Rod Library Annual Report 2019

University of Northern Iowa. Rod Library.
MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DEAN

Rod Library has had a remarkable year, building on an array of successful programs and introducing varied resources and services to best serve UNI students, faculty, staff and alumni. While we continue to search for a new Dean of Library Services, we remain committed to fostering student success, celebrating diversity and inclusion, and supporting community engagement in accord with the University strategic plan. We have a dedicated faculty and staff, complemented by a corps of student assistants who make important contributions to our operations. We are proud of our continued integration in the university and larger community. We appreciate your continued interest and support, and we welcome your input.

Katherine Martin
University of Northern Iowa, Rod Library
Interim Dean of Library Services
Discover  “Rod Library has endless opportunities to allow students to discover their full potential as a student.”
   - Jordyn Mason, UNI graduate student

Connect  “Rod Library allows me to interact with classmates and is a good place to spend time with friends to get homework done.”
   - Saydie Howard, UNI undergraduate student

Succeed  “Rod Library is integral to student success at UNI. Our resources allow students to use high-quality sources for their learning, including e-books, streaming films, tech equipment, and so much more!”
   - Anne Marie Gruber, Instruction and Liaison Librarian

"...We are all here to help students succeed and it's working!"
STUDENT SUCCESS

- Added a Family Study Room to provide a safe and inclusive study space for students with children.
- Welcomed The Learning Center (TLC@Rod) into the library space to provide tutoring, mentoring, and library services housed in one central location for students.
- Completed a study on impact of meeting with a librarian on students' GPA, to confirm positive connections.
- Collaborated with the Department of Biology to provide a muscle model, boxes of bones, tissue slides and microscopes on reserve in the library.
- Hosted over 677 incoming, international, and exchange students in the library and shared how collections and services can support their success.
- Promoted adoption and use of open textbooks on campus, which increased student savings by more than $220,000.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Hosted Research Days @ Rod Library for 312 local high school students and the Meskwaki Settlement school to aid in research projects, several of which won National History Day awards.
- UNI Museum completed the 3-year Mastodon Tusk project, thanks to the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust Heritage grant ($306,258), preserving Iowa history for future generations.
- RodCon committee won the UNI Community Engagement Social Justice Award for working with the community.
- Rod Library, IRTS, and the College of Education hosted "Telling A People's Story" traveling exhibit, honoring African American history and culture.
- Wikipedia Edit-a-thons improved diversity and inclusion representation. Edits made during these events have been viewed more than 5,470,000 million times.
- Digitized UNI Football Films (1958-1975) and published them on UNI ScholarWorks.
- Makerspace hosted 99 events with 3,533 people in attendance, including school groups, classes, and community groups.
Student Highlight

Neanagit Malow is a student employee at Rod Library, finishing up her senior year studying Biology with a minor in Chemistry. She said she has gained and applied so many skills to her academics by working at Rod, including how to search for credible sources, find books, and navigate the library’s website.

She loves working at Rod Library because of how caring the staff is to everyone they meet, patron or student. Neanagit expressed, "Their number one goal is to assist all patrons and students that come into Rod Library."

One of her favorite parts of working at Rod Library is interacting with and helping many people from different types of backgrounds and demographics.

“It is very evident that the staff members care about the student employees.”
Alumni Highlight

Elyce (Josephson) Peterson graduated from UNI in May of 2009. She is in her 10th year as the K-12 School Librarian at Oakland-Craig Public Schools in Nebraska.

She began working in the library as a freshman and continued all five years until graduation. Elyce had the opportunity to work in several departments at Rod Library including Special Collections and University Archives, Circulation, Interlibrary Loan, and as a building monitor.

When asked how Rod Library impacted her time at UNI she shared that "while working at the library I found my passion and have continued it for the past 15 years!" Elyce came to UNI as an Education major and later declared her minor in School Library Science.

“...while working at the Rod Library I found my passion of working in a library and have continued it for the past 15 years!”
Faculty Highlight

Associate Professor Ellen Neuhaus has worked at Rod Library since August 1995 and has been the Digital Scholarship Librarian since 2014. Ellen launched the new institutional repository, UNI ScholarWorks, in 2016.

When asked to describe ScholarWorks, Ellen said “UNI ScholarWorks' main goal is student success by showcasing the work of UNI faculty, students, and staff with a global reach. The system contains a wide variety of easily accessible content ranging from journals, faculty publications, undergraduate content and so much more.”

Ellen's passion for UNI ScholarWorks and spreading information worldwide has certainly paid off with impressive numbers. More than half a million downloads have occurred since 2016 and that number is expected to reach 1 million in April or May of 2020.

“ScholarWorks contains a wide variety of easily accessible content...”
## 2018-2019 AT-A-GLANCE

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>487,093</td>
<td>Rod Library gate count</td>
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<tr>
<td>66,938</td>
<td>IRTS gate count</td>
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<tr>
<td>6,254</td>
<td>Reference questions (2,924 in-person and 3,330 chat/email)</td>
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<td>816</td>
<td>Research consultations</td>
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<td>54,596</td>
<td>Total physical checkouts (circulation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9,665</td>
<td>Students participating in 478 instruction hours</td>
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<td>12,675</td>
<td>Group study rooms reserved</td>
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<td>93</td>
<td>Student employees working 30,777 hours</td>
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<td>312,918</td>
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<td>Outreach events</td>
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<tr>
<td>$110,448</td>
<td>Grants &amp; gifts received</td>
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**YES!**

I WANT TO SUPPORT ROD LIBRARY

Visit our [website](https://rodlibrary.university) to designate a donation to any of our major funds benefiting Rod Library and UNI Museum.

Thank you for your support!