

Librarian 4.0: Managing the Virtual Shift

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Time For Change

The Covid 19 pandemic's compulsory shift to virtual services forced many libraries to examine long-standing services and procedures, but it also offered opportunities to better accommodate patrons in this *New Normal*.

The UVI (University of the Virgin Islands) Libraries accepted the pandemic's challenge and committed to continued excellence developing a three-pronged approach encompassing:

- » Virtual accessibility
- » Greater digital collections
- » Community partnerships

- 
- Grants
 - UVI Digital Content
 - Future Digital Partnerships

Digital Collections

Digitization Grants

American Library Association (ALA)

UVI Libraries were awarded a \$40,000 grant from ALA to support:

- » Virtual Reference Librarians
- » Technical Support
- » Digitization of Caribbean Materials
 - UVI Thesis and Dissertation Collection

This allowed us the resources to build a new Digital Platform.

More Information:



US Caribbean & Ethnic Florida Digital Newspaper Project (NDNP)

UVI partnered with the *University of Florida* and received a grant from *National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)* to digitize microfilmed newspapers.

- » Part of the National Digital Newspaper Program developed by the NEH.
- » **Goal:** Digitization of approximately 100,000 newspapers published between 1836-1963.

More Information:



UVI Digital Collection

UVI purchased a new digital repository and began to market the university's digital collections.

The screenshot shows the UVI Library Digital Collection website. At the top is a yellow header with the UVI logo and the text "University of the Virgin Islands" and "LIBRARY DIGITAL COLLECTION". Below the header is a navigation bar with a search box and a menu icon. The main content area is divided into six sections, each with a book icon and a title:

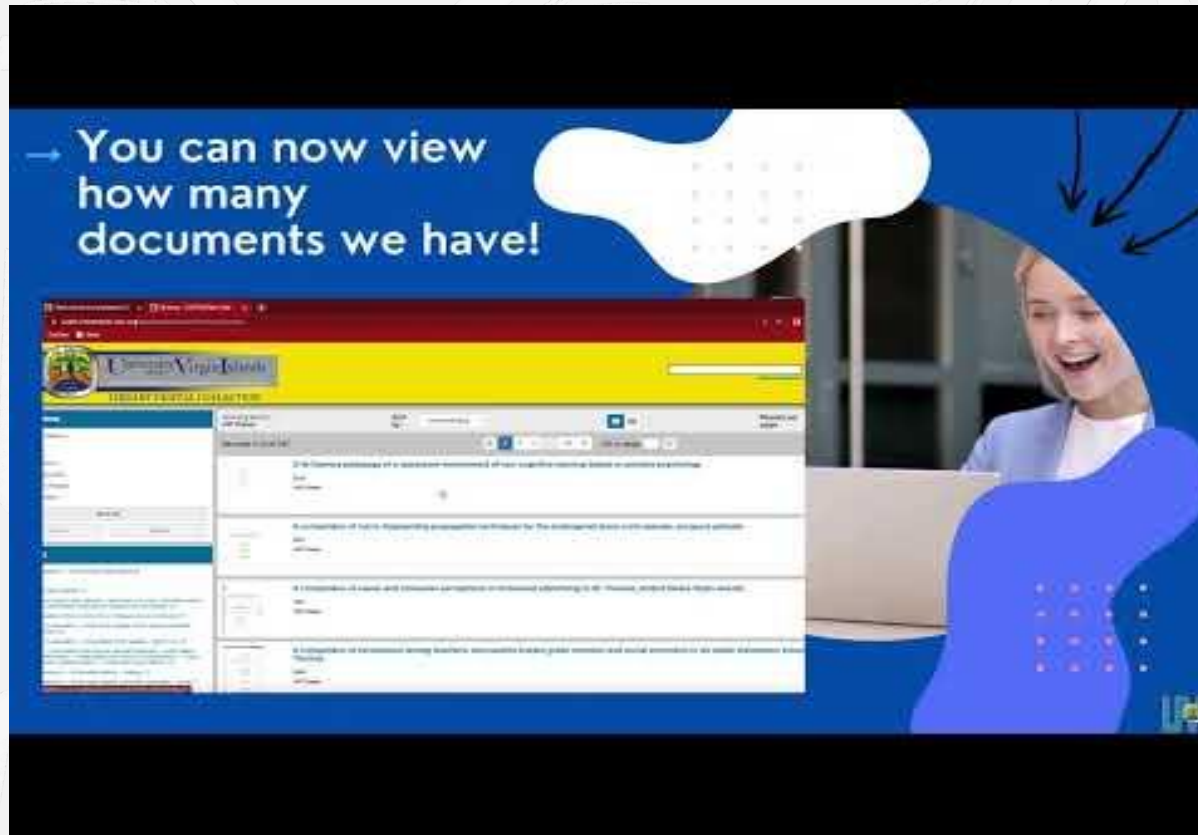
- UVI Theses**: This collection includes theses submitted by graduates of the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) as a partial requirement of a degree program at the Master's level. UVI theses are copyright protected and should be used for educational purposes only. Commercial use, reproduction, distribution, or publication in any format is strictly prohibited.
- UVI Dissertations**: This collection includes dissertations submitted by graduates and postgraduates of the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) as a partial requirement of a degree program at the doctoral level. UVI dissertations are copyright protected and should be used for educational purposes only. Commercial use, reproduction, distribution, or publication in any format is strictly prohibited.
- Faculty Publications**: The faculty publications collection features journal articles, white papers, conference papers, and other publications from the faculty of the University of the Virgin Islands.
- Pandemic in Paradise**: The University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) Library is documenting the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the UVI community. We are interested in stories about how COVID-19 has affected your lives. Submissions' focus can range from the abrupt switch to online instruction and learning, working and studying from home, to the struggle to maintain relationships with friends and family while...
- Funeral Booklets**: The funeral booklets collection comprises of memorial programs collected throughout the United States Virgin Islands.
- UVI Archives**: The University Archives serve as a repository for historical records and documents that encompass the operations, publications, manuscripts, policies and all other activities of the University of the Virgin Islands.

More Information:



UVI Thesis and Dissertation Collection

UVI Librarians shared flyers and videos on our campus messaging system and social media to promote the newly digitized materials.



More Collections

Funeral Booklets

- » Funeral Booklets offer valuable archival information, documenting a community's citizens and collective values.

UVI Archives

- » The UVI Archives is a renewed initiative to digitize and provide access to valuable historical information for the UVI community.

Faculty Publications

- » UVI faculty publish in a variety of disciplines and the Faculty Publication Repository offers students free access to valuable research increasing the quality of their education.

Pandemic in Paradise

- » The UVI Library is documenting the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the UVI community. Librarians are interested in original stories about how Covid has affected the Virgin Islands' community.
- » Submission topics range from the abrupt switch to online instruction and learning, working and studying from home to the struggle of maintaining relationships with friends and family while keeping a safe distance.



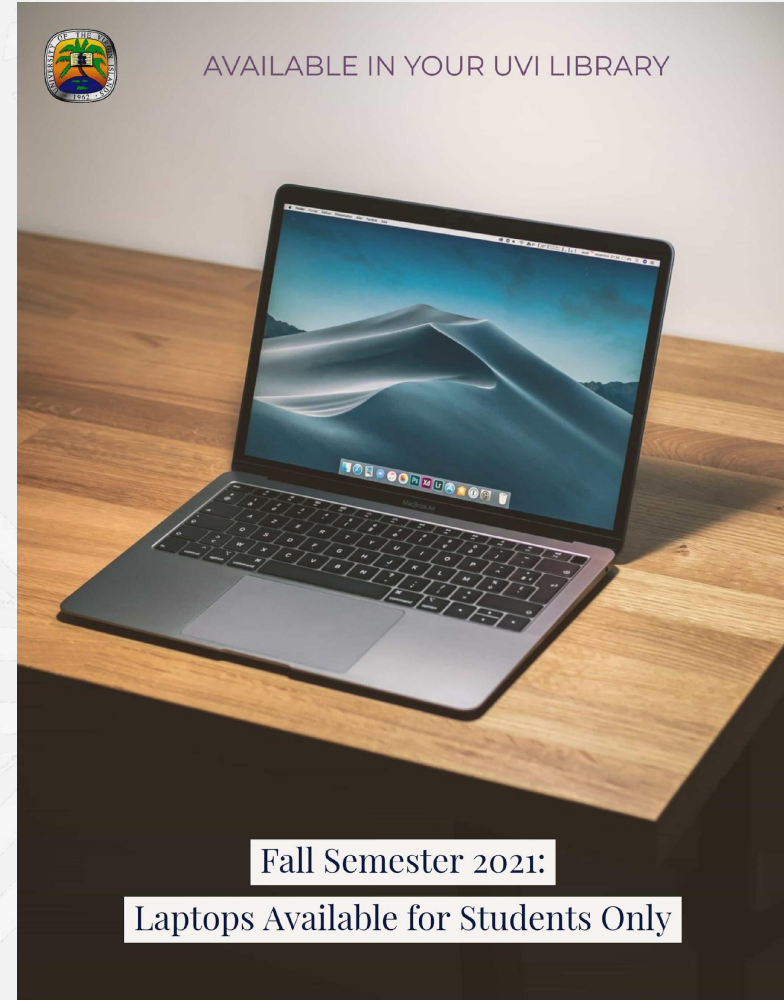
- Laptop Lending Program
- Online Reference Services
- Learning Modules & Tutorials
- Social Media Campaign
- Affordable Learning UVI

Virtual Accessibility

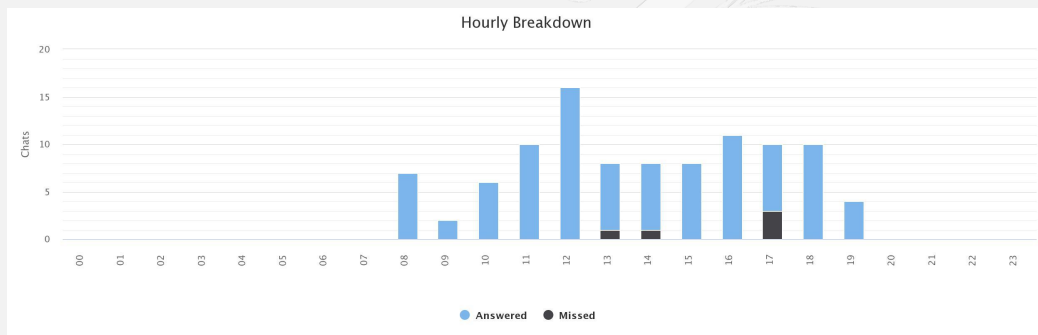
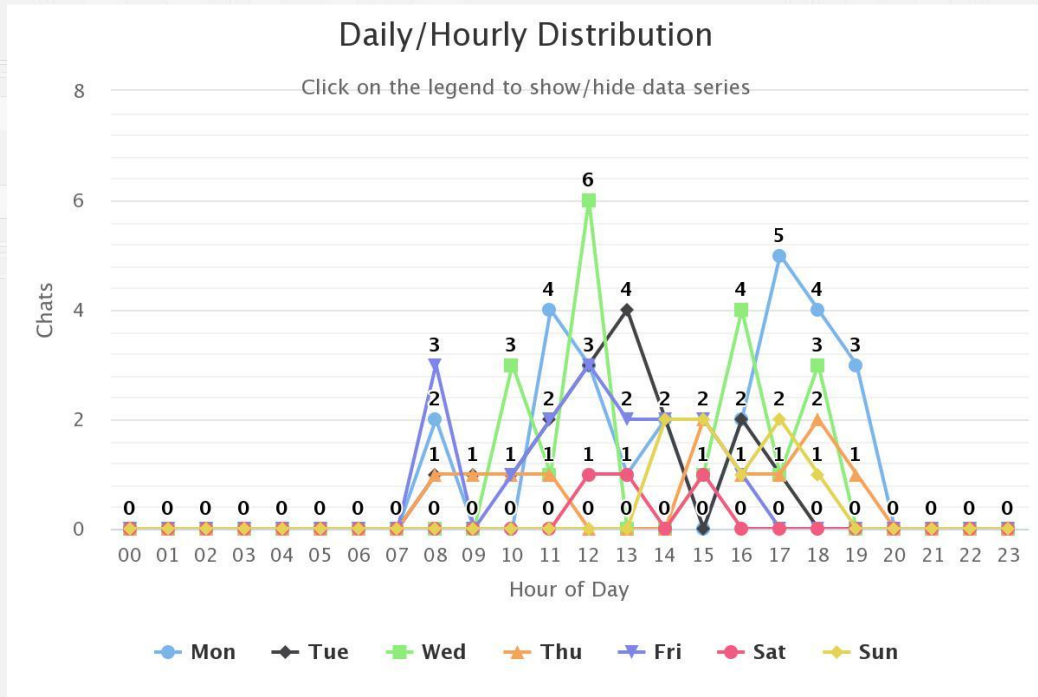
Laptop Lending Program

» Many UVI students struggled with virtual learning because they didn't have access to appropriate technology. UVI Libraries began a laptop lending program for these students with overwhelming success.

More Information:



Online Reference Services



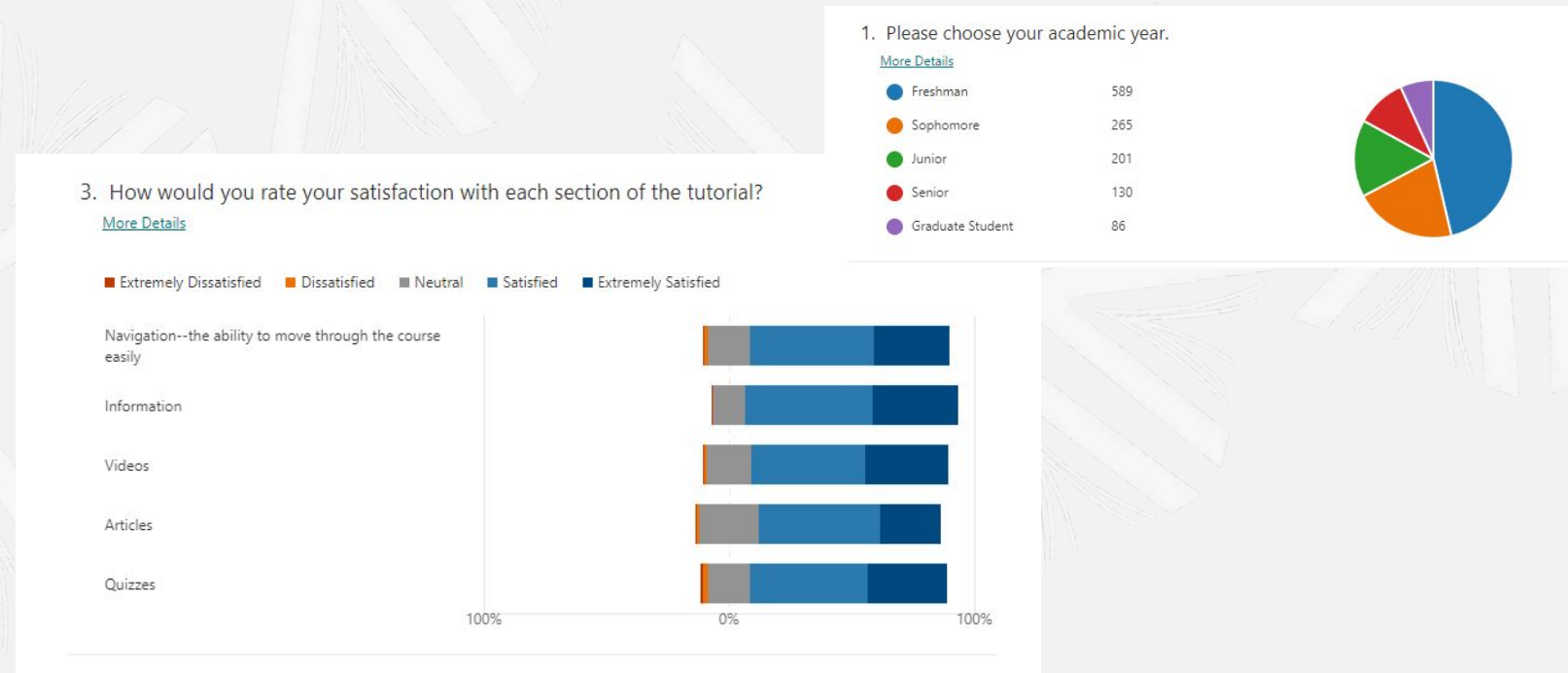
- » As librarians looked for new ways to connect with patrons, the online chat service became an essential part of the UVI Libraries' Reference Services.
- » Springshare's Chat Services allow librarians to connect with patrons from anywhere and easily integrates screen sharing capabilities, optimizing learning opportunities.
- » The platform also collects valuable data for all interactions, allowing librarians continuous improvement opportunities.

Library Blackboard Modules and Tutorials

» Seeing virtual gaps in instruction, UVI librarians developed learning modules and tutorials in UVI's Learning Management System (LMS), *Blackboard*.

- » Topics Include
- Academic Integrity
 - Research
 - Growth Mindset
 - Copyright

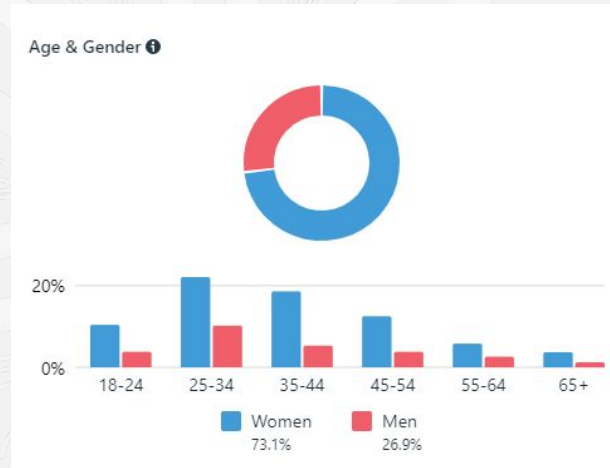
Survey Results for the Academic Integrity Tutorial



Social Media Campaign

- » As both students and the wider community continue to use social media to communicate, UVI Librarians, as part of the larger *Information and Institutional Assessment* component, began to utilize Facebook as a communication tool.
- » The component created a Social Media Committee that agreed to post a minimum of 3 times per week.
- » Posts contained a mix of library resources, fun activities, and student/faculty highlights.

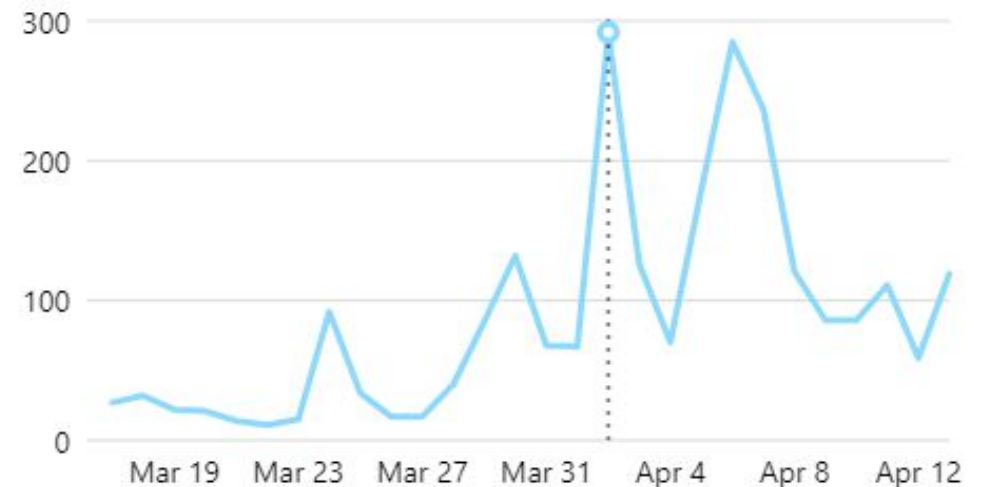
More Information:



Reach

Facebook Page Reach ⓘ

1,539 ↑ 79.4%



Affordable Learning UVI



As part of the university's goal to obtain affordable learning materials for students while encouraging innovative teaching practices, UVI librarians implemented *Affordable Learning UVI*.



The initiative offers:

\$500 stipends to faculty who agree to switch from traditional textbooks and resources to OER
\$1000 stipends to faculty who prefer to remix, revise, or create OER.




Participants agree to:

Complete pre- and post- surveys
Collaborate with librarians on a final report to be presented at Research Day
Submit a syllabus
Not require students to purchase any course materials



UVI Libraries and Faculty have saved UVI students over \$140,000 since Fall, 2019.

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- Digital Literacy & Community Collaboration
 - Digital Library of the Caribbean
 - Grants for Continued Partnerships

Community Partnerships

Digital Literacy and Community Collaboration

USVI Library/Community Collaboration: Training & Technology Innovations

- » UVI Libraries and 10 community partners were awarded over \$240,000 from the *Institute of Museum and Library Services* (IMLS) to support digital literacy and telehealth education efforts in the Virgin Islands .
- » Librarians and community partners will focus on developing technology skills for telehealth and information-seeking skills through partnerships with community organizations.
- » UVI librarians will develop training materials while helpdesk technicians will support technology needs for community partners and their members.
- » UVI Libraries and community partners began facilitating digital literacy training to community groups in April, 2022.

More Information:



Nisky Moravian Church & UVI Libraries present...



Basic Computer Training

Learn these skills and more:

- Email
- Social Media
- Internet
- Windows OS
- Mac OS
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Excel
- Microsoft Powerpoint
- Information Literacy

For more information, contact: (340) 774-2809



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC)

» UVI Libraries and the dLOC have a long-standing partnership; UVI has added several collections to dLOC, including:

- Funeral Booklets
- Historical Photographs
- Olassee Davis Articles
- Project Introspection
- UVI Research Reports

» Librarians are currently planning future collections.

More Information:



1918 Photo of 101 Steps leading to Blackbeard's Castle by Clare E. Taylor from UVI's Historical Photographs Collection

Continued Partnerships

- » UVI Libraries will continue to apply for grants and partner with community organizations, both inside the Virgin Islands and the continental United States, thereby increasing access to digital scholarship.
- » Past and present partners include:
 - Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands
 - Virgin Islands Social History Associates
 - Diplomatic and Consular Officers Retired (DACOR)
 - Digital Library of the Caribbean
 - University of Florida

Using a trifurcated approach, librarians successfully guided the UVI Libraries through the pandemic, its challenges, and into the new era.



Thank you!

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