

Transition Time

Quinn McGee

Alas, the time has come. I must leave the bullpen office of Campus Ministry to move up to the Library for the coming winter months. It is not goodbye, it's see you soon as I will be back in Campus Ministry in February. Until then, however, I am in a new role in the Library. It was quite the transition when I moved upstairs a few weeks ago but I was welcomed with open arms by my new colleagues. I had to learn the ways of the Library, from the normal jobs associated with a library to things that generally don't cross your mind when you think of a study place, like ping pong and mini golf tournaments.

Already I have been pegged as an organized person, a label that I'm not completely convinced is appropriate but I have set out to take on some of the most time consuming and daunting tasks that comes with my new job... cleaning up and organizing the storage closet. Now for someone who doesn't understand the Gonzaga Library this might not seem so bad, but if you know all the different services provided by the library then you are well aware of the fact that this is not just a closet filled with books. The Library is not like other libraries and the task of organizing stretched way beyond books. I walked into the storage room and immediately it looks like the back room of a retail store in a mall. Polo shirts, button downs, blazers, and boxes of shoes adorn the walls while belts and ties fill a cabinet of drawers. It was now my task to make sense of it all so that we could easily serve a student the next time he forgot a part of the dress code.

So I spent my first few days in there, rolling up ties and hanging shirts. It seemed pretty meaningless at the time but once I was finished I realized how much my work was appreciated. The school soon had its first formal dress day since I'd moved to the Library and because of the work that I put in during those first few days we were able to make sure every kid had a coat and tie before their first period class. I was proud of my work.

Obviously my work is not limited to organizing a closet but it surprised me as something meaningful that I was able to accomplish. And there have been other jobs, like making Thanksgiving dinner for the nearly 70 people we serve for Campus Kitchen, that have stuck out to me so far with my move to the Library but it is those where I can directly help out the students in need and see the result that have proved to be some of the most memorable so far.