





A newsletter for the members of the Coe College Library Association

### 'EMBEDDED' LIBRARIAN OPENS DOORS TO DIGITAL RESEARCH

If you're teaching new digital skills in a traditional field like art history, you have to come up with an innovative approach—like "embedding" a librarian with great digital skills in your class.

That's what happened in the art history methods seminar taught by Andrea Kann, an associate professor in Coe's Art and Art History Department. Looking for someone with a skill set to complement her own, she reached out to Laura Riskedahl, the head of audiovisual at Coe's Stewart Memorial Library. Riskedahl has been embedded in Kann's class the last two spring

"Neither Andrea nor I are great fans of the term 'embedded,' but we can't find another word that fits," Riskedahl says with a smile.

In the art history seminar, Riskedahl teaches "pods" of instruction on basic research skills, database searches, and how to evaluate sources. She teaches mind-mapping—a multimedia way to brainstorm and connect "bubbles" of ideas. She also teaches Zotero, an electronic citation management program that organizes research, allowing users to upload files and pictures in one place, carrying citations with them. It's the 21st century version of index cards—just better, faster, more flexible and multimedia friendly, a consideration important in art research.

**Savannah Dearhamer '16**, a business and art history doublemajor from Minneapolis, was particularly appreciative of Riskedahl's help in formulating research questions.

"Andrea helped us think of questions, and Laura broke them down for us," Dearhamer says. "We brainstormed the topic, and then Laura helped us with the basics—what, where, who—getting more specific as we went along. Laura showed us what happens when you ask the 'wrong' questions versus asking quality questions. She's shown us the tools that are available to keep our research organized. She's opened up the options, given us the pros and cons. She is a helpful advocate, too, because she knows what's available at the Coe library and how to use those resources. It's been very helpful in preparing the proposal for my senior thesis, and it will be very useful when I'm writing my thesis."

Riskedahl says such collaboration with professors and students is a hot topic in library circles, as is "digital humanities" in academia in general.

"Digital humanities means using web tools and technology to make data and images and general objects more accessible



online," she says. "Lots of archives are moving in that direction, with online exhibits of artifacts. You can put tabs on a map, and when you click on the tab, an object associated with that point will appear. You can do the same thing with timelines. It's data visualization, another way of learning."

Kann, who created the art history major at Coe two years ago, is committed to merging digital tools with traditional instruction. "Coe's a place that lets you do these innovative things," she says. "We can now mix digital technology and online platforms to ask new questions in art history."

Riskedahl was the perfect person to help with that approach, Kann says. "I think students get a much better understanding of research skill sets by having her in class, making those skills become an integral part of the curriculum and not just an add-on. I wanted this to be a hands-on experience for the students, and that's what Laura brings. She doesn't just demonstrate the research tools—she gives the students exercises and assignments that help them actually practice these new skills."

Kann believes "visual literacy" is a job skill for the 21st century, "and it's in our students' best interests to help them develop that skill. You can be a better graphic designer or you can design a better web page, for example, by integrating art history and new technology to understand and create meaning."

Riskedahl, whose undergraduate degree is in studio art and who still pursues art in her free time, is the only librarian embedded in a Coe class at this time. Jill Jack, the director of library services, hopes more collaborations can be arranged in the future.

Riskedahl says one of the big pluses to the experience has been the students: "It's been really interesting working with students. They're so passionate and engaged."

#### THE TREASURES IN THE LIBRARY ARCHIVES

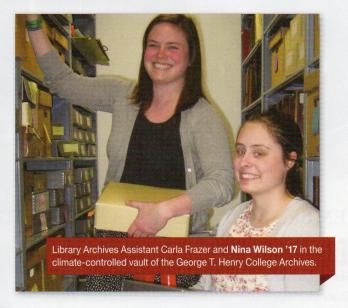
Nina Wilson '17 has spent this year working in the Coe Archives, organizing Coe historical documents and also sorting through the papers of Benjamin Silliman, an interrogator and a Judge Advocate General at the Nuremberg war crime tribunals that followed World War II.

Silliman graduated from Coe in 1917 and served on the college's Board of Trustees. He died in 1988, endowing a chair in the Physics Department and leaving his papers to Coe. Boxes of those documents—declassified in 2010—arrived at the Coe Archives in no certain order. Wilson says the best part of her part-time job has been helping Archives Assistant Carla Frazer organize those records and artifacts—listing and cataloging them, assigning keywords and search terms for them.

"It is real history, primary sources from an important part of the 20th century," says Wilson, a history major from Indianola. "Most of the pages have a 'Secret' stamp on them, and then a 'Declassified' stamp on top of that. There are some Hitler papers and artifacts from Heinz Guderian, who invented tank warfare, including his Iron Cross, Panzer badge and military ID. There's information about Albert Speer and a transcript of Deputy Führer Rudolf Hess' diary. And the collection ended up here—who would have thought?"

Wilson will be studying in Northern Ireland during the spring semester next year, where she'll pursue research on the Vikings, a special interest of hers. "I took European history in high school and liked it way too much. I knew I wanted to spend my life figuring it out," she says.

Frazer says traffic in the Coe Archives has been increasing steadily. "Part of the reason we've had an increase is simply because we've been open for a few years now, and my predecessors—Sara Pitcher and Rob DeSpain—helped put



us on the map with their interactions with students and professors," Frazer says.

Among the visitors this year was a researcher from Germany who spent five days looking through the 150 linear feet of papers donated by **William Shirer** '25, the famed author of "The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich." Another was a Coe graduate who wandered in one day to look through old yearbooks and

..... continued on page 3 >>

#### STUDENT ATHLETES/LIBRARY WORKERS: CHAMPS AT TIME MANAGEMENT

Jory Heckenberg '17, Ashley Kupka '17 and Rachel Schaefer '17 are student athletes at Coe with three other things in common. They're graduating this spring. They've worked four years at the Stewart Memorial Library. And they're very good at managing their time.

The three say they've enjoyed the work and their co-workers at the library. And they are deeply appreciative of the flexibility their supervisors—Sandy Blanchard, head of circulation; Laura Riskedahl, head of audiovisual; and Linda Hummel, audiovisual assistant—have shown in scheduling their work. That flexibility is key because, as student athletes, they have to balance their part-time jobs with classes, studying and the demanding practice and game schedules of their respective sports. It helps, they say, that the library is open from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m., giving them ample choices for work hours.

"A lot of times after I'm done with working, I'll just stay at the library," Kupka says. "If I go back to my room, I don't study as much as when I stay here."

Heckenberg, from Stockport, Iowa, is a Kohawk baseball player. As of April 7, the third baseman had hit in 13 consecutive games. He's worked four years at the Library in Audiovisual, checking out movies, showing films for professors, and delivering films. He says he's had to stay organized and focused. Baseball takes

LLEGE COE CO EGE DE CO EGE

three to four hours a day in practice, plus the games, so he's learned to plan ahead and not wait until the last minute to tackle assignments. After graduating with a degree in business administration, he's returning home to join Hill Phoenix, a Keosauqua business where he interned last summer. The company makes refrigerated and heated display cases for supermarkets. A wedding also is in his future, to **Stefanie Thomas** '15.

Kupka, of Cedar Rapids, not only combined classwork and up to 12 hours a week for soccer practices and games with her library job, she also added training with the Iowa National Guard. She's been playing soccer since she was 5 years old. She says she sought the job on the Library's Circulation Desk because she likes to read and because she'd heard the schedule was flexible. Her boss even held her job for her when it looked like her National Guard company (the 294th Area Support Medical Company) would be deployed; it wasn't, and the job was hers again. She's graduating with a nursing degree. "I like to help people, I've gone on mission trips, and working as a medic in the National Guard, I found out that was what I really wanted to do." After graduation, she hopes to work as an R.N. for UnityPoint/ St. Luke's Hospital or Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids, plus continue her Guard obligation, now with the 134th Ambulance Company.

Schaefer, of Waterloo, is a star Kohawk volleyball player. She and Mackenzie Harbaugh '16 were the first Kohawk players to be named Division III All-Americans last fall. Schaefer became Coe's career leader in kills, attack attempts and points, and she ranks in the school's top 10 in multiple volleyball categories. She also plays on the Kohawk tennis squad. Her job on the library's circulation desk, she says, has been enjoyable, with co-workers who are welcoming and fun. Schaefer, a five-sport athlete in high school and a lifeguard during the summer, says she's learned discipline, leadership, determination and hard work from sports, as well as time management. "I think I manage my time better when I'm busy. When I have time off from volleyball, I feel so unproductive." Schaefer is graduating with a degree in psychology and plans to complete courses that will allow her to enter nursing school at Allen College in Waterloo, with the goal of becoming a nurse practitioner—like her mom—with a specialty in mental health.



## GROUP EXPLORES HISTORY AND CULTURE THROUGH FOOD

Seventeen Coe students, staff and faculty gathered April 12 for a medieval feast, the culminating event in the "Escape to the Middle Ages" group created by Elizabeth Hoover de Gálvez, head of reference at Stewart Memorial Library.

The menu: Three varieties of medieval bread (rastons, ginger loaves and crusty white) with homemade butter, cheese gnocchi, asparagus with saffron, herbed Swiss chard and cheese pie, spitroasted hare, and cherry pudding.

It was an idea that evolved.

Hoover de Gálvez says she'd initially envisioned starting a book group. But after "talking the ears off" library staff and students, the idea transformed into a themed group focusing on a different time period or place each semester that would augment its discussions with field trips, art projects, cooking and related movies.

The Middle Ages kicked off the series during the spring semester. Students were invited to read up on the times, but it wasn't required. The first meeting offered "very sweet" poached pears and blueberry tarts, foods available only to royalty during the Middle Ages. The second meeting was a screening of the film, "The Name of the Rose," a mystery set in a medieval abbey. The third was the feast.

"It's a wonderful thing to teach students to cook and give them a chance to practice cooking," Hoover de Gálvez says. "This is from someone who didn't learn to cook until learning from her husband. Cooking together is lots of fun, it's healthy and it's easy."

Students volunteered to make all of the food for the medieval feast. New Pioneer Food Co-op and Nelson's Meat Market donated money for the food, as did the Coe Board of Trustees, with money funneled to the project by Physics Professor Mario Affatigato. Ben Nielsen, Coe's catering supervisor, and Tom Wieseler, director of dining services, offered use of college facilities.

Hoover de Gálvez says she had many inspirations for the idea, but the book that inspired the Middle Ages theme was "Tell the Wolves I'm Home" by Carol Rifka Brunt and "The Canterbury Tales: a Retelling" by Peter Ackroyd. She found most of the recipes in the excellent cookbook, "The Medieval Kitchen: Recipes from France and Italy" by Odile Redon. Kathrine Moermond, a University of Iowa librarian who created a historical foodies group, also provided valuable tips.

In the fall semester, Hoover de Gálvez plans a focus on Latin American-themed events and foods, "mostly because I already know how to cook Mexican food." And then it's on to China, Ancient Rome, France, Turkey, the Victorian era and so on, fork in hand.

#### Silliman Archives, continued from page 2 .....

found himself in a Flunk Day photo from 1977.

The climate-controlled Archives, with a quarter mile of shelf space, also contain Coe's institutional records. Earlier this year, Frazer researched the various names the college went by during its early years before it settled on Coe College. Coe students also combed the records to research the history of African-American students and faculty on campus. Frazer and student helpers are now organizing the materials on Kohawk sports teams over the decades.

The Archives also is home to 63 boxes of papers from Iowa poet Paul Engle '35 and the 9,000 prints and 100,000 negatives of pictures taken on the Coe campus by college photographer George T. Henry '49 during the last half of the 20th century. Henry and his wife, Kay, funded an endowment in 1999 to greatly enlarge the George T. Henry College Archives.

For the future, Frazer hopes to eventually digitize much of the collection and make it available for online research.

#### **STEWART STORIES**

Do you have a fond memory of your time in the Coe library? Would you be willing to share it with readers of the Bibliophile?

If so, please send it our way for possible use in a new series, "Stewart Stories." It's a way of celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Coe College Library Association and of the new addition to the Stewart Memorial Library.

You can email your story to Library Acquisitions
Assistant Cheri Pettibone at cpettibo@coe.edu
or mail it to her at Coe College, Stewart Memorial
Library, 1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.
Audio files and videos also are welcome for
the archives.



Room's formal furniture scheduled for this fall. The benches needed the attention, as you can see in the before and after pictures.





# ALUMNI AND FACULTY PUBLICATIONS ADDED TO THE GEORGE T. HENRY ARCHIVES, 2014-2015

Adamson, Tom. Back on the Anvil. Fremont, NE: Tom Adamson, 2014. (Tom Adamson, class of 1972)

Barrows, Joel Williams. Deep White Cover. United States: Crime Street Press, 2014. (Joel Barrows, class of 1983)

Beckelman, John. Thirty-Six Years: A Retrospective Exhibition of Work Created at Coe College. Coe College: Cedar Rapids, IA. 2014. (John Beckelman, Professor of Art, 1978 - )

Cole, John L. The Framework: The Way to Truth. Saratoga, CA: Millennial Mind Publishing, 2014. (John Cole, class of 1967)

Fink, Larry. Coe College: The Past Present and Future. Larry Fink: 2013. (Larry Fink, class of 1962)

Gelhaus, Mark. Reset Your Life Path: Find Your Purpose, Change the World. Minneapolis: Two Harbors Press, 2014. (Mark Gelhaus, class of 1979)

Gorman, Edward. Riders on the Storm. New York: Pegasus Books, 2014. (Edward Gorman, class of 1968)

Hatchell, Christopher. Naked Seeing: The Great Perfection, the Wheel of Time, and Visionary Buddhism in Renaissance Tibet. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013. (Christopher Hatchell, Professor of Religion, 2011 - )

Shaw, Amber. "Such Hosts of Rags:" Transatlantic Crossings between Paper and Cotton in Melville's "The Paradise of Bachelors and the Tartarus of Maids" in *Crossings in Text and Textile*. Joslin, Katherine, and Daneen Wardrop eds. Durham, New Hampshire: University of New Hampshire Press, 2014. (Amber Shaw, Professor of English, 2013 - )

Kimber, Michael. Music for Viola(s). (sound recording) Acte Préalable, 2013.

(Michael Kimber, Professor of Viola, 2005 -)

--- Music for Viola 2. (sound recording) Acte Préalable, 2013.

Lisio, Donald J. British Naval Supremacy and Anglo-American Antagonisms, 1914-1930. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press, 2014. (Donald J. Lisio, Professor of History, 1964-2002)

Piersel, DeeJay. Small Town Mystery. United States: Xlibris Corp., 2012. (DeeJay Piersel, class of 1952)

Rosenberg, John & Barbara. *The Way We Were*. Cedar Rapids, IA: Linda Schmidt of Memory Echoes, 2014. (John Rosenberg, class of 1957, and Barbara Rosenberg, class of 1958)



#### **BIBLIOPHILE**