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Library Connection, v5n1, Fall 2017

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Library Connection



ROD LIBRARY
University of Northern Iowa

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Kanopy video streaming puts videos in the classroom

Rod Library has recently purchased a subscription to Kanopy, a video streaming service. Kanopy offers over 17,000 videos, including theatrical and independent releases, documentaries, international films, television shows, and training films. These films come from producers such as the BBC, Criterion Collection, Green, Planet Films, Kino Lorber, New Day Films, and PBS.

Through Kanopy, students and faculty alike can find thousands of videos relevant to their studies and interests. These videos can be used in the classroom, linked to Blackboard or inserted into classroom assignments. Kanopy's material is permissible under copyright laws and

also offers closed captioning services, making them broadly accessible.

"Using Kanopy allowed the students in my second-year Spanish class to explore, choose, and view a Spanish-language film outside of class in preparation to write a film critique. The range of international films available offer many options for accessing an exciting selection of films for use in and out of class. In another instance, I was



planning to show a documentary in my sociolinguistics class, but the DVD was checked out of the Rod Library. Kanopy had it in their library and I was able to easily stream it on the classroom computer and any student who missed class could access it from home." - Elise DuBord, professor of Spanish linguistics and graduate coordinator of Spanish

To learn more about Kanopy contact Kate Martin, Interim associate university librarian for content discovery at katherine.martin@uni.edu

Student Ellie Akers gains hands-on experience at UNI Museum

Rod Library and UNI Museum offer students an abundance of resources and opportunities, contributing greatly to student success. One student who has been impacted by what Rod Library and UNI Museum have to offer is senior anthropology student, Ellie Akers.

Ellie serves as UNI Museum's research assistant and is also taking on the position of conservation research assistant, working directly under the conservator in her work on UNI's mastodon tusk. The opportunities

Ellie has received through her position at UNI Museum have shaped her future career goals in a profound way. She is able to directly apply what she learns in her anthropology classes to her work, which has greatly improved her grades. Additionally, her experiences have helped her decide to pursue a career in conservation, a job that Ellie did not even know existed before working at UNI Museum.



"This job has really helped me figure out my career path. Without the museum, I don't know what I would be doing. I don't even know if I'd still be in college. It's really given me a sense of direction for what I want to do with my life." - Ellie Akers

New associate university librarian committed to student success

Theresa Westbrook, recently appointed associate university librarian for the Learning and Research Division, brings a strong commitment to student success to her new position. The diverse units in the Learning and Research Division have a common focus: the student academic experience.



"I am committed to preparing students to navigate information in an age of ever-expanding resources by empowering them with the tools, processes, and creativity needed to be successful students and citizens." - Theresa Westbrook

The comprehensive research support that Rod Library provides to students through traditional library instruction, one-on-one research support, specialized collections, and primary source materials sets the stage for students to have experience with world-class resources.

Theresa's background in teaching, information literacy, and general education have prepared her for the important role that libraries play in students' academic lives.

Theresa is looking forward to hiring a librarian with assessment expertise to allow Rod Library to better measure and communicate the impact its librarians, collections, and spaces have on student success.

Welcome, Theresa, to the Rod Library family!

Open textbooks save UNI students \$129,715 last year

With the cost of college textbooks weighing heavily on students, Rod Library's digital scholarship librarian, Ellen Neuhaus, has been working to solve this issue on UNI's campus for two years.

In August 2016, Rod Library joined the Open Textbook Network, saving students \$129,715 on textbooks last year.

Some of the first departments to take advantage of the open textbooks were biology, chemistry, mathematics, technology, and languages & literatures.

"So it is not just that the books are free but they are also easy to access."

- Nilmani Pramanik, professor of technology

In the hopes that the savings will grow even more, the three Iowa regent libraries have been working together to keep this conversation going and have submitted grants for Open Textbook initiatives to support faculty development of open educational resources.

To learn more about Open Textbook Network and UNI's involvement in the program, visit <http://research.cehd.umn.edu/otn/> or contact Ellen Neuhaus at ellen.neuhaus@uni.edu.



"A major motivation for me was certainly the desire to save students money. However, I also want to

make the material easy to access, for example, by sending students PDF documents, or by copying and pasting sections of the text into emails and so on.

"One college cost that is often overlooked is the cost of textbooks-an issue that disproportionately affects students of a lower socioeconomic standing... I see so much value in pursuing Open Source Textbooks for UNI students."

-Tristan Bernhard, UNI student body vice president

NEW FALL 2017



Library Services desk is a combined service desk where you can ask reference questions and check-out materials



Librarian on the Loose, Liaison Librarian Anne Marie Gruber with satellite office hours in McCollum Science Hall

