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A FRIENDLY student research competition

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The College at
BROCKPORT
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

A FRIENDly Student Research Competition

Jennifer Little Kegler

Kim Myers & Charlie Cowling

Librarians

Drake Memorial Library

NYLA Annual Conference

Rochester, NY

November 8, 2018



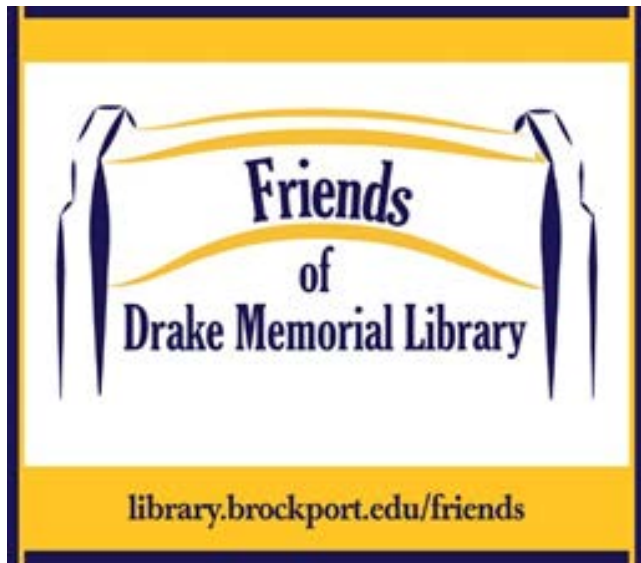
Abstract

- Highlights an academic student research competition that takes place yearly at The College at Brockport, SUNY, from the first steps of advertising the competition to the final step of awarding the prizes.
- The purpose of this competition is to encourage student research and engagement with Library staff and the rich array of resources and information the Library makes available.
- Friends of the Library award prizes of \$500 for First, \$300 for Second, and \$150 for Third place finishes.
- With the help of the library staff the Friends solicit submissions from students through advertisements in the student newspaper and in departments across campus.
- The Scholarly Communications unit in the library helps to support this endeavor by providing a platform for students to submit their work, as well as to showcase the winners of the awards each year.
- The submissions are read by a committee of Friends and library staff, with the top three winners announced in the early spring, invited to a luncheon and awarded their prizes.



The College at
BROCKPORT
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Friends of Drake Library (FODL)



The Friends of Drake Memorial Library (FODL) was founded in 2014 for the Drake Memorial Library at The College at Brockport, State University of New York.

An interested emeriti faculty member, Virginia Campbell, approached librarian and archivist, Charlie Cowling, and they started the group with the assistance of the college's Advancement Office.



FODL Goals

Friends of Drake Library Goals

- The goals of the Friends of Drake Memorial Library are to:
 - **Increase public awareness for the resources, programs, exhibits and other activities of Drake Memorial Library and The Rose Archives.**
 - Create opportunities for alumni of the College and other community members to become active supporters of Drake Memorial Library and The Rose Archives.
 - Work collaboratively with library administration, librarians, staff and local community organizations as appropriate to enhance the library mission of service to our students, faculty and staff.



FODL Goals (cont'd)

- To achieve these goals, the Friends of Drake Memorial Library seek to:
 - Increase the membership of FODL.
 - Support and attend Library and Archives events and activities.
 - **Explore ways to advocate, volunteer and participate in Library and Archives programs.**
 - Create a Friends of Drake Library fund through the Brockport Foundation.
 - Recognize and celebrate important Library/Archives events, accomplishments and milestones.



Undergraduate Research Competition

- A student research competition helps to meet the goal of the Friends of “increasing public awareness of the [library] resources”.
- It also meets the library’s strategic goal of: “Promote Drake Library to our intellectual community by expanding visibility of library staff.”
- We limit it to undergraduate students in order to equate the requirements to a solid undergraduate research paper.
- We gathered ideas from awards given on our campus and from alumni who were members of other academic library friends groups.



Other Awards on Campus

- Douglas A. Feldman LGBT Paper Award
 - Faculty member Doug Feldman, a member of the FODL, met with the group several times to help determine parameters for the competition as well as prize award amounts.
 - He recommended that we start with a submission number of 20 papers, in order to keep it a manageable size.
- English Department Awards
 - They have several awards that they give to students.
 - Their department secretary is a member of the FODL and helped to provide background on how awards were supported.



Inspiration from Others

Alumni at other universities

- North Hall Library, Mansfield University
 - Library director is a Brockport alumnus
 - Must use “library print and electronic resources”
 - Gives two prizes of \$150 each for a 5 and a 10 page paper
 - <http://lib.mansfield.edu/info/prize>
- UMass Amherst
 - Member of the Friends group is a Brockport alumnus
 - More specific, must use “historical primary sources”
 - \$1000 first prize and \$250 second prize
 - <https://www.library.umass.edu/news/announcements/flura2017/>



Inspiration from Others

Another academic library

- Connecticut College Prize for Undergraduate Library Research, Sponsored by the Friends of the Library
 - Must describe the research process, including library resources used
 - \$500 prize for one paper
 - <http://conncoll.libguides.com/libprize>



Using the Institutional Repository

- Our Institutional repository specialist, Kim Myers, an active member of FODL, suggested that we use the repository, not only to showcase the winners, but as the platform for submissions as well.
- Digital Commons, <https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/>
- Kim set up the site, so that students could submit their papers online. In the back end of the system the evaluators have access to the papers which can be read there or printed out.
- Once the winners are announced, Kim uploads those papers to the appropriate place on the site.



Digital Repository Screenshot



The screenshot displays the Digital Commons @ Brockport website. At the top left is the logo for The College at Brockport, State University of New York. The main header area features the title "Digital Commons @Brockport". A green navigation bar contains links for Home, About, FAQ, and My Account. The left sidebar includes a search section with a search box and a "Search" button, a "Browse" section with links for Collections, Disciplines, and Authors, an "Author Corner" section with an "Author FAQ" link, and a "Links" section with links to The College at Brockport, Drake Memorial Library, and Contact Us. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail "Home > FODL" and the title "FRIENDS OF DRAKE LIBRARY". The text describes the group's purpose and provides contact information, including a website link and an email address. A "Follow" button is located at the bottom right of the main content area. Below the main content, there are links to browse collections: "FODL Library Research Awards" and "Friends of Drake Library Newsletter".

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The College at Brockport
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Home > [FODL](#)

FRIENDS OF DRAKE LIBRARY


The Friends of Drake Library is a group whose purpose is to support both the library and the people who make use of the library and its services. To that end the group holds fundraising events for example, and those funds are used for purposes as varied as buying filament for the 3D printer space and food for the "Late Night at Drake" during finals week.

To contact the group, find out about events etc. visit our [website](http://library.brockport.edu/friends) at <http://library.brockport.edu/friends> or email Charlie Cowling at ccowling@brockport.edu.

Browse the *Friends of Drake Library* Collections:

[FODL Library Research Awards](#)

[Friends of Drake Library Newsletter](#)



Current Entry Guidelines

- The contest is open to The College at Brockport matriculated undergraduate students enrolled during the Spring 2018 or Fall 2018 semesters who completed papers during that time frame.
- Entries may be works submitted for a class or a paper written for a group, club, community organization, etc.
- Papers must be a **minimum of 9 and a maximum of 20 pages** and be formatted in a standard citation style including a clearly documented bibliography or works cited list.
- There must be a minimum of **10 references**.
- Entries are limited to one per person. Clearly and concisely describe your use of extensive scholarly and creative resources appropriate for your paper.



Timeline and Prizes

- Contest submissions, written in Spring 2018 or Fall 2018, will be collected from Wednesday, January 2, 2019 through midnight on Sunday, February 10, 2019.
- The contest is limited to the first 20 completed applications received.
- Entries will be reviewed from February 11 through March 31, 2019.
- Winners will be notified in April 2019.
- Prizes: **\$500** for First , **\$300** for Second, and **\$150** for Third place.



Advertising the Competition

- Daily Eagle announcement – the campus' online publicity venue. Targeted both faculty and students through separate posts. One example is on the right.
- A printed flyer distributed in departmental offices throughout the campus.



Tue, Oct 30, 2018 — 10:53 am

Campus News

[email the Editor about this story](#) | [return to Daily Eagle](#)

Third Annual Undergraduate Student Research Competition

The Friends of Drake Library will be sponsoring its third undergraduate student research competition. Consider submitting one of your papers from the 2018 spring or fall semester to be entered to win up to \$500.

The purpose of this competition is to encourage student research and engagement with Drake Memorial Library staff and the rich array of resources and information Drake Library makes available. Friends of Drake Library (FODL) are awarding prizes of \$500 for first, \$300 for second, and \$150 for third place finishes. Consider submitting one of your papers from the spring 2018, or use a paper that you complete this semester. We welcome submissions from all disciplines. For examples of previous year winners and guidelines for the current competition, please visit the website listed below. Faculty, please encourage students to submit work that you feel would be worthy of this award.

contact: Charlie Cowling, ccowling@brockport.edu

submitted: Tue, Oct 16, 2018 by [jkegler](#)

links: [Friends of Drake Library Research Competition](#)

documents:



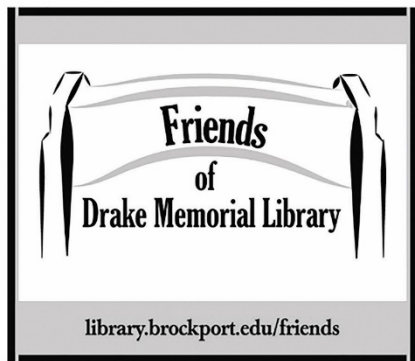
Student Newspaper Ad

Undergraduate Research

The Friends of Drake Library group is pleased to announce that we will be holding our second annual undergraduate research writing competition this academic year. Submissions may be uploaded to the site below beginning in January 2018. See the site for more detail.



Successful entries are those that demonstrate extensive, creative engagement with library information resources and staff. The prizes are \$500 for First, \$300 for Second, and \$150 for Third.



To learn more visit:

http://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/fodl_contest/.

Writing Competition

An ad was placed in the student newspaper, the ***Brockport Stylus***, and run twice.



Evaluation Team

- The evaluation team consists of two librarians and one emeriti faculty member. All are members of FODL.
- They each have access to the Digital Commons repository where they can read the papers and the statement concerning library resource usage.
- Additional members are currently being sought.
- Each member commits to reading the papers and using the rubric to evaluate them.



Submission Topics

- In the first year of the competition the majority of the submissions came from the English and History departments. All three winners were papers written for history classes.
- In the second year there was a broader range of submissions from departments across campus. The three winning papers were written for an earth science course, a health studies course, and a music course.



Evaluation Process

- Papers that do not meet the basic requirements (minimum pages and references) did not go through the scoring process.
- Each person reads the papers and scores them numerically, based on the evaluation rubric.
- The team then meets together to compare the results, discuss the papers and scores, and determine the winners.



Evaluation Rubric

		Exceeds Expectations 3	Meets expectations 2	Approaches Expectations 1	Does not meet Expectations 0
A.	Use of specific library resources	Exemplary use of discipline-specific tools (such as PsycInfo or America: History and Life), complex search strategies, and/or consultations with librarians or faculty.	Identifies basic keyword searching; identifies the use of the library catalog or multidisciplinary databases like Academic search Complete.	Identifies or misidentifies (e.g. the “library database” or “Ebsco”) only general search tools, little to no mention of specific search strategies	Little or no mention of specific library resources (e.g., only mentions Google or a basic web search)
B.	Extent to which library research has informed the project	Outlines the centrality and use of an exemplary array of resources (e.g. books, articles, archival materials) and services.	Clearly identifies library resources’ relevance to the project without demonstrating their centrality to it.	Demonstrates minimal familiarity with the library and in relation to the project.	Mostly or wholly unclear how the project connects to the library and its resources.
C.	Creative and Extensive use of information resources	Shows creativity through variety of sources chosen; Uses sources extensively throughout the paper.	Shows some creativity through some of the sources chosen, Uses sources occasionally throughout the paper.	Shows little creativity through sources chosen, Inconsistent use of sources throughout paper.	Does not show creativity through sources chosen, does not use sources throughout paper.
E.	Correct citation and crediting of resources	Consistent formatting of citation in a recognizable standard style.	Consistent formatting of citation, but not in a standard style.	Inconsistent formatting of citations.	Lack of clear citation of all material.
F.	Appropriate Academic Writing	Excellent written paper, no grammatical or punctuation mistakes, suitable to be published online.	Well-written paper, few grammatical or punctuation mistakes, suitable to be published online.	Average written paper, several grammatical and punctuation mistakes, not suitable for online publication without revision.	Poorly written paper, many grammatical and punctuation mistakes, unsuitable for online publication.



Notification to Winners

- Winners are contacted via email and phone.
- The library director and members of the FODL meet with them in person.
- The first year they were invited to a celebration in the library during a faculty/staff event of published authors which the President also attended. They also were invited to a special luncheon, which included library student worker award winners as well.
- The second year they were invited to a special luncheon in the library and received their awards there.



Winners' Celebrations

President awarding Student



**Award winners
(with the research award plaque)**



Informal Feedback Collected

- During the luncheons we asked students about the library and their experiences with research.
- Several students admitted that they wished they had known more about the library resources before they were enrolled in their upper level courses.
- The luncheons provided a networking opportunity for students with librarians for future work in the library.
- Students wondered if the databases we have would be available to them when they went to graduate school.



Competition Benefits

- Raises the visibility of the Friends of Drake Library, both for students and faculty.
- Generates a friendly competition between departments on campus for paper submissions and potential winners.
- Encourages students to interact with librarians and use library information resources.
- Encourages librarians to see the variety and scope of information resources used for different disciplines.



Competition Challenges

- Evaluating the entries is a time-consuming process.
- Finding a time to meet with everyone can be difficult, especially since one is a “snow bird.”
- Need more “friends” or faculty involvement, as two evaluators are also librarians.
- Recruiting more evaluators is a goal we have had each year. This year we hope to add at least one more, hopefully a faculty member.
- In the first two iterations of the contest it was difficult to tell to what extent the student had used the library and its resources. To that end we created a new library resources statement requirement for the 2019 competition.



New Requirement for 2019

All applications for the research writing competition must include a **library research statement** describing your research process. Please include this statement as a separate, first page of your research paper submission.

Here are some questions to help you get started with your statement.

- Describe how you started your research and how you chose your topic. Did you use any specific library or information resources? Did you consult with any librarians, faculty, or other staff?
- Describe how you found the information for this project. While information sources are not limited to library resources, it is essential to describe how the library was important to this process.



Additional Library Questions

- Did you consult with any librarians or library staff?
- What databases did you use to locate articles? Try to be as specific as you can, going beyond Ebsco to databases like America: History and Life or ScienceDirect.
- What type of search strategies did you use to locate the information? This can include websites and other information resources.
- Did you use any specific sources in the library?
- What library services did you use?
- Describe how you evaluated the resources you found. How did you narrow your sources from ones you consulted to the ones that are included in your research paper?



Testimony from Student Winner

To The Friends of the Drake Library,

Last year I won the 1st place prize for the FODL Research Writing Award. At the time I was notified I won my life was in upheaval. Recovering from a second wrist surgery and losing my disability benefits, I was uncertain if I would be returning to complete my degree in the fall of 2017. The award money helped provide a cushion that allowed me to search for work without the stress of being forced to take whatever I could find. The luncheon that I attended as a result of winning the award helped me to network and meet my eventual boss, Pat Maxwell. This award was crucial to my ability to return to school this fall, and now I will be graduating in May. I am grateful to the Friends of the Drake Library for providing students with a way to have their hard work highlighted and honored. Without this award I am not sure I would have returned to graduate.

Sincerely,
Teresa Rodriguez



Links

Thank you for attending this session!

Jennifer Kegler: jkegler@brockport.edu

A FRIENDly student research competition (this presentation)

https://works.bepress.com/jennifer_kegler/

Friends of Drake Library LibGuide

<https://library.brockport.edu/friends>

Presence on Digital Commons:

<https://digitalcommons.brockport.edu/fodl/>

