



Report to Senates

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Report to Senates

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Dean's Message

It is a pleasure to present the 2026 UNB Libraries Report to Senate. This year's report highlights the many ways in which the talented and dedicated staff, librarians, and archivists of UNB Libraries advance the University's academic mission. Our work continues to evolve in response to changes within UNB and across the broader landscape of research and higher education. Much of what is described in this report did not exist twelve years ago—certainly not in its current scope or form—reflecting our sustained commitment to innovation and responsiveness.



Universities are operating in a period of significant challenge and transformation. This report offers insight into how UNB Libraries anticipates and responds to the evolving needs of students and faculty researchers. Our unwavering focus on student academic success and on enhancing the impact of UNB's research remains central to our strategic direction and daily work.

I am particularly proud that we have remained at the forefront of Canadian academic libraries by proactively addressing emerging priorities. A critical factor in this progress has been our ability to recruit strategically in new and developing areas, complementing and strengthening our established expertise. Today, UNB Libraries benefits from colleagues who are leaders in many areas including digital literacy instruction, digital archiving, research data management, bibliometrics, collections strategy, copyright, data analytics, artificial intelligence, and open scholarship.

Two major initiatives in recent years will serve the University community for decades to come: the integration of the UNB Fredericton and UNB Saint John libraries into a cohesive, university-wide research library system, and the creation of the Harriet Irving Research Commons. Together, these initiatives have strengthened our capacity to support student and faculty research, foster collaboration, and provide enriched learning environments for students and faculty alike.

This is my final Senate report I will present before stepping down at the end of June after twelve years as Dean of Libraries. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have led UNB Libraries during this period of growth and transformation. It has been a privilege to work alongside talented and committed colleagues whose expertise and dedication have enabled us to build exceptional resources and services in support of teaching and research. Together, we have reimaged UNB Libraries in ways that position it strongly for the future, and I am confident that this momentum will continue in the years ahead.

Lesley Balcom
Dean of Libraries

Digital and Information Literacy

Digital and information literacy are foundational to student success and to the integrity of academic work at UNB.



These skills are more critical than ever with the growing influence of AI on information-seeking. UNB Libraries contributes to this area as a teaching partner, working with faculty to embed research and digital literacy skills at meaningful points in courses and programs. Rather than treating these skills as optional or remedial, our approach to [library instruction and course collaboration](#) emphasizes their role in scholarly inquiry, critical thinking, and lifelong learning.

Instructional contributions from UNB Libraries are closely tied to course goals and disciplinary contexts. Librarians collaborate with instructors to design learning activities that help students understand how knowledge is created, evaluated, and shared within their fields. This includes learning how to search effectively, assess sources, and use information ethically, but also how to navigate increasingly complex information environments shaped by algorithms, metrics, and commercial platforms. By situating these skills within coursework, students see them as part of academic practice rather than external requirements.

UNB Libraries also supports teaching and learning through the development of reusable learning resources that integrate seamlessly into the learning management system. Research guides, course-linked resources, and scaffolded learning materials provide students with asynchronous support while reinforcing consistent academic expectations across programs. These resources are designed to complement classroom teaching and to model good research practices, including appropriate citation, copyright awareness, and engagement with scholarly conversations.

At an institutional level, UNB Libraries contributes to shared conversations about digital literacy as a core educational outcome. Our work aligns with national frameworks that emphasize critical engagement with digital tools, data, and information systems. By working collaboratively with faculty, academic units, and teaching support partners, UNB Libraries helps ensure that digital and information literacy instruction remains responsive to emerging challenges while grounded in the values of academic inquiry and intellectual responsibility.

Open Textbooks

UNB Libraries supports student retention and persistence through the Open Educational Resources (OER) services that we provide to course instructors. OER are openly licensed educational resources that can be used at no cost to students in place of traditionally published textbooks. Due to the costly nature of traditional published textbooks, OER can be a great alternative that makes the classroom environment more accessible to all students. At UNB Libraries, we support the adoption, adaptation, and creation of open resources. UNB librarians work closely with course instructors to help them locate, evaluate, and integrate OER into their courses fostering a classroom environment where all students can succeed. To learn more about the OER support available at UNB Libraries, please visit our [OER website](#).

AI and Academic Integrity

The rapid adoption of artificial intelligence tools has introduced new questions about authorship, originality, and academic responsibility. UNB Libraries has taken an active role in helping the university community navigate these changes by framing AI literacy as an extension of existing commitments to academic integrity.

Rather than positioning AI as a threat or a shortcut, our work emphasizes informed, transparent, and ethical use within teaching, learning, and research. To find resources or connect with librarians, visit our [Artificial Intelligence Literacy](#) pages.

Librarians contribute with classroom teaching and workshops that help students understand how generative AI tools function, what their limitations are, and how their outputs should be evaluated. These sessions often place AI tools alongside traditional research methods, allowing students to compare results and reflect on issues such as bias, reliability, and appropriate use. This approach reinforces core research skills while helping students develop judgment about when and how AI tools may or may not be appropriate in academic work.

UNB Libraries also provides guidance for faculty and graduate students who are grappling with AI use in research, assessment, and scholarly communication. This includes discussions about disclosure, citation, and discipline-specific expectations, as well as emerging norms around AI use in grant writing, peer review, and publication. By grounding these conversations in existing principles of academic integrity, we help ensure that responses to AI remain consistent, fair, and pedagogically sound.

Beyond instruction, UNB Libraries contributes expertise to institutional discussions about AI policy and practice. Librarians bring perspectives grounded in information literacy, ethics, and access, helping to shape guidance that supports both innovation and academic standards. In this evolving landscape, UNB Libraries serves as an academic partner that helps the university respond thoughtfully to technological change while reaffirming the values that underpin teaching, learning, and research.





Bi-Campus Integration of UNB Libraries, Eight Years On

January 1, 2026 marked the eighth anniversary of the integration of the libraries across both campuses. Prior to integration, the Hans W. Klohn Library was part of UNB Saint John's Information Services and Systems unit, while UNB Libraries consisted of all libraries on the Fredericton campus, except for the Law Library. The libraries worked closely together prior to integration, sharing a catalogue, website, and many resources, and Saint John had representation on several UNB Libraries committees.

Integration transformed UNB Libraries into a university-wide, integrated research library system with a bi-campus commitment to providing students, faculty, and staff with essential resources and excellent services.

Our integrated model was an important precursor to the broader Provost model which followed. We accomplished our integration ahead of other administrative units, which added to the challenges. Most aspects of the integration were straightforward, but some parts took time to develop. Budgets remained separate—and some budget processes were different—for several years, largely because of differences in Financial Services between the two campuses. Thanks to the integration of Financial Services, UNB Libraries now operates with one budget, which has advantages when paying for resources and initiatives that serve all UNB. We also made gradual changes that enabled library staff to connect more easily with their counterparts on the other campus, to support each other's work and to cover their colleagues' absences when they arise. Students and faculty benefited immediately from our ability to extend research services to the Saint John campus, and now we have specialized expertise based on each campus and available to all members of the UNB community. At the start, there were separate but similar library borrowing policies for each campus, but these gradually merged into one policy for all UNB library users.



Graduate Studies

UNB Libraries continues to strengthen existing programs and develop new opportunities for UNB's graduate students.



The Harriet Irving Research Commons is a campus hub for a wide range of student activity, and particularly for graduate-focused programming. For the past two years, with support from the School of Graduate Studies (SGS), UNB Libraries has hosted a part-time graduate student assistant as Research Commons Liaison, providing an important bridge between SGS, UNB's graduate student community, and the services and programs offered in at the Harriet Irving Research Commons.

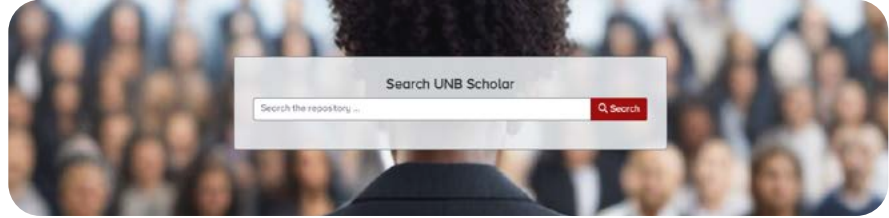
UNB Libraries is a partner in UNB's annual [Images of Research](#) contest through development and hosting of the submission platform and publishing each year's winning submissions. We're pleased to celebrate and promote the great work of our graduate student researchers. Librarians are involved in graduate student programming as instructors in our continuing hybrid (online and in person) series of Booster sessions, exploring academic topics of interest to graduate students as well as teaching sessions within graduate for-credit courses.

THIRD ANNUAL IMAGES OF RESEARCH CHALLENGE

Struggling to explain what you are doing in grad school?
What if you could show people instead?



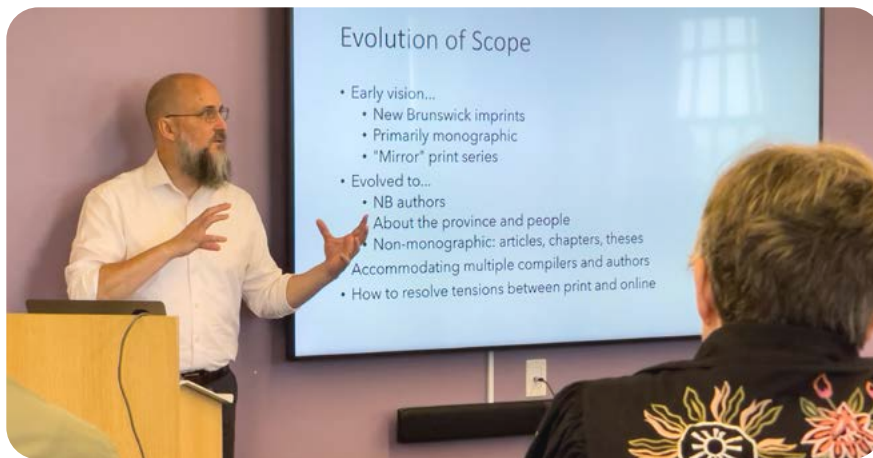
  



UNB's Electronic Theses & Dissertations program is a long-term partnership, in which the Libraries have worked closely with SGS on the continued development of policies, support for students preparing documents for submission, and hosting finished theses and dissertations as part of our institutional repository, *UNB Scholar*. There are currently more than 2,200 open access theses and dissertations, representing more than a decade of graduate research at UNB. There are still further opportunities for enhancement of the program, embracing research data management and publishing literacy, and developing support for "non-traditional" theses and dissertations.

These efforts open new avenues for innovative scholarly work with our grad student community, and we're eager to work even more closely with grad programs and with SGS to make sure that students are well-supported from the earliest stages of their research through to document submission.

UNB Libraries offered a series of workshops and panel discussions for graduate students (and other early career researchers) on both campuses focused on developing academic publishing literacy, with sessions on research data management, academic integrity, and knowledge management and dissemination. This year, throughout March, we are offering an expanded series of academic publishing sessions for the UNB community, reviewing fundamental issues in academic publishing, including copyright and academic integrity, and exploring alternative publishing models and open education resources. All sessions will be available online, and [details and registration information are available](#).



Digital Scholarship Showcase

UNB Libraries have a long history of supporting digital humanities, digital collections and other online-first initiatives. From our early innovations with our Electronic Text Centre, to current projects and faculty collaborations with the Libraries Systems Team and our Centre for Digital Scholarship, we work to bring UNB research, and UNB's own rare and unique collections, to a global audience.



UNB and New Brunswick Historical Collections

Within UNB's Archives & Special Collections is an important collection of UNB composite and group photos, documenting UNB history in a compelling but unwieldy format; the largest measures more than 7' wide! To promote easier access, the Centre for Digital Scholarship's digital imaging team created digital images of these large composites, working with Archives staff to identify and track individual photos of UNB grads reaching back to the late 19th century. Library Systems developed a [freely available database](#) allowing users to access the digital collection, exploring photos by year or searching for individual graduates all the way up to 1975. More recently, this digital collection has expanded to include selected UNB sport, team and club photographs from our archival collections. For even more UNB history, readers can explore [Pomp and Circumstance](#) for information about UNB graduation ceremonies, including graduates, honorary degree recipients, speeches and more from 1828 to the present.

The [NB Historical Newspaper Project](#) continues to grow as a unique resource for historical NB research. This free online collection, digitized from print originals and microfilm, now includes nearly 43,000 issues of NB newsprint from 1784 (some of the earliest examples of print in the province) to 1930. While we continue to digitize our own local collections, we have also partnered with institutional and community partners beyond UNB including Canadiana.org, Acadia University, Mount Allison, the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick, and others to add still more full-text searchable NB content to the project. The project also includes a newly updated directory of NB newspapers: a comprehensive database of NB news titles, as well as holdings information for digital, microfilm and print holdings, developed in collaboration with PANB and superseding the newspaper directory formerly hosted by them.



Faculty Research Partnerships

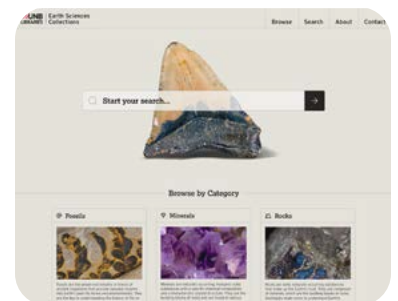
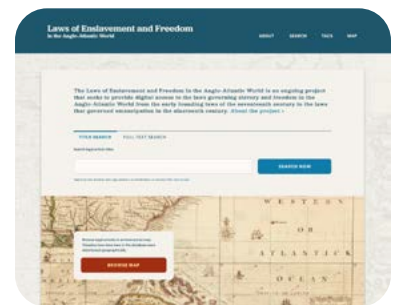
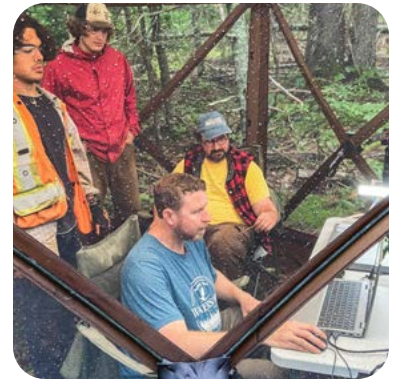
For UNB researchers considering work in digital humanities, digital scholarship, or any project with a significant online component, we would love to hear from you.

We can assist with digital projects from early ideation and planning to final wind-down and preservation. We can assist in developing funding proposals, work with you to develop designs on everything from user interfaces to data and metadata structures, and UNB Libraries' development team can help bring those projects to life. Our digital imaging team can assist or advise on standards, workflows and procedures, and we have a long history of digitization from print and microfilm, most recently expanding to include 3D imaging and photogrammetry.

We've been pleased to work with UNB researchers in significant new UNB projects over the past two years.

In late 2024, we launched [Laws of Enslavement and Freedom in the Anglo-Atlantic World](#). This SSHRC-funded project, developed with primary investigator Dr. Stefanie Hunt-Kennedy, offers an open-access, searchable collection of document images and full-text transcription of laws governing Anglo-Atlantic slavery from early laws of the slave trade to the laws that governed emancipation in the 19th century. Our work with Dr. Hunt-Kennedy included development of the site and data model, as well as navigating copyright and permissions for some of the legislative documents collected over the course of several years.

Last year, we celebrated the launch of the digital [Earth Sciences Collections](#), with lead developer Patrick Schilf (UNB Library Systems) in collaboration with Dr. Ann Timmermans (Curator, Earth Sciences), and currently featuring more than 3,000 rocks, minerals, and fossils from UNB collections. The freely available site provides searchable access to detailed metadata for each specimen in the collection, along with images, geolocation data and interactive maps, and Patrick and Dr. Timmermans discussed our partnership in a presentation at the annual Association Heritage New Brunswick conference in November 2026. Along with our previous work with UNB Biology, the electronic [Connell Memorial Herbarium](#), these collaborations bring very rich (and somewhat hidden) research collections from UNB to a much broader audience.



Currently in Development

Peskotomuhkati-Wolastoqey Language Portal

Currently undergoing a redesign, the [Peskotomuhkati-Wolastoqey Language Portal](#) is another long-standing project developed by our team in collaboration with Dr. Robert Leavitt (from Education) and members of the Peskotomuhkati-Wolastoqey communities. The PM portal is an important language preservation project and language teaching tool, featuring a collection of audio recordings and films of conversations and interviews with transcriptions and captions in English and Peskotomuhkati-Wolastoqey.

East India Company Wills

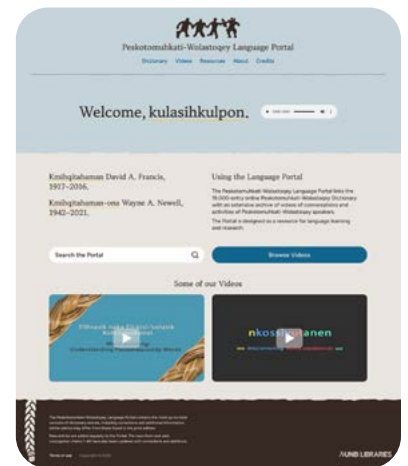
The Libraries Systems Group is working in collaboration with Dr. Cheryl Fury (UNBSJ History) on a collection of the Wills of sailors in the East India Company, 1600-1624. The site, already in development, will provide researchers with detailed information on the sailors, ships and voyages of the East India Company in the early 17th century, drawing on hundreds of Wills collected from archives in the UK.

ACT II

Originally compiled by Dr. Ed Mullaly, The Atlantic Canada Theatre Site (ACTS) was hosted by UNB Libraries for many years before being archived in 2014. In collaboration with theatre history researchers in the Maritimes, UNB Libraries is working to revive this digital collection of hundreds of theatre playbills, performance calendars, and selected drama texts with enhanced tools for search and discovery.

There is more on the way!

We're planning to explore new applications for handwriting recognition and transcription, and we're already exploring applications for AI and LLMs in local digital projects. If you want to find out more about any of these projects, or if you have a project of your own in mind and think you might like to collaborate with the Libraries, please contact our team at digitalscholar@unb.ca



New Faces

Nicole Slipp

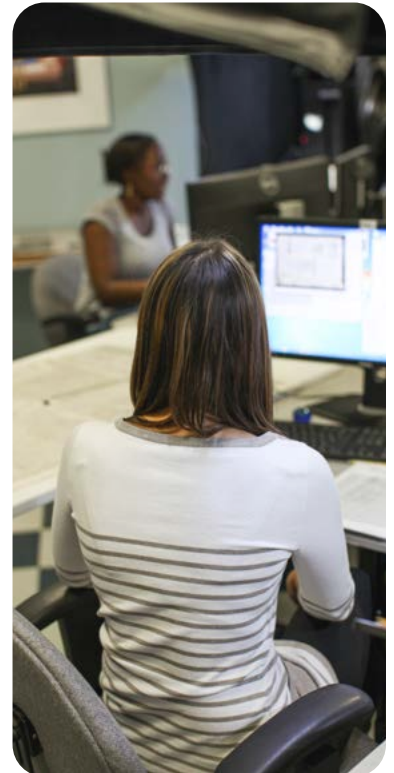
In September of 2025, we were delighted to welcome back Dr. Nicole Slipp, now as Collections Strategy Librarian. Nicole is based on the Saint John campus but serves as the collections librarian for Arts on both campuses and is currently also the subject librarian for English, French, Philosophy, and Spanish Literature, providing research and instructional support. Nicole is tasked with structuring print collections so that they best serve both campuses, and with ensuring the libraries' rare and unique collections are recognized and optimized. She is particularly interested in expanding the New Brunswickana collection to encompass published works from across the province.



Controlled Digital Lending

A team of librarians and staff led by Nicole Slipp have begun work with Internet Archive Canada (IAC) on a project of controlled digital lending (CDL). CDL is the lending of a digitized copy of an item the library holds in print; the controlled aspect refers to controlling circulation so that only as many copies as the library has legitimately acquired will be in use. In these CDL partnership projects, IAC provides the control: Their platform ensures that only one user can access a title at any given time and prevents downloading or creating copies of that item. UNB's Digitization Team will perform the high-quality scans of items to be loaned.

Many university libraries in Canada have undertaken similar projects with IAC to make their content available online, including the University of Alberta Library, the University of Toronto Libraries, and Queen's University Library. We are exploring a launch of CDL with an initial focus on three titles or collections, each of which is Canadian material held in a special collection that does not circulate out of the library: *Mysterious East*, a countercultural news magazine published in Fredericton from 1969-1972; *The Cormorant*, a literary and arts publication by UNBSJ's Lorenzo Society from 1983-1999; and Canadian titles from our Science Fiction and Fantasy Fan Activity Collection, fanzines from across the country published primarily in the 1970-1990s. While it is currently only possible to view these rare items by visiting their home library in person, CDL will increase accessibility for anyone needing digital content, including readers with disabilities and researchers unable to travel. We are very excited for the possibilities of this work in advancing accessibility of our collections and raising UNB Libraries' national and international reputation.



New Tools

Web of Science



Web of Science (WoS) has been reinstated as a journal citation index for the UNB community. This resource can help researchers and students to identify reliable sources for their studies and track the subsequent uses of published articles.

In addition to its traditional content, the expanded package includes:

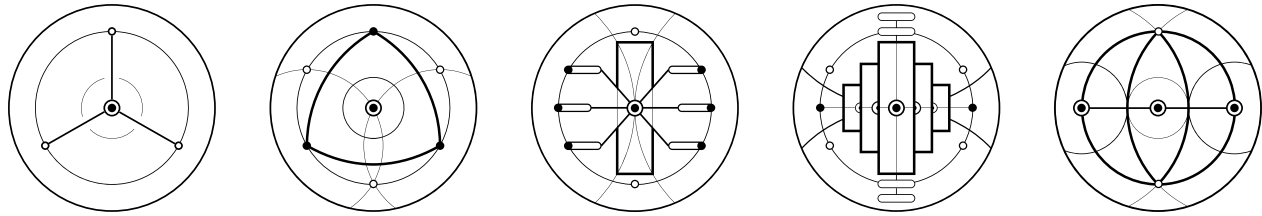
- Grants Index
- Dissertations and Theses Citation Index
- SciELO Citation Index
- Emerging Sources Citation Index
- Preprint Citation Index
- Conference Proceedings Citation Index
- Derwent Innovations Index (patents)
- Policy Citation Index

Our subscription includes the *Web of Science* Research Assistant, a generative AI optional discovery tool, Journal Citation Reports, and an expanded API for large-scale data analysis.

The reacquisition of *Web of Science* (and *Compendex* in 2024) restores access to valued resources that UNB Libraries cancelled for budgetary reasons a decade ago. Since then, we have offered *Scopus* as a replacement for both. With their restoration, the library will not be renewing UNB's subscription to *Scopus* or *Scopus AI* at the end of 2027, when the current license expires.

Librarians are prepared to help researchers and instructors in converting work and lessons from the *Scopus* platform to *Web of Science* over the next two years.

Please contact your [subject librarian](#) for guidance.



Data Expertise

UNB Libraries plays a central role in strengthening data-informed research and teaching across the University by working alongside faculty and students throughout the research lifecycle. Our contributions extend beyond helping researchers find data. We support the thoughtful use, management, analysis, and stewardship of data as a scholarly output. This work reflects a broader shift in academic libraries toward active engagement in research creation and knowledge mobilization, a shift that UNB Libraries has embraced in alignment with institutional priorities.

Our data expertise supports researchers at multiple stages, from early project design to dissemination and preservation. Librarians collaborate with faculty and graduate students to identify appropriate data sources, including government, geospatial, and discipline-specific datasets, and to navigate issues of data quality, documentation, and reuse. As projects mature, we work with researchers to develop practical approaches to data organization, file naming, storage, and version control that support both collaboration and long-term access. This guidance is especially important in an environment shaped by Tri-Agency research data management requirements and growing expectations for transparency and reproducibility.

UNB Libraries also contributes to research capacity through instruction and consultation related to data analysis and visualization. Working with tools commonly used across disciplines, librarians help researchers think critically about how data are interpreted and communicated, whether for academic publication, teaching, or public engagement. These conversations emphasize clarity, ethical use of data, and the responsible representation of uncertainty and limitations. In this way, data expertise becomes part of a broader scholarly skill set rather than a technical add-on.

Equally important is UNB Libraries' role in fostering a culture of care around research data. Through research data management planning, repository support, and ongoing conversations about data sharing, privacy, and Indigenous data considerations, we help researchers balance openness with responsibility. Our work positions UNB Libraries as a trusted academic partner that connects local research practices with national and international expectations, while remaining grounded in the specific needs of UNB's research community.

Supports for Collaborative Initiatives

As UNB pursues collaborative ventures with external partners, UNB Libraries is exploring ways to directly participate or otherwise offer support. While license agreements may limit access to some of our resources, there is still much we can contribute.

One area in which we've seen significant activity is in the provision, promotion, development, and literacy efforts around persistent identifiers (PIDs) and the Canadian research landscape. Persistent identifiers reliably point to a digital entity by giving a unique name to a person, place, or thing. At a broader, strategic level, we participate in CRKN's ORCID-CA both as consortia members and through representation on the governing committee. An ORCID ID is an example of a persistent identifier for a person.

We also play an active role in the development of a national PID strategy via CRKN's Canadian Persistent Identifier Advisory Committee (CPIDAC). On a more hands-on level, in the last year we arranged for all UNB research institutes and centres to have their own [Research Organization Registry \(ROR\) identities](#), related to UNB's main entry. This way, groups can more easily identify their research outputs through metadata, making them more discoverable and clarifying attributions.

This work has impacts both local - through advisory work and collaboration with the Office of Research Services - and international, through initiatives like the Barcelona Declaration and organizations like Coalition Publica, Thoth Open Metadata, the National Information Standards Organization, and the Public Knowledge Project to name a few.

The last few years have also seen concerted efforts in Canada to align repository services in the face of challenges like digital sovereignty, ongoing and increasing support costs, metadata harmony, and divergent practices throughout the field. Over the last 18-24 months, we worked alongside the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) and Scholar's Portal to launch both a shared repository advisory group and a centralized national hosting solution for Canadian research institutions, *Scholaris*. Not only have these collaborations helped support the dissemination of Canadian open access research but also have been a boon to pulling institutions closer together and providing a unique opportunity to help shape the forthcoming Tri-Agency Open Access policy for publications.



Canadian Research
Knowledge Network
Réseau canadien
de documentation
pour la recherche



Consortia and our Negotiations with Publishers



UNB has derived tremendous benefit through the Libraries' membership in the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN), with expanded access to research resources, leveraging stronger negotiations with commercial publishers, and more recently, ending some publishers' double-charging for APCs and subscriptions in hybrid open access journals.

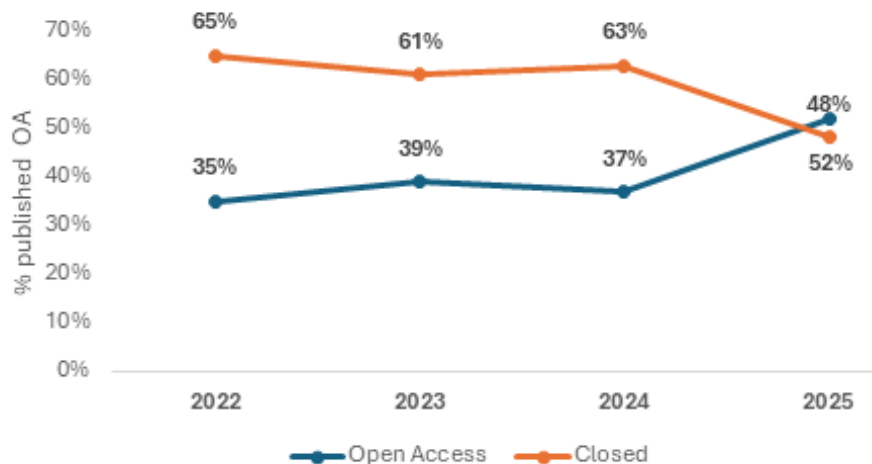
In the past five years, many large publishers have initiated 'transformative agreements' with university libraries, ostensibly to develop a fair and sustainable model for open access to research outputs. The success of these agreements has been widely contested, and this year's renewal negotiations with publishers will be challenging. The UK (JISC) and Australian (CAUL) consortia each recently undertook negotiations with all five large commercial academic publishers in the same year, and CRKN intends to follow suit this year. RFPs are being sent to Elsevier, Sage, Springer, Taylor & Francis, and Wiley as a prelude to discussions based on [CRKN's 2026 negotiations principles](#).

We will keep the community informed of progress throughout the year, but the problematic nature of transformative agreements with commercial academic publishers is demonstrable through an analysis of UNB's publishing trends.

The Challenges of Open Scholarship

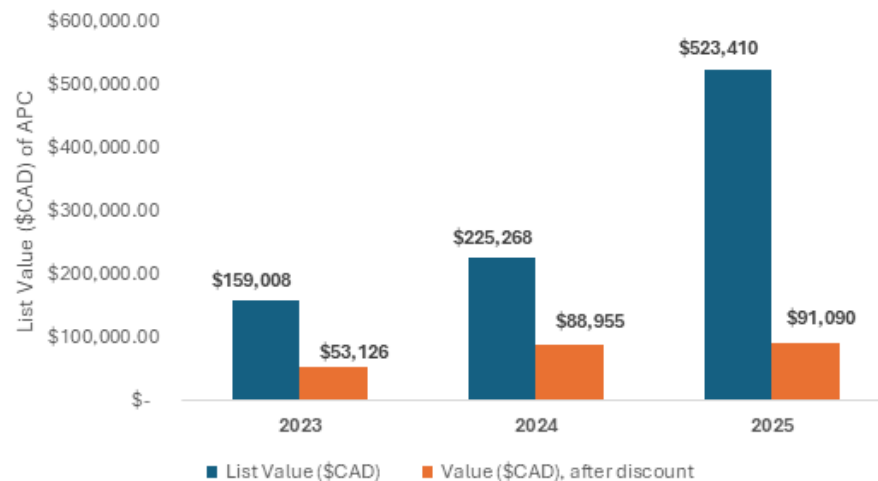
Since 2023, when UNB Senates adopted an [Open Access Policy](#), *UNB Scholar*, our institutional repository, has seen modest but continued growth in deposits, and open access publishing with commercial academic publishers has increased remarkably. In 2025, UNB authors published more openly than behind paywalls for the first time, which is laudable but reveals a troubling trend.

UNB Open Access publishing outpaces paywalled in 2025



Payments made to publishers to publish open access have been offset by 'read and publish' agreements between UNB Libraries and publishers. UNB authors are opting to publish in journals that are covered by read and publish agreements, directing disproportionate amounts in APC payments to those publishers, even with discounted APC prices. Since 2023, a 9% increase in OA publishing has led to a 71% increase in actual APC payments to those publishers. The libraries secure agreements with large academic publishers so that authors can continue to publish where they wish to, but doing so may perpetuate outrageous profit rates seen a decade ago and eradicate scholar-led publishing altogether. Attempts to discount APCs come at a great cost.

UNB authors publish more Open Access content, while saving more on APCs



Such tendencies, which corrupt the goals of the open access movement, are fuelling efforts to collaborate with other academic libraries to support diamond open access and to build a robust alternative to profit-driven publishing. This work has gained momentum from a range of efforts. International diamond open access initiatives joined forces to launch the [Open Journals Collective](#) in January of 2026. [Érudit](#), which we support through [Coalition Publica](#), is part of the Open Journals Collective. Scholar-led projects such as [Peer Community In \(PCI\)](#) - championed locally by Gavin Douglas in the Faculty of Science (Fredericton) - offer recommendations through peer review to works deposited in institutional repositories or published in "PCI-friendly" journals, bypassing the contentious practice of peer review for commercial publishers.

Building a sustainable alternative to commercial academic publishing ultimately requires a reappraisal of how value is assigned to academic work within universities and research centres. [Seventy Canadian universities and research institutes](#) have already signed the [Declaration on Research Assessment \(DORA\)](#), and we hope to see local engagement with this effort soon.

Digital Publishing at UNB Libraries

The Centre for Digital Scholarship and its precursor, the Electronic Text Centre, have long been the home of library publishing initiatives from journal hosting and other forms of publishing support through to digitization and major digital humanities projects. 2025 saw a renewed focus in bringing our library publishing services into alignment with broader national efforts to support diamond open access, and the Canadian open scholarly infrastructure that has supported it. We are partners in Coalition Publica, a joint project between Érudit and the Public Knowledge Project to build and support Canadian open access publishing, funded through the Canadian Foundation for Innovation's Major Science Initiatives (MSI) program.

UNB Libraries currently hosts and provides support for sixteen academic journals, including flagship UNB publications *Acadiensis*, *Studies in Canadian Literature* and the *University of New Brunswick Law Journal*. As federal funding (particularly Aid to Scholarly Journals) turns more firmly toward required open access, we're

focusing on supporting those titles to transition to diamond OA in the coming months. We aim to open discussions around library-based publishing support at a regional level, working with our colleagues at other Atlantic institutions to build support for independent scholarly publishing in Atlantic Canada. The work that we do at UNB Libraries strengthens the open access publishing ecosystem across the country.

Similarly, we've expanded our service reach to offer publishing support in new directions. For example, student journals, either as student-led publishing initiatives or as course journals - where students partake in submission and peer-review systems as a part of their assignments - have seen some uptake over the last few years. This program both improves student literacy around publishing and scholarly communications, while also affording students an opportunity to disseminate and take ownership of their own research.

Copyright Support

Since 2014, the UNB community's reuse of copyrighted material has been guided by a [Copyright Policy](#) which, in 2021 was strengthened by a [Copyright Support and Administration Policy](#). Both were developed and maintained by Josh Dickison in the role of Copyright Officer, who was actively involved in national initiatives to ensure UNB's copyright compliance without the fees involved in relying upon a license with the Access Copyright collective.

Having done work to establish exemplary copyright compliance practices at UNB, Josh elected to leave his role in 2025, and the libraries scaled back institutional copyright support while assessing current needs. This spring, Catherine Gracey will be stepping in as UNB's Open Scholarship and Copyright Librarian, with the help of a staff member for library-specific compliance work. Please continue to direct any copyright-related questions to copyright@unb.ca



External Affiliations

The work of academic librarianship is highly collaborative, and we interact with colleagues at other institutions and organizations to build a sustainable scholarly communication infrastructure, ensure fullest access to research resources while observing copyright and other considerations, negotiate access to licensed resources that is amenable to our principles, and challenge ourselves to observe best practices in what we do.

A few of our partnerships:

Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL)
Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN)

Council of Atlantic Academic Libraries (CAAL)
Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA)

Lesley Balcom

Dean of Libraries

- CAAL Executive Committee
- CAAL/Novanet Shared Future Committee (Chair)
- CARL UNB Representative
 - Advancing Research Committee
 - Advancing Teaching and Learning Committee
 - Digital Fluency Task Group
 - Open Education Working Group (Chair)
- CRKN UNB Representative
- Digital Research Alliance of Canada
UNB Representative

Joanne Smyth

Director, Collections Strategy and
Scholarly Communication

- CRKN - Content Strategy Committee
(Atlantic Representative)
- Coalition Publica Stakeholder Advisory Committee
(CRKN CSC Representative)

James MacKenzie

Associate Dean of Libraries

- CARL Shared Repositories Infrastructure
Advisory Committee
- CRKN Coalition for Canadian Digital Heritage
Advisory Committee
- CRKN Canadian Persistent Identifier
Advisory Committee

Siobhan Hanratty

Director, Learning and Engagement

- Borealis Expert Group (BEG)
- Depository Services Program Advisory Committee
- Inter-university Consortium for Political and
Social Research (ICPSR) Official Representative
- New Brunswick Research Data Centre
Management Committee
- Statistics Canada - DLI External Advisory
Committee (Co-Chair)

Marc Bragdon

Head, Harriet Irving Research Commons

- ACTL - Association of Creative Technologies
in Academic Libraries
- CFLA Indigenous Matters Committee

CONTINUED...

Saran Croos

- Canadian Engineering Education Association (CEEA)
 - CEEA - Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Group, Special Interest Group (SIG)
 - CEEA - Open Education Resources (OER), Special Interest Group (SIG)
 - CEEA - Teaching In Practice (TIP), Special Interest Group (SIG)

Emily Connor Dafoe
STEM Librarian

- ALA's Library Instruction Roundtable (LIRT)
 - LIRT Top 20 Committee (Chair)
- ALA's Reference and User Services Association (RUSA), Reference Services Section (RSS)
 - RSS: Research Help in Academic Libraries (Co-Chair)

Evan Echols

Digital Collections Archivist

- CAAL Digital Preservation and Stewardship Committee (Chair)
- CRKN Preservation and Access Committee

Sue FisherCurator, Eileen Wallace
Children's Literature Collection

- New Brunswick Born to Read Program

Alex Goudreau

Science and Health Sciences Librarian

- JBI Information Science Methods Group
- Canadian Health Libraries Association (CHLA)
- Atlantic Health Libraries Association (AHLA)

Catherine Gracey

Open Scholarship and Copyright Librarian

- CAAL OER Advisory Committee
- CRKN ORCID-CA Governing Committee

Christine Lovelace

Head, Archives & Special Collections

- Nominations and Awards Committee, Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA)
- Council of Archives New Brunswick (CANB)
- Special Interest Groups (Indigenous record, University records), Association of Canadian Archivists
- National Archives Appraisal Board

Erik Moore

Anthropology, Classics, and English Librarian

- Northeastern Archaeological Survey (Co-Researcher)

Julie Morris

Collections Analysis and Bibliometrics Librarian

- CAAL Scholarly Communications Committee
- CARL Bibliometrics and Research Impact Community of Practice (Co-Chair)

CONTINUED...

Mike Nason**Open Scholarship and Publishing Librarian**

- National Information Standards Organization (NISO) Journal Article Versions Revision Working Group (Co-Chair)
- Coalition Publica Technical Committee
- Tri-Agency Grants Management Solution Initiative - External Change Agent Network
- CARL Shared Repositories Infrastructure Advisory Committee
- CARL SRIAC Metadata Experts Working Group (Co-Chair)
- CARL Library Publishing Community of Practice Engagement Team
- Barcelona Declaration Working Group III: Funding Metadata

Merle Steeves**Head of Technical Services**

- Name Authority Cooperative Program (NACO) Canada, Atlantic Chapter

Mario Tiozzo**Data Analysis and Visualization Librarian**

- ICPSR Designated Representative

Linda Roulston**Electronic Licensing Librarian**

- CAAL Collections Committee
- CAAL Licensing Advisory Sub-Committee
- Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries
- Canadian License Community of Practice Working Group

Nicole Slipp**Collections Strategy Librarian**

- CAAL Shared Print Committee

Richelle Witherspoon

- Atlantic Health Libraries Association (AHLA) Secretary

Tatiana Zaraiskaya**STEM Librarian / RDM Specialist**

- Research Intelligence Expert Group (RIEG), Digital Research Alliance of Canada
- DataCite Canada Governing Committee, DCCGC (national)
- IASSIST Indigenous Data Working Group (international)

Internal Affiliations



Saran Croos Engineering Librarian

- Engineering Faculty Council Member

Alex Goudreau Science and Health Sciences Librarian

- JBI University of New Brunswick Nursing Research Centre (core member)

Lesley Balcom Dean of Libraries

- Dean's Council
- Fredericton Senate
 - Fredericton Senate Academic Planning Committee
 - Fredericton Senate Nominating Committee (Primary)
- Saint John Senate
 - Saint John Senate Academic Planning Committee
- Joint Senate Non-Credit Curriculum Committee
- School of Graduate Studies Executive
- World University Rankings Committee

Joanne Smyth Director, Collections Strategy and Scholarly Communication

- UNBF Bookstore Advisory Committee (Senate Appointee)
- UNBF Senate Curriculum Committee
- Search Committee - Director of Executive Education and Professional Development (Senate Representative)

James MacKenzie Associate Dean of Libraries

- Artificial Intelligence Academic Sub-Committee (AI Advisory Committee)
- School of Graduate Studies Strategic Planning Committee
- UNBF Senate Technology Services Committee

Siobhan Hanratty Director, Learning and Engagement

- UNBF Senate Libraries Representative
 - Fredericton Senate Nominating Committee (Secondary)
- Academic Advising Group
- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Search Committee for Associate Vice Provost, Student Affairs and Services

Marc Bragdon Head, Harriet Irving Research Commons

- Joint Senate Non-Credit Curriculum Committee

Emily Connor Dafoe STEM Librarian

- Joint Senate Student Services Committee

Catherine Gracey Open Scholarship and Copyright Librarian

- Artificial Intelligence Academic Sub-committee (AI Advisory Committee)

CONTINUED...

Phil Taber

Business & Engineering Librarian

- UNBSJ Senate Libraries Representative

Richelle Witherspoon

Health Librarian

- AUNBT Collective Bargaining Council
- AUNBT/UNB Impact of Technology, Joint Committee
- Nursing Curriculum Taskforce
- Nursing GAU - Associate member

Christine Lovelace

Head, Archives & Special Collections

- Academic Program Review Committee
- AUNBT Collective Bargaining Council

David Ross

Head of Hans W. Klohn Library

- AUNBT Collective Bargaining Committee
- Academic Program Review Committee
- Persistence Attrition & Retention (PAR) Committee
- Search Committee for Dean of Libraries
- Senate Student Services Committee (2025)
- UNBSJ Orientation Committee

Merle Steeves

Head, Technical Services

- AUNBT Collective Bargaining Team
- AUNBT/UNB Impact of Technology, Joint Committee (Co-Chair)

Mario Tiozzo

Data Analysis & Visualization Librarian

- Search Committee for Dean of Libraries

Fiacre Ó Duinn

Teaching and Learning Librarian

- AUNBT Collective Bargaining Council

Nicole Slipp

Collections Strategy Librarian

- UNBSJ Senate Curriculum Committee

Tatiana Zaraiskaya

STEM Librarian / RDM Specialist

- UNBF Science Faculty Curriculum Committee



Get Specialized Help



Lesley Balcom
Dean of Libraries



James MacKenzie
Associate Dean of Libraries

- | Digital Humanities
- | Digital Publishing
- | Research Data Management



Siobhan Hanratty
Director, Learning & Engagement

- | Statistics and Data
- | Maps and GIS
- | Historical GIS
- | Research Data Management



Joanne Smyth
Director, Collections Strategy & Scholarly Communication

- | Library Collections
- | Open Access Models
- | Scholarly Communication



David Ross
Head, Hans W Klohn Commons Library

- | History, Politics, Sociology, Education & Communications
- | Zotero & Citation Management
- | AI Literacy



Marc Bragdon
Head, Harriet Irving Research Commons

- | Podcasting for Assignments
- | Videography for Knowledge Mobilization
- | Maker Pedagogies



Christine Lovelace
Head, Special Collections & Archives

- | UNB's Archives & Special Collections
- | Researching with Primary Resources
- | Finding Material in Other Archives



Merle Steeves
Head, Technical Services

- | Bibliographic (metadata) Records
- | UNB WorldCat
- | Library Technical Services



Saran Croos
Engineering & Computer Science Librarian

- | Engineering Resources
- | Computer Science Resources
- | Standards
- | Patents



Barry Cull
Subject Librarian

- | Sociology, Social Work & Interdisciplinary Studies
- | Systematic Reviews & Knowledge Synthesis



Emily Connor Dafoe
STEM Librarian

- | Science & Forestry & Environmental Management
- | Open Educational Resources
- | Citing your sources
- | AI Literacy



Evan Echols
Digital Collections Archivist

- | UNB's Archives & Special Collections
- | Preserving your born-digital material
- | Digital Archives



Alex Goudreau
Science / Health Sciences Librarian

- | Nursing, Health & Science
- | Knowledge Synthesis & Systematic Reviews



Susan Fisher
Curator, Eileen Wallace
Children's Literature Collection

- | Children's Literature
- | Gender, Sexuality & Womens Studies
- | Literacy



Catherine Gracey
Open Scholarship & Copyright Librarian

- | Open Access
- | Open Educational Resources
- | Computer Science Resources & AI Literacy



Erik Moore
Subject Librarian

- | Anthropology Resources
- | English Resources
- | Classics & Ancient History Resources



Julie Morris
Collections Analysis / Bibliometrics Librarian

- | Bibliometrics
- | Research Impact
- | French Resources
- | Business & Management



Mike Nason
Open Scholarship & Publishing Librarian

- | Digital Scholarship
- | Scholarly Publishing
- | Repositories
- | Open Access



Fiacre Ó Duinn
Teaching & Learning Librarian

- | Nursing, Health & Science
- | Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technology



Nicole Slipp
Collections Strategy Librarian

- | Humanities & Languages
- | Library Collections including Science Fiction & Fantasy



Aggie Sliwka
Historical Studies, Leadership Studies & Political Science Librarian

- | Historical Studies, Leadership Studies & Political Science
- | Citation Management with Zotero
- | AI Literacy



Phil Taber
Subject Librarian

- | Industry Reports & Company Information
- | Research in Business & Engineering



Mario Tiozzo
Data Analysis & Visualization Librarian

- | Data Analysis
- | Data Visualization
- | Assistance with MS Excel



Richelle Witherspoon
Subject Librarian

- | Health, Kinesiology, Nursing and Psychology
- | Knowledge Synthesis & Systematic Reviews
- | Zotero & Citation Management



Tatiana Zaraiskaya
STEM Librarian / RDM Specialist

- | Research Data Management
- | Institutional Repository Dataverse
- | Open Educational Resources
- | Text Data Mining

UNB Libraries by numbers, 2024-25



Average Weekly Operating Hours (System-wide)
320



Laptop Loans
1,762



Electronic Visits
1,083,320



In-person Visits
667,865



Service Point Interactions
57,807



Consultations
8,279



UNB Libraries Research Guides
249



UNB Libraries Research Guides Views
98,649



e-Reserves Accessed
45,251



Items in the Institutional Repository
10,842



UNB Libraries Instructional Videos
122



Streaming Video Titles
43,546



Total e-Books
1,400,905



Total Print Collections
957,107

Library Expenditures by Format Type:

e-Books	Print Books	Print Journals	e-Journals & Databases	Media
\$220,444	\$153,141	\$121,779	\$4,285,176	\$47,374