

# THE ARCHIVES PRIMARY SOURCE

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

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## WELCOME!

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Welcome to the first issue of the Nelis R. Kampenga University Archives and Area Research Center's newsletter, *The Primary Source*. Our goal is to share updates about archival resources, student projects, archival instruction, campus records management, and upcoming events while also including the occasional informative and entertaining archives joke. As custodians of UW-Stevens Point's historic record, we are thrilled to share our holdings and expertise with you. Together, let us forge a deeper connection to the University, community, and past. Happy reading!

Sincerely,  
**Brad Casselberry**  
Head of Archives



**Research Hours:**  
Monday - Friday  
10 a.m. - Noon & 1 - 4:30 p.m.

**Reading Room:**  
Trainer Natural Resources  
Building, Room 110

Please make an  
appointment by emailing:  
[archives@uwsp.edu](mailto:archives@uwsp.edu)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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[archives@uwsp.edu](mailto:archives@uwsp.edu)

## Historic Video Game Exhibit Exceeds Expectations at National History Day

Archives staff contributed to National History Day activities at UWSP on Friday, March 8 by curating an exhibit of historic video games for visiting students to explore. More than 50 students visited the exhibit to learn about and play the different video games on display. Students were enthusiastic to engage with gaming technologies of the past, and several students mentioned their interest in attending UWSP in the future after exploring the video game collection.

Archives staff created the exhibit using consoles from the Archives' Historic Video Game Collection. Visit the [Historic Video Game Collection page](#) on the Archives' website to learn more about the collection and consider using the [Collection Recommendation Form](#) to suggest titles to add to the collection. The collection may be used in independent research, archival instruction and outreach, by faculty for consideration of course integration, or for on-site recreational use.



## Records Management Corner

The Records Management Corner will share important information about campus records management and how to best maintain University records. This issue's topic is the definition of a public record.

### What is a record?

According to the [UW System Records Management website](#), “public records include all materials, regardless of physical form or characteristics made or received by any state employee while in connection with the transaction of public business.” This definition includes common materials like meeting minutes, reports, and photographs. It also includes digital records like text messages and emails. Public records are managed according to the approved records schedules available at the [UW System Records Schedules website](#).

### What is not a record?

The [UW System Records Management website](#) also lists several materials that are not public records. These “include duplicates, notices, invitations, routing slips and envelopes, personal material, or drafts prepared for a supervisor.”

For more information about records management, contact University Records Officer Brad Casselberry at [bcasselb@uwsp.edu](mailto:bcasselb@uwsp.edu) or visit the [UW System Records Schedules website](#).

## Internship Spotlight

Archives staff are facilitating several internship opportunities for students this semester. The internship projects allow students to learn and develop a wide range of skills including researching and writing, archival processing and preservation, and communication and interviewing. These experiences are particularly helpful for students who decide to pursue a career in libraries, archives, or museums, but the skills learned during the internship can help prepare students for a variety of careers. Interns have worked on the following projects in the Archives this semester:

- Processing additions to the Forest History Association of Wisconsin Collection
- Conducting oral history interviews of former UWSP faculty and staff
- Processing the Becoming an Outdoors Woman program records

The Archives usually hosts one intern every semester through the [UWSP Pathways Internship program](#). If you know a student who has demonstrated an interest in archives or historical research, please encourage them to apply through Quest. The internship position is usually posted a few weeks before the start of each semester.

# 7

**The number of  
interns working in  
the Archives this  
semester**

# 238

**The number of students who  
have attended an instruction  
session in the Archives through  
March this semester**

## Instruction Updates

Archives staff assisted students in Dr. Cory Haala's History 390 - Museum Exhibits class during the Fall 2023 semester. Staff provided records and memorabilia for use in the students' exhibit on the history of the UWSP Libraries. Items provided for the exhibit included bricks from Albertson Hall, memorabilia from library staff social events, and original blueprints for the Learning Resources Center.

Several classes have already visited the Archives this spring semester for instruction, and there are more scheduled to visit in April. Instruction and Digital Archivist Kyle Neill has been busy teaching History 300 students how to find primary sources for their research papers while also identifying archival collections to use in instruction for other classes.

If you would like to schedule a time for your course to visit the Archives for an instruction session, contact Instruction and Digital Archivist Kyle Neill at [kneill@uwsp.edu](mailto:kneill@uwsp.edu).



## The Natural Resources Building Turns 50

The Natural Resources Building was formally dedicated nearly fifty years ago in April 1974. This photograph shows the building just a few years after its construction. The mosaic mural on the south wall of the building is absent in this photograph; it was not added until 1982. The Natural Resources Building was renamed in 2007 in honor of Daniel Trainer, former dean of the College of Natural Resources.



## Elevator Adventures

Moving the Archives' collections and reading room from Albertson Hall to the Trainer Natural Resources (TNR) building created many challenges, but Archives staff have been able to innovate and adapt to continue to provide high-quality instruction, research assistance, and reference services in our temporary location.

One particular challenge of note has been the ongoing elevator outage in the TNR since early February 2023. This has made it more difficult to access the collection storage rooms on the third and fourth floor of the building, but Archives staff have maintained a positive attitude and developed innovative new ways to transport collections without the use of an elevator.

The Archives purchased backpack frames generally used in backcountry backpacking to assist in transporting boxes of archival materials up and down the stairs. The frames have made it much easier to access collections throughout the building.

## Archives Joke

**Q: How were the archivists able to carry their furniture around all day?**

**A: They had light tables.**

