Featured Staff: Anchalee Hocharoen, Associate Director/Head of Administrative Computing

From the first time they click on the my.lakeforest site, to viewing class schedules, to registering for classes, and ordering their books, it’s hard to find an area where Lake Forest College students aren’t benefiting from the computer expertise of Anchalee Hocharoen in her role as LIT’s Head of Administrative Computing. Anchalee and her staff assist Lake Forest College’s administrative staff with a number of computer-related functions that keep the College’s day-to-day online presence running smoothly.

What are your main responsibilities as LIT’s Associate Director/Head of Administrative Computing?

“Maintaining a lot of things that need to be organized and made everything work properly! Our team consists of three staff, and I think we do a lot in comparison to the number of our staff. We do a lot of data integration for several departments on campus, and support all administrative staff, such as the Business Office, Alumni Relations, Admissions, Student Life, Registration, and Financial Aid, on the use of Jenabar EX (the campus’s administrative software platform) and my.lakeforest.”

What is a typical day like for you and your unit?

What types of projects are you working on?

“Every day, we need to make sure the main databases is running properly, and the pipeline between my.lakeforest and the database. We make sure no e-mail spam is coming through. Routine tasks include granting or revoking users access based on their status, troubleshooting and providing support on my.lakeforest, and e-mail administration, including adding and removing e-mail accounts, maintaining distribution groups, and troubleshooting any e-mail issues. We have programs written that make some processes automatically run, but a lot needs to be checked manually. Projects include in-house designed software for departments like the Writing and Quantitative Resource Centers, Mail Services, and Public Safety.”

What kind of background is needed for all these tasks?

“I have a Master’s degree in Computer Science, and all of us on our team have backgrounds in programming, software development and design, computer science, and database management.”

How long have you been at Lake Forest College?

“About 27 years. It used to be a separate department on campus, and we were over in Johnson B for a time. We combined into one department (LIT) with the library in 1996. In 2004, we moved over to the library when the building was renovated and expanded.”

What do you like to do away from work?

“My family and I do a lot of gardening. I used to sew, but it always takes so much time. Every three or four years I travel to Bangkok to visit family and friends.”

You have a FitBit, so you must do a lot of walking! Where is your favorite place to walk on campus?

“It’s so hard to get outside, with the weather the way it is! When it gets warmer, we sometimes like to walk in the neighborhood west of campus. We used to walk down to the beach a lot, but not so much anymore. Maybe we’ll make it down there again this year!”

Environmental Studies Assessment Project in the Library

This semester, under the direction of Environmental Studies Professor John Wilk, students in the ES 220: Ecology, Evolution, and the Environment class will be performing some assessment work in the library. “In order to give the students an opportunity to learn the theory and practice the application of ecological assessment techniques,” says Wilk, “I am asking my students to examine the diversity and richness of symbols used in book titles.”

By looking at books in the library’s collection, and by “using the occurrence of certain letters, numbers, or blank spaces as analogues of species occurrence observations in the wild,” according to Wilk, the students “will be able to use this data to calculate primary and comparative indices of species richness and to demonstrate the behavior of species richness rarefaction curves.” This project gives his students the opportunity to perform assessment work without having to face the cold weather.

The students will be using other techniques in their library assessment work to estimate populations in nature using the mark and recapture method. While assessment work for the class is normally done outside during warmer weather, Wilk looks forward to an enthusiastic response from his students on their field studies in the library. “I find this use of the library especially fitting since the books are primarily made up of processed trees; a literary forest.”

Cinema Studies Faculty Recommendations

Faculty members from the Cinema Studies program shared some of their favorite films in the second floor Current Periodicals Reading Room. See if you can match up each film with its faculty member, and then visit the library to see other faculty recommendations.

2. Blade Runner 8. Wild Strawberries
3. El Laberinto del Fauno (Pan’s Labyrinth) 9. The Valet
4. The Philadelphia Story 10. Stella Dallas
5. Persepolis 11. Celda 211
6. Zorba the Greek a. Janet McCracken
7. All About Eve a. Dan leMahieu
8. Wild Strawberries b. Linda Horwitz
9. The Valet c. Richard Fisher
d. Linda Horwitz
e. Gizella Menneses
f. Cynthia Hahn

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Popular Interest Magazines Highlighted in Reading Room

The Current Periodicals Reading Room is now highlighting current and popular interest magazines such as Discover, Game Informer, The Nation, The New Yorker, and Out. These titles can be found in the row of front-facing shelves as you enter the Reading Room.

Upcoming Faculty Author Talk

Professor of French Cynthia Hahn

Wednesday, March 29: 4 p.m., Room 221

Professor Hahn will discuss her new translation of Lebanese author Evelyne Accad’s historical novel on the Tunisian women’s movement, Blessures des mots: Journal de Tunisie/Wounding Words: A Woman’s Journal in Tunisia. Evelyne Accad and the cover artist, Monique Loubet, will be present.

What are you reading?


Your matches:

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