Part I: Unit Strategic Initiatives

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

UNE Library Services' New Models Task Force continues to explore the adaptations necessary to meet the changing needs of our patrons in the 21st century. The group has:

- Surveyed Library Services staff to gather input on national library trends and local trend adoption;
- Surveyed faculty members about current and future Library services;
- Surveyed students specifically on website usability;
- Completed the annual performance appraisal process for employees and their managers to critically appraise current job descriptions, tasks, work flow, time management, and opportunities for improvement;
- Conducted a staff retreat to brainstorm future directions and priorities to inform strategic planning. (*see staff retreat photo below*)

Further work includes more information gathering and a new strategic plan within the academic year.

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.

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

The UNE Art Gallery in the Ketchum Library features *Ant Farm: at the Nexus of Art and Science* , a multi-media collaborative exhibit merging art and science inspired by leafcutter ants. Four Maine-based artists, Dorothy Schwartz, Rebecca Goodale , Vivien Russe, and Colleen Kinsella, created a project where they truly work collaboratively - like a small ant colony—to create a singular but multi-faceted project. This visual representation of leafcutter ants highlights their social structure and life cycle, including nuptial flights, egg laying, food gathering, and fungus cultivating.

The exhibit features sculptures, prints, drawings, scrolls, books, installations, signage, paintings, puppetry and origami, and runs through December 18, 2015. It connects with various curriculum themes including the topic of behavioral ecology. Students in a current English Department course will experience the exhibit as a class and complete related class work.

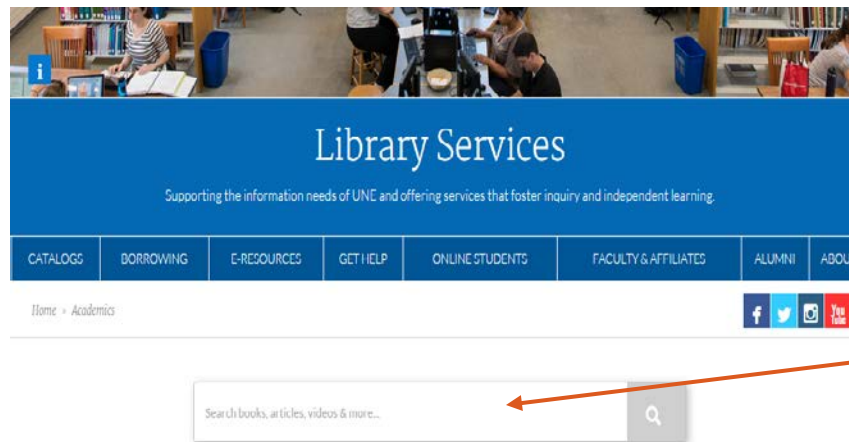**Challenges**: Our goal is to match art and cultural collections and exhibits with aspects of the UNE curricula.

Proposed Timeline: Ongoing.

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.

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

New at UNE Library Services: A single search box discovery tool called Summon. This "web-scale discovery service" has one simple search box to search across UNE Library resources to find journal articles, books, chapters, DVDs, streaming video, databases, special collections, and more - making our resources more easily findable and usable by students, faculty and staff wherever they are. Many college and university libraries offer this efficient service including the University of Maine system, Colby, Bates and Bowdoin, and now UNE Library Services.

A screenshot of UNE Library Services website www.une.edu/library

Library Services
Supporting the information needs of UNE and offering services that foster inquiry and independent learning.

CATALOGS | BORROWING | E-RESOURCES | GET HELP | ONLINE STUDENTS | FACULTY & AFFILIATES | ALUMNI | ABOUT

Home › Academics

Search books, articles, videos & more...

The single search box says "search books, articles, videos and more"

Challenges: To make the vast array of high-quality Library-provided resources easily findable and usable for students , faculty and staff.

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.

Part II: Unit Updates

On September 23, 2015, Ketchum Library held an Open House to welcome new students. The superhero-themed event drew students who enjoyed snacks, raffle prizes, and fun activities while learning about how the Library can help them succeed at UNE. At the photo booth station students chose costumes, props, and a backdrop for the green screen to create fun and wacky pictures like these, which were shared on the Library Instagram account:

The Abplanalp Library will hold an open house in the Spring once construction on Alumni Hall is complete and the Library space is fully accessible.

- UMass Medical School has applied to renew its 5-year contract as the Regional Medical Library for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine New England Region (NNLM/NER). As part of the effort, they invited UNE Library Services to become a Partner Library. Partner Libraries are larger libraries with complex library operations and a diverse user base, and provide leadership and expertise to the region. Current New England partner libraries include Brown, Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Tufts, University of Vermont, University of Connecticut, Boston College, and others. Maine Medical Center is the only other partner library in Maine.

- Reference & Instruction Librarians Cadence Atchinson and Elizabeth Dyer presented at the 7th Annual Maine Academic Libraries Day on June 16, 2015 at Colby College. Their presentation entitled "Flipping & Diving: A Tale of Two Information Literacy Approaches" described novel teaching ideas used with UNE students last spring.

- Student comments about the Library from the Website Usability survey in June 2015:

  "Thank you for creating a friendly atmosphere at our library. Everyone goes out of their way to help. "

  "So far it's the best I've used, and that's compared to the SUNY system, which is huge."

  "Overall, I find the UNE Libraries very easy to navigate. Everything is fairly straightforward and user friendly. Plus, the staff is very helpful."

62 students employed by UNE Library Services this semester.