



National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na bÉireann, Gaillimh

Focal ón Leabharlannaí

The start of a new Semester brings excellent news for researchers. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and HEA will invest €20 million over the next five years to fund electronic resources at national level in all Irish university libraries. The CHIU Librarians' Group made the initial proposals to SFI, and the first resources are now available, as described in this issue.

IREL, the Irish Research Electronic Library, will offer access to more than 7,500 electronic journals available through approximately 40 publisher packages in Biotechnology, ICT and related disciplines (see press release at <http://tinyurl.com/44633>). It is planned to extend the initiative to cover the humanities and social sciences in the next phase.

Another superb digital research resource, of prime interest to the humanities and social sciences, featured in this newsletter is *Eighteenth Century Collections Online* – again a consortium purchase, with major support from the university and the Faculty of Arts. The implementation of SFX software, described opposite, will hugely enhance discovery of our e-resources.

On space, we are delighted to announce the opening of the new Nursing Library at Dangan with double the space of the older library. We hope also that the work over the Summer months on improving heating and ventilation in the Main Library will pay dividends.

Finally a big welcome to all new students – we hope that you availed of Orientation to learn a little bit about us and that you will benefit for both study and leisure from your use of the James Hardiman Library.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

Marie Reddan, Librarian



inform

Nuachtlitr na Leabharlainne
Library Newsletter

Issue 22, October 2004

Introducing SFX



SFX is an exciting new service that makes Library research easier and more efficient. Essentially it is a method of connecting you (while you search) to other Library resources some of which you possibly may not even be aware exist.

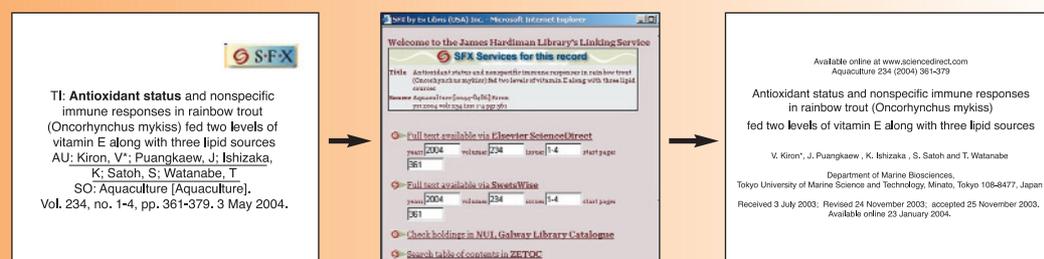
For example, if you search a database in *Web of Science* and find a citation that is only available as an abstract, usually you would have to see if the Library owns the print copy or try a different database to see if the full-text of the article can be found there. Now you will see an SFX button next to the citation in the *Web of Science* database that will provide you with a menu of choices on the particular article. Most usefully it can tell you whether the article is available from another database. If it is available, the article may be displayed by clicking the link, but at the very least you will be directed to the database that contains the article.

Some of the options you will see may include:

- linking to the full-text available in another Library database
- checking the Library Catalogue, to see if Library owns the journal or book
- doing a new search for additional articles by the author
- doing a cited author search using a citation index like *Science Citation Index*
- doing a Web search on the appropriate keywords using selected search engines

INSIDE

- The Irish Research Electronic Library
- New Nursing Library
- Going Wireless
- Student Surveys
- Staff Change
- New Sources
- Extra Spaces
- Updated Reference Collection



Step1: locate reference and click SFX button in top right corner

Step2: SFX menu, offering further choices

Step3: link to full text in Science Direct

NEWS

Staff Change

Monica Crump will replace Séamus Scanlon as Head of Bibliographic Services in the coming year. Séamus commences a career break at the end of October. Monica already has a strong familiarity with Bibliographic Services as Collection Management Librarian since December 2002 and is well known to many users. We wish both Séamus and Monica every success during the coming year.



Monica Crump

Going Wireless

Many people own their own mobile computing device such as a laptop or PDA. It is increasingly common to see these devices in use throughout the Library and users are welcome to take them into the building. You don't have to plug in your computer in order to access networked services in the Library. There are wireless "hotspots" throughout the building; if your computer has the required network card you will be able to use the local network and the Internet. For more details of how to set up your mobile computer for wireless access, please contact the Computer Services User Support Centre in Room 118, Arts/Science Building.

IReL: THE IRISH RESEARCH ELECTRONIC LIBRARY

The IReL initiative, already described in "Focal ón Leabharlannaí", is a hugely significant development for researchers at NUI, Galway and nationally. As noted, its initial thrust is in Biotechnology, Information and Communication Technologies and related areas. Our existing resources will be supplemented by a number of new online services, primarily journals, and the first of these have started to appear:

These services are included in the Database List on the home page of the Library Web site at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/>

JOURNALS
kluwer online

Blackwell
Synergy

SpringerLink

Also on this List is *ISI Web of Knowledge*, a service which integrates the popular *Web of Science* databases and the *Journal Citation Reports* but also adds *ISI Proceedings*, an index to conference literature. About 50 journals are being acquired on a title-by-title basis and these so far include *Science* and *Scientific American*, accessible via the Library Catalogue.

Further updates about IReL will appear in this newsletter and on the Library Web site (Select IReL Journals from Database List). In the interim please keep in contact with the Information Librarian for your faculty.

Service	Journals
Blackwell Synergy (STM Collection)	500
IOPP (Institute of Physics Publishing)	40
Kluwer Online	650
Springer Link	500

NEW NURSING LIBRARY

On 30 August the Nursing Library opened its doors at its new premises near the entrance to the Galway Business Park in Dangan (Unit 1). The new facility more than doubles the space previously available at University College Hospital and offers a number of advantages, including:

- Over 100 reader places
- New furniture
- Extra shelving for books and journals
- More public access PCs
- A separate "Electronic Classroom" for training
- Proximity to the School of Nursing which is currently based at Dangan

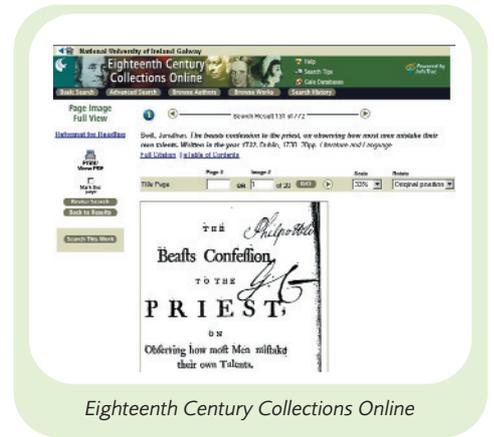
Thanks are due to the staff of the Nursing Library and to Ann Mitchell, Head of Reader Services, for ensuring a smooth transition to the new premises. We are very grateful also for the support of the Buildings Office and Computer Services.

The Library is on the first floor and is distributed across two blocks. The main phone number is 5229 and full staff contact details are at http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/about/staff_lists/staff_nur_lib.html

NEW SOURCES

In addition to the new services becoming available under the IReL initiative described earlier, some new or changed resources can be accessed from the Database List on the Library Web site at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/>

- Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO)**, a major research resource which offers digitised versions of almost 150,000 English-language titles and editions published between 1701 and 1800. Material includes books and broadsides, Bibles, tract books, sermons and printed ephemera. ECCO provides invaluable documents for research in a range of disciplines, including history, medicine, literature, philosophy and law.
- Xreferplus** is a leading multidisciplinary resource for general reference, encompassing over 150 reference works. These include biographies, quotations, encyclopaedias and dictionaries by subject (eg history, business, law) and language. Users can browse each publication or search all at once, saving lots of time on quick reference enquiries. An interesting inclusion is a crossword solver!
- Web of Science** is not a new resource but its retrospective coverage has been significantly extended. Until recently coverage was only from 1990 but each index now covers a longer period:
 - Arts and Humanities Citation Index, 1975 -
 - Science Citation Index, 1945 -
 - Social Sciences Citation Index, 1956 -
- Ritchie-Pickow Photographic Collection**, a searchable archive of over 2000 photographs taken by George Pickow in 1952/53 at various locations around Ireland and covering a wide range of subjects and activities, including culture, sport and farming. This database is the result of a Library digitisation project supported by The Heritage Council.



Eighteenth Century Collections Online

STUDENT SURVEYS

Last spring the Library carried out two student surveys. The first covered undergraduates mainly, although it also included diploma and access students. International and visiting students participated in the second survey. Both surveys covered similar ground, seeking to establish student preferences and habits in using the Library as well as satisfaction with services provided. Between them the surveys attracted nearly 3000 respondents, providing invaluable data for service development. The key priorities to emerge from both surveys are identical:

- Longer weekend opening hours
- More seats for study inside the Library and on campus
- Facilities for group study
- Full coverage of reading list material
- More catalogue PCs
- Better matching of catalogue information and book location on the shelves
- Access to Library orientation sessions all year round
- Training in a wider range of topics, particularly to support project work
- More effective marketing of services

Intensive use of the Library is evident, with over 80% of respondents visiting at least weekly and almost 40% daily. Students make varied use of the Library and are almost as likely to consult books as they are to borrow them. Use of study materials other than books is lower than expected and half of the undergraduate students surveyed never use journals.

Thanks to all students who took part in the survey, and congratulations to our prize winners. We will endeavour to improve satisfaction levels in the coming year. You can see the results of both surveys at;

www.library.nuigalway.ie/news/studsurvs04.html

John Cox,
Deputy Librarian



Tracey Finan, BSc student, receives a phone camera, first prize in the undergraduate survey, from Mark Kirwan, University Bookshop

Reasons for using the library

RESPONSE	PERCENT
Borrow/Return books	84%
Private study	83.9%
Consult books (without borrowing)	66.6%
Photocopy materials	65.3%
Use a computer	50.3%
Meet other students	16.9%
Leisure reading, eg newspapers	16.2%
Watch a video	10.4%
Consult library staff	7.6%
Other	2.7%

OPENING TIMES

MAIN LIBRARY

Sept 13 - Nov 6

Monday - Friday
0900-2200

Saturday
0900-1300

Nov 8 - Dec 16

Monday - Friday
0900-2300*

Saturday
0900-1700

Sunday
1300-1800

Dec 17, 20-22

Fri, Mon-Wed
0900-1730

*2200 -2300
will not apply Friday

MEDICAL LIBRARY

Sept 13 - Dec 16

Monday - Friday
0915-2200

Saturday
0900-1300

Dec 17, 20-22

Fri, Mon-Wed
0930-1730

NURSING LIBRARY

Sept 13 - Dec 16

Monday -Friday
0900-2000

Saturday
0900-1300

Dec 17, 20-22

Fri, Mon-Wed
0900-1700

Please note: All Libraries
closed Monday 25 October,
Saturday 18 December.

UPDATED REFERENCE COLLECTION

The past year has seen a major project to update the Library's General Reference collection. This collection, located on the Ground Floor, had fallen somewhat out of date but this has been remedied through an injection of funds and the efforts of a number of Library staff coordinated by Niall McSweeney, Head of Information Services, and Jane Mulligan, Science and Engineering Information Librarian.

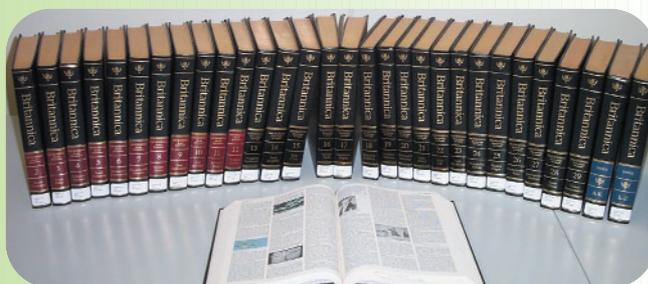
A strong and current reference collection is a vital aid to addressing a range of queries, for example biography, definitions, contact information, facts and quotations. More than 100 new or updated reference titles have been ordered recently and many are now on the shelves.

These include:

- *Continuum companion to twentieth century theatre*
- *Directory of EU information sources*
- *Encyclopedia Britannica*
- *International who's who of authors and writers*
- *Museums of the world*
- *What if? Intriguing answers for the insatiably curious*

In addition to being more comprehensive and up to date, the collection has been reorganised and made more accessible through the removal or relocation of some previous material. As for many other Library collections, online services supplement and enhance reference, especially through search speed and convenient access.

Many online services, eg timetables, town maps, are freely available but the Library has also taken out a subscription to *xreferplus*, a collection of reference works in a range of subjects described in the "New Sources" section of this newsletter.



All 32 volumes of the latest Encyclopedia Britannica

Extra Spaces

One of the main findings of the recent student survey was that there are insufficient seats in the Library but some improvement has been achieved recently. A refurbishment project has delivered over 100 extra study spaces on Floors 1 and 2, with more compact tables replacing some earlier versions which dated back to the opening of the building in 1973! The new Nursing Library offers 104 reader places compared with 38 at its previous location. While more space continues to be an urgent priority, the extra seating is very welcome.



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If you have any comments or suggestions on what you would like to see in the Library newsletter, please email us at library@nuigalway.ie