

To: Mary Carol Lindbloom, Executive Director, South Central Regional Library Council  
From: Jennifer Collins, Reference and Instruction Librarian and project manager, SUNY Delhi  
Date: 5.2.2016

Final Report  
2015 RBDB Grant  
Student Newspaper Digitization  
Resnick Library, SUNY Delhi

Report prepared by Jennifer Collins, project manager.

This is the final report for the RBDB Grant the Resnick Library at SUNY Delhi received to digitize the collection of student newspapers from the college archives. The newspapers run from 1920 through the mid-2000s and contain history about the college and the surrounding counties. The goal of the grant was to have the full run of the newspapers digitized and made available to the campus community and the public through the SUNY Dspace repository as well as the New York State Newspaper project. Once widely available in a digital format the library planned to promote the online collection as a learning resource for students, alumni and for members of the greater community. Digitizing the papers, which were stored in a non-climate-controlled environment, ensures the safety and the longevity of the collection. Through the grant provided by the South Central Regional Library Council the Resnick Library has succeeded in our goal to take the first major steps toward a fully accessible digital archive. Below is the final report for this project.

**Budget and Expenditures:**

Funding for the project came from three sources; SCRLC, the SUNY Delhi Alumni Association and from in-kind contribution of work hours from the library staff involved in the grant project. A breakdown of these contributions is included in the budget below.

**Personnel Time:**

Name	Hourly Rate	Hours Contributed	Total
Jennifer Collins	\$21.65	360	\$7,794.00
Brad Post	\$19.10	50	\$955.00
Amanda Calabrese	\$23.63	35	\$827.05
		<b>Total Contribution:</b>	<b>\$9,576.05</b>

## Expenditures:

Date	Vendor	Description	Debit	Beginning Balance	Expended	Ending Balance	Reconciled
		Alumni Association Donation for Digitization and preservation of College Newspapers	\$1,000.00				X
10/7/2015		South Central Regional Library Council RBDB 2015 Grant Funding For Newspaper Digitization Preservation Project	\$6,037.00				
2/9/2015	Amazon	WD My Passport Ultra Protable External Hard Drive 1TB			\$56.99		
4/7/2015	Amazon	WD My Passport Ultra Protable External Hard Drive 2TB			\$99.00		
10/7/2015	Backstage Library Works	Digitization of College Newspapers 1920-2000 Materials Prep: \$135.00 TIFF File Creation: \$5580.96			\$5,715.96		X
12/17/2015	Gaylord Bros., Inc.	4*5, 5*7, 11*14, and 8*10 Photo Sleeves and Spatulas for Archives			\$285.97		X
2/26/2016	Gaylord Bros., Inc.	5*7 Photo Sleeves for Archives			\$56.01		
2/24/2016	Gaylord Bros., Inc.	Newspaper Preservation Stodge Kits for Archives, Invoice # 2413025 and 2412731			\$267.16		
3/23/2016	Gaylord Bros., Inc.	4 packs of 5*7 Photo Sleeves for Archives			\$99.20		
4/26/2016	Gaylord Bros., Inc.	1- 4*5, 4- 5*7, 1- 8*10, 1- 11*14 Photo Sleeves for Archives			\$205.58		
Total:			\$7,037.00		\$6,785.87	\$251.13	

## Evaluation and Outcomes:

Overall the grant has been a tremendous success. All of the issues of the student newspaper are now available as fully searchable PDFs which can be easily accessed by students, alumni, faculty and local community members. The physical papers are now indexed and are being stored in a state that is more advantageous to their continued preservation. Highlights of the project are found below.

- All 720 issues of the student newspaper were digitized and are now available as fully searchable PDFs on the [SUNY Dspace repository](#). A second repository, New York State Historic Newspapers, will also be available to the public as an access point for the papers. As of this report the Dspace has been and fully populated with the newspaper files.
- Physical copies of the paper have been moved to storage boxes that will better preserve them moving forward.

- During the uploading process we discovered some duplicates or misnamed copies in the newspaper files. These errors were easily fixed.
- **Student involvement (New E-Resource for students)-** The project has brought awareness of the existence and value of the archives to faculty and students on campus. Originally the goal of the grant was to merely present the newspapers as a potential learning tool for history and other liberal arts classes. Once Governor Andrew Cuomo directed that students in all majors at every SUNY must have the chance to perform some form of applied learning for their major the newspaper project became an opportunity for the library and liberal arts department to partner together to fulfill an educational need. As a result of the project 74 public history students worked with the newspapers and the archives as a required and graded part of their curriculum. The students learned about preservation, digitization and repositories by observing the process first hand. With the newspaper project as a gateway students also learned how to index and preserve photos (many of which were originally used in the newspapers). Students are evaluated and graded on their performance in the archives. Thanks to the RBDB grant the library has been able to aid the school in fulfilling a SUNY mandate, an unforeseen positive outcome. A session on using the newspapers as a source for primary research projects will be taught for faculty on campus during professional development workshops in June 2016. The goal for the session is to present the positive results of the project and to get more faculty members interested in using the newspapers in their classrooms and assignments.
- **Community and Alumni Events** - Efforts are ongoing to advertise this new local e-resource to the wider community in Delaware and Otsego counties. On April 30th an event was held at the Huntington Memorial Library to demonstrate how to search and browse the Dspace as well as a Q&A about how to preserve family history using basic archival standards and practices. The event was well received and the grant team hopes to work with Huntington Memorial again in the future. In addition to the public library community event the newspaper project will be presented at SUNY Delhi's annual Alumni Weekend celebration. The archives has received 48 requests from alumni over the past year, and now the alumni will be able to search the Dspace for articles 24/7 from the comfort of their own homes. The alumni office, which also gave funds toward the digitization project, has also expressed an interest in continuing to promote the digital repositories moving forward in emails, canvassing and other advertisements to college alumni.
- **Quantitative Outcomes** - Since placing the newspapers online wait times for patrons requesting information from the newspapers have decreased significantly. In the past requests for information from the newspapers (scans, articles, names of authors etc.) had a minimum 3 week turnover time. For larger requests the time could be greater. The library scanner is too small to accommodate the papers from the 1940s, 1950s, and some of the 1970s. This meant scanning items took a considerable amount of time and the

results were mixed. In the time since the papers have been uploaded to Dspace we have received 4 requests for information from the newspapers. All of these requests were completed the same day as they were made, often in under 2 hours' time. Even large requests (like one made by one of the campus fraternities) yielded multiple results quickly with the help of the search functions in Dspace. Moving forward, usage statistics in Dspace will be monitored and assessed in order to measure the use of the papers.

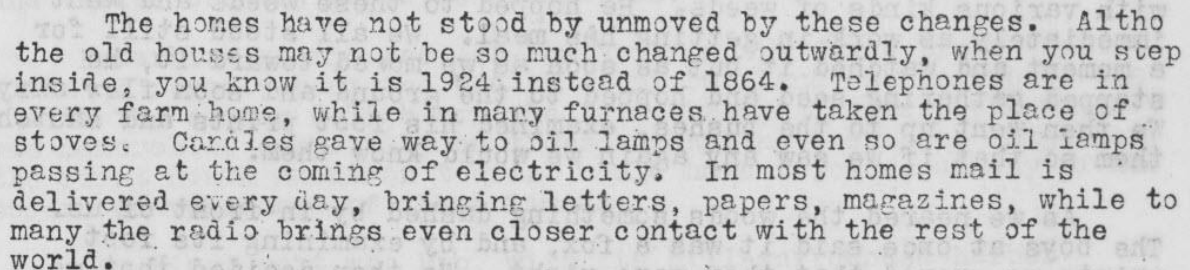
- **Qualitative Outcomes** - The high definition scans of the paper increase its readability while the full text searching means the papers are more user friendly for performing basic browsing and research. The digital format means the papers are accessible to a wider audience.

### **Conclusions:**

As the grant process concludes at the Resnick Library we have already seen numerous positive outcomes as a result of the project. The newspapers are a valuable resource for not only the Delhi community but also to the surrounding public. Through the grant we were able to take the first large step toward having a more functional and user friendly digital archiving space. The success of this project has paved the way for further archival preservation efforts moving forward.

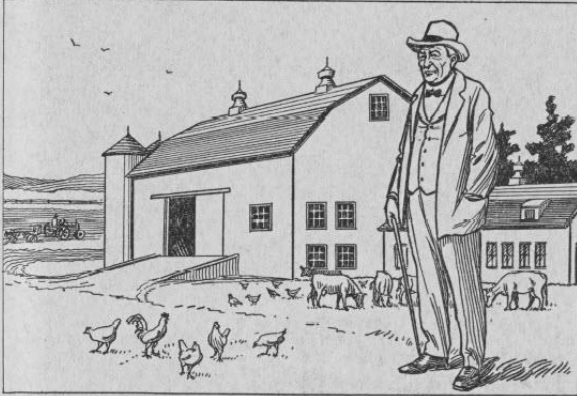
### **Highlights from the newspaper collection:**

**Below: Excerpt from commencement speech given to the first class to include women as graduates, 1924.**

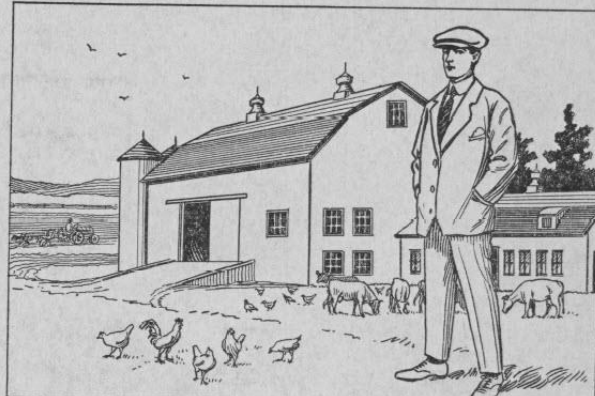


The homes have not stood by unmoved by these changes. Altho the old houses may not be so much changed outwardly, when you step inside, you know it is 1924 instead of 1864. Telephones are in every farm home, while in many furnaces have taken the place of stoves. Candles gave way to oil lamps and even so are oil lamps passing at the coming of electricity. In most homes mail is delivered every day, bringing letters, papers, magazines, while to many the radio brings even closer contact with the rest of the world.

Below: Early college advertisement, 1922.



This man reached success by years of experience.



This man gained the same success by substituting training for many of the years of experience.

One practical farmer recently wrote: "My son has come home from the State School of Agriculture at Delhi with ideas about the care and feeding of dairy cattle and the growing of crops, that it has taken me twenty-five years of experience to find out."

## Library Receives Grant

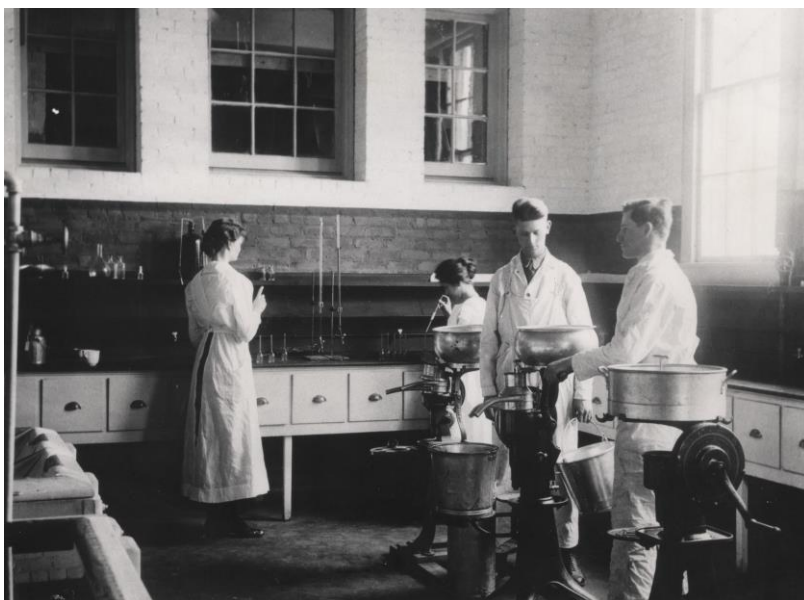
In a surprise grant, the State University increased the library's financial allotment for the coming year by the unprecedented sum of \$10 and a year's subscription to the Police Gazette. Mr. Robert Whitney Griswold, when contacted today had not as yet decided what to do with this unexpected windfall, but thought he might either buy another book, and swell the library's grand total to 7, or invest in a new album of Gene Autry records, which are much in demand.

An early example of library funding snark, 4/1/1954.



PAULA GROSSMAN is a transexual. She changed her sex from male to female when she was over 50 years old. She will speak about the problems and frustrations of transexuals, Monday, Jan. 14 in the Little Theater at 8 p.m.

**Above: LGBTQ history from the 1970s.**



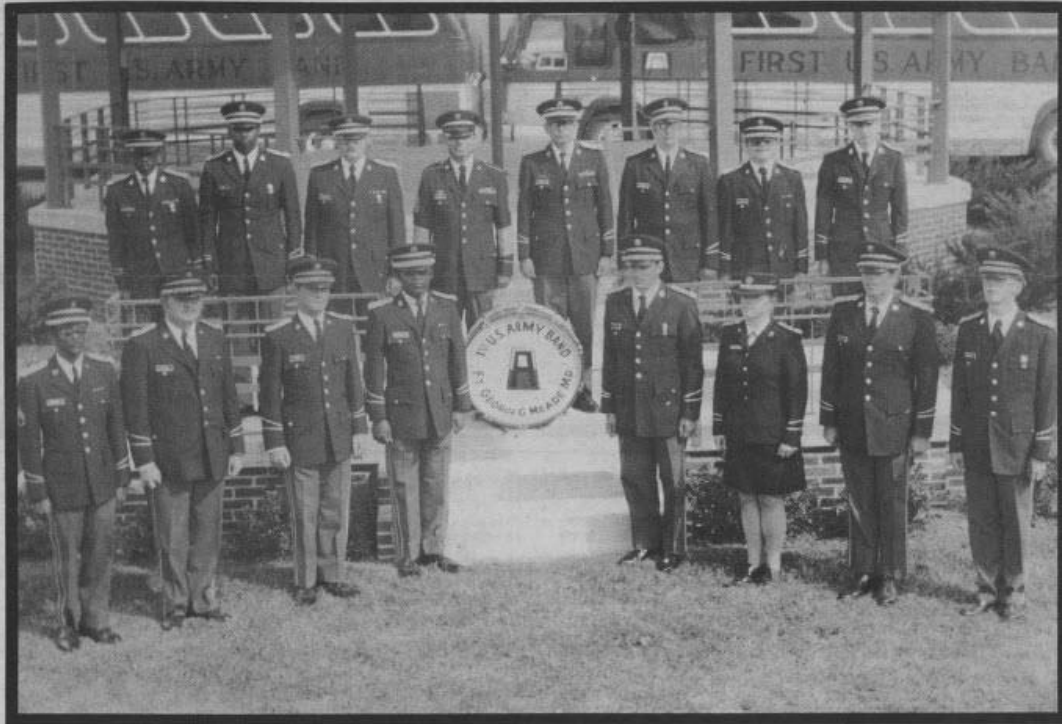
**Early dairy lab on campus, 1920**

# The Delhi Review

Volume 1

*Read it, it's free*

February 5 - 19, 1985



"This is not the new editorial board."

**1985, relaunch of the student newspaper.**