



news@library

SPRING SESSION 2005

Connecting with offshore students

A new student guide provides offshore students with an information on using the University's online learning environment, including SOLS, Webmail, WebCT and Library resources. Titled *Getting Connected: Your Guide to Online Learning*, this CD ROM resource has been developed with input from the Library, the Academic Registrar's Division, the Centre for Educational Development & Information Resources (CEDIR), Information Technology Services (ITS), Learning Development and several faculties.

The project was funded by the University Internationalisation Committee and coordinated by Craig Littler, Remote Services Manager. Copies of the CD have been sent to the University's offshore teaching locations for distribution to all students and will be included in all new offshore student enrolment packages. Academic staff involved in teaching offshore may request a copy from Craig Littler, telephone 02 4221 4501, email craig_littler@uow.edu.au.



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Helping to shape learning development

The opportunity to utilise their skills and knowledge to support teaching and learning at the University was one of the reasons Library staff Chris Brewer and Michelle Jones were offered a secondment to CEDIR. Chris and Michelle have been employed primarily to assist with the implementation of WebCT Vista, the new learning management system. Working part-time in CEDIR as learning designers allows them to collaborate with academic staff in enhancing online teaching and learning.

"The new learning management system WebCT Vista has some great features that can make learning more interactive and interesting for students. We're involved in assisting academics to make the best use of various tools for their subjects," says Chris.

Michelle notes: "Online courses offer a unique means of integrating information literacy in a more seamless way."

Books of readings project

Late in 2004 the University Librarian, Felicity McGregor, presented a discussion paper to the Deans, recommending that the Electronic Readings Service be made the preferred option for delivery of reading material to students, including readings distributed via books of readings (or course packs). This proposal was subsequently discussed at all Faculty Education Committee meetings.

One of the main reasons for this proposal is that the decentralised production of books of readings makes copyright management highly problematic. Centralised processing ensures that all readings comply with the University's obligations under copyright law and the statutory licence which allows copying and communication for educational purposes. Other benefits include the availability of readings for 24 x 7 access, which is essential for many students and increasingly expected by them.

All Deans were supportive of the proposal, whilst recognising that there would still be some material, such as lab manuals, which needed to be produced in print format.

To manage the efficient throughput of material and to meet expected turnaround times, a Library project team was established. Subjects taught at remote sites were targeted first, along with those subjects that had been identified as being at risk of breaching copyright. Over 35 books of readings, including 702 individual articles, were processed during first session.

Realising that the electronic-preferred format does not meet the needs of all subjects, coordinators have been invited to submit books of readings for copyright compliance with the option to continue with print-only books of readings.

The project will be ongoing until the Library is satisfied that all books of readings are copyright compliant. Cathy Messer and Margaret Williams are available to discuss options for your book of readings. Please contact them on 02 4221 3331.

Chat to a Librarian

Use of the Library's Chat to a Librarian service has risen considerably this session, with enquiries increasing by more than five times for the same period last year. The service is particularly popular with undergraduate students, with a large percentage using it on campus. It is also popular with students living or working in Sydney or as far away as Western Australia and the United States.

Most clients use the service to seek help with finding information for assignments. It is also a quick and efficient way of solving database or referencing questions. Clients who have discovered the service appreciate its ease of access, convenience and immediacy. And the best part is that you don't have to leave your computer to Chat to a Librarian!

Look under **Ask a question** on the Library homepage for more information.

Collaborating on Graduate Attributes

The Library recently hosted a Graduate Attributes Forum, attended by 56 academics, faculty librarians, learning developers, CEDIR representatives and support unit managers. All faculties were represented. After an introduction by Professor Rob Castle, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic), the group engaged in energetic discussion of issues surrounding integrating the Graduate Attributes into academic curricula. Talks aimed at identifying successful collaboration and integration strategies and potential improvements, and considered how to enthuse others to strengthen integration.

In the second part of the forum the three Academic Services Division (ASD) units shared current business plans and discussed opportunities for strengthening cross-unit collaboration. Strategies have been collated and will be used by ASD to improve work with academics, and to further integrate the Graduate Attributes into student learning activities



Graduate Attributes Forum

Library Professional Cadet

The Library welcomes Rebecca Daly, our first Professional Cadet. This new position provides an opportunity for a professional library student to gain a wealth of experience in a University Library whilst undertaking their qualification. Rebecca will be working in all areas of the Library throughout her three year contract, allowing the Library to draw upon a cross section of her skills and knowledge at any one time.

Rebecca has worked with us as a casual staff member for a number of years, starting as a shelver, working on both the Information and Research Help Desks and helping in Archives. More recently we have been sharing Rebecca with the Medical School. She has completed a BA and is already studying Library and Information Science through Charles Sturt University.

Here to help researchers

The Library's essential role in supporting University research is outlined in a new brochure. Titled *The Library – here to help research staff*, the brochure outlines key services and resources such as:

- Research databases and extras such as transactional access
- Document delivery
- Purchasing research material
- The Academic Research Space – a quiet space where you won't be disturbed
- Tailored individual assistance from Faculty Librarians and the Research Training Librarian.

Learn how our expertise can support your research and assist you in locating and accessing the information and knowledge you need. Pick up a copy of the brochure from the Library today.



people@library

Pam Epe

Journals Access Coordinator

How long have you been working at the Library?

Long enough to remember when there wasn't a duck pond and only half the present size of the Library existed (1975).

What's the best thing about your job?

Good colleagues, supportive environment and a beautiful campus.

What are you reading now?

March by Geraldine Brooks, along with a few others – too many good books and so little time!

What's your favourite film?

Tough question – only one! I like the historical based movies, e.g. *Gone with the Wind*, *Pride and Prejudice* (including the BBC version) or anything with Richard Gere!

What's your favourite website?

The University of Wollongong Library website of course – from there you can link to anywhere!

What's your favourite way to spend a Saturday?

An early dinner with friends, then off to watch the Wollongong Hawks in action – always a good night.

If you had a magic wand and could change one thing about the Library, what would it be?

Not much really. I think we are doing lots of good things client wise (and I hope our clients think so too) and we have a lot of staff with good ideas, so perhaps money to implement the ideas... and our own coffee shop.

What question are you asked the most at work?

Can you help me find information on —?

What question would you like to be asked?

Are you the holder of Ticket number xxx (by the NSW Lotteries officials).

What qualities does a good librarian need?

Good client focus, good subject knowledge, inquisitiveness and determination to find answers to a client's questions.



"Kwality" after AUQA

Building on the momentum of the recent Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) audit, the Library was busy in several quality pursuits. During June, Margie Jantti, Quality and Marketing Manager, was invited as a keynote speaker to the European Association for Health Information and Libraries workshop in Palermo, Sicily. The 'Implementation of Quality Systems and Certification of Biomedical Libraries' workshop covered three main themes: *Users' Needs*, *Quality of Provided Services* and *Evidence-Based Librarianship*. Margie presented her paper, "Quality, Service, Excellence: A decade of quality" to over 200 delegates from Europe, UK, USA and Australia.



Above: Margie Jantti, Quality and Marketing Manager, outside Al Ras Grocery in Dubai

Taking advantage of Margie's proximity within the northern hemisphere, training in total quality management principles and preparation for accreditation was requested by the Dubai Women's College in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Working with the college and other representatives from the Higher Colleges of Technology, a series of workshops were delivered to aid the development of performance indicators and service and program evaluation strategies. A visit to UOW Dubai Library at Knowledge Village provided the opportunity to workshop issues relating to the measurement of results and outcomes against plans.

Celebrating International Week

The University's recent International Week celebrations found the Library participating in a variety of ways. Displays within the Library focused on the *Studying Australia* website and using newspaper databases such as Factiva to stay in touch with home. The displays were supplemented by a workshop on finding international news.

The Library Wellbeing Committee enlisted the assistance of the majority of staff in a baking frenzy, which resulted in a very successful cake stall. Funds raised from the cake stall - which sold out within two hours - will be used to purchase books for libraries in Aceh.

Top right: Lara Duggan with the poster presentation outlining the Library's support for internationalisation activities



Bottom right:

Hungry students and staff spoilt for choice at the cake



news@library is published 2-3 times each year. Comments and suggestions can be forwarded to the editor - Claire Collett, telephone 02 4221 4330 or email claire_collett@uow.edu.au

New electronic resources

Scopus

A multi-disciplinary abstract and indexing database containing abstract records going back to 1966, Scopus offers linked citations across a wide body of scientific abstracts. This



Elsevier product is currently available to UOW researchers on an extended trial basis until August 2006.

Features include the ability to refine searches by limiting or excluding for selected results across categories such as Source Title, Author Name, Year, Document Type and Subject Area. Each reference contains information on the number of citations the article has and links to those citations. The most recent three citations are prominently displayed and you can elect to be alerted when new citations to a particular article are entered in the database.

Coverage includes:

- 4,500 titles in Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Engineering
- 5,900 titles in Life and Health Sciences – includes 100% Medline coverage
- 2,700 titles in Social Sciences, Psychology and Economics
- 2,500 titles in Biological, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
- 50 titles in General Sciences

Well worth a look, Scopus can be accessed from the Library's **Databases** web page.

New look Ovid

Those familiar Ovid databases now have a new look, although you will be glad to know that all the essential features are still available! Ovid have updated the style of their products to reflect current web interface trends, with tabs for different search options and new graphics for search fields.

Standard features of the Ovid system have been maintained, such as the search interface, automatic display of search results below search sets, and use of a results manager to track searches. Powerful search tools, including the mapping of terms to thesauri and provision of unique fields for specific databases, also remain available.

Improvements to the interface have provided three new features, which will prove highly beneficial to Ovid users.

The **Find Citation** feature allows you to combine specifically fielded data to retrieve results of journal article citations. A new tab provides this option in all Ovid search pages.

Once your search results are displayed, the **Find Similar** feature provides access to other relevant records. Similarity is measured by title information, not by author.

Find Citing Articles, also featured in search results pages, quickly connects you to Journals@Ovid articles that cite a record article from your search session. As articles take time to be cited, this function produces better results in older articles.

Ovid is available via the Library's **Databases** web page.

Bringing the benefits of the Library to our graduates

Demand for Library services for UOW Alumni has increased markedly in 2005, with graduate membership levels at almost five times that of last year. Alumni clients have appreciated a new and improved service package, which includes remote access to selected electronic resources. We encourage graduates to remember that they don't need to miss out on Library resources and expertise after completing their studies. For more information look under Additional Services >

Alumni **on the Library homepage.**