



The Library in Your Office

February 2009

The Financial Crisis and the Library

The global financial crisis is having a severe impact on all our lives. Unfortunately one of the casualties of the world-wide economic collapse has been the Australian dollar which has fallen substantially from its peak in July 2008, especially against the US dollar. Unfortunately this decline in our currency has meant that the cost of books and serials (both print and electronic) published overseas has risen substantially and, as a result, the Library has to find an additional \$700,000 in 2009 simply to maintain the purchasing power of our acquisitions budget. And, of course, we have to increase our acquisitions budget in real terms if we are to adequately support the University's new courses and strengthened research activities.

To meet this challenge the Library will reduce its expenditure in all areas other than collection development. Under a plan approved by the Library Committee we have instituted a staff freeze - our plan is to replace staff who resign but not to create any new positions until 2011. We will also limit our expenditure in all other operational areas. Since we began this process in August we have also been able to build up a substantial surplus that can be carried forward into this year and added to the acquisitions budget. In 2008 we spent \$2,550,000 on collection development (the figure was \$2,190,000 in 2007) and this will increase to at least \$3,500,000 in 2009. This growth will enable us to cover the impact of the fall in the Australian dollar while still having sufficient funds to develop the collections in support of the new courses that will be introduced in 2010 without reducing our support for existing courses.

This realignment of our budget will pose challenges. There will be no reductions in basic services such as hours of opening while we plan to continue to improve our performance in a number of areas, especially through the extension of our liaison librarian program, which aims to more closely align our facilities, services and collections to the needs of our clientele (an article on the program is included in this issue). One of our major expenditure savings will come from a significant reduction in refurbishments that we fund from the Library budget (many refurbishments are funded from other sources such as the BURF program or from minor works grants and hopefully this will continue).

This is a medium term strategy that will be regularly reviewed each year as part of the Library's normal budget processes.

Chris Sheargold
Director, Libraries

Library Blog

ACU Library now has a Library blog. The blog will be used to provide timely news and information, and to market library services and events. It will contain information on new resources, trials, new titles, programs and events, tips and tricks and alerts when there is scheduled maintenance or downtime.

The blog is aimed at both ACU students and staff and any member of the public can view it. You can see the blog by going to the Library home page – <http://www.acu.edu.au/library>, then **Library News | Library Blog**. The Library in Your Office will continue to be published on a quarterly basis for ACU staff. If you have any questions about the Library blog, please contact Kate Bunker kate.bunker@acu.edu.au or you can add a comment on the blog.



Ballarat

Printing Costs Fall

It's not often that prices go down but that is what is happening to printing and copying charges in ACU campus libraries! On 5 January 2009, charges dropped to 10c and 20c for A4 and A3 black and white copies and prints, and 30c and 60c for A4 and A3 colour copies and prints. Overhead transparencies will reduce to 50c and \$1 for A4 black and white and colour respectively. The library is able to do this because:

1. Advances in printer technology allow us to replace old machines with new printers that are cheaper to buy, and run more efficiently and cost effectively.
2. The Library Director is prepared to subsidize copies and prints with other library funds, to provide a more affordable service for students in harder economic times.

The new printers were installed in January, and the new prices became effective from January 5, even from the old machines.

The Liaison Librarian Program

The Library has been gradually expanding its liaison librarian program and we now have liaison librarians in place on all campuses. Each liaison librarian is allocated responsibility for an academic area or areas and their role is to facilitate closer communication and collaboration between the Library and the schools to enhance the quality of the University's teaching, learning and research endeavours. Liaison librarians undertake to build professional and collegial relationships with academic staff, relationships that cultivate trust, respect and understanding and that acknowledge each other's expertise.

The role of the liaison librarians has 3 primary functions:

- Collection Development
- Education
- Marketing & Outreach

Collection Development

Liaison librarians at each campus will liaise directly with academic staff about course and research needs. They will be responsible for identifying and ordering new resources. Liaison librarians will also work collaboratively across campuses to ensure that the collections are developed in a coordinated and coherent fashion.

Education

Liaison librarians play a key role in educating students and academic staff in the techniques of information retrieval, analysis, evaluation and use and for equipping and empowering them with lifelong learning skills. This is achieved through one-on-one and small group assistance as well as via formal information literacy classes.

Marketing and Outreach

Liaison librarians are advocates for the Library. Not only do they promote library resources and services to assigned schools and keep them informed of any changes in policy, they are also responsible for providing a current awareness service based on the research and teaching interests of academic staff.

If you haven't already met your designated liaison librarian, contact your local library to find out who they are and make an appointment.



Brisbane

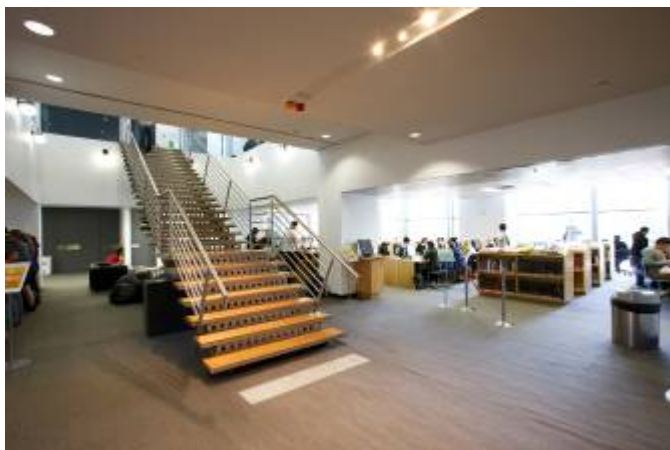
Automated Interlibrary Loans

For the past few months the libraries of Unilinc, a library network systems provider for ACU, Charles Sturt University, Southern Cross University and NSW Police College, have been testing an automated interlibrary loan (ILL) module. This module will allow eligible staff and students to place an interlibrary loan request via the Library catalogue, eliminating the more time-consuming process of filling out an ILL form.

Once the module has been tested to its full capacity and is working well, Unilinc intends to provide direct access to Libraries Australia Document Delivery (LADD) system from the National Library. This will enable ILL staff to place requests on LADD via our library system and to keep better records of activity carried out by our patrons.

The system will be able to charge out to our clients any ILL items which have been requested from other libraries both within Australia and overseas. This means our clients will be able to view and track their interlibrary loans via the catalogue when they check their ACU loans. For ILL staff, this means greater control and more seamless handling of interlibrary loans so that the whole process can be managed more effectively.

Trish D'Arcy
Library Technician (Lending Services & Doc Delivery)
Banyo Campus Library



Melbourne

New eResources

The Library now provides access to the following eresources:

Equinox Journals

As part of the Library's project to convert print journals to electronic format, ACU has subscribed to a package of 21 religion, philosophy and ethics titles from Equinox Publishing. These are:

- Australian Religion Studies Review
- Black Theology
- Buddhist Studies Review
- Communication and Medicine
- Comparative & Continental Philosophy
- Comparative Islamic Studies
- Fieldwork in Religion
- Implicit Religion
- Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture
- Journal of Adult Theological Education
- Journal of Critical Realism
- Political Theology
- Pomegranate
- Postscripts
- Practical Theology
- Reformation
- Reformation and Renaissance Review
- Religions of South Asia
- Religious Studies & Theology
- Theology & Sexuality
- Expositions

ticTOCs

ticTOCs is a new scholarly journal tables of contents service. It provides access to tables of contents from more than 11,000 scholarly journals. The service helps scholars, researchers and academics keep up-to-date with what's being published in the most recent issues of journals on a wide range of subjects. And it's free. To register with ticTOCs go to <http://www.tictocs.ac.uk> or visit the Databases & eJournals page on the the Library web site – <http://www.acu.edu.au/library>.

Other new journal titles:

- The Way - 2006 onwards.
- Australian Business Law Review – 2001 onwards.
- Journal of Law & Medicine – 2001 onwards.
- Higher Education Policy - 1996 onwards.
- International Journal of Educational Advancement – 2003 onwards.

Chat with Library staff via IM

The Library will introduce a new Instant Messaging (IM) service in semester one, 2009. Staff and students can use IM to contact Library staff for assistance. It will operate between 10am and 2pm Monday to Friday during first semester. The Library has also registered with Yahoo and MSN so if you already chat via these services you can set the Library up as a "buddy" and chat to us too!



Canberra

Primo Coming Soon to ACU

Unilinc has recently purchased Primo the discovery and delivery tool from ExLibris. ACU already uses a number of ExLibris products through Unilinc. These include the Aleph Library catalogue, SFX, Metalib and Verde. Primo allows users to "...quickly locate and obtain accurate, high-quality information anytime, anywhere. Features such as "did you mean?" and faceted navigation help users to focus their search and quickly identify the most relevant results. Incorporated Web 2.0 and social computing features, provide Primo users with the tools they need to share their library experience with other community members through ratings, reviews, and tags." The roll out for Primo is planned for later in 2009.

For more information on Primo visit the ExLibris Press release site at

<http://www.exlibrisgroup.com/category/Press-Releases>

Sydney Libraries Renovate

Both Sydney libraries have been undertaking renovations over the break to improve student facilities in time for semester.

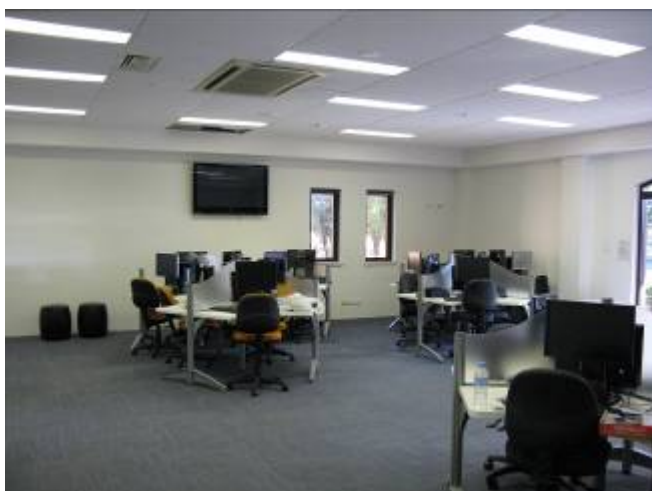
At North Sydney 6 new group study rooms have replaced the lecture room on the ground floor of the Library. This gives the library a total of 10 study rooms with an overall seating capacity of 65 compared to just 3 rooms with a combined capacity of 26 seats in 2008. Each room has a PC attached to a large wall-mounted LCD screen for group work.



North Sydney

Strathfield Library has added a range of student seating and computer facilities across all floors. Level 1 now has an extended Information Commons area adjacent to the computer lab (CL4) which has now been converted into staff office space. Level 2 has now been designated a quiet study zone with individual carrel seating around the perimeter. 8 of the carrels on this floor have desktop PCs attached, and a further 31 have had power points installed for student laptop use. Level 3 has new group workstation clusters, seating 20. These, along with 19 existing study carrels, have also had power points installed. For the convenience of students, Level 3 will now have its own networked printer.

Stephen Oakshott
Library Manager, Sydney Campuses



Strathfield

A New Look for the Library Web Site

In addition to the changes being made to the ACU web site, you will also notice some changes to the Library web site. We hope you like our fresh, new look!

About TLIYO newsletter

You can find back copies of TLIYO newsletter on the Library web site – <http://www.acu.edu.au/library> then go to **Teaching & Research**. If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter, or you would like to suggest a topic to be covered, please contact Leticia Medwell (leticia.medwell@acu.edu.au).