



Library & Information Access Newsletter – 2009 Issue 1

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Ruth Quinn

DirectLine.....*from the Director's Desk*

Welcome to another edition of SynapsE, the occasional newsletter from Library and Information Access at Charles Darwin University.

As normal, it's been a busy first half of 2009 in the Library, some of which you'll read more about in this newsletter, such as our involvement in the Blackboard upgrade, CDU's ERA submission for research output, eSpace, and eReserve amongst others. We've also prepared a Vision Statement for Information Literacy which identifies the guiding principles for the development of Information Literacy activities at CDU Library:

(<http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/about/policy/index.html>), and we've developed a website of copyright information for staff and students of the University: <http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/copyright/index.html> . We hope the site will enable you to find your way through the copyright maze – let me know how you go via the feedback emails provided throughout the site.

It's been very pleasing to see a number of conference presentations given by library staff over the past few months: Kaye Henderson at ATSLIRN in Broome on our survey of Indigenous students and their use of the Library, Jayshree Mamtara on Research Services at CDU Library at the LIBER Conference in Toulouse, and Joanne Witt on information literacy assessment at the EBL Conference in Stockholm. Such presentations raise the profile of the Library and let the profession know, both nationally and internationally of our activities.

On a final note, if you've been on Casuarina campus over the semester break you would've noticed lots of scaffolding around the Library to facilitate the rust rectification work – see photo on the back page. This has also involved closing off some of the collections on level 3, but we hope all will be back to normal soon. Here's to a successful 2nd half of 2009.

Achieving Best Practice Flexible Provision (Commonwealth Government Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund)

In early 2009 Charles Darwin University received a substantial grant from the Commonwealth Government's Diversity and Structural Adjustment (DSA) fund to 'Achieve Best Practice Provision at CDU.' The project aims to facilitate a step change for CDU towards best practice delivery with a marked enhancement of teaching and learning quality. A substantial component of the project funding has been allocated to an upgrade of Blackboard, the University's online learning management system. The latest version (v.9) provides Web 2.0 functionality and more importantly for the Library, access to the tools of the Community System.

Over the past 2-3 years we have witnessed a steady increase in the number of CDU courses moving online. Feedback from students studying online, often from remote locations around the country, regarding difficulties finding and accessing electronic resources (full text journals, e-reserve) informed the submission of a project proposal by the Library to the DSA Steering Group. The project aims to increase the visibility of the Library within the learning management system by presenting students with one stop shop access to the Library's most commonly used resources and services without the need to access the library website.

A project team led by the Associate Director Client Services with representation from the Liaison librarians, Electronic Resources and Reference and Information Services teams has been established to pilot the Community System. The project has focused on using the tabs and modules features of Community to develop and deliver content through the Library In Blackboard (L_I_B) prototype. The library tab will go live on day 1 of semester 2 with additional subject specific tabs and content becoming available during the semester. By pushing relevant content into online units, the resources gain importance to the students by virtue of their presence in the unit. Semester 2 will also see the move of the library's e-reserve collection from a standalone database into the Blackboard content collection

CDU is the first university in Australia to go live with V.9 and the Library is one of only a small number of university libraries utilising the features of the Community System.

The Protocols in Action: Indigenous Students and CDU Library

Charles Darwin University has a strong commitment to Indigenous students. A paper co authored by Ruth Quinn, Director and Kaye Henderson Liaison Librarian was presented at ATSLIRN (Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Library & Information Resources Network), profiling the Indigenous population of CDU, with the inclusion of "Indigenous participation and relevance" as the first goal of *1st in 5 in 10*, the University's Strategic Plan developed in 2007, and the Library's response to this University-wide commitment.

The Library's response has focused around the development of the Library Indigenous Reference Group (LIRG), aimed at improving the relationship with the University's Indigenous Academic Support Unit (IASU), team teaching with an Indigenous academic staff member in Education, conducting a survey on how other university libraries are dealing with the situation, and also a survey of Indigenous students at CDU on their perceptions and use of library services. Although the survey response rate was not very high, some useful information was obtained which has helped in formulating an action plan.

Survey actions:

- ✚ Seek ways of increasing the response rate especially from VET students and from students located in rural and remote areas. We would like to pursue links with the NT Library's Indigenous Knowledge Centres that are based in remote communities to do this cooperatively.
- ✚ Proactively promote to Indigenous students the services available via the Library's website and the Liaison Librarian.
- ✚ Commit to surveying Indigenous clients by either incorporating them into the general client satisfaction survey or by a specifically designed survey again in two years time.

We would also like to survey all tertiary libraries in Australia, both university and TAFE/VET, to gauge the extent of such activity across the sector.

We see these as first steps on a long journey.

Research Services



Jayshree Mamtara, Research Services Coordinator, recently attended the European Research Libraries' Conference in Toulouse, France, 30 June – 3 July, where she presented a poster on *Supporting the Research Community in Northern Australia*. The Conference provided an opportunity to share and exchange ideas with colleagues outside of Australia, as well as take advantage of networking possibilities.

Following feedback from the Library's Research Support survey, services to research staff and students are being more actively promoted through a number of forums this year with eight workshops specifically targeting the research community having been offered to the research community so far. Workshops include *Finding Theses*, *Setting up Alerts* and the *Advanced Information Skills Workshop (AIS)* to name a few. The AIS workshop which is now offered 3-4 times a year continues to be popular with each session being fully booked. For the first time, workshops are now also being made available to external students, using the Wimba live, virtual classroom environment. The workshops are archived and made available to those unable to participate at the designated time. In addition external and off campus students are able to access online tutorials such as the *Researching Skills* and *MyResearch* web pages, as well as a series of podcasts on using library services and resources are also accessible through the Library's web pages:

<http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/research/index.html>



CDU is first in country with ERA submission

Congratulations to the CDU Library eSpace team and CDU Research Office for being the first institution in the country to get the submission for the sciences cluster in to the Excellence in Research Australia trial. This is a great achievement and the culmination of an enormous amount of work by members of both teams. The eSpace repository now contains thousands of records of research at CDU and this will grow as the ERA exercise continues. Both teams are busy preparing for the Humanities and Creative Arts submission in August in preparation for the full exercise in 2010.

Read more about the ERA here <http://www.arc.gov.au/era/>
Check out eSpace at <http://espace.cdu.edu.au>



Taking eSpace to the next level

CDU library has appointed Lyndall Carey as Library Digital Collections Coordinator to develop eSpace as the primary location for CDU research publications, data and materials of special significance to CDU and the NT. We have commenced loading CDU theses in full text and are starting to include the full text of other CDU research wherever copyright permits.

If you see theses or research publications records listed in eSpace without full text that you think should be made a priority, let us know at digitisation@cdu.edu.au and we will move these items up the list for inclusion. We won't always be able to include them due to copyright, but we will always try our best.

If you would like to know more, or have materials you'd like us to place in eSpace, please contact Lyndall Carey on 89466183 or at lyndall.carey@cdu.edu.au



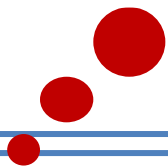
James Duncan
Liaison Librarian

James completed his MLIS in 1998 and worked for the then Wellington Polytechnic, Tasman District Libraries and Statistics New Zealand.

He was appointed as Senior Librarian, Information Literacy, at Victoria University of Wellington Library in 2002, with responsibility for implementing and coordinating the Library's information literacy program.

He joins CDU Library as Liaison Librarian for the School of Creative Arts and Industry, the School of Education and the School for Social Policy & Research. In addition to his liaison role, James will also be responsible for overseeing the Library's involvement in the University's Tertiary Enabling Program (TEP).

When he's not at work, James pursues his interests in photography, bushwalking and sailing. He has recently purchased a 4WD and has already been to Kakadu and Alice Springs. This week he is attending a 2 day 4W driving course and hopes to go further afield in the coming months.



Lyndall Carey
Digital Collections Coordinator

Lyndall comes to Darwin from Canberra where she was Electronic Resources Librarian at the Australian Bureau of Statistics. In 2001 she completed a Graduate

Diploma in Library and Information Management from the University of Canberra. This contrasted her previous work experience in health with a Bachelor Degree in Nursing from Monash University.

In 2002 she was employed at the University of Canberra Library working in Client Services. Following a two year stint as Information Advisor at the University of Gloucestershire in England she returned to the University of Canberra. Lyndall was employed as sole librarian in a Research Centre where she developed a strong understanding of academic research and reporting requirements. She played a significant role in developing a Publications Database for the Research Centre.

Lyndall looks forward to warmth and taking on the role of Digital Collections Coordinator to support and enhance the existing models to meet the dynamic needs of end users.

Library Staff Activities

Conferences

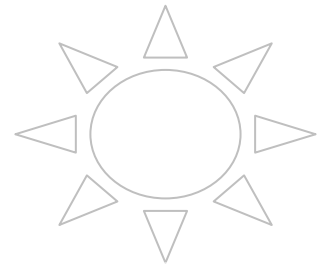
Educause (Associate Director Client Services)
HERDSA (Director, ADCS, Liaison Librarians x2)
LIBER (Research Services Coordinator)
Info Online (Electronic Resources Coordinator)
EdLib (Liaison & Information Literacy Coordinator)

Workshops

QULOC E-Books (Snr Library Resources Officer)
Law librarianship: legal research (Law librarian)
Libraries Australia Roadshow, Searching, Document Delivery (Document Delivery team)
Horizon Circulation, Reserve Bookroom (RIS Coordinator)
New Supervisors (Library Resources Officer)



Rust rectification, Level 3, Casuarina Campus



Contact Us

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<http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/forms/ris/formsref.html>

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<http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/forms/ris/formsref.html>

