
ACCESSIBILITY AT UNH: A WORK IN PROGRESS

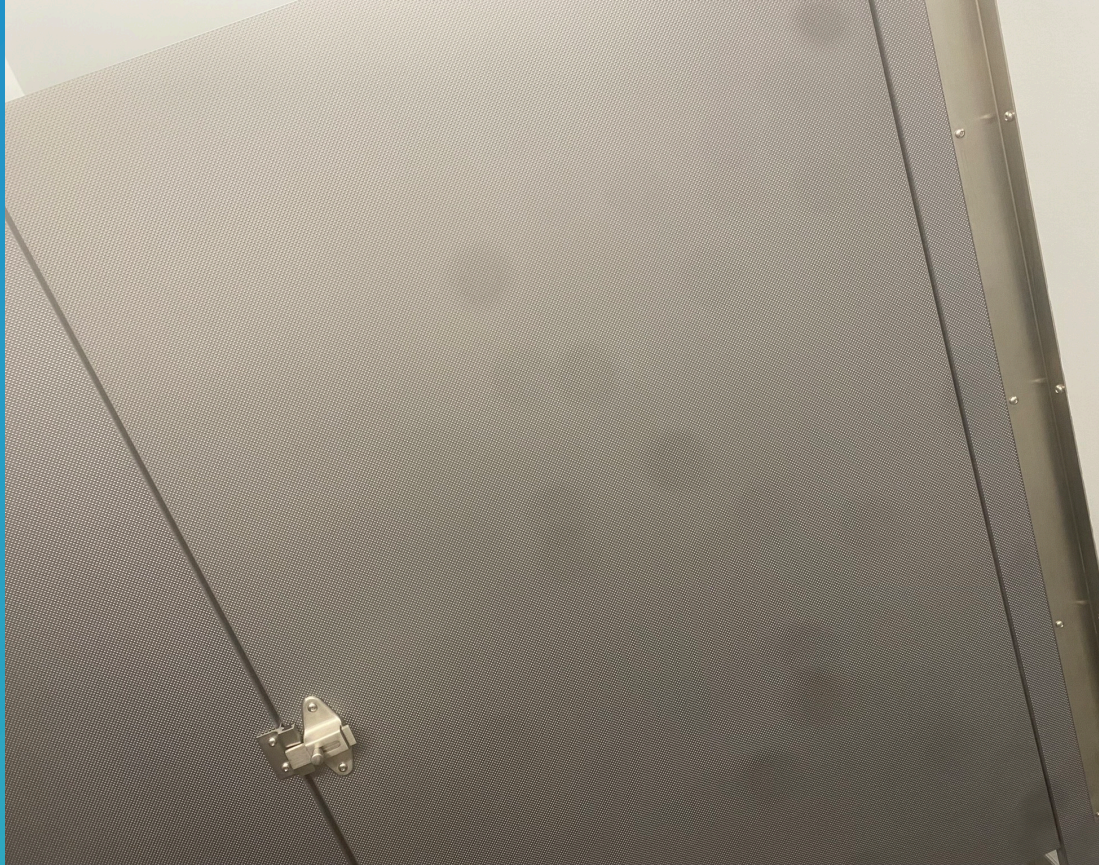


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NO HOOKS, NO HELP.

No hooks, no help.



An “accessible” bathroom stall that is lacking a hook for people to hang their belongings, leaving the floor as the only place to put them. Imagine having a physical disability that left you unable to easily place and/or pick objects up from the floor, what would you end up doing?



WANT SOME FOOD?

Want some food?



The main dining center on campus, this is a dead time for Bartels Marketplace. Yet it is still a maze to navigate. Crowded tables, chairs in the middle of the floor, employees carrying around hot food, etcetera. All of this makes it very difficult to navigate as a mostly able-bodied individual. Now imagine trying to do it with a mobility device.



WHAT A HIKE...



What a hike...

Charger Plaza is home to many essential locations for a college student. This includes labs for many different majors, as well as the Counseling and Psychological Center here at UNewHaven. It is unfortunate that the only way to get to this location is either by steep hill, or by a series of concrete stairs. These stairs range in size and number, and I personally broke my foot getting to work on these stairs. This makes not only access to education inaccessible, but access to mental health care inaccessible. It is also important to note that once you have finished taking the stairs down to Charger Plaza, you will not have enough time to catch your breath, or orient yourself, because you will get ushered to run across the street in order to get to the building. Overall, a very inaccessible building.



TIME TO HIKE BACK...



Time to Hike Back!

In the same perspective as campus to Charger Plaza, getting back to campus has its negatives as well. Like I said before, you will need to climb a wide range of steps, at various heights, in order to get back to campus. These steps take the wind out of able-bodied humans, let alone humans with disabilities – visible or not. However, this staircase will only get you to the back of Bethel Hall, the furthest hall from any residential hall, or academic building. So, once you climb up those stairs, you then will need to either go through campus with another wide arrangement of staircases to get anywhere, or you must take a very long walk, uphill, around Kaplan in order to bypass the stairs.

ADA ELEVATOR
ACCESS

NOTICE
ELEVATOR USE
ONLY FOR
HANDICAPPED &
ELDERLY PEOPLE

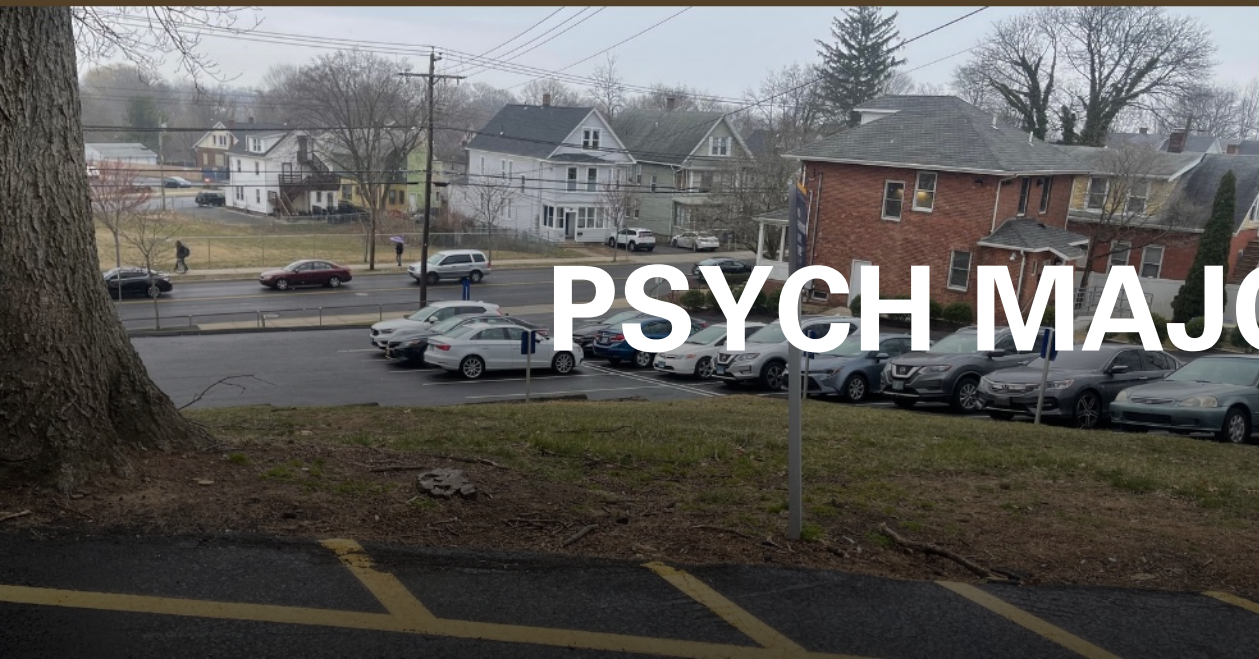


ADA NONCOMPLIANT?



ADA Noncompliant?

You see the sign for ADA compliance that looks like it's from the 1970s? Well, that's because it is. Do you also see the dilapidated elevator right next to it? Well, that doesn't even work. Super ADA compliant, right? Now imagine having a class in this building. The elevator doesn't work, and the stairs aren't much better. Impending doom is near.



PSYCH MAJORS BEWARE

Psych Majors Beware



Welcome to Harugari Hall! This is the main building for the Department of Psychology, with many of its courses and faculty offices being held within its walls. Here you will find our very steep parking lot with very limited parking capacity (and only a few faculty handicapped spaces, leaving none for students). If you're traveling from campus, there is a path you can take that will lead you straight to the building, but you will have to get yourself up a flight of stairs to get there first. But don't worry, once you get into the building you will have one of the many options of staircases to get to whichever floor you need, no handicap-accessible elevator is necessary! Let's not forget about our heavy doors at the top of the staircases, extremely narrow and inaccessible bathrooms and small classrooms with many chairs leaving very little room for mobility. Next time you find yourself coming to visit us here at Harugari don't forget to pack your walking shoes, put that emergency brake on when you park, and don't have any physical disability at all!

A street scene on a hillside. A concrete sidewalk runs along a grassy slope on the left. To the right is a paved road with a black metal fence and utility poles. Buildings are visible in the background under an overcast sky. Two people are walking on the sidewalk. A car is parked on the right side of the road.

HILLSIDE HORRORS



Hillside Horrors

The entire University of New Haven campus is situated on a steep hillside, making the campus a nightmare to travel by foot and functionally impossible to travel for people with physical disabilities.



Hover over each icon for a description.

Alerts

There are no active alerts at this time.

Happening on Campus

Interested in promoting your upcoming event or publicizing your news? [Click here](#) to share the details.

- ✉ Stop by Alumni Lounge for Nutrition Fair - March 22 [Hide](#)
- ✉ Center for Learning Resources Workshop: RStudio - March 23 [Hide](#)
- ✉ On-campus interviews VP for DEIAB candidates [Hide](#)
- ✉ Save the Date: 19th Annual Holocaust Remembrance Day Celebration - April 19 [Hide](#)

Calendar

M 27	T 28	W 22	R 23	F 24	Sa 25
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Wednesday, March 22

Coffee with ACE Women's Network

Staff & Faculty can find details under Happening on Campus

[Computer Assistant 2023-24 Applicant Information Session](#)

9 - 10 a.m., Alumni Annex, Bartels Hall

[LinkedIn Workshop](#)

10 - 10:30 a.m., Zoom

[Henry C. Lee College Graduate Virtual Info Session](#)

SPOT THE SERVICES

Spot the Services

The screenshot shows the MyCharger website interface. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the 'MyCharger' logo. Below the header is a row of 20 small, unlabeled icons. A tooltip below the icons reads: 'Hover over each icon for a description.' The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a yellow header 'Alerts' and a white box stating 'There are no active alerts at this time.' Below that is a yellow header 'Happening on Campus' and a list of four events, each with a 'Hide' link. The right column has a yellow header 'Calendar' and a calendar grid for the week of March 20-26. The current date, Wednesday, March 22, is highlighted. Below the calendar, there are three event listings: 'Coffee with ACE Women's Network', 'Commuter Assistant 2023-24 Applicant Information Session', and 'LinkedIn Workshop'. The URL at the bottom of the browser window is 'du/ssomanager/c/SSB?pkg=bwzkmssso.pz_create_url_ems_sso'.

What are the chances that you can identify the link to the Accessibility Resources Center on the main page of MyCharger? It's unlikely because it is not labeled clearly anywhere on this page. You might not have even known there was a link to the ARC on the main page. This makes it troublesome for anyone with disabilities to find support without heading directly to the ARC office, which is already in a tucked away place. Hint: It's one of the many unlabeled icons.



MAXCY MADNESS



MAXCY MADNESS

This is the only wheelchair accessible ramp to Maxcy Hall, a main academic and administrative building on campus. As seen in the photo, it is hidden away in the back of the building, away from all other entrances and student walkways, which can be seen towards the left side of the photo. As seen on the right side of the photo, there is a dumpster, which shows just how tucked away this entrance is and how little the university tries to make wheelchair accessibility known and common place on campus. Because it is not easily visible and hidden in the back of the building, it makes accessibility on campus seem like an afterthought, and can make students who need these accessibility ramps feel excluded from the main campus culture. Though not pictured, all the way in the right of the picture, there is a railing, which coincides with a very tall staircase leading to this entrance, which does not make sense given the context that someone who needs the ramp would not be able to utilize these stairs and would instead have to go all the way around the building the other way to get to this location indirectly. In Maxcy Hall, there is another “wheelchair accessible” entrance, however, it is broken and has been unusable for a while. This shows the university’s disregard for accessibility inclusion.



Beckerman
Recreation Center

Maxcy Hall

Buckman
Hall

Bergami Center for
Science, Technology,
and Innovation

Kaplan Hall

Gerber Hall

Bartels Student
Activity Center
(BSAC)

Peterson
Library

JOURNEY IF YOU DARE...

Bixler Hall

Nicholson
Health Center

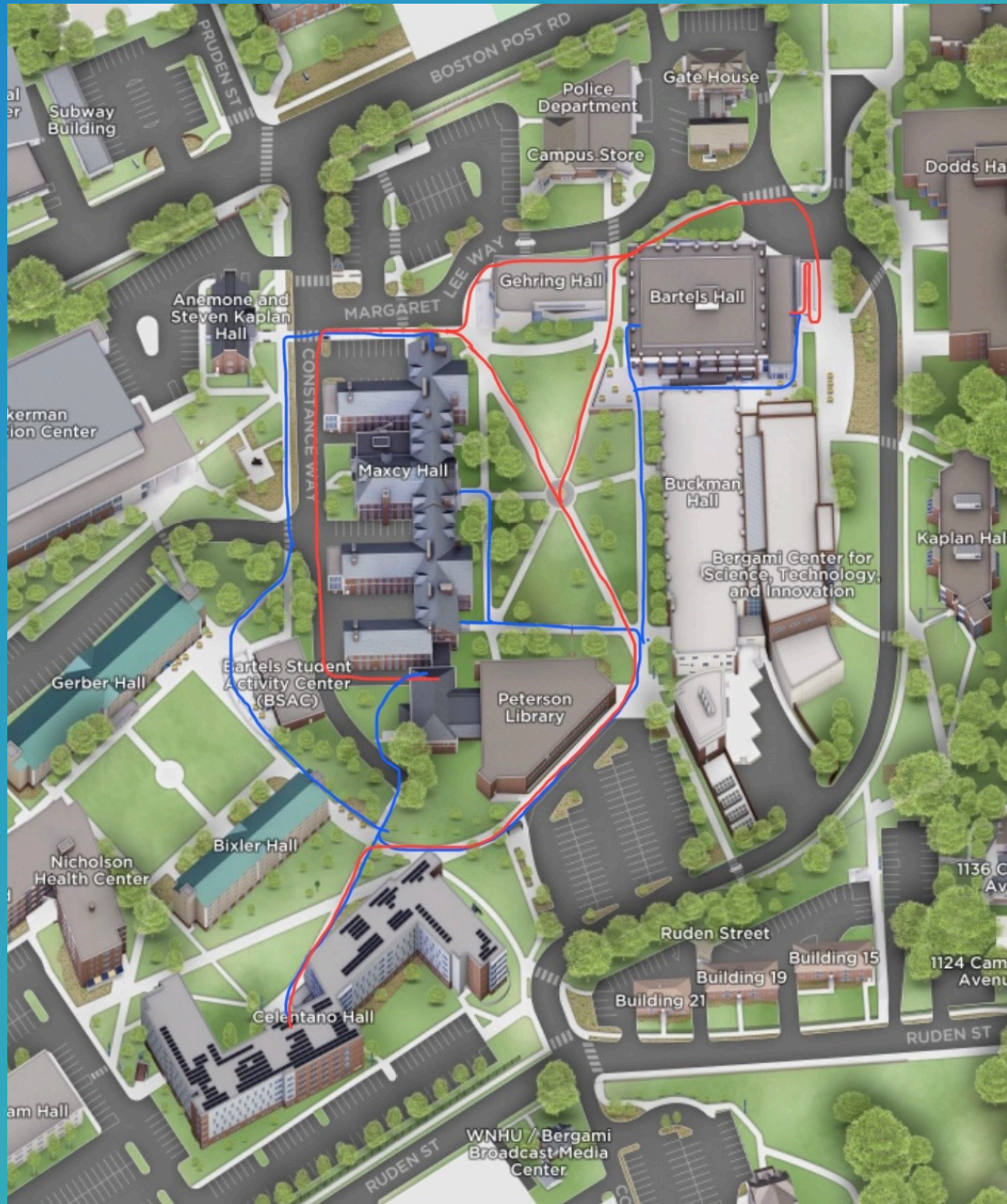
Sheffield
Hall

Ruden Street

1136 C
Ave

Journey if you dare...

This overhead map shows the possible pathways for able-bodied students who can walk around campus, lined paths in blue, as compared to a student who needs a wheelchair to get around campus, lined paths in red. All paths in this map start at Celentano Hall, which is one of the closest residential halls, and considered to be one of the most accessibility inclusive residential halls for students to live in on campus. Though there are many destinations that a student will need to get to on campus, this map highlights how the accessibility differs for students to get to main places on campus: Bartels Hall, which is a main dining hall on campus, and Maxcy Hall, which includes many important offices, including graduate admissions, administrative offices, the center for student success, and office of study abroad, in addition to classrooms and the student mailroom. Not only are there significantly fewer routes for someone to take to either of these places if they use a wheelchair, but these routes are indirect and take much longer to get to from their dorm than for an able-bodied student. Many of these entrances involve stairs, which makes them inaccessible to students who cannot use them.





STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN



Stairway to Heaven



The hills of this campus are a major issue within itself, but there is no getting away from steep inclines. Take a look at the numerous staircases scattered about campus, designed with the intent of making it easier to get around from place to place. The walk to class, no matter which route I take, leaves me winded and gasping for air by the end of it. And if I want to venture off campus to visit my friend's dorm? Well, I'll have to take the staircase a classmate broke her foot on her freshman year of college. That is not even mentioning the staircases needed in order to get some nutrients into my body.

Common Themes



01

Difficult terrain
to navigate

02

Failure to
maintain
accessibility
protocols

03

Poor design of
Harugari Hall

Solutions



Cooperating

Cooperating with UNH Facilities

- Having them work building by building, adding in accessibility features, and fixing the broken tools on our campus

Adapting

Adapting Harugari Hall

- Work with Facilities to do one of two things:
 - Overhaul the building with accessibility in mind such as elevators and accessible bathrooms.
 - Gradually phase out the use of Harugari and move classes and offices elsewhere.

Navigating

Getting Around Campus

- Work with UPD to expand and improve transportation options around campus such as adding stops at remote campus locations.

Updating

Updating Accessibility Protocols and Policies

- A collaboration between ARC, Administration, and UNH Facilities regarding outdated accessibility policies and equipment. Potentially lead to improvements in accessibility equipment and improved quality of life for students.