

Dear Diary,

I'm really excited to finally make it to NDSU!

Because there is so much awesome stuff around the state, it took me a while to make it here, but I'm sure glad I did! NDSU was in finals season, and everyone was telling me that there was a lot of extra stuff going on to enjoy.

I told them I wanted to see it all!

Before I got there, I heard that all NDSU students get their picture taken with the Bison statue just across the street, so I thought that'd be a great place to start.

Once I made it into the library, they were pretty busy, so I looked at one of the displays and checked the Information Kiosk. While I did find lots of good info about how to use the library, I really needed someone to show me around, so I wouldn't miss out on anything.



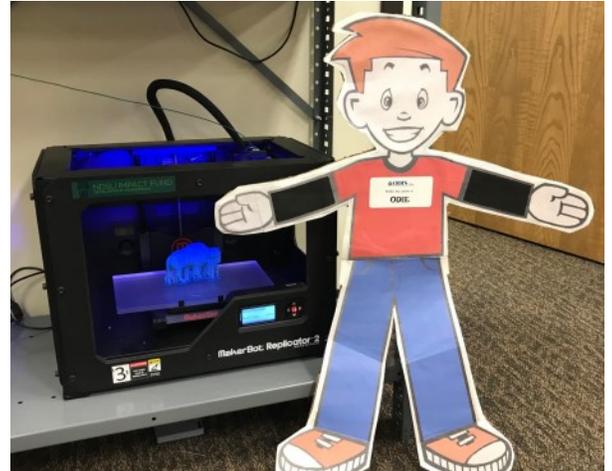
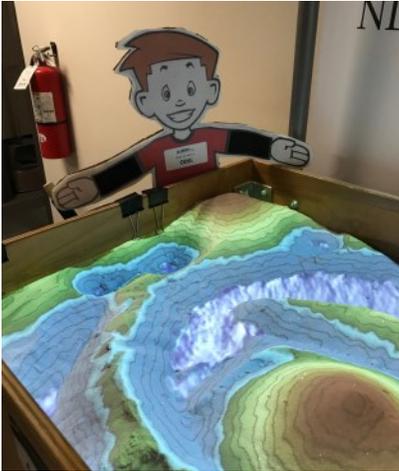


And then I noticed the student art projections on the ceiling. Mind blown! There were a bunch of student Architecture projects, as well, and I was very impressed! They said they'd take me to the Architecture library, downtown, a little later, so I could see more. I couldn't hide my excitement!

Meeting Dean Mocnik was great. As excited as I was about all the Architecture stuff, he was absolutely passionate about the NDSU special collections and agriculture — while we chatted, he told me about sticking his hand inside of a cow! Of course I made him show me the [picture](#). Ew!

I grabbed some informational literature, then learned what Batsa bricks were when we visited the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection—they're actually molded earth bricks made from soil, straw and ... manure. Double ew! I saw some cool homestead photos, iron crosses, and Russian dolls too!





The library has so much interactive stuff! I got to play with the Geosciences Augmented Reality sandbox, learning about topography, got to use the Digital Fabrication Lab and 3D printer, experienced the VR Lab, and, in the Presentation Studio, did a practice session for the presentation I'll have to do when I get back to the ODIN office.

NDSU shares responsibility for the Federal Depository Library Program with UND for our state, and they just did a [50 Year Celebration!](#) I did miss out on that, but Susanne and Little Ben showed me how to discover all the Government Information I could ever want. Little Ben and I became great friends!

I had to get some work done on my report, but I needed to grab a coffee first. I looked at more [displays](#), too.



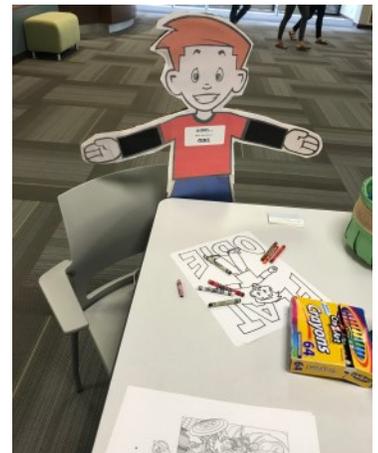


When I went upstairs to work ... OMG!

So. Many. Books!



I used the Catalog Kiosk to find what I was looking for, found the State and Federal Documents Collections that Susanne told me about, and went online to book a Study Room, so I could really focus on getting some work done. Zach was super nice when he checked out the key for me.



I worked really hard and found some stuff that I wanted to keep and used the KIC scanner to make a .pdf that I could take with me.

I needed to relax a little, because all of the end-of-semester stress was getting to me. They had some [great activities](#) available. They even let me be the 24/7 Candy Fairy! The students were really grateful for the treats!



We were scheduled to go out to the branch locations next—because so much awesomeness is too big for just one building!



Downtown, I learned that Klai Juba Wald Architectural Studies Library supports the only architecture program in the state! They found me some cool stuff—like the student work I saw at the Main Library. I got to see the Materials Collection — building material samples so students can literally get a feel for the buildings they'll be making. They showed me stuff from the flat files and introduced me to the program faculty!

Next, we went to the Archives, and they have so much cool stuff! I could see why they needed the new compact shelving. They showed me some horn tipplers and the Lawrence Welk's accordion! I looked at really old newspapers on microfilm, historic books, and photographic slides.

We stopped in at the Annex and saw all the materials they keep there. NDSU just has so much awesome. I was a little sad to leave NDSU, but you know I'll be back!

— Odie

