E-Reserves Transition to Learn FAQ

In an effort to centralize and improve access to course materials, University Libraries (UL) is partnering with UNM’s Extended Learning to integrate electronic reserves readings into the UNM Learn system and phase out the use of a separate library-hosted system. The transition will begin over the summer and conclude by the end of the fall 2015 semester.

Q: Why is this transition occurring?

A: Learn creates a more seamless experience for students and faculty by providing one centralized point for accessing course materials. Before learning management systems such as Learn became available, the UNM Libraries implemented Docutek eReserves, an electronic course reserves system, to provide a place for faculty to post materials and links online. It was the best system available in 2003, but has become dated. Use of Docutek eReserves has also sharply declined in recent years with fewer than 10% of UNM courses having any type of presence on the Docutek platform. In contrast, Learn has become a popular point for instructors and students to provide and access course-related resources. Now that Learn has been successfully implemented on campus, it makes sense to leverage the capabilities of Learn to provide a one-stop experience for students and faculty.

Q: When will the transition take place?

A: Many instructors have already chosen to move their course materials to Learn. The Libraries’ goal is to work with instructors to move the remaining materials during Summer and Fall as needed. The last day eReserves will be available is Friday, December 11, 2015 (the last day of Finals Week).

Q: How do I know which courses / materials I have on eReserves?

A: Log on to EReserves at http://ereserves.unm.edu/eres/default.aspx. Search your name or department and course numbers to find your course(s). Select each course to see the materials currently associated with that course and evaluate which ones you would like to transfer to Learn.

Q: How do I move my materials?

A: Instructions are available at http://library.unm.edu/help/docs/how-to-download-eres-content.pdf for downloading your materials from eReserves. For assistance with this process,
contact UNM Libraries 277-9100. Assistance with creating a course page and uploading documents into Learn is available at http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/index.html

Q: Do I have to use Learn? Why not continue to make eReserves available for those instructors who prefer it?

A: There are significant software and hardware costs associated with maintaining the eReserves system. This has increased as, the vendor has not updated the eReserves software in many years and provides limited support. Given the problems with the long-term viability of the eReserves software and the low use of eReserves, it no longer makes sense to rely upon it. Learn is widely used by UNM instructors and widely known by UNM students as a reliable online course management platform.

Q: Will the Libraries continue to provide support for physical materials such as books and other physical media?

A: Yes. Physical course reserves services will continue as usual.

Q: Will the Libraries still help with scanning my course readings?

A: Yes. The Libraries will offer scanning for course materials throughout the coming academic year. Please drop the item off at any main campus library and fill out the scanning request form. You can also use publicly available scanners located at every main campus library to scan your own materials. Library staff can help you determine if any of your readings (articles, chapters) are available with persistent URLs through one of our databases or other electronic resources. Library staff is not able to upload documents to Learn so the scan will be delivered to you via email as an attachment.

Q: Will the Libraries help with questions I have about using copyrighted material in my courses?

A: Yes. More soon!

Q: Where can I get more information about using Learn?

A: Learn help is available at http://online.unm.edu/help/learn/faculty/getting-started. You'll find step-by-step help online as well as have the opportunity to attend drop in workshops for training and have your questions answered. Help via Email is available at learn@unm.edu and via phone at (505) 277-0857.