



College News

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NWSC Hires Two New Key Staff Members

Northwest Suburban College recently announced the appointment of Dr. Debra Gurney, Ed.D., as Dean of Academic and Student Affairs and Director of Nursing, and Mr. Andy Berger as Associate Director of Admissions. Both individuals come to the College with extensive experience in their areas of expertise. Dr. Gurney served as an Associate Dean and Professor in the School of Nursing at Aurora University. Previous to this position, she was the Founding Director of the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program and Associate Professor of Nursing at North Central College. She also served as Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences and Director of Nursing at the College of DuPage, Assistant Dean of the College of Health Sciences and Founding Executive Director of the BSN Program at Dominican University, and Executive Director of Nursing Programs at City Colleges of Chicago. Dr. Gurney holds a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Higher Education from Northern Illinois University. Dr. Gurney's extensive back-

ground in nursing and health sciences will enhance and expand the course offerings at Northwest Suburban College.

Mr. Berger's experience includes leadership in higher education admissions policy, enrollment management, and marketing. He has successfully created high school and community partnerships with institutions of higher learning. His focus on student recruitment and student success will contribute to the growth of the College and increase support provided to current and prospective students. Welcome, Dr. Gurney and Andy! You are essential to the current and future success of Northwest Suburban College.

Contents:

**New Staff Members—
p.1**

New Certificate Programs—p.2

EBSCO resources—p. 3

Find More Illinois—p.4

Librarian contact:

mbyrne@nwsc.edu



NWSC Offers Two New Certificate Programs

Dr. Jay Shahed, Acting President and Provost, recently announced to the College community that the College has received ABHES (Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools) approval for the MRI Technologist Program. This represents another effort by the College to offer new and exciting programs that will provide students who complete the program with a meaningful and profitable career. The 12 month MRI program consists of 540 classroom/didactic hours (both in-person and asynchronous online) and 960 supervised clinical hours. Graduates of the program will be eligible for certification, and fully prepared to enter the workforce. The College recently launched the MRI program on June 4, 2026. Interested students should enroll to take advantage of this great opportunity to study for these positions that are in demand both now, and will be in the future. Check out our [web site](#) for a complete description of the program.

Another recently ABHES approved certificate program, the Healthcare Management Certificate program, started classes on May 7. This 7-week program combines 42 hours of in-class and 84 hours of asynchronous coursework. Students are prepared with the management and leadership skills to embark on administrative positions in the rapidly expanding healthcare field. Topics of study include finance, policy development, and personnel management. Graduates will be prepared for supervisory positions in various healthcare settings, including hospitals and clinics. For additional information on this program, please see our [web site](#) and/or call Admissions at: 847-290-6425.



Spotlight on EBSCO resources

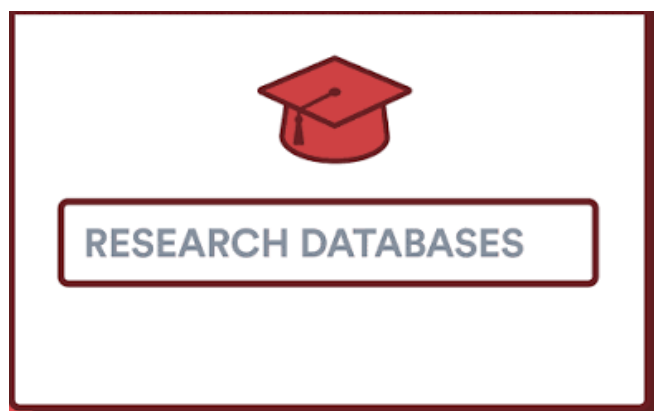
As part of the Library orientation, new students learn about the [Learning Express](#) database available to them via the EBSCO resources found in the library “links” on the library web site. This database includes useful study tools for students preparing for the MA and PhT certification exams. Students can take practice tests in preparation for these exams, and receive feedback on their attempts. However, in order to take advantage of these tools, students are required to create individual usernames and passwords so that they can save their progress on the practice exams, as well as any study guides they upload to their account.

In addition, students can take advantage of the “Resume Builder” features in this database. Students can

create a resume from scratch and/or upload and edit an existing resume. This feature now includes sample resumes to use as guides, as well as Artificial Intelligence tips to improve the language and design of the resume. There is a helpful video which explains how to use the Resume Builder, as well as a guide to writing a cover letter. Once again, however, in order to take advantage of the resume component, students will have to create their own personal account in order to save their work. A bonus of doing so allows students to actually search for and apply for jobs from the *Learning Express* site and to easily upload their resumes and references to their applications, which are saved in their account. Let me know if your students need a refresher on using

this useful database, and I will be happy to review it for them.

Another type of resource available from EBSCO are the various collections of ebooks. From the Library links page, users will find access to ebooks on science, business, and a separate link to information on small businesses. These full text ebooks include reference books, as well as popular trade publications. The collections are updated on a regular basis, insuring that titles on these subjects are current. All of the EBSCO resources are found via the “Links” tab on the Library pages in *Populi*.



Find More Illinois expands academic holdings

Northwest Suburban College is part of the *Find More Illinois* consortium of public, school, academic, and special libraries, for the purposes of interlibrary loan.

This vast network of libraries allows us to share our collections with participating libraries, as well as to borrow items from libraries in the network. Recently, *Find More Illinois* has added seven academic libraries to its membership, bringing the total to eleven academic libraries. The largest of these include: Bradley University, Illinois College, Knox College, Millikin University, North Central College, Northern Illinois University, Olivet Nazarene University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. This shared catalog provides

members access to over nine million items in over one hundred world languages. Consequently, library users can easily request items that are not available at their own library, at no cost. Smaller libraries with limited budgets greatly benefit from this arrangement as they are able to borrow items they cannot afford to purchase for their own collections. The link to the *Find More Illinois* shared catalog is on the library web site. Borrowing requests are handled through the librarian, so let me know if you need help searching the catalog and/or requesting items from a participating library.



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