

The Newspaper

The Prospectus published its first issue in 1968, shortly after Parkland College held its first classes, and has been published continuously ever since. The content of the newspaper is chosen, written, and edited by the students, thereby allowing readers a glimpse into the diverse voices and unique perspectives that comprise Parkland's student body.



The Grant

In 2022, two librarians embarked on a project to assess, inventory, digitize, preserve, and increase accessibility of the archives' complete collection of *The Prospectus*. To do this, they applied for and received an Illinois State Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) Historical Records Grant to help with the cost of digitization and purchasing supplies. The grant also provided an opportunity to pay a University of Illinois iSchool student for a practicum to assist with metadata and uploading the images to SPARK, Parkland's institutional repository.

The Prospectus on Parkland's digital repository, SPARK

Project Phases

1. Condition assessment
2. Inventory
3. Digitization
4. Rehousing
5. Upload issues to SPARK and the IDNC
6. Outreach



First Issue
December 18-19, 1968

Assessment

The Prospectus collection consists of physical newspapers, microfilm, and born digital issues. An assessment of the physical newspapers revealed that the earliest editions were becoming brittle and discolored. Offering microfilm access is also a problem due to the increasing obsolescence of this technology. It was determined that digitization and rehousing would provide the best protection and increase opportunities for access.

Inventory

Issues were carefully inventoried in a spreadsheet. Missing issues were located with the help of a new donation from *The Prospectus* offices.

Microfilm image inventory for *The Prospectus*

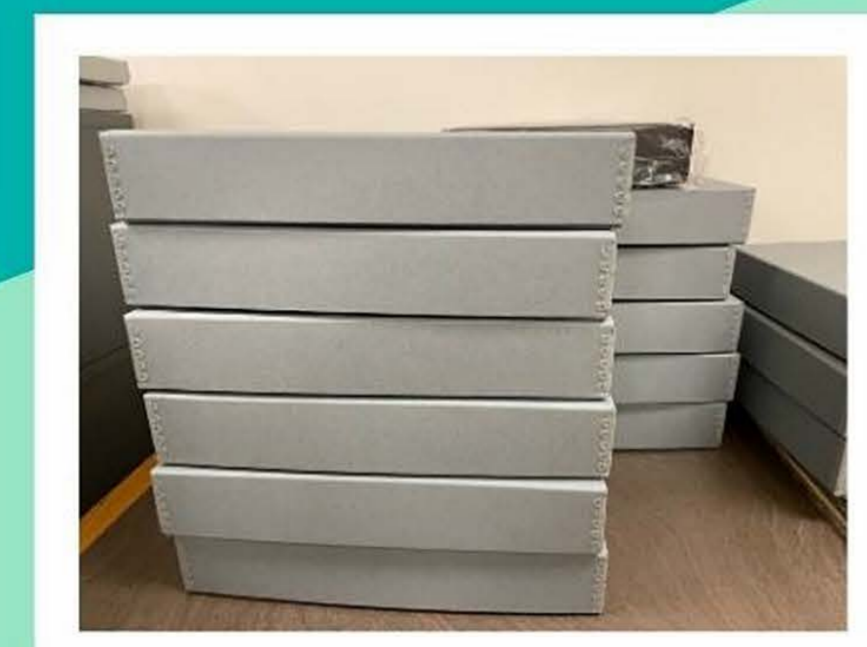
Item No.	Issue	Date	Volume	Page	Condition	Notes
217	Prospectus	March 12, 1980	13	24	8	Full
218	Prospectus	March 19, 1980	13	25	8	Full
219	Prospectus	March 26, 1980	13	26	8	Full
220	Prospectus	April 2, 1980	13	27	8	Full
221	Prospectus	April 9, 1980	13	28	8	Full
222	Prospectus	April 16, 1980	13	29	8	Full
223	Prospectus	April 23, 1980	13	30	8	Full
224	Prospectus	April 30, 1980	13	31	8	Full
225	Prospectus	May 7, 1980	13	32	8	Full
226	Prospectus	May 14, 1980	13	33	8	Full
227	Prospectus	May 21, 1980	13	34	8	Full
228	Prospectus	May 28, 1980	13	35	8	Full
229	Prospectus	June 4, 1980	13	36	8	Full
230	Prospectus	June 11, 1980	13	37	8	Full
231	Prospectus	June 18, 1980	13	38	8	Full
232	Prospectus	June 25, 1980	13	39	8	Full
233	Prospectus	July 2, 1980	13	40	8	Full
234	Prospectus	July 9, 1980	13	41	8	Full
235	Prospectus	July 16, 1980	13	42	8	Full
236	Prospectus	July 23, 1980	13	43	8	Full
237	Prospectus	July 30, 1980	13	44	8	Full
238	Prospectus	August 6, 1980	13	45	8	Full
239	Prospectus	August 13, 1980	13	46	8	Full
240	Prospectus	August 20, 1980	13	47	8	Full
241	Prospectus	August 27, 1980	13	48	8	Full
242	Prospectus	September 3, 1980	13	49	8	Full
243	Prospectus	September 10, 1980	13	50	8	Full
244	Prospectus	September 17, 1980	13	51	8	Full
245	Prospectus	September 24, 1980	13	52	8	Full
246	Prospectus	October 1, 1980	13	53	8	Full
247	Prospectus	October 8, 1980	13	54	8	Full
248	Prospectus	October 15, 1980	13	55	8	Full
249	Prospectus	October 22, 1980	13	56	8	Full
250	Prospectus	October 29, 1980	13	57	8	Full
251	Prospectus	November 5, 1980	13	58	8	Full
252	Prospectus	November 12, 1980	13	59	8	Full
253	Prospectus	November 19, 1980	13	60	8	Full
254	Prospectus	November 26, 1980	13	61	8	Full
255	Prospectus	December 3, 1980	13	62	8	Full
256	Prospectus	December 10, 1980	13	63	8	Full
257	Prospectus	December 17, 1980	13	64	8	Full
258	Prospectus	December 24, 1980	13	65	8	Full
259	Prospectus	January 1, 1981	14	1	8	Full
260	Prospectus	January 8, 1981	14	2	8	Full
261	Prospectus	January 15, 1981	14	3	8	Full
262	Prospectus	January 22, 1981	14	4	8	Full
263	Prospectus	January 29, 1981	14	5	8	Full
264	Prospectus	February 5, 1981	14	6	8	Full
265	Prospectus	February 12, 1981	14	7	8	Full
266	Prospectus	February 19, 1981	14	8	8	Full
267	Prospectus	February 26, 1981	14	9	8	Full
268	Prospectus	March 5, 1981	14	10	8	Full
269	Prospectus	March 12, 1981	14	11	8	Full
270	Prospectus	March 19, 1981	14	12	8	Full
271	Prospectus	March 26, 1981	14	13	8	Full

Access

Access will be provided through two separate repositories based on digital preservation standards and the features offered by each. Individual issues will be available as PDFs on Parkland's digital repository, SPARK. These are in the process of being batch uploaded by a University of Illinois practicum student. The Illinois Digital Newspaper Collection (IDNC) offers full-text search capabilities for the newspapers on their website: <https://idnc.library.illinois.edu/>



Before: Banker's boxes of issues donated by *The Prospectus* offices



After: Issues housed in appropriately sized, archival boxes

Rehousing

Physical newspapers have been rehousing in properly sized boxes from Gaylord Archival. Finding proper boxes will better support the papers and help prevent damage as they are moved around.

Access & Outreach

Rehousing

A Grant for Preserving Parkland's Past: Digitizing *The Prospectus* Student Newspaper

Overview

Assessment & Inventory

Digitization



Check out *The Prospectus* in SPARK

Digitization

The Prospectus collection contains 1,153 printed issues that were not created electronically, 732 of which were previously microfilmed. Issues from 2011 to 2020 were born digital and most had been added to SPARK prior to this project. PDFs were also submitted to the Illinois Digital Newspaper Collections (IDNC) in March of 2022 for increased access and preservation.

We chose to work with Apex CoVantage based on a recommendation from Will Schlaack, Digital Reformatting Coordinator at the University of Illinois, who manages the IDNC. Digitizing the print and microfilm issues cost \$8,558.51, which was shared by grant funding and Parkland.

Apex digitized the microfilm and provided metadata while partnering with Backstage Library Works to digitize the physical issues of *The Prospectus*. All of our microfilm and newspapers returned from the digitization process in great condition!

Presenters: Kati Haskins, Information Services Librarian
khaskins@parkland.edu

Amanda Avery, Learning Technologies & Collections Librarian / College Archivist
aavery@parkland.edu



Parkland College is a fully accredited, public community college serving parts of 12 counties in East Central Illinois. With a current annual enrollment of more than 13,000 students, Parkland has served more than 335,000 total students since its founding in 1967.



The Parkland College Archives was established in 1972 by Parkland's first president and is now located in the Learning Commons, along with the Library, Tutoring, Writing Lab, and Presentation Center. The Archives is dedicated to preserving, promoting, and making accessible records of enduring value relating to the College's history and administration.