



- IN THIS ISSUE:**
- From the Director
  - What's Happening in Instructional Media
  - Graduating Library Student Assistants
  - Archives Exhibit: Faculty Retiree
  - From the Archives: 50 Years Ago
  - International Flags
  - Chicago History Museum Card Available



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

### Winter Rearranging and Spring Cleaning

We've been hard at work in the Library, updating the look and organization of spaces, and generally brightening things up a bit. The most noticeable change is, of course, the flags we've hung in the lobby with the help of International Programs. The 30 flags represent the international student population at North Central College.

The most useful change we've made is the major rearrangement of the Dr. Lora Tyson Curriculum Center/ Giere Audiovisual Center. The audiovisual shelving has been moved to create more space for classes to work in the room, and we're working on an update to the tables and chairs.

There are new signs all over the building, as well. Thanks to the Office of Marketing and Communications, a colorful graphic banner brightens the far end of the Reference Room. Changes in the look and typeface of other signs are in process, and even Ex Libris is changing a bit.

We continue to work on more substantive changes as well, with subtle enhancements to the library webpage, including a major change in the near future (watch [library.noctrl.edu](http://library.noctrl.edu) for updates) to the Research by Subject guides. We're also looking at streamlining the process of printing from our networked computers. This is not to say that the library staff will not continue to focus on collection building, as will be evidenced by enhancements to the new books display.

All things considered, the face of Oesterle Library is a bit brighter and more colorful, and we're hoping to continue with these changes, making the library an ever more comfortable and welcoming place to be. Underneath those changes, we'll continue to collect and organize information for the campus community, and to find innovative and useful ways of getting that information to all of you, wherever in the world you might be.

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

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



Always striving to provide the most current technology to the campus, we have upgraded many of the older classroom data projectors over spring break. Soon, all data projectors will be the same brand, making it much easier for faculty, staff, and students to use the equipment regardless of the room they are in. Troubleshooting, servicing, and upgrading the equipment will also be more efficient. The older projectors that are in good condition will be placed in select meeting rooms around campus.

Meiley-Swallow Theater now has an easy to use data projection system featuring a push-button control panel. Changes from PC to video mode can be made on this control unit, located back stage. Also back stage is a new VCR/DVD player, so there is no longer a need to send a separate request for one when the theater is reserved. Please remember, a PC connection to the projector is available in the theater, however, a computer must still be requested beforehand.

## GRADUATING LIBRARY SERVICES STUDENT ASSISTANTS

Once again library services 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.



**Chelsea Bohner** plans to either attend a graduate certification program in zoo and aquarium studies, or participate in an internship in a zoo or other similar setting when she leaves North Central with a bachelor's degree in biology, with minors in chemistry and environmental studies. Although she has worked in almost every department in the Library during the past four years, Chelsea particularly enjoyed her time at the Information Services Desk because, "I got to interact with the student body on a regular basis." When asked what skills she gained from her work as a Library Student Assistant she stated, "I have become much more skilled in dealing with patrons in a professional manner. I think the ability to communicate effectively with others is one of the most important skills one can have when searching for a job."

**Christina Cawkins** also worked at the Library throughout her four years at North Central. She appreciates having had friendly coworkers who were easy to work with. What did she gain from the job? "Working at the library, I feel, has improved my research skills. Using the library website pretty much daily helped with knowing where to look for information and how to best use databases, such as what search terms to use and that sort of thing." Christina will graduate with a bachelor of arts degree in religious studies and a minor in psychology. She hopes to work for a year or so and then go on to earn a graduate degree in a yet to be decided field. Christina states that "More than anything my main goal in life is to do the best I can to help others, in some form or other; whether that be as an occupation or on a voluntary basis."



For **Jennifer Elgin**, the best part of working in the Library was, "The people! Working here has given me the opportunity to meet a lot of people I probably would not have met otherwise." During her three years as a Library Student Assistant, Jenny feels that, "Working in Technical Services has given me the chance to improve on focusing myself on a certain task and paying attention to small details. It was tough at first, but I think (or, at least hopefully!) I got a little better at it throughout my time here." She will graduate with a major in Japanese and a minor in East Asian Studies; she hopes to teach English in Japan for a year or two and then come back to the United States to attend graduate school. Ultimately, Jenny "would like to one day work in the CIA, doing translation work."

Of all of the library jobs **Brianna Hyslop** has held over the past four years, she states, "I would have to say that I'm enjoying the Student Coordinator position more than the other jobs I've held at the Library. I've really enjoyed the experience of working directly with the other student workers and assisting library patrons, not to mention the problem-solving issues I've been exposed to during summers or late night shifts. It's certainly been interesting." After graduating with a double major in English with a literature emphasis and classical civilizations and a minor in the history of ideas, Brianna plans to pursue a graduate degree in English literature that will eventually lead to a career teaching at the college level. She credits her library employment with helping her to develop better research skills, as well as the customer service and problem solving skills that will come in handy when she enters the job market.



Instructional Media Assistant **Kurt Kamrath** not only enjoyed working with the "great library staff; everyone is a pleasure to work with and helpful;" he really liked the fact that "every major holiday is marked with gifts of candy" in the Library! Kurt feels that being Instructional Media Coordinator Tom Gill's sidekick taught him to better utilize and organize space and added to his knowledge of electrical equipment. Kurt will graduate with a political science major and minors in philosophy and professional dispute resolution. Future plans include attending law school, preferably at least one time zone away, being "a panelist on VH1's "I Love the '00s," and being appointed to any position where I'd face a Senate confirmation hearing!"



“Working in the library has helped me learn how to find books, articles, and other information quickly and easily, giving me an edge on research papers. Working at the Information Services and Periodicals Desks gave me plenty of experience in not only people skills but problem solving,” says **Mandy Kilinskis**. “I will (HOPEFULLY) get a job in the publishing field (though seriously, I’m not going to be picky) and save up money to go to graduate school for play and screenwriting in the next few years” after graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in French and English with writing emphasis and a theatre minor. Her life goals? “My major goal in life is to continue my schooling to at least an M.F.A., if not a Ph.D., start a family, publish a book, and be perpetually awesome.”

According to Assistant Student Coordinator (ASC) **Michelle LeDonne**, “the Library is the best job on campus because of the people who work there. It’s really fun and supportive and a wonderful community to be a part of.” Michelle has been an ASC for three of her four years at the Library, a job she loves because, “It’s been nice to get to know all the Student Assistants and work closely with the evening/weekend Reference Librarians. Working in the library has made me a better researcher in my classes; professors always comment on my excellent skills in finding sources. After learning how to teach others how to research, you naturally learn for yourself. I can only imagine this will continue to be beneficial in graduate school.” Michelle plans to earn a PH.D. in literature and performance studies, enabling her to teach college literature. “If that doesn’t work out, I’ll work in theatre and dance in Chicago. I want to continue to travel the world and be an active consumer of and participant in the arts.”



**Rylee Main** worked for the Library four terms before graduating at the end of winter term. Currently she is working at the Morton Arboretum full time until she decides between graduate schools or working in Washington, D.C. with a foreign policy organization. Asked what skills she developed through her library employment, Rylee stated, “I think I will be better prepared for research in graduate school by understanding the library better.” What did she like best about working in the Library? “I enjoyed working in Technical Services because I got to check in all of the new periodicals which allowed me to stay up to date with current events.” Rylee majored in global studies with an emphasis on developing states, and minored in environmental studies.

**Allison Shostrom** learned patience during her two plus years working in the Library. “Just as with retail, library patrons can become frustrated and stressed out sometimes, especially if they waited until the last minute to do a project and need help. It isn’t going to help anybody if I take their frustration personally and respond to them in a similar manner.” Allison plans to get married after graduating with a bachelor of science degree in psychology and a minor in mathematics. She hopes to go to graduate school to become a clinical psychologist so that she can help as many people as possible. Allison feels this “really was the ideal college job. I like the friendly staff and that I can do homework in between helping people.”



The fantastic staff is the best part of working at the Library, according to **Alyssa Vincent**. “I’m not sure when I’ll get to work with such a kind and funny group of people next. I liked the Student Coordinator position best, because I enjoyed having a hands-on role in helping students with their research.” After four years working in various library positions, Alyssa feels “I’m definitely a better researcher thanks to my job. Also, I think it’s helped me to be more organized and become better at multi-tasking.” Alyssa hopes “to eventually end up writing for a magazine” after graduating with a journalism major and a gender and women’s studies minor. “One day, I would love to write for *BUST* magazine, a feminist magazine based in New York. Also, I’d like to eventually go to graduate school for cultural studies. And, I’ve been thinking about becoming a yoga teacher. So, I guess I have a few goals.”

## ARCHIVES EXHIBIT: FACULTY RETIREEE by Kim Butler

The spring 2009 Archives Exhibit in the Oesterle Library lobby celebrates the retirement of Jerry Hamsmith, Professor of Accounting. Professor Hamsmith began at North Central in 1988 as an associate professor of accounting, after having taught at Aurora University from 1972 to 1988. The exhibit features pictures of Professor Hamsmith and articles from the *Chronicle* and *This Week* about him, as well as his publications. Stop and see some of his highlights!



## FROM THE ARCHIVES: 50 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: 50 Years Ago This Term,” Kim Butler, the College Archivist, will highlight items of interest that happened 50 years ago in the history of the College.

The first May Fete was held in 1914, as part of Booster Day, a daylong festival beginning with Booster Club events. At this time, the college had several Booster Clubs, one for each state that a significant number of students called home. The May Fete portion of the day included the selection and crowning of a May Queen, skits and dances from various groups, and a May pole



**May Fete Royalty** King Rex Gene Armentrout and May Queen Ann Shaw are seen above as they leave the May Fete ceremonies through a human archway made up of freshman men. The King and Queen were crowned, after the usual impressive Maypole Dance, by last year's King Rex Jim Esterly and May Queen Margaret Ann Bredemeier. The King and Queen, also reigned over Beaux Arts Dance that followed the May Fete.

dance by the junior class women.

Ena Oertli was named the first May Queen in 1914. Originally the pageant was held on the lawn of Old Main, but after Merner Fieldhouse was built, the ceremony moved indoors. Several photos in the College Archives show the May pole dance on the original dirt floor of Merner.



**Annual Maypole Dance** held last Friday night in connection with the May Fete is shown above just before the majestic affair is to begin. There are twenty junior girls who participate in this picturesque dance which is looked to each year with much enthusiasm since the May Queen is picked at the conclusion of it.

The first May King was crowned in 1920 as a spoof of the formal May Fete ceremonies. The May King crowning was held at midnight and the freshmen boys (dressed in their pajamas), by kneeling or laying on their stomachs, formed a ‘red carpet’ with their backs for the king to ascend to his throne. As evidenced by the caption, this tradition switched to a ‘human archway’ formed by the freshmen.

Booster clubs faded and Booster Day gradually switched to a College Day in the 1940s and 1950s with more of an eye towards recruitment of prospective students. The May Fete continued for many years, even beyond any daylong celebrations, but did eventually die out around 1970.

## INTERNATIONAL FLAGS

A colorful new addition has been made to the library lobby: the flags of thirty countries, celebrating North Central’s International Programs. These flags represent the home countries of each of our international students, the countries in which NCC students study abroad, as well as certain countries from which some of our traditional students have emigrated. Stop in and try to identify each flag in this “mini-United Nations.”

## CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP CARD AVAILABLE

Oesterle Library has joined the Chicago History Museum! As a result, a membership card is now available for any student, faculty, or staff member to borrow for three days. The card, which can be checked out at the library’s Information Services Desk, will allow two people into the museum at no charge. It will also give them a 10% discount at both the museum cafe and the museum store.

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)

Editor: Rosemary Henders; Graphics: Tom Gill

Please address correspondence to: Oesterle Library/ North Central College  
320 E. School St., Naperville, IL 60540. Telephone: (630) 637-5700

