# Library News University of Canberra Winter 2009 Issue ISSN 1836-862x

### Past Exam Papers put to the test

Semester 1 final exams are drawing closer, and it is useful to remember that many past exam papers can be accessed via the Library website. Previous exam papers are available by year and the semester the exam was held.

The Library has recently improved the accessibility of final exam papers, with papers dating back to 2004 available via a single access point – the **Exam Papers** link on the Library home page. Access is available through your student or staff ID and network password.

Why access past papers? They can help you familiarise yourself with the general layout of exam papers, the structure of different question types and the important instructions to look for. For example, you don't want to miss instructions that say choose only 2 of the 3 essay questions listed and find out after the exam that you wrote an unnecessary third essay! They also provide questions on which you can practice your question analysis and answer planning skills.

Past exam papers are not available for

all subjects. Lecturers decide whether or not to release a paper to the Library so if you are unable to find a paper for your Unit, contact your lecturer for clarification.



Many pathways to Library training!

Navigating your way through the 45,000 online journals and other resources available to you in the Library can be puzzling and sometimes confusing. Library staff can assist you to locate the right resources for your study through both face-to-face and on-line training.

You can find out what classes are run by the Library, including session times, and register to join them through the **Research Skills Training** link on the Library home page. Classes are run during the week and on some weekends in weeks 2 – 7 of each semester.

The Library's on-line training programs are the perfect option for students balancing work and study commitments. **PILOT** is a popular online information literacy tutorial consisting of six modules. You can choose one module to suit your needs or complete all six. **Teach Yourself to Find Journal Articles** is another online tutorial provided by the Library. It is a 5-minute introduction or refresher providing techniques for searching databases to locate the information you need.

Access to these resources is available via the Library home page at http://www. canberra.edu.au/library. For information, contact staff at the Research Assistance Desk, either in person or on 62015082 or via email:

librarytraining@canberra.edu.au

# Assistive Technologies Room improves access for students with a disability

The Library is pleased to announce the recent opening of the Assistive Technologies Room (AT Room) for Library clients with a disability. The AT Room is located at the rear of Level B, which is the entrance level of the Library.

The AT Room provides access to four PCs, printing and scanning facilities and specialised software which includes WYNN, JAWS, DRAGON and ZOOMTEXT.

There are lockers (key available form Disabilities Office, on payment of a deposit), internal telephone, and an emergency buzzer. Two of the PCs in the AT Room may be booked with priority given to students requiring the use of specialised software.

The AT Room will also be used as a University of Canberra final examination venue. Entrance to the AT Room is provided via swipe-card and all users must be registered with the UC Disabilities Office.



## Who's who in the Library

#### Lachlan de Haan, e-Access Coordinator

Lachlan is one of several staff in the Library whose work it is to ensure reliable access to electronic materials held by the Library, from databases for searching, to e-journals and e-books.

# How long have you been at UC and what first attracted you to working here?

"I've been here about seven or eight years now. I completed my degree at UC and I enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere at UC – people are really friendly."

#### What are your qualifications?

"I did a Bachelor of Information

Management in Library and Information Studies."

# What does an e-access coordinator do?

"My job is all about making e-resources like e-journals available for Library users. This involves not only making sure e-resources are technically reliable but also other things like making sure the University's licences are up-to-date. It's more involved than you'd think. The job is important because when e-journals work reliably it means that limited resources can be made available to large numbers of students that prefer to do their research from off-campus".

# What are your interests outside of work?

"I go to the gym at UC pretty often. I follow St Kilda and the Socceroos".



### Under Construction! Update on the Library Commons

Preliminary works for the Library Commons are on schedule and the inter semester break will see lots of activity. This period is one of the few times in the academic year when building works and collection relocations can occur with the least disruption to Library users.

A significant change is the relocation of Training Room 1 to Level A. Training Rooms in the Library are used by units such as the Teaching & Learning Centre and the Academic Skills Program – as well as the Library - to deliver learning support services to student groups. The facilities also support seminars and staff development activities such as OH&S workshops and training in teaching, learning and business applications. Level A now comprises small and large presentation rooms and small and large computer-equipped training rooms with a new breakout room. When not booked for training sessions, the large training room is open so students can use the computers. The kitchen on Level A has been upgraded and is available to groups booked into the facilities. A new space near the breakout room is furnished with lounge chairs and wireless access is available for laptops.

During July, the Law collection will be moved to Level D. This will be a noisy

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process over several weeks, destroying the quiet study environment. However Library users will be able to use the Silent Study Room on Level B in the interim. Also, offices between the stairwells on Level C will be removed to let more natural light into this level, providing a casual space for browsing recent issues of print journals, taking a break from study to look out onto the Concourse or simply reading a book!

The design layout for the Level B Commons is expected to be available mid-June and will be on display in the Library foyer and via the Library website for student and staff feedback.

## New loan period for Masters by Coursework students

Following extended consultation with students and academic staff, the loan period for items borrowed by students studying a Masters by Coursework degree will change from 90 days to 21 days (excluding short loan material), from 1 July 2009.

The new loan period will increase the opportunity for students to access Library materials, particularly those listed on unit outlines. Students will be able to renew a 21 day loan, providing no other borrower has placed a hold on the item in the Library system. Renewals can be made online via **My Library Space**, in person at the Information and Loans Desk during Library open hours, or by phoning the Information and Loans Desk on 6201 2953.

## Law Collection moves to Level D

As a part of the Library's transformation into a Learning Commons the Law collection will be relocated to Level D of the Library for Semester 2, 2009.

The new location will provide significant improvements for users with the inclusion of a discussion and tutorial room and PCs located alongside the print collection. The sunny new location will also have tree top views over campus.

University of Canberra Library Building 8 www.canberra.edu.au/library