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UNE Library Services Quarterly Report May 2015

UNE Library Services

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Part I: Unit Strategic Initiatives

1. Promote research and transformative use of primary source materials in UNE Special Collections

UNE Library Services continues to create and foster new opportunities for students to engage with unique materials in its Special Collections. The March 4, 2015 event **“Lunch & Library: Inhabiting the Patient Experience”** was an interactive session that used narratives from film, artists’ books, and other sources to reflect upon the experiences of patients being treated for terminal cancer. Students were offered a patient case using details from the [Martha A. Hall Collection](#) of artists’ books and interviews.



In small interprofessional groups at Ludcke Hall (*see photo*), participants discussed Martha’s case and their own feelings and reactions. The goals of the program were to build teamwork and communication skills, keeping the patient at the center of practice, with the idea that patients are the experts on their own lives. The session was developed and led by Cathleen Miller, Curator of the Maine Women Writers Collection, and Jennifer Tuttle, Dorothy M. Healy Professor of Literature and Health, and sponsored by the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC), Maine Women Writers Collection, and UNE Library Services. A video recording of the session is available in DUNE: Digital UNE at http://dune.une.edu/libserv_facpres/2/

Challenges: Our goal is to match art and cultural collections and exhibits with aspects of the UNE curricula.

Proposed Timeline: Ongoing and yearly.

Supports Strategic Initiatives #1 & #2 – UNE will establish educational programs that bridge traditional academic boundaries to create transformative experiences for students; UNE will have a culture and infrastructure that support students and faculty in research and scholarship.

2. Expand and support the global reach of library resources and services for the UNE community around the world

UNE Library Services is continually growing its collection of online resources - all available 24/7 from any internet-connected device. Currently we offer:

- 200 online databases
- 6,500 DVDs and streaming video
- 92,000 online journals
- 645,000 electronic books



Above left: JSTOR, a database available from the Library; Above right: one of the available eBooks; On right: one of many streaming videos.



Annually, Library Staff analyze cost-per-use statistics for all of the subscription resources, to ensure tuition dollars are going towards resources that offer the best bang for the buck. Resources with high cost-per-use statistics are recommended for withdrawal, and staff continues to look out for new, affordable, high-quality Library resources to add to the offerings.

Challenges: Increasing costs of electronic resources, vendor licensing restrictions.

Proposed Timeline: Ongoing.

Supports Strategic Initiatives #2 & #4 – UNE will have a culture and infrastructure that support students and faculty in research and scholarship; UNE will optimize university resources and support ethical, effective, efficient, and responsible decision-making.

3. Assess and address the needs of the 21st century UNE Library patron using a New Library Models Task Force

In light of changes within the University and in higher education nationally, UNE Library Services has established a New Models Task Force to assess our preparedness as a department for new developments and challenges. The group has been meeting this year and surveying library literature to help determine trends and best practices. We will now be entering into a period of broader self-study and reflection, exploring the adaptations necessary to meet the changing needs of the academic research library in the 21st century. Our aim with this project is to assess and address the needs of the 21st century academic library patron. Our self-study will inform strategic planning for library services moving forward. Information gleaned from the self-study will help to identify current practices and opportunities for change, within the framework of existing Library staffing and budget. Methods to accomplish the study will include:

- Enhanced performance appraisal process for employees and their managers to critically appraise current job descriptions, tasks, work flow, time management, and opportunities for improvement.
- Survey of Library Services staff to gather further comments on perceptions of library trends nationally and trend adoption locally.
- Survey of faculty members for input. Student input is gathered yearly through regular survey instruments.
- A staff retreat this summer will serve as the culmination of the information gathering phase before a draft strategic plan is written.

Challenges: Maintain UNE Library Services as an effective and efficient service department currently and into the future.

Proposed Timeline: Now through Academic Year 2016.

Supports Strategic Initiatives: All four initiatives are addressed by this self-study and potential reorganization, but particularly #4: UNE will optimize university resources and support ethical, effective, efficient, and responsible decision-making.

Part II: Unit Updates

On April 8, 2015, Holocaust survivor Max Slabotsky spoke to students about his experiences. The event took place in the new Biddeford Campus Art Gallery at Ketchum Library, surrounded by the current exhibit: *Write Again Soon: Letters from World War II*. Sponsored by the Departments of History and Philosophy, Political Science, and English, the room was packed with over 70 students in attendance, plus staff and faculty.



Max Slabotsky speaks to students in the Biddeford Campus Art Gallery

- Director of Reference Services Barbara Swartzlander presided as a “judge” on March 3 in Ayala Dalia Cnaan’s *Sociology of Aging* class for her students’ Universal Design Projects presentations. Students in Ayala’s course work in teams to create design interventions to improve the lives of older adults.
- Reference & Instruction Librarian Bobby Gray just completed her 11th year as leader for the Book Discussion Group of the Woman’s Literary Union. The WLU was founded in Portland in 1889 by Eunice Nichols Frye.
- Cadence Atchinson of Reference Services continues to teach Hatha Yoga for the student Cardio Club, and does “Yoga for stress management” sessions with the EXS 120 classes.
- The newest issue of *Zephyr*, UNE’s literary magazine, acknowledges Access Services Librarian Bethany Kenyon for her work digitizing and making *Zephyr* available in DUNE: DigitalUNE.



Student Assistants Jessica P. (left, nursing) and Jess P. (right, dental hygiene) working at Portland Campus Library circulation desk.

60

students employed by UNE Library Services this semester.