From one dream job to another – Parliament bound!

Michael Organ, a valued member of the Library staff since 1995, has moved to national prominence having made history by becoming the Australian Greens first member to sit in the House of Representatives. The Labor Party’s fifty-three year hold on the federal seat of Cunningham was broken by the University Archivist in a recent by-election in what was considered one of the safest seats in Labor’s heartland.

In his farewell speech Michael said he was sorry to leave the Library where he had worked in his ‘dream job’. Among his many strengths, Michael’s innovative approach to providing access to archival material saw him establish web access to many archival finding aids. This and his many other activities served to enhance the Library’s reputation reflected in an Australian Business Excellence Award in 2000.

Michael is well known for his work in local history, a passion which fuelled his involvement as an activist on the local campaign front. A member of the Illawarra Historical Society since 1984, he has also worked on the Wollongong City Council Heritage Advisory Committee and the Illawarra Family History Group of which he was a foundation member. His comprehensive work *A Documentary History of the Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1850* is an outstanding resource in its field. Michael has also found time to produce articles and papers on issues ranging from archives and history to librarianship and music!

Greens leader, Senator Bob Brown, called Michael a ‘warm hearted home grown candidate’ and Michael leaves for Canberra with the best wishes of many Library and University staff. He is possibly the first archivist to hold a parliamentary position.

Felicity McGregor, University Librarian, expressed regret at Michael’s departure. “We are keenly aware of the historic nature of this event and its effect on the political landscape. Michael will be greatly missed but we wish him well in his new career. I know that he will take up his new role in that spirit of commitment to the local community which has always stood him in good stead.”
New Library Staff

Michael Manning, Database Manager

Michael Manning has recently been appointed to the position of Database Manager within Technology Services at the University Library. He comes to Wollongong from the University of Queensland Library where he was responsible for their large technical services area. As a member of the Library’s middle management team, Michael will provide valuable input to the strategic planning of library systems including web site development.

Michael will be working closely with other members of Technology Services including Associate Librarian, Neil Cairns, to ensure the best possible access to electronic resources such as databases and electronic journals, regardless of time and place.

During his eleven years at the University of Queensland, Michael saw the Library grow from twelve personal computers to an extensive network of servers and over 1,000 workstations spread over thirteen branches. His other extensive experience ranges from academia to the field of computing. While working in Canada in the 1970s, he obtained a Master of Library Science from the University of Western Ontario adding to his first degree, a Master of Science (Microbiology) from the University of Queensland. In the early 80s Michael accepted a position at the Graduate School of Librarianship, Monash University where he worked as an academic for eight years teaching students enrolled in diploma, masters and PhD studies. In the late 80s, Mike accepted a computing position at Griffith University Information Technology Centre before moving to the University of Queensland Library where he held a variety of positions before joining the University of Wollongong Library.

Amanda Smithers, Information & Research Services Manager

Amanda Smithers has joined the University Library to take up the position of Manager of the Information and Research Services team. Before coming to Wollongong Amanda held a number of positions in public, TAFE and higher education libraries. Her most recent position as Manager of the Camden Library Service brought the challenges of providing services to a rapidly growing population. Her initiatives included the design and refurbishment of a library building, the introduction of youth services and the development of a photographic survey of the area recording the rapid change.

Amanda’s responsibilities include managing the team of Faculty Librarians, the coordination of information literacy programs and research support services. She will be working closely with Associate Librarian, Lynne Wright, to ensure the best possible client services for students and staff alike.

“I had heard a great deal about the University before coming to work here and was very aware of its excellent reputation. I am looking forward to meeting staff across campus and working more closely with key people to build on the services we currently offer and to gather ideas for implementing some exciting new ones”. Amanda commented that one of her challenges is “to build on the successful email a librarian for help service and to implement a virtual help desk”.

[Image of Michael Manning and Amanda Smithers]
One stop shopping for higher education news

University of Wollongong staff can now keep up to date with developments in Australian higher education. Developed by the Library, the UOW Higher Education Gateway includes links to major stories in the sector including Brendan Nelson’s Review of Higher Education discussion papers and AVCC responses. These will be updated and archived regularly.

Other links lead to entry sites for general and university specific news; research; teaching; government; scholarly communication; conferences and grants. Links in the policy area include the AVCC and the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA). A range of electronic journals provides access to articles ranging from The Place of foundational knowledge in the Australian undergraduate curriculum to Beginning to lecture at university: a complex web of socialisation patterns.

Choose News from the Library web site and then UOW Higher Education Gateway. Bookmark the site and visit regularly to see what’s new.

New Information Skills Tutorial

The Research Edge: Postgraduate Information Skills is the latest online tutorial developed by Library staff to assist with the development of information literacy skills for students and staff. The tutorial is a self-paced learning alternative to face-to-face workshops and covers some of the content of the Research Edge modules as well as areas of interest to all students. It is envisaged that further modules will be added in the future.

Tutorial modules include information about theses, finding journal articles and Australian government information such as parliamentary debates and papers. The tutorial also includes links to web pages covering areas such as document delivery, reciprocal borrowing, theses and emailing. A number of the modules include a self-paced quiz with answers, thus allowing users to assess their knowledge as they go.

Tutorial developer for this project was Chris Brewer assisted by other library staff including the Web Development Officer, Irene Mar. The project was assisted by production hours provided under a CEDIR Service Agreement. Special thanks are due to QUT Library staff for permission to use ideas from their PILOT tutorial. Please provide any feedback or suggestions for further content to Chris Brewer at chris_brewer@uow.edu.au

Journals Help Desk Survey

Students love the new Journals area!

During May, a survey was conducted to assess client service satisfaction with the recently refurbished Journals area and the new Journals Help Desk service. 100 surveys were received with approximately one third from postgraduate students and the remainder from undergraduates. Clients were asked to rate items such as the effectiveness of Library staff in providing service and the availability of the thirty new workstations.

Findings included:
- 80% strongly agreed that the Journals Desk was welcoming and visible
- 79% agreed that the furniture was comfortable and 81% agreed that it was functional
- 81% believed staff were effective in demonstrating the use of electronic resources
- 75% felt that staff were effective in understanding what information clients were seeking
- 69% believed staff were effective in providing the right amount of information and detail
- 82% responded that they were extremely satisfied with the desk and its staff

Overall, survey results showed a very favourable response to the introduction of the new service point and to the establishment of an extra dedicated space for using the Library’s electronic resources with the added comfort of larger workspaces.

As a result of the evaluation and in response to the many comments returned with the surveys, the following changes have been implemented during Spring session:

- A queuing area has been introduced for clients waiting to gain access to the workstations. Comments on this issue included ‘have a formal queue so that students know where to wait in line for a computer’.
- Workstations are now reallocated once they have been left unattended for 10 minutes. A notice on individual workstations advises clients of this policy and when Library staff notice a desk unattended for a time, a flyer is placed there noting the time at which the desk will be reallocated.

Fantastic (its my oasis)  
***
I find this the best place to work in the Library!

I have no complaints or suggestions, but its great up here now ... the computers are fantastic - if anything, you need more!
Great new guides to ISI databases

Earlier this year the Library provided access to two valuable resources, Web of Science and JCR Web, highly regarded in the academic community. The Information and Research Services team has developed guides to these and other databases and encourages staff and students to access them on the Library web site.

To view the guides, go to Help/Training, select Guides and click on Database Guides. Browse the page to find the guides to JCR Web and to Web of Science. Or go directly to: http://www.library.uow.edu.au/helptraining/guides/guidesdb.html

WHY WOULD I USE WEB OF SCIENCE?
Web of Science provides citation searching across the most prestigious, high impact research journals in the world. Its distinctive feature is that it provides access to the articles' cited references – the bibliographies of the articles indexed.

WHY WOULD I USE JCR WEB?
JCR Web (Journal Citation Reports on the Web) helps you to evaluate and compare scholarly journals in the sciences and social sciences and provides a journal’s impact factor. The impact factor is a measure of the frequency an average article in a journal has been cited in a particular year.

They said it had to be refereed...

Increasingly our students tell us they can only use refereed or peer-reviewed journals. Their assignments must be supported by scholarly or academic journal literature but students often have trouble understanding what this means, never mind locating it! A new web page, Finding Academic Journals, is a great place for students to start in order to familiarise themselves with this area. The web page, designed by Allison Hill, Faculty Librarian for Commerce, takes the mystery out of:

♦ academic/scholarly vs trade vs popular journals
♦ refereed and peer reviewed journals
♦ using databases to find academic journals
♦ verifying the journal title is academic

To visit Finding Academic Journals on the Library web site, go to Help/Training, select Guides and follow the links from Academic Journals. Academic staff and research students may like to learn about advanced command searching in the Ulrichs database. Using more sophisticated searching, you can acquire a list of refereed journals in a particular subject area, for example. If you would like to know more, please contact your faculty librarian.
EndNote Site Licence

The University has recently entered a licensing agreement with ISI ResearchSoft that permits EndNote software to be made available to all University of Wollongong students and staff who wish to use it for academic purposes. EndNote is a bibliographic management software package that enables users to store references, search and download citations from electronic sources, insert citations into Word documents, and create bibliographies automatically in a wide range of referencing styles.

ITS will be responsible for administering the site licence. Faculty IT support staff are responsible for loading the software onto computers in labs under their supervision, and onto computers for individual staff in their Faculty. Please contact your Faculty IT support person if you require the software on your on-campus computer, or for other general EndNote support. EndNote software is also available on Study Access computers in the Library.

The EndNote software is available for home use to students and staff of the University. Copies of the software on CD ROM can be borrowed from the Reserve Collection in the Library. An overview and brief installation instructions are included with the software. EndNote manuals for both Macintosh and Windows platforms are available in the Library Reference and Reserve Collections.

The current site licence version of EndNote is 5.0. The licence allows for upgrades as they become available. Future upgrades will be implemented in a coordinated way and announced to the campus community.

Further information on EndNote, including training and support, is available on the Library web site at: http://www.library.uow.edu.au/helptraining/endnote/index.html

STOP PRESS!!

New Video
Managing Information: Personal Reference Systems
A video developed by the Library and CEDIR Video Production

An excellent introduction for all students and staff to the principles of managing information, referencing and using personal reference systems such as card indexes and EndNote.

Valuable for individual or class use.
Duration approximately 15 minutes. Copies available in the Library collection.

You choose!

Flexibility is the byword in determining new processes for the selection of Library material. Faculty Librarians now play a pivotal role in ensuring titles are readily available for client use by selecting titles of immediate relevance and liaising with academic staff to identify information sources for both current and new teaching and research programs. Suggestions can come from academic reviews, professional literature, new title alerting services and publisher information. "We're flexible in ensuring a process that suits each faculty or department. Each faculty can decide how they wish to work with their Faculty Librarian in submitting suggestions for purchase - some use library committees, others a library liaison officer and some forward suggestions individually" says Lyn Wailes, Associate Librarian Access Services.

Students are also able to suggest items for purchase by using the Tell Us link on the Library web site and entering relevant details or completing a "Did You Find What You Want?" form available at all service points.

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Database News

ProQuest 5000 – additional full text archives
You will now find additional full text as well as improved indexing in the archives for ProQuest 5000. To access these older articles, choose the Advanced search option and search in the Deep BackFile. To limit to a specific date, use the Select Publication Date range option at the bottom of the page.

Want to try a simple sample search?
♦ Log on to ProQuest 5000
♦ From the Search Methods drop down menu, select Advanced search and type in tax evasion
♦ In the Date Range field, select the Deep Backfile (Prior to 1986)
♦ Tick in the box next to Show results with full text availability only and click on Search
♦ Your results will include full text articles from the 1940s and 1950s.

Organic Growth

Organic Letters has overtaken its commercial competitor Tetrahedron Letters in terms of impact factor to become the leading journal in its field. As reported in the newly released 2001 ISI Journal Citation Reports, Organic Letters increased in impact factor by 9% from 2000 to 2001, posting a 3.670 impact factor in 2001. In the same period Tetrahedron Letters decreased in impact factor by 9% dropping to 2.280.

Launched in 2000 as a joint ACS/SPARC initiative, the peer reviewed Organic Letters costs less than one-third the price of Elsevier’s Tetrahedron Letters (currently around A$18,000) and has brought competition and price moderation to publishing in organic chemistry. SPARC is an alliance of universities and research libraries that supports increased competition in scientific journal publishing.

NEWS FLASH

Doorway Down Under

The Library has been successful in obtaining a $5,500 grant from the University’s Internationalisation Committee for a project with the working title of “Doorway Down Under”. The project will be led by Suzanne Lipu, Faculty Librarian for Education, and will involve collaborating with staff and study abroad students from Colgate University in the United States. The aim of the project is to create a web site of Australian resources to assist study abroad students with the transition to academic life in Australia.

news@library is published in Autumn and Spring Sessions each year. Comments and suggestions on this newsletter should be forwarded to the Editor - Catriona McGurk by telephone on 02 4221 4330 or by email to catriona_mcgurk@uow.edu.au