

Global Voices

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oy Chihiro Osawa

Washington College's Library

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Recently, people who "alliterates," those are who know how to read but are not willing to read books, have been increasing in advanced countries. However, the library is the necessary place for Washington College students. The college library, named Clifton M. Miller Memorial Library, is no longer just a place to read and borrow books. It is also a place of hospitality. I would like to share examples of what makes Miller Library so hospitable.

First, there are many



Washington College's Miller Library in the Summer

comfortable chairs to study in. Comfortable chairs are important because people need to sit on chairs to study. Therefore, if the chairs are not comfortable, students will get distracted easily. However, this library offers sofas or flexible chairs. Students will not be tired because of the chairs.

Second, there are both spaces for groups and individuals. On the first floor, there are desks and chairs to study and do class activities together. People can talk freely. On the second floor, it is the quiet floor. There are spaces for groups and individual study spaces, and the spaces for groups are proof sound rooms. Therefore, everyone can focus on their own work





Miller Library's Main Floor & Front Desk

Miller Library (Cont'd)

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in various ways.

Third, when students study for a long time, they will become hungry and thirsty. To solve this problem, there is a small cafeteria, named Sophie's Café, in the library. Students can take a break from studying to drink and eat. There are libraries where people are not allowed to do that to protect books. And yet, students are allowed to eat and drink in Miller Library. This helps (Continued on page 3)



Sophie's Café is a convenient place for students to take a break and have something to eat.

An Interview with Dr. Kyoung Mook Lim



Li "Evelyn" WenHuan & Prof. Kyoung Mook Lim

Q: What is your name? A: I am Kyoung Mook Lim.

Q: What classes do you teach?

A: I teach principles of macroeconomics and money and banking.

Q: How long have you been teaching?

A: I have been teaching for five years at Washington College.

Q: Why did you become a professor?

A: I really liked teaching while doing my Ph.D.

by Li "Evelyn" WenHuan

Teaching is a fulfilling job. And research is also a lot of fun. I spend my non -teaching days and summers working on my research projects.

Q: Why do you teach in Washington College?

A: Five years ago, I had to make a decision between working at Washington College or working at a research institution. I wanted to try teaching. Global Voices, the newsletter for international students at Washington College, is published twice a semester by the students in ELL 102.

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Dr. Lim (Cont'd)

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Q: Do you like Washington College?

A: Yes! I like my colleagues in the Economics Department. I like having lunch at the cafeteria. And I like the campus gym where I go often.

Q: How do you socialize with your students?

A: I usually interact with my students in the classroom before class or in my office. We often talk about life after graduation, like getting a job or going to graduate school.

Q: *Do you like being a professor?*

A: Yes. It is a good job with autonomy and flexible time. But it can be very tiring too. I work about 60 hours per week.

Q: In general, how do you like your work?

A: Teaching in general is fun. I especially like teaching the upper level economics classes like money and banking and health economics. By that time, I know the students well. And they know me.

Q: How many hours do you spend on research per day? A: During the semester, I spend about 15 hour per week. During the break, I spend about 50 hours per week.

Q: What is your professional goal this year? A: My professional goal is to publish a paper that I have been working on for several years. It is about how health insurance policy affects households medical consumption and saving. I have another paper that is shaping up. I want to finish the preliminary draft before June.

Q: What is your research interest?

A: My research interest is in the effects of social insurance policy on income and wealth inequality. More specifically I have been studying about health insurance policy.

Q: *How would you accomplish that?*

A: I have pursued my research interest through analyzing the data and building computer models on which I do policy experiments.

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Miller Library (Cont'd)



students to keep focused on studying. Then, securi-(Continued on page 5)

An Interview with Sun Yue

by Yao "Tim" JunYu



Q: What is your name? A: My name is Sun Yue.

Q: *Where do you come from*?

A: I'm from China. I was born and raised in a city named Zhengzhou. It is the capital of Henan province.

Q: Why did you choose to come to America?

A: Because I want to explore the outside world and experience this world by myself instead of hearing about it from others. Also, as the most powerful country, America owns relatively the highest education quality. Thus, I Sun Yue and Yao "Tim" JunYu in Miller Library

hope I can learn from the U.S. education system in order to become a better person.

Q: Why did you choose Washington College? A: I chose it for several reasons. First, I love the

education style of a liberal arts college. Personalized education encourages me to try and explore tons of new things, and it is never wrong to fail because failure is another way to grow.

Secondly, the small size of the classrooms gives me more chances to talk with my professors, which

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Miller Library (Cont'd)



The rolling stack shelves in the library basement save space and allow for more book storage.

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ty measures are enforced. The library is open until 2:00 a.m. on weeknights. it is a late time! However, only Washington College students can enter the library after 6:00 p.m. Also, at the entrance there is a security camera, a security sensor, and a security officer. It is good that students can stay late at the library and know that there are many security tools to encourage safety. Students can focus on their studies without feeling in danger.

And lastly, you can use academic help. On the main floor, The Quantitative Skill Center helps students with statistics and higher mathematics assignments. On the second floor, there is the Academic Skill Center and evening dropin hours with student tutors from the Writing Center. Students can check their home-

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Sun Yue (Cont'd)

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makes me feel more involved in my classes.

Lastly, Washington College is located in Chestertown, which is a small town; such a peaceful and safe place was an important consideration for my parents when they sent me to study abroad.

Q: How did you learn about Washington College?

A: My high school teacher suggested Washington College to me based on my preference to study at a liberal arts school.

Q: *What is your biggest challenge when you came to Washington College?*

A: Breaking my old mindset and open myself to new things is the biggest challenge for me when I came to Washington College.

Influenced by my home country's education system, I was taught to believe that a good student was defined as a student who earned high grades. Mostly, students didn't need to or didn't have the chance to follow their interests because students just needed to

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GLOBAL VOICES



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Dr. Lim (Cont'd)

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Q: When you were a child, was being a professor your dream job?

A: No it was not. I wanted to become a scientist, and later a computer programmer. I guess I am doing a bit of my dream job – I'm writing computer programs for my social science projects.

Q: What are your hobbies? A: I like reading and browsing the Internet.

Q: What are your favorite sports?

A: I like tennis.

Q: What kinds of food do you like?

A: I like all kinds of food. Some of my favorites are Korean, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Lebanese, and good coffee.

Q: What kinds of pets do you like? A: I like dogs.

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Interview with Sun Yue (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 5)

follow the path designed by their parents and teachers.

So, I held this mindset during my first semester here, and when my advisor asked me what was I interested in, I was confused. Because I had never been asked what I wanted to learn in my growth, all the classes were arranged by the school.

Q: why did you choose *economics as your major?* Personally, I think A: everything in the world is related to economics, and economics symbolizes a nations' power. Some educated people can benefit from economic activities while some loweducated people can't, and

even get themselves into financial frauds.

Thus, I hope I can use economic tools to tell people a story behind the complex world. Then, they can adjust their behaviors in order to live better and smarter.

Q: Do you think is Washington College's library is a good place to work on class research?

A: Yes, when I was a freshman, there was a tour of the library and its resources, which was very helpful to learn how to use our school library for academic research.

Q: What is your favorite library database?

I am not quite sure, but I guess it is Miller Library's ONEsearch.

Q: How much research have you done at Washington College? A: I have done most of my research through the classes I took. This because most of my classes required at least one research project throughout the whole semester.

Q: What are the most interesting research topics you have done in the past three years? And why?

A: I think my most interesting research topic in the past three years was Schizotypal Personality (Continued on page 9)

There is always someone willing to help you figure out the problem you

have.

Interview with Sun Yue (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 8)

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Disorder, for my psychology class. I used the library online resource ONEsearch, physical book resources in the library, and the Digital Media Services. I enjoyed learning this personality disorder in different ways.

Q: Which was the best research project you have done at Washington College? And Why?

A: The same one — the psychology project. My Schizotypal personality disorder research project was the most creative project in our class. For me, exploring a topic by yourself and trying different resources in our library is a fun and productive way to learn.

Q: What is the most impressive thing that happened while you were doing your research? And why?

A. There is always someone willing to help you figure out the problem you have. Always. Don't worry if you don't know where to start, or if you have any questions during the process.

Q: Do you have any advice for other undergraduate students when they start to research a topic for a class? A. Don't worry or be afraid of a research project. It's not as scary/difficult as you thought. All you need to do is to find way to start it.

Q: When did you start your senior capstone experience (SCE) project?

A. As an economics major, I had the choice of completing an SCE project or to sit for a comprehensive program examination. Because I wanted to graduate earlier, I decided to take the comprehensive exam instead of writing the SCE.

Q: Did you join or created any club in Washington College?

Yes, I took over the Chinese Culture Club last semester (Fall 2018). To be specific, I reactivated this club and changed its name from the Chinese Student Union to the Chinese Culture Club. The club is open to every student at Washington College. I hope this club can be inclusive.

In general, I think this club is a win-win situation for both Chinese and non-Chinese in our school. We welcome anyone who is interested in learning about or experiencing Chinese culture!

Q: Why did you want to create the Chinese Culture Club?

A: There are two goals for the club. First, it is dedicated to spreading Chinese culture on campus and contributing to the diversity at Washington College. We can do this by bringing together all students with a background or interest in anything Chinese to discuss and celebrate all aspects of Chinese culture. Secondly, it is a platform for Chinese students to come together, to offer help, and to share resources, in order to let them adapt to campus life easier and better.

Q: What was the biggest challenge when you created the club?

A. I wasn't allowed to apply for a budget for my club when I reactivated it, which means I didn't have any money to hold events last semester. However, Ι really appreciate my club advisor Dr. Hull, the SGA team, the GEO staff and faculty. mv initial club members, and everyone else who supported me to restart the club. Surprisingly, when I first set up a table at Club Fair last semester, around forty students signed up to join my club in just a few hours; and about eighteen students were not Chinese!

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Why I Chose to Study History

Huang KeTong standing beside the History Department's announcements bulletin board

When I was younger, I liked to read books every day. Books had the most interesting stories! They made me happy because they were very different from people. I didn't like to make friends, so books were my friends! And I can find many stories in every history book! So, that is my first and simplest reason why I like to study history.

My family had a different idea; they suggested to me to try to study mathematics because it was easy to find job in my hometown with mathematics. At first, I quarreled with them; I didn't want to follow my family's wishes, I wanted them to understand my wish. I chose to read history because it is not only interesting! I wanted to study the examples. I wanted know how people always have different ideas in history. But, because I didn't give them clear meaning, they disagreed with my idea.

My high school history teacher gave me a good suggestion. He told me, "Just finish school now, and use your actions to convince your family." It was very useful advice because, finally, my father and mother understood what I wanted; they now support me to follow my dream. But they had a question for me, "What is your plan for future when you finish your university degree?"

It reminded me, "What is my objective?" Maybe I need to change a bad habit first? It is that I never think about my future. But now I have to make plan before it is too late. When I was a boy, I wanted to become a teacher. Teaching is a good choice for me because as a teacher, I can study how to understand people's thinking. Of course, being a teacher is my favorite job because all successful people have help from their teachers! For now, I still want to be a teacher, because I want more students to be interested by history.

by Huang KeTong

Some people have different ideas about history.

(Continued on page 11)

Sun Yue (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 9)

Q: What kinds of activities is your club going to do? A: Celebrating Chinese festivals and spreading Chinese cultures is the biggest one. Also, we hold that can make events others' day. For example, one event that the just "You was passed are beautiful." We would like to convey our positive energy and warm to people who contribute efforts to the WAC community.

History (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 10)

Of course, the victor writes the history. So how can I help people know the truth of history? Let me listen to the victor's version, and then listen the loser's version. Between both you can find the truth. When I try to find answer for a question in history, I know that people are different; a thousand people have a thousand ideas. Maybe they have same ideas, but different people must have different opinions. So, how to know their thinking will be most important. It can be easy then to show them a history that they can believe.

I like to read war his-

Q: Will you stay in American or go back to China after you graduate from Washington College? A: So far, I plan to apply for graduate school in the U.S. after I finish at Washington College.

Q: What kinds of jobs do you want to do in the future?

A: The job that allows me to help others live better and happier by analyzing the real-world data used economic tools. My main goal is to help people live in a happier way.

tories, because they record honor, sacrifice, and reflection. World War II was the most terrible war in history, before I read history books I was interested in battles from watching movies. Now after I read lot of history books, I want know why some humans like to destroy everything; why people cannot want just peaceful life. I want to know. I want to find the answers. One day, I want to explain it to my children.

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That is why I choose to study history. Maybe there are some more people who cannot identify with my wish. But I as already said, "Different people have different ideas." I will keep going. This is my choice: Never give up!

Dr. Lim (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 8)

Q: *What do you do on weekends*?

A: I spend most of my Saturdays working. I go to church on Sundays.

Q: What do you like to do during summer vacations?

A: I usually catch up on research projects. I travel to Canada to visit my wife's family in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I also do some research projects at my PhD alma mater.

Q: What is your impression of life in Chestertown?

A: For my first three years at Washington College, I lived in Chestertown. I enjoyed the shops in downtown. And I used to go fishing on the Chester River and nearby places. It was fun!

Q: What is your favorite city to live?

A: This is tough to answer. I have lived in various cities. They all had their pro's and con's. Right now I live in Annapolis. I like it there because it's not too busy and it has everything I need, including Vietnamese food.

Q: Do you think talent is more important or efforts?

A: I believe that being consistent in whatever you do is the most important factor for success in anything. So effort is more important. However, one has to be also lucky to have a nurturing environment like having good mentors and friends.



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work and classes with the tutors. Tutors help students do homework, review, and prepare for class, and so on. Also, if students have questions about the library, Miller Library and Terrace in Winter

they can ask the librarian. The librarians are always on the main floor on schedule. Students can use their time effectively.

Now, the library is one of the best places to focus

on studying, not only to borrow books. These examples I described above show how the hospitable library works for the success of all Washington College students.