Jamie Siemsen of Hermantown, Minnesota is the winner of this year’s Bede Award for Undergraduate Research. The fourth annual award, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, was announced by our director, Kevin McGrew, at a special reception at the library on April 27. Jamie’s winning essay described her research process for “Wittgenstein and the Language of Scientific Discovery,” a paper she wrote for Dr. Steve Ostovich’s course on the Philosophy of Science.

Jamie, who graduated in May with a double major in English and Philosophy, will be leaving in August for Zhuhai, China where she will be a Foreign Intern in the English Language Center at United International College. Interestingly, she will be the second of our Bede winners to teach in Zhuhai. Our first winner, Marin Ekstrom, taught English there in 2015-16 before moving on to similar posts in Moscow and Huittinen, Finland, where she currently works.

We are very grateful to this year’s panel of judges which included Dr. John Schifsky, Sister Sarah Smedman, and Dr. Mary Tanner. All three are veterans of the process and truly committed friends of the library. It should be noted that, for the first time, the judges awarded an honorable mention this year. This went to freshman Sammi Good of Glencoe, Minnesota.

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The Newsletter of the Friends of the St. Scholastica Library

**A Six-Senior Salute**—Thanks to our departing Seniors for the great work they’ve done over the last four years.

Good luck in all your future plans!

**Clare Ringlien** ... “Over the last four years I have really enjoyed getting to know the other student workers at the library. Sunday nights working with some playful coworkers was always a great way to start off a week. Working in the library, specifically Interlibrary Loan, has certainly opened me up to the resources available for students. Being able to help students find research articles by utilizing technology has not only made myself a better student but a more marketable young adult entering the workforce as well."

**Kindee Porter** ... “My favorite memory of working in the library is the many laughs during the night shifts. I think that we were all so tired most of the time that everything seemed funny and we just had a good time. I have had a good number of laughs in this library and will miss working here! Working in the library helped me become more acquainted with online resources and how to find the information that I need for projects. Also, being able to help people when they may seem lost. It has given me the confidence to go and help people."

**Mollie Hagen** ... “My favorite memory of working in the library is all the fun luncheons and the chance to socialize with all of the library staff and other student workers with delicious food. Working in the library has helped me learn what type of resources are credible resources. I have also learned how to find resources and get myself started on research for any project I am working on through working in the library.”

**Petra-Ann Gumbs** ... “My favorite memory of working in the library is that we are all like a family. Looking out for each other’s best interest all while having laughs here and there. Working in the library has helped me in many ways, not only to be a boss at manipulating our databases, but it helped me to find that place to belong. A home away from home. With the familial atmosphere and not having my own family near by, it helped to fill that emptiness. No job on campus can compare to working at the library!"

**Jacob Gallagher** ... “My favorite memory of working in library was all those times that I was supposed to be shelf reading, but instead, I would get sidetracked by all the good books. I frequently ended up reading parts of books that I was supposed just to be checking to make sure that they were in the right spot. Working in the library has taught me how to locate peer reviewed, reliable articles and information. I have developed some really handy database skills. Additionally, I know exactly where books are that interest me are (based on their Library of Congress call numbers)."

**Lydia Grommish** ... “I have too many good memories of working in the library to pinpoint just one. I love how the staff here are always so supportive of myself and others. They offer encouragement when I am struggling and advice when I need it most. I have found the Library community to be the glue that held me here and kept me going. When I graduate this May with a double major in Economics & English as well as with honors, I can attribute some of my success to the wonderful people here who pushed me to keep pushing myself. My job in the library has given me confidence when I interact with others. I am a very shy introvert. When I started in the library, I struggled to interact with people without stammering or saying the wrong thing. I dreaded answering the phone or not knowing the answer to something. Over time, and with the support of library staff, I gradually grew more comfortable talking to patrons and solving problems. Now, I am much more comfortable interacting with others and admitting when I do not know the answer to something. My position here gave me the confidence I needed to grow.”
Library Celebrates New Space for the Archives with an Open House

An open house was held on April 20th to celebrate the first permanent home of the College’s Archives. Members from across our community - students, faculty, staff, Sisters, and alumni - over 80 in all, stopped by to show their support for the vital role the Archives plays in preserving our history, and telling that history anew each year.

It has been a long journey home from inception as a shelf in Loretta Randall’s closet and the early days of collecting documents when the late Father John Whitney Evans would stand before the faculty assembly and beg people to “Dump on Whit” (that is, when they cleaned their offices). Librarian Heidi Johnson added the first special collection to the Archives with the acquisition of the papers of the 1930s poet, and former CSS chemistry professor, John Franklin Lewis. When the College created homecoming, the Archives was there. When the College celebrated its Centennial the Archives was there. Despite years of a lack of institutional will, and two water emergencies (including the Great Flood of 2012) that almost destroyed the collection, still the Archives persisted. And now it is home.

In order to prepare the new space in the Science Building, the floors need to be repaired and polished, walls painted, and shelving installed. Then the work of moving the Archive collection, along with the Library’s microfilm collection, could begin. Finally, furniture with historic significance to the College which had been kept safe in the Library for years, made the journey home.

The work was worth it for the guests at the open house. They spun some vinyl featuring the 1960s CSS singing group, The Mod Minstrels. They marveled at photos of the All College Women of the 1950s. They viewed obstetric images on glass slides with a vintage 1940s Bausch & Lomb Magic Lantern. They read student newspapers from the 1930s. And to meld the old and the new, they took selfies with a Polaroid.

The years of work to create the Archives bore more fruit this summer as a doctoral student from Indiana University spent a week here researching the history of early curriculums at Catholic women’s colleges.

As a Friend, if you would like a tour of the Archives, contact Heidi Johnson [hjohnso2@css.edu]. She will be happy to show it off!
“Whatever book I want to have I can get on loan from any library, while if I wanted to borrow money to buy these books I should find no one who would lend it to me.”

-Ibn Hyyan, 13th century historian

Something Old, and Now Something Blue

Sometimes life is just about taking care of business, day in and day out. And thanks to the financial generosity of you, our Friends, the day-to-day business of the Library got a bit more aesthetically pleasing. With all the sprucing up that has been going on in Tower Hall over the last two years, the Library decided it wanted to contribute, feeling it was time to update our venerable book drop. Using Friend’s money we bought a blue & branded book drop that matches the décor updates in Tower Hall and that will serve the needs of students for years to come.

And just an update on some of your previous generosity. In 2014 you helped us purchase a user-friendly SCANNX book scanner. Since that time community members have made over 55,000 scans. At the estimate of one tree = 8,333 pieces of paper (Source: SCANNX) that’s six and a half trees we’ve saved together!

Don’t worry about our old book drop. It’s done quite well for itself, landing a cameo role in the next Star Wars movie as R2D2’s father.

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