

Mollie Gugler



I've worked at the College for 20 years and have taken classes off and on since 1973 so I have many memories. I remember hanging out with my friend in the glassblowing area in the mid-1970's where she was taking a class. It was amazing to feel the heat from the glass furnace and watch the students blow and shape the glass. I also remember taking a solar energy class. The College seemed to me to be a lively, happening place. Of course, the memories that stick out the most in my mind are of the changes that have taken place in the Library.

When I first started, the Library still had its catalog on microfiche. The patron's records had been put into a computer system, CLSI but everything else was done manually. We very quickly moved from that into using computers for as much as we could. The Director at that time, Charlotte Brennan, was very forward thinking and always seemed to know where we should be technologically before we even knew of the need. We started with 4 Apple computers for student usage.

The library used to be on the bottom level of Building 3. In Dec. 1989 the back wall of the building was knocked out and the building was extended out into a small parking lot. It was great to have more space in the library but I missed the back parking lot--I used to take a nap there in my car on my lunch break. Opening the Library at 7 a.m. every day could be tiring at times. Anyway, everything in the library needed to be moved when the expansion took place--what a job that was. We finished in time to open up for the start of Spring Semester 1990.

Another huge change was in Dec. 2004 when we moved into Building 19 which was new at the time. It was the first building to be completed in a plan to renovate all the older buildings on campus. The library staff had been involved in many aspects of the planning for the building and we were excited to be moving. The new facility was going to give us the opportunity to do things we had wanted to do for a long time. Building 19 wasn't completely finished when we moved into it. It was very cold outside and we had no heat and few creature comforts (i.e., no desks, chairs or working restrooms). The snow was piled up outside the first few weeks we were in the building and we worked busily in our coats and gloves to get things ready for opening day--the first day of Spring Semester 2005.

Everyone else on campus seemed to be equally as excited to see the new library. Our usage statistics skyrocketed that first semester.

Carol Quiring



For a long, long time we had just Marapai and Supai [dorms]. Now back then [~1984] we had a men's dorm and a women's dorm. Past midnight you were not allowed in the opposite sex's rooms let alone the dorm. So all the women were in Marapai and all the men were in Supai except for the T-wing in Supai that had to grown and became a women's wing in the men's dorm. But the door between was locked so that the men could not go into the women's area at night. You know, then it was really easy to keep tabs on what was going on...

I do feel like I'm married to Yavapai College and that's because it's my College and I'm going to take care of it. I have ownership in it. I think that most of us who work here and have been here any period of time feel that way. If something is going on this campus, I want to know about it because this is my domain...

Transcribed excerpt of an oral history interview of Carol Quiring with Aurorae Ryobara, College Honors Students, 2007/08

David VanNess



We have online registration; we were one of the first colleges to do it. Coincidentally, ours is pretty old and pretty laborious now compared to some of the newer ones. We launched an online registration back in 1996...

One of the stories that I think is valuable for folks to hear are the changes in the population area in the history of the College. Our county of Yavapai is over 8,000 square miles. Our service area is over 8,000 square miles but back in the 1980's Coconino was also a part of Yavapai's service area. Coconino was one of the 2 or 3 largest counties in the United States. I'm going to guess somewhere between 9-10,000 square miles. Yavapai College also served all of those communities –Flagstaff, Page, Tuba City, Grand Canyon and our staffs would get on small airplanes and fly from one of those towns to the other for registration events and we also taught classes there. It was a huge, huge service area for us and of course increased our enrollment.

Near the end of that period, which would have been around 1988 or 1989, there also was a move by Northern Arizona University in response to an order by the Arizona Board of Regents that they should contract out remedial Math and English. So Yavapai took that on also. So we were not only serving all of Yavapai County, all of Coconino County but also a population of students at N.A.U. in Flagstaff.

About 1990, I believe it was, the voters in Coconino County voted to establish their own district and remarkably quickly that group of folks put together Coconino County Community College. Within a year they were able to start offering instruction. So Yavapai backed out of Coconino County at that time including the N.A.U arrangement. Of course, our overall enrollment dipped a little bit but it was still very strong here in Yavapai County. That was one of the most significant changes I think in the history of the College was the partnership with Coconino County and then suddenly it was gone.

Transcribed excerpt from an oral history interview of David VanNess with Jason Sanchez, College Honors Student, 2007/08