Welcome to the first issue of SynapsE for 2013.

The year is shaping up to be a busy one for Library Services. We were recently successful in gaining some funds under the Innovation@CDU internal grant program for three projects: a project to pilot RFID, another to develop an information kiosk on the Beagle Deck and a third funded through the Student Amenities Fees (SAF) to develop a series of Reusable Learning Objects that will be used to teach undergraduate students how to research.

RFID is “remote frequency identification” and is a tracking system that uses intelligent bar codes to track library items. The pilot will enable us to ascertain if the system will function appropriately in the CDU environment. It will see a section of the physical collection tagged and equipment temporarily installed to enable us to fully test the circulation functions of the system. The idea is to then develop a business case for installation of the full system in 2014.

The Beagle Connections project will see the development of an information kiosk to be installed in the newly refurbished learning space on Level 3, now called The Beagle Deck. The kiosk will be a one-stop-shop on Charles Darwin’s connections to CDU, the Beagle’s voyage across the Top End of Australia, and the meaning behind the naming of The Beagle Deck. It will be developed as a web page so will be accessible from outside the University as well.

The Reusable Learning Objects project aims to create accessible, re-usable, multimedia, information literacy resources that have the potential to improve undergraduate, postgraduate, internal and external student learning opportunities and experiences.

Another major project for 2012 is the development of a Strategic Plan for Library Services. We have for many years developed Operational Plans (http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/about/planning.html) but recognise the need for a longer-term plan to enable us to better prepare for inevitable changes. We intend to consult widely with all our stakeholders in the development of this plan so expect to see more on this item throughout the year.

This issue of SynapsE includes more on some of our other projects: CDUEData, and refurbished library spaces, as well as some of our ongoing activities. I hope you enjoy and I wish you well for this nearly-half-way-through academic year.

Ruth Quinn
Director
LEARNING AND TEACHING

BEAGLE DECK OPENS

The Library’s new study space on the top floor of the Casuarina Campus Library opened for business in time for what has proved to be a busy start to the semester. The space has been generously funded by the Office of the Vice Chancellor. The name of the space was chosen by the Vice Chancellor and recognises Charles Darwin’s Library on the poop deck of his sailing ship the Beagle.

The space has capacity for around 60 students spread across eight study tables and a laptop bench covering the length of the room with power for around 20 devices.

Advice from teaching staff in the Schools of IT and Creative Arts was utilised in the selection of the furniture, colour scheme and layout. The study space is intended to be flexible, all tables and chairs are easy to move around and can be stacked and moved out of the way on occasions when the space is being used by the Vice Chancellor for functions.

The whiteboards are already proving to be extremely popular with students working on group assignments. Feedback from our students indicates the space is going to be well utilised. “Found a new study spot, has movable whiteboard too, WIN! Also got a mad beanbag sofa (at @CDUnilibrary)” tweet received from one of our students complete with image.

For students seeking either group or silent study rooms, there is a bookable seminar room and a silent study room both of which are adjacent to the Beagle Deck.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CONTINUES TO GROW

CDU Liaison Librarians and staff from the Academic Language and Learning Success Program (ALLSP) are now providing drop in sessions for students at the Casuarina campus Library every day. Sessions are as follows:

LIBRARY RESEARCHING AND REFERENCING HELP

Includes assistance with defining search strategies, googling like a librarian, searching online for information resources, finding academic quality information sources and referencing

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 10:00 – 1:00pm; Wednesday from 1:00pm – 4:00pm

ASSIGNMENT AND STUDY SKILLS HELP

Includes providing assistance in understanding assignment topics, knowing what standard of work is required, knowing how to get good grades and how to undertake studies with confidence

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 1:00pm – 4:00pm; Wednesday from 10.00am – 1.00pm.

Left and above: Beagle Deck
LEARNING AND TEACHING

LIAISON LIBRARIANS’ NEWS

The Liaison Librarians’ team worked on a number of orientation activities this semester to engage with internal, external, Indigenous and international students. These activities included holding a stall on Orientation day where staff provided icy-polls to keep students cool, a lolly counting competition and information about Library services and a wider variety of orientation tours and activities. The team also held several competitions to engage our students including: Build a Book Sculpture, Twitter Trivia and the YouTube Challenge—congratulations to all the prize winners!

COPYRIGHT CORNER MAY 2013

The Copyright website has been redesigned using a template provided by some IT students a few years ago as part of their assessment. They provided some very good feedback on the layout and terminology used in some of the headings so we hope the content is more accessible. The new website has the same address as the old one: http://www.cdu.edu.au/library/copyright/index.html. It has relevant information to you regardless of whether you are a student or academic staff member at CDU. Give it a try and let us know what you think of the redesign by using the contact link provided in the footer of every page.

As I have reported previously in SynapsE, the Australian Law Reform Commission is currently conducting a review into Copyright Law: http://www.alrc.gov.au/inquiries/copyright-and-digital-economy. The first round of submissions has closed but a discussion paper is due soon that will see another round of consultations in the June/July 2013 period. Keep an eye out for this Discussion Paper if you are interested in some of the reforms being discussed.

Ruth Quinn
Director Library Services and University Copyright Officer

Information Literacy Snapshot

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RESEARCH

CDUeData PROJECT

There is an exciting new project at the Library called CDUeData which involves working collaboratively with the Office of Research and Innovation, Faculties, Research Centres, Schools and Institutes. The project is working towards developing CDU infrastructure to support a robust and coordinated system of research data management at CDU.

CDUeData is the CDU arm of the Australian National Data Service (ANDS) project, which is a national Federal Government initiative working with universities and research institutes across Australia.

The CDUeData project aims to:

- Provide CDU researchers with research data management infrastructure (eg policies and procedures) to enable them to access, manage, connect, find and re-use datasets, all compliant with relevant ARC and NHMRC policies and guidelines. The goal is to publish descriptions of researchers’ datasets on the national site of Research Data Australia.
- Build upon CDU’s research profile by providing a platform (via Research Data Australia) to showcase among interested researchers the existence of these datasets within CDU, nationally and internationally.

To date, the project has:

- Completed a project plan, specifying the details of the planned activities, with risks, schedules, etc.
- Established a Working Group (operational) and a Steering Committee (governance)
- Submitted 3 dataset descriptions to Research Data Australia, with related researcher and project descriptions.
  
  a. The Living Archive of Aboriginal Languages (The Northern Institute)
  b. Maps of Burnt Areas in Litchfield (Research Institute of Environment and Livelihoods)
  c. Strong Start – Bright Futures Evaluation (Menzies School of Health Research)

- Designed a system for gathering descriptions about datasets, the research projects and the researchers.
- Described the above system as a procedure
- Drafted research data management policy and guidelines, currently under discussion within the Steering Group

The success of the project depends on support at all levels, as it endeavors to systematize research data management practices at CDU. We would be grateful to gain your support for the project, and to assist in spreading the word within CDU to other researchers.

This project is supported by the Australian National Data Service (ANDS). ANDS is supported by the Australian Government through the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy Program and the Education Investment Fund (EIF) Super Science Initiative.

Rachael McMahon
Project Support Officer, CDUeData
RESEARCH SUPPORT COMMUNITY DAY

With the increasing interest in research support services in Australia and overseas, six librarians from different universities came together to plan and organise a full day of presentations for this target group, and timed it to coincide with the 2013 ALIA Information Online Conference.

Organising Committee - from L to R: Therese Nolan-Brown, Griffith University; Jayshree Mamtora, Charles Darwin University (Chair); Josipa Crnic, Deakin University; Suan Robbins, University of Western Sydney; Robyn Drummond, University of New South Wales, and Rebecca Parker, Swinburne University.

The Research Support Community Day as it was known, was held as a free pre-Conference event at the South Bank Campus of Griffith University on 11 February 2013. It generated an enormous amount of interest and reached full capacity at 120 persons. The Program was varied and included a number of different themes:

Program

9.00 am Welcome and introduction Gaby Haddow, Chair ALIA Research Committee

9.05 Sage Research Methods Online / Rosalia da Garcia, SAGE Asia-Pacific

9.30 Reskilling for Research / Mary Anne Kennan, Senior Lecturer, School of Information Studies, Charles Sturt University

10.45 Social Media: making your research visible and making yourself visible / Josipa Crnic, Research Librarian, Deakin University Library

11.30 Research Impact beyond Metrics and Altmetrics / Pat Loria, Research Librarian, USQ

1.30pm Open Access / Rebecca Parker, Research Services Librarian, Swinburne University of Technology

2.15 Data are the New Black / Susan Robbins, Research Services Coordinator, University of Western Sydney Library

3.30 Panel session: Getting Published - Services for HDRs and ECRs / Facilitator: Jayshree Mamtora, Research Services Coordinator, Charles Darwin University Library

4.45 Wrap up

Members of the Committee were really pleased with the turnout as well as feedback received from participants. Of those that completed the RSC Day evaluation form: 97.1% thought the event included some new ideas; 90.9% had more understanding about potential approaches or services to support researchers; 18.2% said their approach to delivering research support services may change a lot as a consequence of the forum, and 72.7% said it may change a little; and 88.2% said they would attend another event on Research Support. Comments included:

- Congratulations on this event. Judging by numbers it certainly met a gap in what staff development opportunities are available for gleaning this sort of information

- Thank you for providing a good program and bring the librarian group together

- Thank you for doing this. It is important for a range of staff at various levels to learn more about research support and for such as this are the only way it can happen.

See more details at:
http://storify.com/jamaora/rsc-day-and-alia-info-online#publicize
http://storify.com/AndrewSpencer/research-support-community-day-1
http://geocachinglibrarian.com/research-support-community-day/

Our thanks go to Rosalia da Garcia of Sage Asia-Pacific for sponsoring the catering and to Griffith University for providing the venue.
ALICE SPRINGS

CDU Alice Springs Researchers attended an EndNote Workshop on the 18th February presented by Librarians, Melissa, Alex and Christine. Researchers were introduced to the basics of using EndNote to export references from databases and create libraries.

A record number of students attended the Alice Springs Campus orientation evening on the 27th February and were introduced to the Library services and resources. Students also received an information pack containing instructions on how to access Library resources, bookmarks and our popular fridge magnet. The orientation and tour of the Library for ACIKE students on the 1st March was also well attended and students were particularly interested in learning about the Library services provided for Distance students.

On 25th March Librarians Alex and Christine provided a demonstration on Summon searching to access journal articles and ebooks to Centralian Senior College teaching staff. Teachers also viewed the latest LibGuides that have been created to support CSC teaching and learning.

Our Reference and Information Services Librarians, Melissa and Alex, have had their position profiles changed to Liaison Librarians to align with their professional colleagues in Darwin in the provision of academic and research support services and provide greater career opportunities.

PALMERSTON

In response to client feedback, we now have decals on the large expanse of glass windows in an effort to prevent birds from flying into them and hurting or killing themselves. We are following up on getting some more for better coverage.

We participated in the Orientation You Tube quiz and used it as a way to promote the Palmerston Campus Library as a quiet study space for all CDU students, particularly as space is at a premium at the busier Casuarina Campus Library.

We have expanded our external clients to include the NT Open Education Centre. We can meet their need for quiet learning environments for one-on-one mentoring of students with a range of challenges that don’t allow them to be in a school setting for their classes.

On the 17th of April, we were delighted to be hosting the CDU Council meeting in our training room. The council members made a site visit to the new housing development in Durack and after their meeting had lunch at the Karawa Training Restaurant, here at the Palmerston campus.

To find out more about the CDU Council: http://www.cdu.edu.au/governance/council.html
STAFFING AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE TRAINEESHIP
In 2010, the Library ran an extremely successful graduate traineeship. Funding precluded this from being offered again in 2011. Due to judicious management of the salaries budget we were able to offer the traineeship to Rachel Klesch in 2012. After finishing the traineeship in December 2012, Rachel started working for us as the Law and Business Liaison Librarian for six months while one of the team is on long service leave.

This year one of our own staff has been successful in winning the traineeship. Bandana Koirala has been working as a Library Client Services Officer for 6 years in the Reference and Information Services team and completed a Graduate Diploma in Information and Knowledge Management in 2011. Bandana will spend the first three months of the traineeship working with the Research Services Coordinator before moving to the Liaison Librarians team. In the second half of the year she will be working with the Resources, Digital Collections and Technology teams.

NT’S FAVOURITE LIBRARIAN: BERNADETTE ROYAL
Bernadette Royal, a Liaison Librarian at Charles Darwin University Library, has been announced as the winner of the Northern Territory for the national Australian’s Favourite Librarian competition. Bernadette’s nominators described her as extremely helpful. One even said, ‘Her assistance has complemented (and sometimes outperformed) that given by my lectures and tutorial leaders.’

Bernadette loves working at the CDU Library because of the students, academics and work colleagues. With a smaller library than many academic libraries, Bernadette enjoys getting to know most of the students by name and being able to work in a very supportive and friendly environment.

Bernadette said of winning, ‘I was nominated by a CDU student and my Liaison colleagues swung into action promoting my nomination across the campus. We had posters, Facebook and Twitter mentions as well as t-shirts printed. I was really flattered and very humbled by the attention. To win the NT section is so amazing and a large part of the win is due to the fantastic people I work with. Our job descriptions are quite diverse and very busy but extremely rewarding, challenging and so much fun.’
FAREWELL TO SALLY CUMMINGS

Sally joined the CDU Library Team in August 2010 and has for three years provided exemplary service as Liaison Librarian for the School of Health and Menzies School of Health Research.

During her time with us at CDU she has presented papers at both MLibraries and InfoOnline, received numerous library achievement awards, record SELT levels for the library and was joint recipient of the VCs Team Award in 2012.

Sally is keen user of social media and has presented on this topic regularly to library staff, in joint programs for research and in ALIA presentations.

She has been a major contributor to the Liaison Librarian team particularly in relation to exploring how new technologies can contribute to innovative library services, such as the use of ProProfs, GoAnimate and QR Codes. Sally managed the project of delivering the library mobile website and has developed a suite of library resources to support the School of Health. A major achievement by Sally was to provide this service remotely for six months while she was based in Melbourne. Sally demonstrated that you can truly be an active contributor while working remotely.

Thank you Sally for your time with us and we will all miss you very much. We hope that you leave CDU with some fond memories and that you find a rewarding position back in Victoria that will enable you to continue to shine as a librarian.

We are currently recruiting. In the meantime please contact us via library-liaison@cdu.edu.au 08 8946 7014

UNIVERSITY MEDAL

We are absolutely delighted to announce that Matthew Grant formerly our Indigenous Apprentice and now one of our Library Client Service Officers, has been chosen as the recipient of the University Medal in VET. This medal is awarded once a year to the best Trainee/Apprentice who completed their course of study between 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2013, and the medal is awarded at the May Graduation Ceremony. The nomination was submitted by Matthew’s co-workers, Library Studies teaching staff and the project leader for the Indigenous Voices Project. The medal committee received more applications for each of the medals this year than in any previous year. All of the applications were strong.

WELCOME TO AMANDA CARLSON

Amanda joined us as the Coordinator of the Library Technology team in February. Before coming to CDU, Amanda worked for Sirsi Dynix as their Senior Library Relations Manager for three years. Prior to that she worked with the Gold Coast City Council as Solutions Analyst working on major tasks and ICT projects.

Amanda’s experience with Sirsi Dynix has made her the logical person to lead the pilot on the implementation of RFID technologies in the Library.

Amanda is enjoying the culture, lifestyle and warmer climate of the tropics (being a North England girl!)