The secret life of student teachers

BY IAN CARD

Education majors at Northwestern spend their final semester switching roles from student to teacher. Student teaching gives them experience in the classroom and is the culmination of the previous three and a half years of their education.

A handful of NW student teachers gave insight as to what motivates them, shared favorite moments — some good and others not so good — and offered an inside look at what goes on in and out of the classroom.

AMANDA SCHULD

Amanda Schuld is a secondary education major concentrating in Spanish.

She has taught exploratory Spanish to middle school students; Spanish 1 to freshmen; and Spanish 2, 3 and 4 to high school upperclassmen.

Schuld describes her experience as “Crazy busy, a lot of learning ... exhausting but rewarding.”

“I wake up in the morning, and my brain doesn’t shut off until I go to bed,” Schuld said.

Schuld’s day starts when she arrives at school at 7:30 a.m. and begins preparing to teach. From then on, she is in the classroom leading lectures; facilitating discussions; and instructing students in grammar, reading, writing and speaking Spanish.

“Sometimes, all of the students are working diligently to come up with creative ways to use the material; sometimes it feels like I’m a zoo keeper and all the animals have escaped and are wreaking havoc,” Schuld said.

Despite the occasional and inevitable chaos that accompanies a middle school classroom, Schuld maintains a positive attitude about her work.

Schuld said, “Whether or not I’m helping them learn Spanish specifically, I’m helping them pursue better study habits, their passions. It may not be tied down to my subject matter, but I’m helping them learn overall.”

ETHAN RAYSBY

Ethan Raysby is a history major who has spent his student-teaching semester at MOC-Floyd Valley High School, where he teaches world and American history.

Raysby said his experience has taken him through a lot of ups and downs. Because he has made a decision to pursue a postgraduate degree after school instead of full-time teaching, focusing on his everyday duties can be difficult at times.

Raysby said, “Most days I’m improving, learning how to deal with classroom management, classroom behaviors; the simple things you don’t really know before student teaching.”

For Raysby, he learned first hand that managing a classroom full of high school students can be a bit rough.

“I had to break up a fight,” Raysby said. “I got punched in the face. (The student) was swinging for the fences and I got in the way.”

Even though his education at NW prepared him well, Raysby said that there are things you will never learn unless you are teaching in the classroom. He said that someone can know enough to teach others, but things like classroom management and involvement come only from time in the classroom.

Ukrainian crisis comes close to home

BY SARAH WEDEL

For the past two months, the crisis in Ukraine has made news headlines every day. Although to most the events in a far-off place such as Ukraine seem to have little to do with life here at Northwestern, one local student has been particularly impacted.

Summer of Service team member Taylor Studer planned on spending her summer serving with International Teams in Ukraine. International Teams is an organization with missionaries in more than 60 countries that serves specific oppressed ethnic groups, races and classes.

Studer, a social work major, said she was excited to work with the oppressed and marginalized gypsies in Ukraine. Studer was going to teach English lessons, build relationships with women and children and help at an abandoned baby unit in a pediatric hospital.

At the beginning of January, a travel alert was issued by the U.S. State Department for anyone traveling to Ukraine. Studer said she initially did not think much of the alert because many countries have a travel-alert status but are still relatively safe to travel to. A week later, Ukraine’s status turned into a travel warning. The conflict in Ukraine had worsened.

According to the Wall Street Journal, antigovernment demonstrations began in Ukraine in November 2013 after the now-former President Yanukovych turned down a European Union and Russia. President Yanukovych’s pro-Russia actions incited hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians who are pro-Western. As the demonstrations continued, they turned into a larger protest against general government corruption.

According to the BBC, on January 22, the protests turned violent when two protestors were killed in a clash with police in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev. When Patrick Hummel, NW Summer of Service leader and head of Campus Ministries, heard the Ukrainian protests had become violent, he knew NW’s Risk Assessment Committee would not approve Studer’s mission trip to Ukraine.

The Risk Assessment Committee is made up of seven members of faculty and staff. The committee must approve every domestic or international missions trip sponsored by NW. It examines trip aspects such as transportation, housing and food, health risks, crime levels and the State Department’s Safety and Security rating of the location.

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The Northwestern Theatre Department will host its 19th-annual World Premiere One-Act Festival at 6:00 p.m. this Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22, in the Keith Allen Blackbox Theatre. Selected from the playwriting class last fall, 13 student-written one-act plays will be performed. Students in this semester’s directing class, taught by Karen Barker, will be directing the original plays.

In Jeff Barker’s playwriting class last semester, NW students were instructed in the art of writing plays. Theater major Jana Latchaw was first exposed to playwriting by Jeff Barker.

“I had never written before besides children’s shows in children’s theatre,” Latchaw said.

Along with studying how to be a playwright, students in the class were taught various tricks of the trade. Jeff Barker taught students to use contractions, and truly focus on how people converse. He even sent students around town for inspiration.

“When you think of dialogue, you don’t think about writing how people actually talk,” Latchaw said. “There were days that we were asked to go to the Hub, a restaurant or the Old Factory and creep on conversations. Through observing, we found different ways to listen and write things down.”

The students in Jeff Barker’s playwriting class each composed a one-act. These 10-20 minute scripts were read by Barker and a collection of 13 were chosen for production.

Along with having his piece selected for performance, theater major Jacob Christiansen will be taking the role of director this weekend. Christiansen is familiar with this title. Even though he has had extensive experience with directing in the past, Christiansen acknowledged the complexity of this particular directing endeavor.

“It is a challenge to have so many plays going on at the same time,” Christiansen said. “Thirteen plays plus main-stage plays is difficult to schedule, find enough actors and find enough (rehearsal) places.”

Although it will be a difficult task, Christiansen said he is eager to take on the challenge of directing. His aim is to stay true to the script of his classmates.

“The mission is to do the playwright the best possible justice (and) to do the play the best possible way,” Christiansen said. “That is an exciting task.”

The instruction styles of Jeff and Karen Barker allow space for students to express their creativity. Because of this, the premiere festival showcases stories that are based on student’s real-life experiences, as well as imaginative scenes and characters.

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“From farcical comedies to Greek satyr plays, it all comes from the places and important stories of the playwrights,” Christiansen said. “What people will see is a wide variety of plays.”

The band chose to work with one producer (instead of five) this time around to produce an album that flows as a cohesive piece. There is no software synth; all electronic sounds are analog and all instruments organic. In fact, instrumentals for the songs were composed and recorded before lyrics were even written.

Another creative addition to the record is the album artwork. It was painted over the facade of a building located in Los Angeles by Young & Sick (a well-known LA-based music and arts project) with assistance from American artist Daniel Lahoda and other graffiti art groups.

Despite its light and happy feel, Supermodel contains some surprisingly darker lyrics. Foster said that “the record itself and its artwork were created out of the idea of how our self-worth, in a modern perspective, is judged on how many ‘retweets’ or ‘likes’ we get, and our need to present ourselves like supermodels, showing others who we want to perceive us as while hiding our real selves.”

Download this album on (iTunes), and pop those headphones in. You won’t regret it.

**Pseudologia Fantastica**

Key Tracks: “Coming of Age,” “Supermodel”

Supermodel includes sounds from all over the world. Moroccan styles make listeners want to move. African beats underlie the opening song, “Are You What You Want To Be.” Spanish instrumentation shapes “Nevermind.” There’s even a touch of modern psychedelic style, particularly in “Pseudologia Fantastica” that almost reflects the sounds of MGMT.
Northwestern art majors Jeriah Dunk and Kayla Vetter will be showcasing some of their work in their upcoming senior art shows.

Dunk is a graphic design major. The title of his show is Midwest Coast.

“All of my pieces communicate the tension and push-pull between California and Iowa,” Dunk said. Dunk's work is a combination of works that he has been making throughout his time at NW. It is the culmination of approximately three years of effort and learning. As an aspiring rapper, Dunk attributes much of the inspiration for his art to other musicians and artists.

“behind wiley... he’s a fine artist who does realistic oil paintings of urban people in classical scenes,” Dunk said.

Because NW's graphic design program combines graphics and fine arts, Dunk's work is a combination of media forms. The show will include computer-generated and manipulated graphics and photos, paintings, drawings and even sculptures.

One of Dunk’s favorite pieces, “Continuum,” is his newest album artwork that will be featured on a collage of album art he’s created. His work is about bringing two cultures together. The culture he grew up in and the culture that he lives in now are often juxtaposed, but for Dunk they have been brought together through art and music. Those who attend Dunk's show will be offered a tangible depiction of his connection between cultures.

Following the closing of Dunk's show, fellow art major Kayla Vetter will display her work in her own senior art show. Her show is titled Not Your Typical Dream, and its themes focus on an abstract interpretation of trees.

“I've always been fascinated by the idea of trees … the significance within a tree and how we use it,” Vetter said.

Vetter's art attempts to capture the life and importance found within trees and what they represent. "I've always been fascinated by the idea of trees … the significance within a tree and how we use it,” Vetter said.

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She began conceptualizing the idea for her show in the spring of 2013, then continued to refine her ideas over the summer and started working hard on her pieces throughout the fall semester. Media forms used by Vetter in the show include printmaking, painting and photography. Most of the images are black and white. Vetter's personal favorite pieces include two paintings that prominently feature imagery of trees and wooden instruments.

Both shows will be held in the Te Paske Art Gallery. Midwest Coast opens at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 21, and Not Your Typical Dream opens at 7 p.m. on March 24.
Hey NW, welcome to Phil Scorza’s crib. In this feature series, we’ll be looking at the intriguing offices of various professors at Northwestern. This week, we’ve started off on a high note with Phil Scorza, a professor from the art department. Scorza’s office could be an art exhibit all on its own.

“It’s the beauty of having a large office with an extremely tall ceiling,” Scorza said. “I get to make stuff here and collect cool works left behind by former students.”

Scorza has a variety of projects, including paintings, ceramics, student artwork, antique furniture and Hot Wheels cars. He even has the engine hood of a 67’ Chevy pickup truck hanging on a wall. But my favorite item in his room is probably his olive tree in front of the window. It completes the look of the place. If you ever visit this avant-garde room, you’ll know what I’m talking about.

If you don’t get a chance to wander over to the art building, here are a few snapshots of Scorza’s office home. Tune in next week for another edition of Campus Cribs.

Scorza acquired a ’67 Chevy pickup truck hood and painted the Monopoly man on it when the U.S. federal government bailed out General Motors Company and other major American car manufacturers to symbolize that the taxpayers were the ones who really owned them.

Painting of Marilyn Monroe by Scorza

A collage made through Photoshop provided by three high res photos from NASA that is composed of 60 cutouts and accented by acrylic paint to make the piece pop

Various ceramic works left behind by students

“The remains of a concrete deer with Beanie Babies on top of it; this came with the purchase of one of his past homes.

“Ashes of Problem Students”

Change of plans, change of heart
FROM PAGE 1

“Every year, we have trips that we are on the fence about,” Hummel said.

But if there is ever a question of safety, like in the case of Ukraine, the committee tends to turn down the trip. Hummel told Studer she needed to begin pursuing a different missions destination.

Studer talked to leaders at International Teams who told her there was a position for her in Greece that would involve working with Palestinian refugees.

“I woke up one morning and was going to Ukraine, and that night I was going to Greece,” Studer said.

Initially, Studer was fine with the change in her summer plans, but in the following weeks, she noticed that it was difficult to transition her passion and excitement for her time in Ukraine to her time in Greece. It was difficult for her to understand how she could be so attached to a place she had never visited.

“I was really hesitant to get to know things about Greece,” Studer said. “It was difficult for me to watch the news because it made me so sad that I wasn’t going to Ukraine.”

Through this sudden change of plans, Studer said she believes God is teaching her that she can plan all she wants, but he is still going to have his way. She has also learned that God is not limited by or to a place. She said there are people everywhere who need the love of God.

“He would have used me in Ukraine, but he can also use me in Greece,” Studer said.

Studer and two other NW students will be serving in Greece from May 25-July 19.
Grad schools beckon

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

In a recent article published in the Wall Street Journal, a question is raised about whether or not a bachelor’s degree is enough to get a well-paying job in today’s world. The author, Jeffrey Selingo, said he believes that the value of the diploma has significantly decreased. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the year 2013, 4.5 percent of those aged 25 or older with a bachelor’s degree are unemployed. It’s the highest mark our nation has ever seen. The average student debt has climbed to $29,400, which is up nearly $6,000 from 2008. With college costs seemingly climbing by the day, one has to think hard about pursuing a graduate degree.

“It really all depends on what someone’s career goals are,” business professor David Befus said. “If working in a small-town bank, for example, is your goal, then you probably won’t need to pursue an M.B.A. But if you want to work in a big-city bank, such as Chicago, an M.B.A. is almost absolutely required.”

Although some eager college graduates look to get into a master’s program as quickly as possible, Befus said that he would proceed with caution.

“The better graduate programs require experience first before enrolling in the program,” Befus said. “For me, I worked for a few years before getting into the University of Michigan’s M.B.A. program.”

Although graduate degrees are often appropriate for someone in the business field, there are other majors in which they may not share the same practicality. However, art/design major, Jeriah Dunk, said he sees benefits in having a graduate degree.

“More and more people are graduating, and having just a bachelor’s degree is becoming less and less important,” Dunk said. “You can still get a job with a bachelor’s degree, but having a master’s degree will make you much more marketable.”

Dunk said he plans on entering a motion graphics or 3-D graphics program to expand his artistic skills after a few years of practical job experience.

However, it is not all doom and gloom for those who don’t wish to attend graduate school. NW boasts a 95 percent job placement rate within six months of graduation. Additionally, Sioux County has an extremely low unemployment rate of 3 percent compared to the national 6.7 percent.
Beacon Abroad: Chicago

I decided to participate in the Chicago Semester. I know that doesn't make any sense. It isn't possible to actually surprise yourself. But it is surprising that a small-town girl like me, who's not much of a risk-taker and doesn't like venturing outside of her comfort zone, ended up moving to Chicago, Ill., one of the largest cities in America.

It turns out, making the decision to go to Chicago was the easy part. Actually doing it was a little more difficult. I was so nervous about moving into a downtown Chicago apartment. My transition from high school to college was easy because both of my older siblings attended Northwestern ahead of me, so I was already very familiar with campus and Orange City. But this move was much different. I had no idea what to expect from the great big city of Chicago.

And then I surprised myself again with how well I adjusted to city life. I quickly learned my way around, became familiar with the area and got used to using public transportation. I didn't want to waste any time since this program only lasts about three months, so I began trying to experience the city as in many ways as possible. I've been eating at a lot of great restaurants, visiting museums, watching some improv comedy shows, and, of course, doing a lot of shopping!

My favorite part of the city is definitely the opportunities for entertainment. It's the complete opposite of small town Iowa. A short train ride will take you to a local theater to see a play or a musical, to the museum campus to check out the Field Museum or the Shedd Aquarium, to Navy Pier to ride the giant Ferris wheel, to Chinatown for some delicious Chinese food, to Millennium Park for ice skating, to Michigan Avenue for a shopping excursion; the opportunities are endless.

I have done something new every weekend since I've moved here. I have loved experiencing new things, seeing the sights and exploring the city. But of course, I can't forget to mention the main reason students participate in Chicago Semester: the internships. The program sets up each student with a couple of interviews based on his or her major.

During the first week, we interviewed with different companies, and by the end of the week, we had selected which company we wanted to intern with for the entire semester. Every student is guaranteed an internship. We also have a say regarding which site we want to work at, and the interviews serve as good practice for when we will all be interviewing for full-time positions.

Chicago Semester is partnered with some pretty great companies, which means there are tons of opportunities for students participating in the program. They take into consideration what the student is looking for in a company when they set up the interviews. One of the hardest things I have had to do since I came here was pick an internship site. This was such a hard decision because every site was incredible; I know I would have been happy at any one of them.

I can't speak for every student in the program, but my internship has been wonderful. I have learned so much from my supervisor and coworkers. I have also gotten some great hands-on experience that I know will help me in the future — particularly when it comes to finding that first job after graduation. And that's really what the point of this whole program is, right? We all just want to prepare ourselves for the “real world” and make ourselves more marketable to potential employers. And the Chicago Semester does just that.
Women's basketball capped off a stellar season with an elite-eight finish at the NAIA National Tournament in Sioux City last Saturday. The Raider women were awarded a No. 1 seed at the tournament, a product of their 29-5 regular-season record, with 16 of those wins and 4 losses coming in the GPAC.

Last Saturday, the Raider women played against long-time tournament rival College of the Ozarks. After a strong start and an early lead in the first 10 minutes, NW seemed to have the game under control.

College of the Ozarks then went on a couple runs to close the half and held a 10-point lead. The second half began with both teams trading buckets. Around the 15-minute mark, NW hit a dry spell. College of the Ozarks took advantage and eventually took their lead to 20.

Northwestern managed to fight its way back to 14 at one point, but the outside shooting of COO was too much. NW fell by a final score of 90-69.

Senior Alli Engebretsen finished with a game high 26-points. Although in foul trouble much of the night, senior Kenzie Small finished with a double-double, 10 points and a career-high 12 rebounds.

The end of this season means the end of a run for seniors Sam Kleinsasser, Alli Engebretsen and Kenzie Small. The trio finished their careers with 118 wins, including two national championships, a final four appearance and an elite-eight finish this year.

They dominated the GPAC with a 65-13 record during that time and collected two GPAC regular-season and postseason titles. "It has been an amazing run," Kleinsasser said. "Playing alongside these girls, I have grown so close to them all. The relationships we have developed over the years will definitely not stop here with basketball."

"I think the relationships are the biggest key with this team," Yaw said. "These seniors have meant so much to me and my family, and I am proud of who they are and what they represent. They have left a great foundation for the next generation of leaders and really displayed qualities of confidence and a mindset of getting better every day."

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"I think we had a couple of quality starts from our starting pitchers that day," senior Cody Groskreutz said. "It takes the pressure off of our offense to do what we do."

"We didn't play our best ball," Groskreutz said. "We had a few physical and mental errors that we don't normally commit."

The Raiden baseball team improved to 17-4 after two wins against William Penn on Saturday and a 16-5 loss against Augustana on Monday.

In front end of the William Penn series, it took eight innings for the Raiders to prevail 6-5. Senior Brett Rolls singled in sophomore Colin Sandbulte in the top of eighth for the winning run.

Junior Skyler Wheeler went 3-4 at the dish. Sophomore Josh Turner picked up the win in relief.

The second game was a 3-1 win for NW. Senior Micah Linn went 2-3 with two RBI and a walk. Junior Gavin Okada was 1-2 with one RBI.

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The Raiders resume action against Viterbo on Saturday.
SSP learns value of people, not things

BY LYRIC MORRIS & ERIN VAN HORN

Eighteen students, 10 days of service, five snow days, two vans and one letter. These numbers only tell part of the story that the Spring Service Project team from Northwestern encountered throughout their journey to Jonesboro, AK.

Spring service projects give students the opportunity to dedicate 10 days during spring break to serve several organizations in various states and countries. In preparation for the trips, leaders emphasize the need for students to put aside any of the expectations they might have going into the trip.

"God has different plans than what we expect," said Natalie Wheeler, a student leader.

This fact immediately became obvious in the group's trip. Their original intent was to spend time with kids in an after school program each day. Because there were snow days in the area schools everyday of the trip, the group found themselves doing cleaning and organization projects for the organization CityYouth instead.

"We ended up having a ton of free time to invest in the leaders of the organization," said Sam Thomson, a member of the SSP team. "These (cleaning and organizing) projects hadn't happened in 10 years, so now (the kids) can go back to a long term environment that's much better. It might even be more long-lasting than what we originally came to do."

"God obviously had something in mind for us with this whole trip," Wheeler said. "Starting out with an unexpected snowstorm really taught me to rely on him more, because I can't control what is going to happen."

The lesson did not end there. Most SSP’s include one day for students to explore the different areas in which they serve. The Jonesboro team decided to stop in St. Louis on their way back to NW. The plan was to go to the City Museum and then drive to the Gateway Arch. As they were walking to the vans after time spent at the City Museum, they came to a shocking realization.

"I remember walking up as a group and seeing glass on the ground by the van and realizing that somebody had broken in," said Justine Jackovich, an adult leader on the trip.

As the whole group began to grasp what had happened while they were in the museum, they also began to comprehend what they had lost.

"I saw the glass and didn't process that it was our van at first," said Samantha Nelson, a student leader. "I didn't even realize that our stuff was gone. Everyone was gasping when we opened the van doors, and everything was gone."

Though many students lost items of both monetary and personal value, Tara Woodward, adult leader, had thought ahead.

"My one brilliant idea of the whole trip was to stick the group money in a pillow case," Woodward said. "I put it under the seat and stuffed a bunch of pillows around the seat. They (the robbers) didn't get the money, which was totally a God thing."

Many of the students expressed feeling violated after discovering that their things had been stolen. The thought of someone going through personal things was hard to get over, but the group was able to come together and support each other.

"In times of reflection we made sure to look back on the week we had," Jackovich said. "Through the relationships, the way we served and the God we serve, it was very evident that everyone knew who we could put our trust in and where our foundation lies."

Throughout the time that the Jonesboro team spent together, shattered expectations seemed to be a recurring theme. Jackovich’s hope is that students will focus on the service they did and not on the robbery that followed it.

"I think we had so many incredible things happen in the week we were in Jonesboro that our service there would be a big thing that drives the students to have a big heart for service," Jackovich said. "I have all faith that is how they will view our time there."

Though there were many mixed emotions on the trip, Wheeler felt the trip was worth it anyway.

"Honestly, I would go on the trip again and have it the exact same way... maybe not the robbery," Wheeler said.

Currently, there are no concrete leads on who may have committed the robbery or where the students’ possessions may be.

The students on the SSP trip to Jonesboro lost more than just items of monetary value. Many students from the group expressed regret over the fact that the robbery has come to overshadow the work done on the trip.

"They robbed our story," said Regina Steffen, a student from the group. "Since we got back, only two people have asked me what we actually did. The attention shouldn't have been on us like it is now, but on the kids in Jonesboro."

Aside from the changes in their trip, the group also lost some items with more sentimental value. One student on the team, Caitlin Porter, lost a letter written to her when she was a child from her now-deceased father.

"It was comforting because it was in his handwriting," Porter said. "It was irreplaceable, I think we all felt violated and vulnerable."

When they first returned to the vans and found out about the robbery, Thomson peered into the van in search of her newly purchased guitar, endearingly nicknamed "Rose." It was nowhere to be found.

"It was what hurt the most initially," Thomson said. "I had just told Sun from my worship team that he could play it, and he had said ‘This is the most beautiful guitar I’ve ever seen.’ He was so thankful, and my first thought when it was gone was, ‘I have to tell Sun…’ Its purpose was taken away."

Steffen also lost irreplaceable items of personal value, including her Bible that she'd had since middle school and photos of her brother who passed away two years ago. "I had a lot of pictures on my computer that just weren't saved anywhere else," Steffen said.

Other items lost caused almost humorous annoyances.

"It sounds really weird," Thomson said, "but I really miss having a backpack with a water bottle holder. Now I carry this briefcase backpack thing. And don’t get me wrong — I’m really thankful for it. It starts a lot of conversations."

Porter experienced similar annoyances. "I had to go out right away and buy more socks and underwear," Porter said. "And I didn’t have my winter coat, so I was walking around with a blanket around me. It was pretty funny."

For those interested in helping support the students who travelled to Jonesboro, the Student Activities Council will be holding a fundraiser garage sale featuring items from the SAC closet such as Christmas lights, balloons, bouncy balls and t-shirts. The garage sale will be held on Saturday, March 29 from 9-11 a.m. in front of the Rowenhorst Student Center.

Jonesboro SSP members Nathan Wheeler, Caitlin Porter, Justine Jackovich, Erin Van Horn, Samantha Thomson, Savannah Clapper, Natalie Wheeler and Trenton Korver were still smiling after their van was broken into and many of their personal items were stolen.