

March 2017

UNE Library Services Report to the Board of Trustees

Part I: Unit Key Issues

Without this resource, I wouldn't know what to do about paying for textbooks that even renting can run into hundreds of dollars. I know for me personally, that would be almost undoable if we didn't have the textbooks on reserve to help out.

-Caroline Cooper, '19,
(Neuroscience)

UNE Libraries help alleviate student anxiety

A new [study cited in EAB](#) on January 17th identified the cost of textbooks as the number one worry of incoming college students. And no wonder, as costs have soared over 1000% since 1977, with the average for an undergraduate exceeding \$1300 per year. To address this concern, UNE Libraries is acquiring an increasing number of required textbooks as ebooks or course reserves where they can be accessed by all students. While traditional library collections development policies of the past have specifically excluded required textbooks, UNE's policies have evolved over the years in response to student demand for access to the materials they need for their courses.



An undergrad Biochem major checks out a textbook from Library Reserves. The textbook shown costs \$225 to buy on Amazon!

Part II: Unit Updates

Having the Library open on snow days is beneficial because I can't study at home, so it's wonderful to have a place to study that's full of resources I need for classes.

-Chinonye Okeke, '17,
(ABSN)

UNE Libraries are open on snow days!

It's that time of year when the weather can interfere with our classes and activities here at UNE. UNE Library Services always tries to maintain our 24/5 hours of operation, even when weather conditions force cancellations of classes and other service offices. A grateful medical student sent us this meme upon finding out we were open on a recent snow day!



Art Meets Academics: UNE Biddeford Campus Art Gallery presents “ZERO -los desplazados de Colombia, photography in black and white” – photography by Robert Pennington, Jan. 26-March 1, 2017



ZERO is an intimate study that examines the lives of Colombia's desplazados (displaced). It is a story about people who are disenfranchised and often invisible. Students from Professor Steven Byrd's Latin American Studies class and from Professor Loren Johnston's Displaced Cultures and Society class met together to study the exhibition, and to discuss the project and the reasons behind it with the artist. Mr. Pennington's compelling work may be viewed [online](#).

Using Virtual Reality (VR) to Teach Empathy to Medical Students

UNE Library Services and COM Division of Geriatric Medicine received a National Network of Libraries of Medicine New England Region (NN/LM NER) Technology Grant to implement the Embodied Labs "We Are Alfred" virtual reality experience project. VR equipment at the Library is enabling all UNECOM 1st year medical students to experience what it is like to be a 74-year-old man living with macular degeneration and hearing loss. Intended to improve medical students' understanding of older adult patients, the project incorporates pre-and-post assessments to help measure the impact of the experience.



A medical student wears the VR goggles; the large black dot on the laptop screen simulates macular degeneration.