Students Asked, We Listened

In November, the Libraries in partnership with the Graduate School and Provost’s Office unveiled the campus’s first-ever Graduate Commons on Floor 5 of Du Bois Library (below), a bright space outfitted with work stations, conference rooms, and secure storage for scholarly materials. This space was designed as a result of numerous campus surveys assessing the needs of graduate students.

View time-lapse video of the construction.

Welcome to the Libraries! Learn more here.

Welcome to the Tallest Academic Library in the World

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The Life and Teachings of Brother David Steindl-Rast

“Locus Solus: Place, Meaning, and Community in the Life of Brother David Steindl-Rast,” on display through January 31, 2018, on the Lower Level and Floor 25 of the Du Bois Library, showcases items curated from Brother David Steindl-Rast’s recent donation of correspondence, photographs, writings, audio/visual recordings, art, and publications. Brother David is co-founder of the interactive online community A Network for Grateful Living.

The 2017 Friends of the Library Donor Appreciation Fall Reception celebrated the life and work of Brother David, whose archives are an important part of the Libraries’ Special Collections.

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View time-lapse videos of the process from beginning to end result.

Welcome to New England’s Largest Publicly Supported Research Library, Open to All in the Commonwealth

Since 2011, as a way of addressing the rise in cost of textbooks, the Libraries have offered instructors opportunities to replace expensive commercial textbooks with Open Educational Resources, high quality teaching materials that are openly licensed and free. The Open Education Initiative (OEI) also encourages grants to faculty to adapt, adopt, or create alternative resources free of high cost texts. The initiative has served students at UMass Amherst more than $1.7M to date.

Thanks in part to a gift from the RJN and the Libraries’ recent partnership with the Open Textbook Network and Rebus Community, faculty member Miliann Kang, Sociology and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies student Sonny Nordmarken, Laura Heston, and Donovan Lessard created an updated version of Kang’s 2012 open textbook, Introduction to Women, Gender, and Ethnic Studies. This has truly proven that a freely available book can be downloaded more than 10,000 times.

New Open Textbook

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