



R. BARBARA GITENSTEIN LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

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GITENSTEIN LIBRARY AWARDED GRANT TO HELP PRESERVE ITS HISTORIC RECORDS

By Deb Schiff and Paula Rainey

Thanks to a grant of \$311,594, the R. Barbara Gitenstein Library will enable public discovery and preservation of historical records in the TCNJ Archives and Special Collections. The grant was awarded to the Library through the National Park Service's Save America's Treasures grant program, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

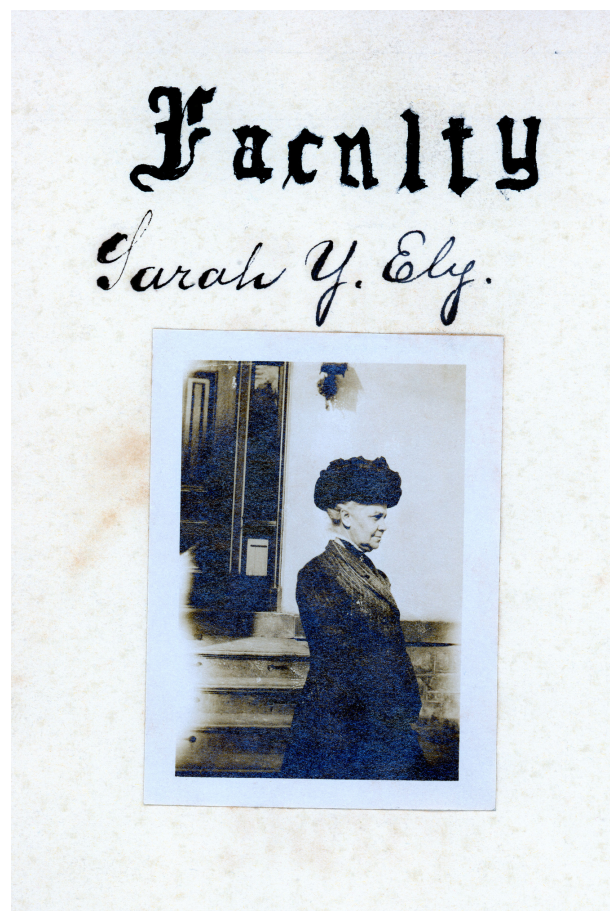
According to Gitenstein Library Dean Taras Pavlovsky, "This is a big deal. Deb Schiff, Archivist and Special Collections Librarian, pushed hard to find funds to not only digitize and preserve TCNJ's Archives and Special Collections, but also to create a hub of shared resources for researchers."

Since joining the Library in early 2020, Deb Schiff has sought grant funding for TCNJ's Archives initiatives. As the Library's first archivist, she initiated a thorough, illustrated survey of the collections and prioritized her recommendations. During this survey, she discovered that there were many Normal School records in need of preservation and processing. The funding will achieve the goals of the grant to preserve "significant historic properties and collections" in three ways: it will create a digital preservation infrastructure for the Archives; through the addition of 9 more hours for Deb and 20 hours for a grant-funded project archivist, it will provide much-needed physical preservation and organization of more than 200 linear feet of historical data; and it will make New Jersey State Normal School materials accessible through an online Normal Schools Hub.

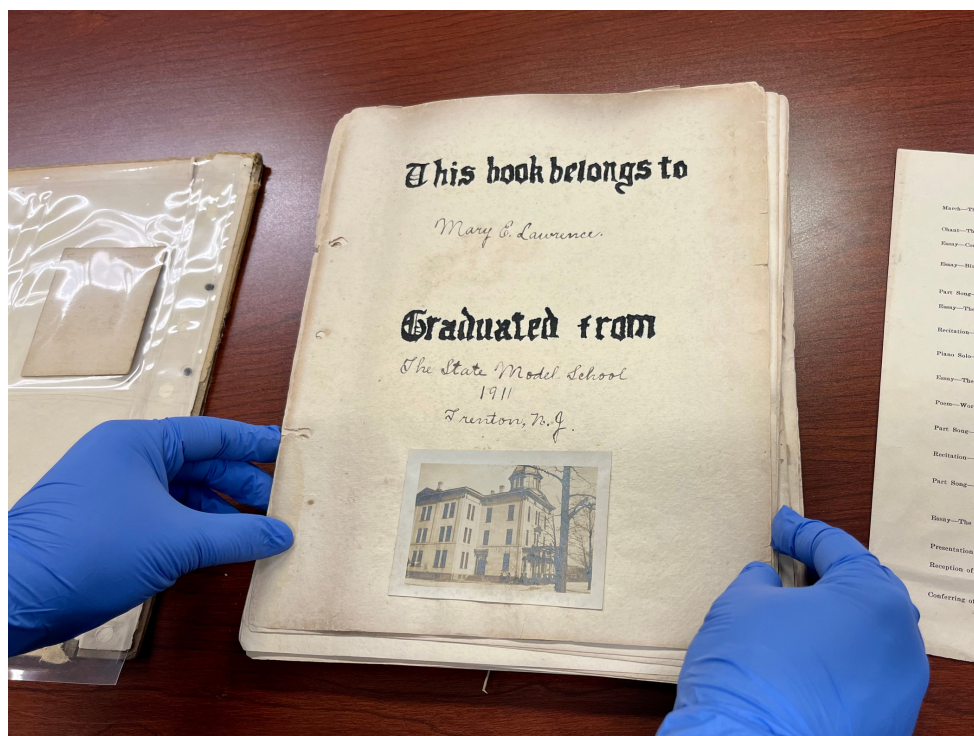
The New Jersey State Normal Schools Hub will be a new web site based on AtoM software and run from a dedicated Archives server. Deb says, "Unifying normal school records from across the state in a virtual space

will allow researchers to gain a broader view of how New Jersey helped to influence later normal schools and educators across the country. We hope this novel project will provide a model for other states. Six organizations previously designated as New Jersey Normal Schools, including TCNJ, as well as the Trenton Free Public Library have agreed to participate in the Hub project. The other five schools joining the Hub project are: Kean University, William Paterson University, Montclair State University, Rowan University, and New Jersey City University."

The TCNJ Normal School collection shows how teaching pre-elementary, elementary, and secondary students in the United States has changed over time. These records also show how the school evolved to offer a wider range of disciplines, as well as how it dealt with controversial issues such as racism and sexism. The processing work of the grant also will allow the archivists to uncover more collections pertaining to historically excluded populations, a noted deficiency in the Archives. The digitization and online description of materials documenting more than 160 years of educational training at TCNJ will greatly increase the public discovery and use of these records. TCNJ's earliest predecessor was the 9th oldest Normal School in the country.



This image shows a page from the Mary Lawrence Scrapbook. The photograph on the page is of Sarah Y. Ely, for whom the Ely residence hall is named. Lawrence graduated from the Model School in 1911 and the Normal School in 1913. The entirety of the scrapbook will be digitized and included in the Hub project as part of this grant.



The grant spans the period of December 2022 to November 2025, with Deb and the grant team implementing different phases throughout this three-year project. By year two, they expect the Hub to be up and running. The effort is a large collaboration comprising members from TCNJ's Enterprise Applications, Information Technology, and Grants and Sponsored Research, as well as other Gitenstein Librarians who will lend their expertise to this project. Early on, Deb worked with Ralph Pignatelli, Interim AVP and Chief Information Officer, to ensure that the technical needs of the project would be met. Along with Deb, the other TCNJ librarians involved in the project include Amanda Cowell, Emerging Technologies and Digital Projects Librarian; Yuji Tosaka, Cataloging/Metadata Librarian; and Yongming Wang, Systems Librarian. Taras has been closely involved with the grant project since its inception.



How will the new digital preservation work? Deb summarizes it in this way, "Through some pretty sophisticated, open-source software called Archivematica, our digitized objects will be tested for issues, jpegs and pdfs for regular use will be created from the archival tiffs, and technical and descriptive data about those objects will be created. All of this will live within a digital package that travels with the original object through the preservation process to be stored within our new storage array and backed up without compression to the cloud. The goal is to create a digital package that provides a way for digitized items and their metadata to be read even if all of our technology changes in the future."



The Library's Archives collections will be much more accessible than they have ever been before. This is money well spent!

Special Thanks: This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, grant ST-252518-OMS-22.

LIBRARIAN SPOTLIGHT

MEET OUR NEW LIBRARIANS!



Head of the Class: New TCNJ Education Librarian Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott joined Gitenstein Library as Education Librarian in July after 10 years of experience as a K-12 librarian. She has worked at both the elementary and high school levels and is particularly proud of her collaborations with colleagues to build diverse and representative collections. She holds an MLIS from Rutgers University and an MA in Polish Language and Literature with a minor in Speech Therapy from Jan Kochanowski University, Poland, EU. She also holds NJ supervisor and principal certifications. Her current research focuses on closing research skills gaps between high school and first year college students. Other research interests include barriers to information, especially in the immigrant, multicultural and bilingual communities. She has published in the Journal of Academic Librarianship and Library Connections. She has been an executive board member for the New Jersey Association of School Librarians (NJASL) and currently serves as NJASL President.

Dziedzic-Elliott spoke about her path to academic librarianship and her plans for the first few months at TCNJ with librarian colleague Erin Ackerman. What follows is a transcript of that conversation, lightly edited for length and clarity.

Erin Ackerman: What brought you to TCNJ?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: I reached that point in my career as a school librarian that I needed to make a decision about how I could grow as a librarian. I considered becoming a school administrator but during the pandemic I realized that actually research is more of my interest. There are some library-oriented topics that I'm interested in exploring. And it just so happens that I was invited to join [Rutgers University Library and Information Science professor] Dr. Joyce Valenza on a study and that kind of opened up that door of research for me and made me think that academic librarianship was the best next step for me.

Erin Ackerman: Can you give us a brief explanation of the research work you're doing with Dr. Valenza and why it matters for TCNJ?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: One of the things that we have been talking about ever since I was a Dr. Valenza's student is how can we close the gap in college readiness and research skills and preparedness between high school and college. First year college students are not always prepared for their college-level academic work. We wanted to gather evidence and to hear from high school

school librarians about how they prepare their students for the next academic step. We also wanted to hear from students. We ask direct questions to students about how they compare high school research experience and the college level experience, and I think those perspectives are the most important piece.

Through this research, we're going to be able to provide tips to high school librarians about how to better prepare high school students for college. One of the recommendations that I think is going to come out of this is going to be that academic librarians need to work closely with high school librarians to have more conversations about what academic librarians expect and what high school librarians are able to do and produce.

Erin Ackerman: You've been at TCNJ now for a couple of months. What is something that has surprised you, or that you've particularly enjoyed about being at TCNJ?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: Something that is a very pleasant surprise for me is being treated by my colleagues like a specialist in my field. I think that there is a lack of understanding of the level of expertise that librarians are able to provide in K-12. We are underestimated and undermined. I don't think that teachers and administrators always remember that we are also teachers and educators, and we are very qualified to be doing our jobs. At TCNJ the whole team of librarians, faculty, and staff—we have our specialties and we treat each other with a lot of respect for the background, knowledge, education, and expertise that we all have.

Erin Ackerman: You have been very active in state organizations for education and librarianship. You are the current president of the New Jersey Association of School Librarians (NJASL). Can you tell me a little bit about that work and its connection to your job at TCNJ?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: I'm able to translate the work that is happening in information literacy and libraries at the K-12 level and apply it specifically with my professors and the students in the School of Education. I'm still in touch with my colleagues who are practitioners in K-12. I think that helps me connect with the students of TCNJ better, because I can give them examples of how, when, and why they should be collaborating with school librarians in their internships or future jobs. With NJASL I am also working on standards for the school librarian certification, including course requirements and mentoring relationships. For me, it's all vertical collaboration and all connected to the impact of state standards on students' college readiness through solid research skills and information literacy in K-12.

Erin Ackerman: Tell us a little bit about you. What are things that you enjoy when you're not working?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: I think it's just spending quality time with family. That's really important; that mindful presence at home. I think that the pandemic time of working from home broke the routine of having distinct time for work and time for home, and the two worlds met and sometimes collided. So sometimes I catch myself being obsessively drawn to keep checking my work because there's a project or something that I'm working on, and I just have a hard time stopping sometimes. So that mindful presence at home is very important and just being with my family.

Erin Ackerman: You've lived in this area of New Jersey for a little while. Do you have a favorite restaurant, or a favorite place, or something else to do in this area that you think other people should be aware of?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: I love walking around Mercer Meadows. It's a local park that's down the street from where I live, and at this time of the year, I like going for a walk in the beautiful fall colors. And I love walking around Princeton, which has this beautiful vibe, too.

Erin Ackerman: One thing I envy about your job is you get to spend so much time with the children's and young adult (YA) literature, which is just always fun and interesting. Do you have a favorite children's or YA book that you'd highlight or recommend?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: I don't have a recommendation, because I think that my job is knowing where and how to find the appropriate resource for a student based on what interests them or what they need. So I always recommend NoveList Plus as a database because what I like personally is not necessarily something that my students will respond to. Working in K-12, I learned that sometimes parents would want children to read specific things that they grew up with, and there is a disconnection between the older generation and the current generation. With NoveList, I can recommend something that will be meaningful to the student.

Working on the library collection is always one of my favorite things to do. I strongly believe that the collection, especially in the young adult and children's literature collection, should reflect the times in which we live and who we are. My goal is to diversify TCNJ's collection so our students who are working with classes will be able to find resources to support their lessons and students.

Erin Ackerman: Terrific. Anything else that you'd like to share with us?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: I would like to talk about book censorship a little. We need to be aware about what is happening across the state with book censorship. Many school districts are seeing book challenges. I'm learning in my work with NJASL that unfortunately school administration and school board members are not always aware how to deal with that and community members very often have to take charge and lead the school district in a fight against censorship.

Erin Ackerman: Thinking of our students who are

future teachers, future administrators, if they wanted to learn more about book censorship are there resources you'd recommend?

Ewa Dziedzic-Elliott: The most important part is to be aware of your school district's policies for book selection, weeding, and reconsideration and when they were last updated. The NJ Department of Education recommends that school policies be updated annually but through NJASL I've seen examples of school districts where the policies have not been updated since 2008 so the language in the policy doesn't reflect what's happening with schools these days. NJASL has put together a [handbook on book challenges](#) and [support is available from the American Library Association \(ALA\)](#), too.

LIBRARIAN SPOTLIGHT



For Future Reference:

Getting to Know TCNJ's New Reference Librarian, John Wallace

John Wallace joined Gitenstein Library this fall as a Part Time Reference Librarian. Wallace is an experienced librarian, having worked in several public and community college libraries. He is currently Systems & Emerging Technologies Librarian at Ocean County College, where he also coordinates the library's Federal Depository Library Program. Wallace holds a BA in Political Science from William Paterson University, a JD from Rutgers School of Law-Newark, and his MLIS from Valdosta State University. Wallace is active within the American Library Association (ALA), Documents Association of New Jersey (DANJ), and the New Jersey Library Association (NJLA), for which he served as the chair of the Public Policy Committee.

Wallace spoke about his path to TCNJ with librarian colleague Erin Ackerman. What follows is a transcript of that conversation, lightly edited for length and clarity.

Erin Ackerman: Welcome, once again, to TCNJ, John. You've been a librarian for a while in a bunch of different kinds of libraries in different settings. What do you like about being a librarian at TCNJ now?

John Wallace: It's been a great experience so far. Working with the students has been really refreshing. The students here at TCNJ seem super engaged in the work and their research questions have been fascinating and challenging on my end. So that's been really excellent. And everyone on the library staff has been so nice as I've been getting up to speed here.

It's also my first time working at a four-year institution. I've worked at several community colleges, from Atlanta Cape to Ocean, where I work currently. I have also worked at Raritan Valley Community College. It's been great to add knowledge of how the library at a four-year institution works.

Erin Ackerman: What do you find rewarding about providing reference services in the library?

John Wallace: I think it's really rewarding to be able to help people on the spot, instantly. Sometimes it's not even a huge question—just helping somebody know where the bathroom is, or something equally simple but important. But being able to help people at the time they need it, I think, is just one of the great things about being a librarian. In my past life working as an attorney, I realized I really missed interfacing with people. That was a part of the job that I really didn't get to do much of. It was a lot of grinding with boxes of documents and drafting memos in solitude. And you know, that work can be good, but for me I realize that I'm really energized by working with people. Being at a reference desk is a great place to do that. Plus, it's always interesting, right? We get new and different questions all the time, which keeps us on our toes, and for me it's been expanding my knowledge base. It's been great—the vast array of different topics and getting to work in different databases that I haven't had access to before. It's very cool.

Erin Ackerman: That's so interesting about what brought you to librarianship after having been an attorney.

John Wallace: I don't regret it at all. I'm reminded daily of just how good I feel with my decision to go in a different direction. I love the law. I love learning about the law, but practicing really wasn't for me.

Erin Ackerman: You've lived in New Jersey for a while...

John Wallace: My whole life.

Erin Ackerman: So tell us what are your favorite things to do in and around New Jersey?

John Wallace: Sure. I always thought I would live somewhere else, move somewhere else. But somehow New Jersey just

kept me the whole time, including for undergrad and law school. It's all been here in Jersey. Hiking is a big thing I like to do. I've been trying to get my young children introduced to the concept. We've gone on some shorter hikes. We went to Parvin State Park this summer and rented a cabin for a couple of days and they loved it. It was awesome. There was a little lake with a loop hike on it that wasn't too long, so that was really great to start giving them a love of hiking. And then we all get to enjoy it as a family.

Erin Ackerman: That sounds wonderful. What are some of your other interests?

John Wallace: I'm a big baseball fan/baseball nerd.

Erin Ackerman: Who's your team?

John Wallace: I am a Phillies fan, so it was a fun run this year, though super unexpected. And while the World Series loss was definitely sad, I'll take this season. And again, this has been super fun to share with my daughters. I've got them doing the "Let's go Phillies, Let's go" chants. And my older daughter, who is a preschooler, can recognize Bryce Harper now. When she was really little, maybe one and a half years old, we took her to a Phillies game, and it was when Bryce Harper hit his very first home run with the Phillies and we got to witness that. We also went to the BlueClaws [minor league baseball] in Lakewood this summer. I love that. The minor league stadiums are honestly great for kids, very walkable and fun.

Another thing to build on the baseball nerdiness: I'm a part time editor for a fantasy baseball website called PitcherList.com. I have been doing that for three or four years now. I followed that website for a while and when I interviewed it was with the head of the website, Nick Pollock, who is this guy whose podcast I listen to all the time and is one of my favorites, and I was just like "Oh, wow! I'm having a conversation about baseball with this guy who is amazing!" It's a lot of fun to be a part of that.

Erin Ackerman: That's incredible. As we're winding up, it occurs to me that this newsletter is going to come out right as students are heading into their final papers and final exams for the semester. Do you have any advice for TCNJ students as they're heading into that period?

John Wallace: That's a good question. You know I always try to underscore that the research process is messy; you know you're not always going to find exactly what you think you need right away, or you might start doing that research, and it takes you in a new direction... so try to be flexible. Follow the research where it takes you. And to shamelessly plug us, the library is always here, so reach out to us if you need any assistance.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Project Manager for the City of Atlanta

From Trenton, New Jersey to Atlanta, Georgia, Alumnus Tamaria Green has journeyed a long way in her successful career in city planning. "I am currently the Project Manager of the Zoning Division in the Department of City Planning for the City of Atlanta, Georgia. I provide direct supervision to the Zoning Plan Reviewers and Permit Technicians. In short, I am involved in the review/approval process of any permit requests for any new buildings, home additions, new multi-family high-rise buildings, etc. that are being constructed in the City," explains Tamaria.

Tamaria's academic career began in the summer of 2003 during an educational program Equal Opportunity Fund (EOF). After graduating TCNJ, she immediately attended Rutgers University, and graduated with a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning. Tamaria's first City Planner job was with the City of Trenton in 2010. In 2011, she moved to Virginia and became a Zoning Official for the City of Hampton. In 2015, Tamaria began working with the City of Atlanta as a Senior Plan Review Specialist before becoming a Project Manager in 2017. In her role, she leads a team of eight employees who review proposed development plans for compliance with applicable city codes and policies.

Tamaria's time at TCNJ helped prepare her for her profession. Tamaria remembers the fantastic faculty and staff who helped her succeed in her sociology major. Tamaria, stresses, "The faculty in the Sociology Department truly mentored me, and it is one of the reasons I am in my current job. Professors Diane Bates, Liz Borland, and Rachel Adler mentored me throughout my time at TCNJ. I still keep in touch with all of them from time to time. They really challenged my abilities. I am grateful to all of them."

Tamaria also notes that it was not just in class instruction that made her time at TCNJ so rewarding. "I am most proud of the friendships I gained because of attending The College of New Jersey. Two of my very best friends, Lindsay (Rogers) Peart and Illiona (Coreus) Okereke, attended TCNJ at the same time I did. We all have families now and keep in touch 'til this day. I also participated in the Gospel Choir Ministries and traveled with the choir."



Tamaria Green

**Undergraduate Major: Sociology
Class of 2008**

Office of the Dean and Media Services: 2005 - 2008

**"SOAK UP YOUR COLLEGE YEARS.
SAVOR THEM. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
EVERY GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO GROW
AND LEARN. DON'T PUT PRESSURE ON
YOURSELF ON ACHIEVING, ALONE.
TRAVEL. TRY NEW THINGS. STUDY
ABROAD, IF YOU CAN AND WANT TO.
ENJOY IT! THESE ARE FUN YEARS."**

She adds "The library was a community where I formed long-lasting friendships with co-workers. Beth Lawton, the then Media Supervisor, always nurtured us. She was like a work-mom."

Speaking of being a mom, Tamaria is happily married to her husband, Elson. Together they have two children—Seliyha (6) and Lennox (4). She enjoys spending time with her family. Tamaria loves musicals. Her favorite is *The Lion King* and *Hamilton* and she loves watching Disney Plus with her children. In her free time, Tamaria enjoys exploring new adventures with her children.

What advice does Tamara have for future TCNJ graduates? 'Soak up your college years. Savor them. Take advantage of every good opportunity to grow and learn. Don't put pressure on yourself on achieving, alone. Travel. Try new things. Study abroad, if you can and want to. Enjoy it! These are fun years."

LIONS ROAR!

FOCUS ON STUDENT WORKERS

EACH SEMESTER, R. BARBARA GITENSTEIN LIBRARY EMPLOYS A LARGE NUMBER OF STUDENT WORKERS WHO WORK IN ACCESS SERVICES, MEDIA SERVICES, INTERLIBRARY LOANS, LATE NIGHT, LIBRARY AUDITORIUM AND LIBRARY DEAN'S OFFICE. LET'S GET TO KNOW ONE DEAN'S OFFICE STUDENT WORKER!

KATHRYN (KAT) JORGENSEN

ENGLISH LITERATURE WITH A MINOR IN LINGUISTICS
ACCESS SERVICES
CLASS OF 2024



Interviewer:

Hi Kat, I am so excited to interview you because I know of your interest in the wonderful world of library science. Tell us a little bit about yourself and your career goals.

Kat: I graduated from Donovan Catholic High School in Toms River, and I am currently an English Literature major with a minor in Linguistics. I began my student worker career in the Gitenstein Library the spring 2020 semester. I am happy to be here as a student worker because after I graduate, I hope to go to grad school to get my Master's in Library Science, and then one day pursue academic librarianship. In fact, this summer I interned at Princeton University as the Library and Archives research assistant.

Interviewer: What an amazing opportunity. Please tell us about your internship experience.

Kat: It was the best experience of my life! I worked with Sara Howard, the Gender and Sexuality Studies Librarian and Valencia Johnson, the Archivist for Student Life there on several different projects. In my work, I explored primary source creation by conducting, processing, and transcribing oral history interviews for the Princeton University Archives Covid 19 & Me Oral History Project, and created a secondary resource in the form of a LibGuide for the university's LGBTQIA periodicals and ephemera collection. For my independent research, I explored my thesis on inequities in library classification structures and ethical issues in the controlled vocabulary of the Library of Congress, reporting how Princeton combatted metadata biases at both the structural and descriptive levels by implementing a new online linked data vocabulary.

Interviewer: This internship also guided you into another role as a presenter. Tell us about your participation in your roundtable discussion at the National Women's Studies Association lead (NWSA) Conference in Minneapolis.

Kat: This month, my mentors and I attended and presented at the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) Conference with Princeton, NYU, Tulane, and Spelman faculty for a presentation titled: Surviving erasure: using archives for social justice. It was my first time ever attending an academic conference before, let alone presenting at one!

Interviewer: Amazing! How has TCNJ helped you with your education and future career goals?

Kat: I love our tight-knit community (especially in the library and the English department!) and how there is always a new opportunity to explore if you share your interests with those around you. I would have never found my internship without my Creative Writing professor! My Creative Writing Professor, Jodi Monster, passed along information about this internship which was sponsored by the Aspiring Scholars and Professionals (ASAP) at Princeton University, and it changed everything for me.

(continued on next page)

Interviewer: I understand you are also reaching out to the Ewing community with “Little Free Libraries.” Could you elaborate on this?

Kat: I am working to establish two Little Free Libraries on our campus to encourage literacy in the greater Ewing community, and to increase accessibility to literature. Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization based in St. Paul, Minnesota. These libraries are set up in various locations, and are essentially neighborhood book exchanges where members can give and take books. They should hopefully be up by November! One of the locations

will be near the campus town bus stop. We are still finalizing the second location.

Interviewer: Last question – what do you enjoy doing in your free time – away from school and the library?

Kat: I love to create things! I've been sewing my whole life, I love to needle felt, make cards and origami, and recently, I've been trying to learn how to crochet.

Interviewer: Thanks, Kat. We are so lucky to have you here in our library!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet Sharon Shivers of The Dean's Office The Assistant



Breaking News: Sharon Shivers will be retiring from the College of New Jersey on February 1, 2023. That's right. You heard it here! While the TCNJ community, especially the library faculty and staff, will miss Sharon's smiling face, sense of humor, comradeship, and positive attitude, we wish her happiness and enjoyment in the next chapter in her life.

If Sharon had written a book, how many chapters would be dedicated to TCNJ? Sharon has served as the Office Manager and Assistant to the Dean of the R. Barbara Gitenstein Library for 26 years, and has actually worked for TCNJ a total of 35 years. "I came from the Department of Personnel to Trenton State College in October 1988 to work as a senior clerk typist for Health Services located in Norsworthy Hall. Harold W. Eickoff was President (1979–1998). Then, in 1996, I came to work in what was then called the Roscoe L. West Library as a Principal Clerk Typist," said Sharon.

According to Sharon, "During my career in the library, I worked under four different supervisors: Dean Mary Biggs, Dean Robert Bitner, who was also the Dean of Engineering, Assistant Dean Philip Tramdock and then Dean Taras Pavlovsky since 2001." She adds, "All these deans are different. They have different personalities, and used my administrative strengths in ways which fit their managing styles. For instance, Dean Pavlovsky entrusted me to continue handling the relationships that I had developed with building services and facilities and other departments in making sure that the building functions properly."

Gitenstein Library Assistant Dean for Technical Services Marlena Frackowski says, "Sharon's relationship building is a true asset in completing tasks immediately. In addition, she has a great sense of humor. It is particularly entertaining to watch the sisterly comedy show between Sharon and the Library's Professional Services Specialist, Paula Rainey, here in the Dean's office. It's free entertainment."

Jesting aside, relationship building is one of the things that Sharon enjoys the most about her job. She is always interested in the well-being of the faculty, staff and students. She believes that "Everyone has a story. Never judge a book by its cover." She has also developed meaningful friendships outside of work and believes in bringing people together and supporting one another. As a veteran in the Army Reserve for 16 years, she also recognizes the importance of commitment and is most committed to TCNJ initiatives and Trenton's community outreach initiatives. For instance, she has served on TCNJ's Staff Senate Council as an Executive Officer and Chair of the Communication and Public Relations Council for many years.

Outside of TCNJ, she has been very involved with West End Little League for 30 years, including 25 years of coaching, and now serves as Vice President of the league.

Sharon's latest community outreach project outside of TCNJ began three years ago. Sharon helps run a local food pantry at West Trenton Community Center. "The center is located on 510 Stuyvesant Ave, Trenton, NJ 08618. The center partners with neighboring farmers, stores, and churches to stock up the food pantry. Anyone is welcome to pick up items every Saturday during the hours of 8 am–12 pm. There is no residence requirement or ID needed. The only two requirements: bring your own bag and wear a mask," said Sharon.

How does Sharon plan to spend her retirement years? "Vacation as much as possible, spend time with family that live far away, continue my community outreach with the baseball little league and the food pantry." She would like to leave this piece of advice to TCNJ students, "Sometimes life throws you a curveball, but always remember to P.U.S.H. (Pray until something happens) and keep pushing forward. There's always a light at the end of the tunnel. Also, always make time for yourself. You can never get time back."

We wish Sharon the best in her next chapter, and of course, we look forward to hosting her retirement party next year.

CONTACT YOUR LIBRARIAN

Librarians can help you wrap up your semester! With reading days and finals coming up, remember there is more than one way to contact a librarian. You can find Reference hours on our website at <https://library.tcnj.edu/about-the-library/hours-of-operation/>.

Text your Question: SMS: (609) 482-3981



Librarians are available during Reference hours.
Regular text messaging rates apply.

Schedule a Research Consultation



Librarians are available for virtual research consultations and instruction. Check the list of *[Librarians by Subject/Major](https://library.tcnj.edu/research-help/contact-a-subject-librarian/)* (<https://library.tcnj.edu/research-help/contact-a-subject-librarian/>) for assistance.

Submit your Question by E-mail



Librarians will respond during Reference hours.
For questions submitted after hours, librarians will respond when Reference opens.

Ask Your Question by Chat



Librarians will respond during chat hours. If chat is unavailable, you may ask your question by email instead.



CLICK HERE TO ASK A LIBRARIAN



REGULAR LIBRARY BUILDING HOURS

Main Library Building

Monday-Thursday 7:30 AM - Midnight
Friday 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Sunday 11:00 AM - 11:00 PM

Extended Study Area

Monday-Thursday Midnight-2:00 AM
Friday 6:00 PM - 2:00 AM
Saturday 7:00 PM - 2:00 AM
Sunday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
& 11:00 PM - 2:00 AM

For hours of other services & library special hours, please visit:

<https://library.tcnj.edu/about-the-library/hours-of-operation/>