job is to introduce the students to the diverse resources available to them and teach them the skills to feel comfortable using them during their college careers." Jane earned her master of library and information science degree from UW-Milwaukee. She also has a master's in French and a BA in French with a minor in European History. (Continued on page 4)

## **ARCHIVES EXHIBIT: THE A. A. SMITH HOUSE'S COLLEGE CONNECTIONS by Kim Butler**

In June 2008, the College received the A. A. Smith house at 28 S. Loomis as a gift from Bart and Maricela Madden. The Maddens spent years restoring the old Victorian home to its former grandeur and their generous gift brings the house full circle and back into the college's fold. The home was built in 1885 by Professor Henry C. and Mary Dreisbach Smith on property purchased around 1870 by H. C. Smith's father, College President A. A. Smith. Professor H. C. Smith taught music and Latin at the College for 60 years, making him the longest tenured faculty member in the college's history. When the house was completed, former President Smith and his wife Eliza Cowles Smith moved into their son's home, making it a three generational household.



The Smiths sold their house in 1905 to another family and through the years it has repeatedly changed owners. In 1949 the College purchased the house, which had been split into apartments, to provide faculty housing. The College later refocused on its campus and purpose-built buildings and sold many of the neighborhood homes they had owned as rental properties, including the Smith House in 1963.

The fall College Archives exhibit includes personal diaries from Fanny Smith Hildreth, a grand daughter of President Smith and daughter of Professor Henry Smith. Fanny grew up in Naperville and lived in the house with her family upon its completion. Also included in the exhibit are photographs of the house when the Smith family lived there.

## **THE GALLERY OF OESTERLE LIBRARY FALL EXHIBITS**

The Gallery of Oesterle Library will present seven art exhibits throughout academic year, featuring paintings, sculptures, photography, drawings, ceramics and various mixed media by local and international professional artists and by North Central College senior art majors. Fall term exhibits include:

- **Sheila Ganch** and **Paula Kloczkowski Luberda** - "Connections," September 2 to October 9. Through their paintings and sculpture, these artists showcase human form sculptures of earthy materials and paintings in mixed media in an effort to relate the artists' physical work and the broader scope of humanity.
- "Collected Works," October 12 to November 14. Using her interest in fabrics and textures, **Nancy Rosen** paints colorful patterns and realistic portrayals of women in her artwork.
- "Sacred Ecology," November 16 to December 19. A local fine art painter and naturalist, **Nancy Reid** creates original watercolor paintings inspired by nature.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA by Tom Gill



A real milestone was reached over the summer as 100% of North Central College classrooms now have data projection systems! This is really something special here at North Central College, since it's not a very common thing at any college in the country.

It's been a busy summer in Instructional Media. Working together with Maintenance and Information Technology Services (ITS), we purchased and installed data projection equipment, computers and Smartboards in Goldspohn 27 and 30, Larrance 01 and 18, and Old Main 302. In addition to all of the classrooms, there are data projection systems in computer labs used for teaching; Fireside, Banquet and Dining rooms in White Activity Center; Smith Hall; the Language Resources Center; the Boilerhouse basement (plasma screen); Swing Conference Room; Heininger;

Koten Chapel; Pfeiffer Theater; Meiley-Swallow's Thrust Theater; as well as various other labs, and conference rooms on campus.

Instructional Media also inspected, rewired and organized each data projection system on campus to ensure it not only worked perfectly, but also appeared neat and presentable. During this classroom inspection, some data projectors, screens and DVD players were upgraded.

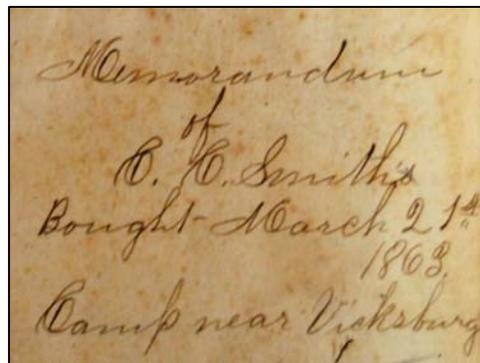
For more information about Instructional Media, or to reserve equipment, please visit our web page at [http://library.noctrl.edu/instructional\\_media/](http://library.noctrl.edu/instructional_media/).

## HIDDEN GEMS: CURIOUS ARTIFACTS FROM LITTLE KNOWN COLLECTIONS

By: Kim Butler and Emily Prather

Last year EX LIBRIS introduced readers to the library's important book collections, such as the Sang Jazz Collection and the Limited Editions Collection. This year "Hidden Gems" will instead focus on other more unusual, and in some instances even quirky, items found in the Oesterle Library collection. Many of these gems come from the Civil War period, including several diaries and journals.

Two diaries of Charles Smith, son of the first NCC President A. A. Smith are a part of the College Archives collection. The first diary includes details of his life as a 16 year old growing up in Ohio and his enlistment as part of an Ohio regiment in the Union Army. The second diary is from 1863, when he was involved with the siege of Vicksburg and ends two weeks before his death from illness. (These can be found in the A. A. Smith Family Papers collection in the College Archives)



Oesterle Library also houses a rich assortment of Lincolniana. One of the more unusual artifacts in the library's Special Collections is a life mask of Abraham Lincoln, which was donated by Dr. Philip David Sang, a collector of Americana and a great benefactor to several libraries in the United States. A life mask is a wax, or in the case of the Lincoln mask, plaster cast of a mold of the face of a living person (<http://search.eb.com/eb/article-9029649>). The mask in Oesterle Library's collection is a third generation replica (cast in 1907) of an original cast made in April of 1860 by Leonard Volk. For more information about how the original cast was made, see Volk, "The Lincoln life-mask and how it was made." *Century Magazine*. 23 (1881): 223-228. (Available in the library's bound periodicals collection.)



In September 1912, the library of Northwestern College (now North Central College) received a gift of an assortment of Confederate currency from the United States Department of the Treasury. The collection of eleven notes includes \$5, \$10, \$20, and \$50 bills. The majority of the notes feature images of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America (CSA); Alexander Stephens, Vice President of the CSA; or R.M.T. Hunter, a CSA cabinet member. The collection is accompanied by a letter from then Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Sherman Allen. The letter explains that the notes "came into the possession of the Union Army about the close of the war, and were turned over by the War Department to the Treasury in 1867."



## FROM THE ARCHIVES: 50 YEARS AGO THIS TERM by Kim Butler

### Faculty Takes Action On Orientation Program

Dr. C. C. Hower, secretary to the faculty, delivered the following statement to the Student Council last Wednesday. Larry Dutenhaver, student body president, gave the Chronicle permission to reproduce it in this issue. The statement read as follows:

at the meeting of the faculty of North Central College on October 14, 1958, resolutions on the subject of freshman orientation were presented both by the Student Council and the College Activities Board. After discussion the resolution of the Council was voted upon and defeated; the resolution of the Activities Board was passed. The Council's proposal was the creation of a joint faculty-student committee to study orientation problems, and at least one factor in its defeat was the feeling that in the College Activities Board there already existed a committee of this sort.

The resolution which was adopted, together with the follows:

Whereas the College Activities Board, recognizing its responsibility for campus activities, expresses its concern over the inadequacy of the present orientation program and questions the proprieties of certain initiation activities as conducted in the fall of 1958, therefore be it resolved that:

1. The faculty give consideration to creating an orientation program which shall adequately prepare students for college life and be directed by proper faculty, administration and student groups.

2. The faculty create means by which the students' initiation program is constantly and properly supervised so as to be consistent with the college's purpose.

Amendment: That responsibility for administering the resolution shall rest with the College Activities Board.

This issue of *EX LIBRIS* introduces a new column, "From the Archives: 50 Years Ago This Term," in which archivist Kim Butler will be discussing what was happening in 1958 at North Central College.



Prior to the late 1950s, North Central students had a fairly conservative campus life with a complete ban on dancing in place and little opportunity for student involvement in College decisions. In response to a changing expectation on the part of students, the Board of Trustees approved "a plan of

supervision, regulation, and implementation of an adequate social program," effectively ending the ban on dancing on campus in 1957. Immediately a joint student-faculty committee was organized, called the College Activities Board (CAB), which scheduled not only dances, but also coffees, dormitory parties, public lectures, festivals, and recitals, as well as sponsoring excursions into Chicago. Most importantly though, the CAB was one of the earliest cooperative arrangements involving faculty, administration and students. The students' self-government began expanding during this time period, with students insisting on far more say in what opportunities their collegiate experience allowed. Later in 1957, self-government of the dormitories was established, whereby the students voted on rules and selected a president and floor counselors to enforce those rules - a role that was previously held by house directors (adults and part of administration). Throughout the remainder of the 1950s and 1960s, this trend for student involvement continued. Beginning around 1969, students' insistence on being involved in decision making on campus culminated with Project Phoenix, an intense period of self-reflection at all College levels, which ultimately created an entirely new curriculum and other educational programming at the College.

This article from the *North Central College Chronicle*, the student-run newspaper, from 50 years ago shows the CAB's involvement in the restructuring of freshman orientation and demonstrates the students' increasing involvement in determining

their campus experience.

For more information about the North Central College Archives, please visit <http://library.noctrl.edu/archives/>.

## LIBRARY SERVICES STAFF: COMINGS AND GOINGS (Continued from page 2)

Information Services Librarian Ryan Williams departed North Central College at the end of July to pursue other career goals in Minneapolis. Ryan may be best remembered for his recent redesign and restructuring of the Library Services Web site during the past year.

EX LIBRIS: From the Library is published Fall, Winter and Spring Terms.

Also available online at the library's Web site:

[http://www.noctrl.edu/library\\_ncc/about\\_us/exlibris/exlibris.htm](http://www.noctrl.edu/library_ncc/about_us/exlibris/exlibris.htm)

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