### Undergraduate Library Internships and Professional Success

#### Internships at Musselman Library

**Established in 1998,** the Musselman Library internship program has grown from a single, year-long internship for a recent graduate in special education to a senior-long internship for current undergraduates that provide students with a range of internships.

**Barbara Holley '94 Internships**

One-year, paid internship with benefits for a recent college graduate interested in library and information science to work in all departments.

**Robert ‘44 and Ether Ranya Forbank ’46 Internships**

Summer-long (8 hours per week), paid internship for a current student opportunity to work in a specific library department, such as Special Collections & Archives, Research, & Instruction, Music, and Technical Services, as well as other areas like marketing and exhibits.

**Dana Wareing Smith ’73 Internship**

Special internships for senior-long, paid internship (10 weeks) for a current student in Intern in Special Collections.

#### Literature Review

- **Archives**
  - Buxton, 2002
- **Government Libraries**
  - Grippi, 2012
  - Weintrop, 2009
- **US Education**
  - Leonardi & Pontau, 1991
  - Sargent, Radin, & Klinglein, 2001
  - Bird & Compton, 2014
- **Academic Libraries**
  - Dalt, 2011
  - Dalt, 2011b
  - Twitty, 2011
- **Graduate Programs**
  - Albirtton, 1991
  - Lander & Henderson, 1999
  - Brewer & Witsum, 2001
- **Diversity**
  - Asher & Alexander, 2006
- **LIS Education**
  - Bastion, 2002
  - Albirtton, 1991
  - Dahl, 2011a, 2011b
  - Asher & Alexander, 2006
- **Collaborative Research**
  - Bever & Winson, 2001
  - As a previous library intern, what do you especially value about your internship experience at Musselman Library?

#### Research Question

- **What impact does completing an undergraduate library internship have on students?**
  - Preparation and success in graduate or other advanced training.
  - Career and professional goals.
  - Early professional employment and success.

#### Method

- **Online Survey**
  - 29 items
  - Open, 4-point scale
  - Survey distributed to all students
  - Received 45 complete responses (68.6%)

- **Interviews**
  - Conducted semi-structured interviews
  - Subjects represented a range of graduation years, current professional, and internship types.
  - Additional questions about overall experience, impact on graduate school, and early career, and skills adopted.

### Survey Results

- **Overall and Career Success**
  - Satisfaction with internship: Very satisfied (86.7%) or Satisfied (13.3%)

- **How much the internship positively impacted decision to pursue a career in libraries, archives, museums, or a related field:**
  - Very much (86.8%) or Quite a bit (22.5%)

- **How much the internship positively impacted career:**
  - Very much (85.6%) or Quite a bit (34.9%)

#### Literature Review

- **Undergraduate Library Internships**
  - Holley '94: 3.27
  - Holley '98: 3.56
  - Holley '00: 3.85
  - Holley '04: 3.00

- **Interview Results**
  - Only One 2.71
  - Klingberg, 2011
  - Leonard & Pontau, 1991
  - LIS Education (34.9%)
  - LIS Education (22.9%)
  - Asher & Alexander, 2006
  - Bastion, 2002
  - Albirtton, 1991
  - Dahl, 2011a, 2011b

#### Research Question

- **Concluding Career Choice**
  - "I was using the internship to step into the profession [and] it did really help me make my decision to continue…[and] it did really help me solidify my decision to go into that field."
  - "I really feel like having done the internship I was a lot more prepared for my future professional career.

- **Being Prepared for Graduate School**
  - "I really felt like having done the internship I was a lot more prepared for graduate school."
  - "I already had a really good foundation of knowledge when I started grad school, that a lot of my peers didn’t have…"

#### Literature Review

- **The post and further bibliography are available on Gettysburg’s IR at:**
  - http://ir.gettysburg.edu/gettysburg/53

---

### Undergraduate Library Internships and Professional Success

#### Literature Review

- **Undergraduate Library Internships**
  - Holley '94: 3.27
  - Holley '98: 3.56
  - Holley '00: 3.85
  - Holley '04: 3.00

- **Interview Results**
  - Only One 2.71
  - Klingberg, 2011
  - Leonard & Pontau, 1991
  - LIS Education (34.9%)
  - LIS Education (22.9%)
  - Asher & Alexander, 2006
  - Bastion, 2002
  - Albirtton, 1991
  - Dahl, 2011a, 2011b

#### Research Question

- **Concluding Career Choice**
  - "I was using the internship to step into the profession [and] it did really help me make my decision to continue…[and] it did really help me solidify my decision to go into that field."
  - "I really feel like having done the internship I was a lot more prepared for my future professional career.

- **Being Prepared for Graduate School**
  - "I really felt like having done the internship I was a lot more prepared for graduate school."
  - "I already had a really good foundation of knowledge when I started grad school, that a lot of my peers didn’t have…"

#### Literature Review

- **The post and further bibliography are available on Gettysburg’s IR at:**
  - http://ir.gettysburg.edu/gettysburg/53

---