Always Open
A NOTE FROM

Dean Dan Cohen

It’s always great to walk around and see so many students with stickers on their laptops and bags displaying their love of our library. This year we came out with a new sticker that simply says “Northeastern University Library: Always Open,” and you can now see that round red-and-black sticker throughout the Library and the rest of campus.

“Always Open” captures what we do in more ways than one. For the thousands of students, faculty, and staff who use Snell Library every day, our 24/7 openness is of course a wonderful and enormously helpful space at the heart of Northeastern. Some like the quieter nooks of the Library, while others prefer to work together in lively common areas.

Others take advantage of our always-open online presence. At any time of day or night, we now provide access to almost a million ebooks, as well as millions of articles in every field imaginable. We have recently nearly doubled our archival collections, and our Digital Repository Service now stores a million items, ranging from photographs, to audio and video, to documents and data sets. We have ways of communicating with students and researchers around the clock and around the globe, for Huskies at any of the growing number of campuses beyond Boston.

Perhaps most important, Library staff are always open to new partnerships, collaborations, and assistance that serves the entire Northeastern community. We’ve recently added new staff with specialties in emerging fields like data visualization and interdisciplinary medical research, and who can support all forms of entrepreneurship and innovation.

This year we shattered all previous records for the number of workshops we held, the number of faculty members and students we helped online and in person, and the number of student visits to the Library.

Stop by and see all of the new things we have going on, or visit our extensive digital presence. We are not only always open, but always in use, day and night.

Dan Cohen
Vice Provost for Information Collaboration
Dean of the Library
Professor of History

More from the Dean

Dan Cohen recently published an essay for The Atlantic about the value of digital collections in response to the announcement that the Obama Presidential Library will comprise a digital collection, available online, as well as a physical research center. The article, titled "Obama's Presidential Library Is Already Digital" can be viewed at theatlantic.com.

(Left to right): Barry Koslow (CSH’66) and Marlene Koslow (CPS’69) met Dean Dan Cohen, enjoyed a tour of the Archives and Library, and had a long-awaited introduction to Dr. Richard O’Bryant, Director of the John D. O’Bryant African American Institute. The couple expressed their gratitude and credit to Dr. O’Bryant for his father’s guidance to Barry’s journey to Northeastern.
George F. Hughes (COE’65) worked at Fenway Park when he was 14, and despite the passage of time and a cross-country move, that love has stayed strong, even representing itself in his license plate! George, who recently enjoyed lunch with the library’s Director of Development Gail Mansfield, has had a long and distinguished career with EG&G and worked closely with the Atomic Energy Commission at test sites around the globe. He and his wife Alice have lived in Nevada since 1993.

Dean Dan Cohen traveled to Sarasota for our annual Florida Meet the Dean luncheon, where he shared the latest information about Northeastern in general and Snell Library in particular. Alumni were also able to reconnect, swapping Northeastern stories and experiences, and learning about the Dean’s vision for the 21st-century library.

A Beautiful Day for Baseball

The Cohen twins, Arlo and Eve, joined dad Dan and President Joseph Aoun at the 16th annual Huskies vs. Red Sox spring training game and cookout in Fort Myers, Fla., in February. More than 200 alumni and friends gathered to cheer on the Huskies.

Left: (L-R) Dean of Libraries Dan Cohen; Fred Banzi (CPS); John Kolstad (DMSB); Doris Kolstad; Francis Palmieri; Phil Pasho (COE); Gail Mansfield, Director of Development for Snell Library; Manuel Joaquim (COE); Laurie Bowater, Senior Associate Director of Gift Planning.

Below: Dean Cohen chats with Doris and John Kolstad.

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Snell Library welcomed Elizabeth T. Nagarajah (DMSB’90) back to campus for a tour and visit to the Archives and Special Collections. Elizabeth, an active member of the Dudley Street community, chairs the Friends of Dudley Branch Library and was interested in viewing some of Snell Library’s neighborhood collections. She was also entertained by a special drum solo at the Digital Recording Studio by Northeastern student Ben DeUrso. Elizabeth and her husband Prem are long-time residents of Roxbury, where they raised three children and have owned Premiere Customized Services for more than 30 years. Elizabeth is the second Northeastern alum in the family; her mother Judith A. Harris-Bailey graduated from the Bouvé Nursing School in 1974.

Nagarajah Returns for Special Tour

Senior executives from the Boston Celtics visited the Library’s Archives and Special Collections to peruse the Boston Globe archives. Vice President of Live Events Sean Sullivan; Creative Director Keith Sliney; and Vice President of Marketing and Content Strategy Kara Walker (above) and Senior Vice President of Communications Christian Megiliola (not pictured) enjoyed a tour of the library and viewed a portion of the team’s extensive collection of 3,200 photos from 1962-1996; 1,600 photos of Celtics players; and more than 15,500 unpublished negatives.

Seeing the Green in Black and White

Welcome, New Staff!

Molly Brown, Reference and Outreach Archivist. Molly organizes events and provides instruction and workshops for the Archives and Special Collections, for Northeastern and surrounding communities.

Evie Cordell, Undergraduate Engagement/First-Year Experience Librarian. Evie partners with faculty and instructors to provide workshops and instruction to first-year programs, including the First-Year Writing program.

Lisa Fabiano, Ordering Assistant. Previously a book buyer for independent bookstores, Lisa processes library orders for books, journals, supplies, and electronic resources.

Khyle Hannan, Entrepreneurship Librarian. Khyle is the liaison to the D’Amore-McKim School of Business and provides library services to student groups working on entrepreneurial activities on campus.

Kim Kennedy, Digital Production Coordinator. Kim works with a number of departments within the library to support the growth and success of the library’s digitization program.

Alissa Link, STEM Librarian. Alissa supports a number of academic departments in the STEM fields, including Biology, Bioinformatics, Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Marine and Environmental Sciences, Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Bioengineering, and Health Informatics.

Julie McBrien, Evening Services Coordinator. Julie supervises stacks maintenance and oversees deliveries during the evening hours.

Patrick Murray-John, Associate Director for Systems. Patrick leads and supports the technical aspect of the Digital Scholarship Group.

Janine Rodriguez, Web Developer. Janine is responsible for web development and management across the library’s various web presences.

Kerri Vautour, Events and Marketing Coordinator. Kerri works to publicize the services and resources of Snell Library. She also assists with organizing library events.
Northeastern’s third annual Giving Day was an outstanding success for the Library, raising $22,735—more than doubling what was raised last year! Gifts for the Library were made to the Library Dean’s Innovation Fund, supporting new and ongoing research initiatives, and the Archives/Documenting Boston Fund to preserve and promote historical records of Boston’s diverse communities. The incredible generosity from alumni, students, parents, families, faculty, and staff made a tremendous impact on the success of the day for the Library and the university, with 14,119 gifts made from around the globe in 24 hours.

Above: Research & Instruction Librarian Brooke Williams and Manager of Global Campus Engagement & Online Learning Lindley Homol celebrated Giving Day on the road, presenting a poster at the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Annual Conference in Cleveland on April 11.

First-Year Students Benefit from New Programs, Resources

The First-Year Experience Program builds connections with students, staff, and faculty throughout Northeastern in order to promote the role of the Library in support of undergraduate student research with a focus on first-year students. Evie Cordell is our inaugural First-Year Experience and Undergraduate Engagement Librarian. During her first year at Snell Library, she has been able to grow the library’s First-Year Experience Program substantially by making connections with various first-year programs throughout Northeastern. During the fall and spring semesters, she taught a total of 90 library instruction classes and workshops to more than 1,300 students. These classes combined a newly designed Library scavenger hunt (left) with an introduction to the Library’s resources. With the success of the first year, the program is looking at more innovative ways to continue growing its outreach to students.

Many of these programs were funded by the generosity of Gene (COE’60, MEd’65, H’95) and Corinne (CSSH’64, MEd’71) Reppucci, who designated their most recent philanthropic gift to the Library for the growth and support of first-year workshops. The Reppuccis appreciate the importance of the Library and educating Northeastern students to understand and utilize its many resources. Thank you, Gene and Corinne, for your continued advocacy for Snell Library!
Never Forget
Holocaust Awareness Committee’s Archives Now Available Online

Rabbi Paul Levenson installs a display at Northeastern University for Holocaust Awareness Week in 1990. This photo is part of the newly launched Holocaust Awareness Committee digital collection.

The newly launched Holocaust Awareness Committee digital collection preserves and displays the rich history of Northeastern’s extraordinary commitment to Holocaust awareness and genocide prevention, as well as supporting curriculum and research, including courses in the Holocaust, Jewish and European history, and public history.

The site was launched as part of Holocaust and Genocide Awareness Week, a series of events that explore the history of the Holocaust and engage with students. Other events of the week included: How One Teenager and Thousands of Other Boys and Girls Escaped from the Nazis via the Kindertransport (a lecture by Gerald Holton); Reflections on the 25th Anniversary of the Genocide in Rwanda (a student-led symposium); 25 Years After the Rwandan Genocide: Challenges and Responses in the Prevention of Genocide (a lecture by United Nations Under-Secretary General Adama Dieng); and Anatomy of a Genocide: Lessons of Studying Mass Murder from Below (a lecture by Omer Bartov).

In addition to Northeastern’s own collection related to the Holocaust, the Library also hopes to provide students and faculty access to USC Shoah Foundation’s Visual History Archive, the most comprehensive research collection of its kind. The archive includes 53,000 video testimonies of survivors and witnesses to the Holocaust. Users can search videos through more than 62,000 keyword terms, 1.79 million names, and more than 680,000 images to locate segments by the minute, read transcripts, and cross-reference information with other NU resources.

Philanthropy designated to acquiring this vital archive is encouraged.

Please email g.mansfield@northeastern.edu for detailed information on how you can help provide access to the Visual History Archive to the Northeastern community.

Collection Keeps Students Spinning

Students who may never have held a vinyl recording in their hands or used a turntable to play music will now have the opportunity to do so thanks to a generous donation by former trustee Bernard Solomon (CSH’46).

The newly accessible Solomon Jazz Collection features more than 100 albums from a range of genres, from artists such as Lester Young, Louis Armstrong, Rosemary Clooney, Fats Waller, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, and more, and a turntable to play them on.

The collection is located in Snell Library’s Media Creation Studio 203, outside the Recording Studios.

Library Hosts Major Conference

The Library hosted the 2019 Digital Scholarship Planning Workshop in late March in partnership with the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and Coalition for Networked Information (CNI). This two-day workshop attracted more than 140 librarians, graduate students, and administrators from across North America (and Ireland!) representing more than 76 colleges, universities, and organizations. Attendees discussed the importance of mission planning, needs assessment, staffing, balanced service models, and space planning. Presentations from faculty (including Northeastern’s Meg Heckman and Daniel Jackson) and graduate students (including former and current Digital Scholarship Group students Jim McGrath and Megan Barney) demonstrated the impact of library-based digital scholarship services showcasing research in English, French, Art History, and American Studies. Northeastern University Library staff involved in the planning of this well-received event were Dan Cohen, Julia Flanders, Jen Kleinman, and Patrick Yott.
Celebrating the Succinct

Every year, graduate students write theses on topics at the frontiers of their respective fields. Many of those topics remain obscure and confusing for those who have not spent countless hours steeped in research. Enter Three-Minute Thesis, a movement encouraging students to explain their complex work in plainspoken, succinct ways. This practice allows non-experts to benefit from these exciting and important findings. Snell Library co-hosted a Three-Minute Thesis competition in the fall with GWISE, Graduate Women in Science and Engineering, a student group on campus.

Books as Art

Students Embrace New Collection of Artists’ Books

A new collection at the Northeastern University Archives and Special Collections encourages students to handle the art. The Artists’ Books Collection, started by Arts, Humanities, and Experiential Learning Librarian Regina Pagani (below, viewing The City Within by Natalie Draz), includes original works of art in book form. These works vary greatly in content, material, and production processes depending on the vision of their artists. Some are letterpress printed; others are miniature or include a digital component. However, they all encourage their viewer to interact with them and question what makes a book a book.

This budding collection has already found an audience with an advanced photography course taught by Professor Julia Cybularz. Students visited the Library for a class session exploring photography and artists’ books as a way to gain inspiration for the making of their own photo books. Based on their experiences with the books, students evaluated the relationships between form, material, content, and viewer experience. They questioned what it meant to experience art through the book form versus through an exhibit or an online site.

For many students, the artist’s book medium really resonated. “I think that the secret value of the artist’s book is that a work of art sits inside of a form that is so widely accessible,” said Shannon Ehmsen (AMD’20). “Someone who is intimidated by and feels distant from painting or sculpture feels comfortable leafing through a book and what they find opens their minds to challenging their conception of what the world can be...I’ve always loved flipping through books in the Library for inspiration, and the curation of the artists’ books in the NU collection really pushed the idea that the ‘book’ is more than what we are most familiar with.”

If you have an art book to add to this collection, or would like to support growing the Artists’ Book Collection, contact g.mansfield@northeastern.edu or call 617-373-5452.

Left to right: Alexander Lovely, Research Data Management Librarian Jen Ferguson, Anastasiya Yandulkaya, and Judith Piet of GWISE. Lovely, Yandulkaya, and Brian Ruliffson (not pictured) won for their presentations on their thesis research.
TOUCH THIS PAGE

Exhibit highlights multisensory modes of reading for blind and visually impaired

This spring, Snell Library was one of several locations throughout Boston to host a pop-up-style exhibit titled *Touch This Page! Making Sense of the Ways We Read*. The display focused on reading as a multisensory act, showcasing 3D-printed replicas from historic books for blind and low-vision readers printed between 1830 and 1910. In addition to Snell, exhibits also appeared at the Norman B. Leventhal Map and Education Center at the Boston Public Library; the Perkins School for the Blind; and Harvard University’s Lamont Library. It also has an interactive online exhibit at touchthispage.com.

The exhibit, consisting mostly of materials from the Samuel P. Hayes Research Library at the Perkins School for the Blind, simultaneously showcased how reading can encompass sight, touch, and sound, while also providing a history of disability and accessibility resources.

*Touch This Page!* is co-directed by **Sari Altschuler**, assistant professor of English and associate director of the Humanities Center at Northeastern, and **David Weimer** of Harvard University. Northeastern University Library Dean **Dan Cohen** and associate chair and associate professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering **Waleed Meleis** also contributed.

Information and examples of 3D-printed replicas from historic books for blind and low-vision readers were on display at Snell Library this spring as part of a pop-up exhibit titled *Touch This Page! Making Sense of the Ways We Read.*

Images credit: Matthew Modoono/Northeastern University
On Monday, January 28, Northeastern’s Asian American Center opened an exhibit that was the result of a collaboration between two student-leaders coordinating Northeastern’s Asian American Heritage Month, Melanie Barbini and Roshni Thyagrajan, and the Archives and Special Collections’ Reference and Outreach Librarian, Molly Brown. During the fall semester, the students worked to create an exhibit that represented Asian American activism in Boston using the Chinese Progressive Association’s (CPA) Records. Their goal was to provide an exhibit to help students better connect with Boston’s Asian American communities. Barbini and Thyagrajan curated the exhibit from the digitized CPA records, and the Archives and Special Collections provided captions, printing, and mounting for the exhibit.

At the exhibit opening, which was the first event for Asian American Heritage Month, Brown gave a talk about what archives are, how Northeastern’s Archives and Special Collections came to be, and a brief history of the CPA and its fight to win Parcel C in Chinatown. The Archives and Special Collections included a QR code linking to a timeline of the CPA’s organizing for control of Parcel C as part of the exhibit. Students can use their phones to navigate the timeline while they take in the physical exhibit.

The timeline is a part of the Boston’s Asian American Community History portal where more timelines, links to other special collections, and lists of active community organizations can be found. Once the exhibit in the Asian American Center is removed, a page with a digital version of the exhibit will be available on the portal for the Center to refer back to and share.

For more information and to view some of the exhibit materials, visit asianamericanhistory.library.northeastern.edu.
Furniture Naming Opportunities

Gifts of all sizes are welcome and appreciated. At this time of renewal and renovation at Snell Library, we are pleased to offer the following limited naming opportunities to our supporters:

$5,000
(10 needed)
*Double sofa*

$10,000
4 (6 needed)
*Modular sofa*

$2,500
7 (8 needed)
*Duo pod*

$1,000
28 (32 needed)
*Single pod*

For details and a pledge/gift agreement form, please contact Gail Mansfield, Director of Development, at g.mansfield@northeastern.edu, or call 617-373-5452 for more information.

Comfortable, brightly colored new couches, chairs, and study carrels are now available to students on the 3rd and 4th floors at Snell Library! Special thank you to the following supporters for their assistance in our future initiative. We look forward to celebrating at a special naming reception in the fall.

Dr. Scot W. Krueger and Mrs. Mary J. Cole
Mr. David Leonard Dick
Mr. Jeffrey M. and Mrs. Karin M. Dolce
Mr. Christopher T. Kelley
Dr. Thomas J. and Mrs. Carol J. Kerr
Mr. Theodore C. and Mrs. Corine Parigian
Mr. Scott and Mrs. Rose Serels
Mr. James and Mrs. Susan Welch
Get social with Snell!

Follow along and join the conversation!

What’s New is a regular podcast hosted by Dean of the Libraries Dan Cohen and produced at Snell Library. In it, Cohen explores new ideas and discoveries through analysis and expert interviews. Learn more at whatsonewpodcast.org.

Over 50 years ago, a student borrowed Alice in Wonderland from our library and never returned it—until today.

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Designed by Kerri Vautour, Events & Marketing Coordinator
“Snell was the place I went to when I trusted my learning would encounter serendipitous happenings, inspiring people, and a safe environment to explore the bounds of ‘what I think I know.’ It was an environment of possibility for me, in ways I can’t fully describe but fully remember as a key factor in making the most of my Northeastern experience.”

— Ali Fraenkel, CSSH’15