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A Small Introduction

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A Small Introduction

Abstract

I've always have had a special place in my heart for libraries. During my childhood, I spent a lot of time in the school's library as well as my community's. I spent so many of my lunch periods in the elementary school's library that I became a 'regular.' I was eventually asked by the librarian to become a library aide, and assisted in checking in and out books, and shelving. I also was captain of the Battle of the Books team in fifth and sixth grade! Looking back at it now, those wonderful experiences instilled in me a love for libraries at a very young age. [*excerpt*]

Keywords

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library, Intern, Introduction

Disciplines

Library and Information Science

Comments

The Interns at Gettysburg College's Musselman Library captured their internship experiences since the spring of 2011. Over time the blog has featured Fortenbaugh, Smith, and Holley interns. They shared updates on semester long projects, responded to blogging prompts, and documented their individual intern experience.



Blogging the Library

The Interns @ Gettysburg College's Musselman Library

A Small Introduction

February 3, 2017

by Abigail Major

Hello! My name is Abigail Major, and I am the Fortenbaugh Intern in Research and Instruction for the Spring 2017 semester.

Here are a couple facts about me:

- I'm a sophomore History major with minors in Latin, Environmental Studies and Public History.
- I'm from Wrightstown, New Jersey which is about an hour outside of Princeton.
- My favorite book is *The Hobbit*. (I'm a J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis fan!)
- The book I'm currently reading in my spare time is Julian Fellowes's *Belgravia*. (I'm a huge *Downton Abbey* fan but have refused to watch the sixth and final season because I don't want it to be over!)
- My favorite Servo cookie is the classic chocolate chip cookie!

I've always had a special place in my heart for libraries. During my childhood, I spent a lot of time in the school's library as well as my community's. I spent so many of my lunch periods in the elementary school's library that I became a 'regular.' I was eventually asked by the librarian to become a library aide, and assisted in checking in and out books, and shelving. I also was captain of the Battle of the Books team in fifth and sixth grade! Looking back at it now, those wonderful experiences instilled in me a love for libraries at a very young age.

Last year I participated in the Center for Career Development's Job Shadowing experience, and was able to shadow at the Library of Congress in the Geography and Map Division. It was an amazing experience, and gave me the chance to see the 'behind the scenes' of libraries. Having this valuable experience gave me the chance to consider a career in librarianship.

Which leads to the present: I am so excited to be able to work in the Research and Instruction! I have completed my first two weeks which consisted of training with various Research and Instruction librarians. They're all so friendly and very helpful! I enjoyed being able to get to know each librarian in Research and Instruction, their story of how they got involved in

librarianship, and their pieces of advice concerning research and instruction. Although it's only been a couple of weeks, I have learned so much! My perspective concerning reference librarianship has changed by being behind the desk instead of in front of it. The process of research, of finding certain subjects, journal articles or specific books, is fascinating to learn about and is an invigorating challenge. Although my training is over, I know I still have much to learn during the remainder of my internship, and that makes me excited to be able to continue to learn and refine the skills I have learned so far.

Soon I will begin to work at the Research Help Desk, and help and assist those who come by the Research Help Desk, on my own. This makes me a little nervous, but I am excited too. You never know what someone will ask, and while that makes it a little bit nerve-wracking, it also inspires me to do my best and excel at the challenges that come my way.

In short, my experience as the Fortenbaugh intern in Research and Instruction has been wonderful, and I eagerly look forward to learning more about reference librarianship through real world practice (answering questions and assisting those who stop by the desk) as well as by spending time with the librarians here at Mussleman Library!