



National University of Ireland, Galway  
Ollscoil na bÉireann, Gaillimh

# inform

Nuachtlitr na Leabharlainne  
James Hardiman Library Newsletter

Issue 24, July 2005  
Special Issue: Research Support

## National Research Support Survey

The Library recently led a national survey of support to researchers by Irish university libraries. The survey built on earlier work at NUI, Galway in 2003, with 415 responses received from academic staff, PhDs and Research Masters students, giving a response rate of 26.7%.

The survey highlighted some interesting demographics, notably an increasing constituency of research only staff, a high proportion (58.5%) of multidisciplinary researchers and a trend towards more PhDs and fewer Research Masters students.

A particular feature this time was the opportunity to benchmark performance with a national average as well as with the 2003 data where applicable. In general, both benchmarks delivered positive and encouraging feedback, for example:

Topic	2005 NUIG	2003 NUIG	2005 Nationally
Satisfaction with online journals	76%	52.5%	70.7%
Awareness of who to contact for training	64.5%	46.6%	59.1%
Satisfaction with inter-library loans	73%	69.4%	62.9%
Library publicises its services well	65.5%	51.5%	62.3%
Library provides good service overall	87.6%	84.9%	83%

Improved performance data are heartening, although there is never any room for complacency and there are areas in which NUI, Galway, despite better ratings than in 2003, lags the national average. These include awareness of the role of the Information Librarian and satisfaction with the photocopying service, printed journals and off-campus access

A number of particularly interesting local findings local emerged in this survey, including:

- Continuing increase (77%) in frequent online access to Library services and collections
- Strong support (72%) for using research grants to help purchase Library collections

- A majority perception (70%) that online information makes physical collections less important (but only 30% of Arts researchers take this view)
- Willingness of over 90% of respondents to make copies of their publications freely accessible via an institutional archive
- Definite interest in having a librarian whose only role would be to provide information services to researchers in all disciplines



Focus group analysing survey findings

Analysis of local and national data is progressing and reports, with recommended actions, will be published soon. The Library is greatly indebted to all researchers for their input and particularly to the enthusiastic post-survey focus group which provided valuable insights. Finally, congratulations to our prize winner, Professor Agnes Shiel, Occupational Therapy and many thanks to our local sponsor, MJ Flood.



Survey prize winner, Professor Agnes Shiel, Occupational Therapy, receiving a digital camera from John Cox, Deputy Librarian

# Focal ón Leabharlannaí



IReL (Irish Research Electronic Library) still makes headlines, but it is worth noting (page 4) an analysis of our holdings against the top 10 titles in one of our key disciplines. The impact of IReL is very positive.

On space, a new rented store will be ready by the end of Summer to take lesser used material, so some relief is in sight for the Main Library. It is good to report also that the new Library Committee considers Library space the key issue. This is even more important in light of recent archival acquisitions (page 3).

Thanks to all who responded to our recent survey of researchers. As part of a larger national survey, this will be very valuable in the Library's quality review later this year. Satisfaction rates are up in many areas a great morale booster for Library staff.

If you wish to visit other libraries during the summer vacation, please remember SCONUL's SRX access and borrowing scheme. It is available in 99% of UK academic libraries, along with six of the seven Irish university libraries and RCSI. Almost 9,000 academics have now registered and borrowed more than 92,000 items. Please contact Readers Services (ext. 3353) regarding a membership card. If visiting London, check out the new British Library website <http://www.bl.uk/> for services to researchers including easier and quicker access to reading rooms.

Le gach dea-ghuí,

**Marie Reddan**  
Librarian

## OPEN ACCESS IN ACTION

Four years ago this newsletter first featured the open access movement<sup>1</sup> and has since reported developments at regular intervals. The key tenet of this movement is that research publications should be freely accessible (as opposed to requiring purchase via, eg journal subscriptions).

The hot topic reported in our September 2001 issue was the "Public Library of Science", an initiative which attracted signatures from over 30,000 researchers worldwide who committed themselves not to publish in, or serve on the editorial boards of, journals which refused to commit to open access. This initiative fizzled out but greatly raised awareness and proved to be the catalyst for a series of developments, including:

- Declarations of support for open access, often at government level
- Requirement by some research funding agencies, eg Wellcome Trust, to ensure free access to resulting publications
- Free access to research papers after six months in journals such as *New England Journal of Medicine*
- The "Author pays" model whereby publishers guarantee immediate and continuing free access on payment of a fee, eg Oxford University Press (<http://tinyurl.com/72gz9>)
- Establishment of repositories of institutional research publications by universities
- National repositories, eg *ePrints UK* (<http://eprints-uk.rdn.ac.uk/>), *DAREnet* in the Netherlands (<http://tinyurl.com/7g9aa>)
- Indexing of open access publications in commercial databases such as *Web of Knowledge* and search engines like *Google Scholar*

There is now a strong momentum in favour of open access publishing and commercial publishers have had to take cognisance of this. Key advantages exist for universities (wider exposure of research output), for authors (evidence of higher citation rates, in some disciplines at least<sup>2</sup>) and for anyone who wants to be able to access research publications without the barrier of payment.

### The Irish Context

Closer to home, open access is making its presence felt. Authors from NUI, Galway are publishing in open access journals. An example is the *Biomed Central* (<http://www.biomedcentral.com>) service which provides free access to over 100 journals. The Library established an institutional subscription in 2003, enabling researchers at NUI, Galway to publish in any of its journals without paying individual fees. NCBES researchers have taken this publication route and one of the journals involved, *BMC Bioinformatics*, established in 2000, already has the second highest impact factor in its field.



The recent national survey of researchers (page 1) found that over 90% of respondents would be willing to post copies of their research publications to an institutional archive so that they would be freely accessible to others. This gives a clear mandate for the establishment of institutional repositories in Ireland and a recent report from a working group of the CHIU Librarians has recommended exactly this. The report proposes a model whereby each university would maintain its own repository (two are already doing so), with data harvested regularly from each to facilitate single searching of all Irish content. Further discussion is needed to see if this vision can be realised but, in making such a commitment, Irish universities would only be coming into line with trends in many other countries.

1 "Key Open Access Concepts". [http://www.escholarlypub.com/oab/key\\_oaconcepts.htm](http://www.escholarlypub.com/oab/key_oaconcepts.htm)

2 Lawrence, S. (2001) Free online availability substantially increases a paper's impact. *Nature* 411 (6837): 521 [http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v411/n6837/full/411521a0\\_fs.html](http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v411/n6837/full/411521a0_fs.html)

**John Cox**  
Deputy Librarian

# FOR THE ARCHIVES...

## Taibhdhearc...

June was a busy month for the Archives Department. Additions to our Taibhdhearc material included a number of scrapbooks, recordings, photographs and correspondence donated by the MacCurtain sisters who are cousins of Siobhán McKenna. To mark the event Prof. Maureen Murphy of Hofstra University gave a very engaging talk on the production of *San Siobhán* in Galway in 1950.

## Galway Echo...

Our next event celebrated 23 years of the *Galway Echo*, an audio newspaper for the visually impaired edited by Des Kenny, sponsored by the Galway Lions Club and produced by Seán Maclomhair of An Teaglann. Seán is retiring later this year and on the occasion of the final issue of the newspaper we were delighted to accept the complete archive from the President of the Galway Lions Club.

## Ó Brádaigh Papers...

Later in the month, Mr. Ruairí Ó Brádaigh presented the Library with a very important collection of primary, unpublished documents, with other material, relating to the discussions between Irish Republican leaders and representatives of the British Government, during 1974/1975, on the subject of a settlement of the Northern Ireland problem and of Anglo-Irish relations. Prof. Robert White of Purdue Indiana University, who is currently completing a study of Mr Ó Brádaigh and the Irish republican tradition (to be published next year by Indiana University Press), spoke on the occasion.



(l-r) Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Marie Reddan and Professor Robert White

## IReL UPDATE

Since the February newsletter the IReL initiative has delivered access to more electronic resources, notably:

### **CAB Direct**

With over four million records dating back to 1973, CAB Direct covers research and development literature in applied life sciences.

### **Oxford Journals Online**

Consists of 169 online journals from arts, social science, scientific, technical, medical, professional and humanities disciplines.

### **Royal Society of Chemistry**

The full 24 publications of the RSC are now available. Titles include *Dalton's Transactions* and the *New Journal of Chemistry*.

### **SciFinderScholar**

Leading desktop research tool providing access to the scientific information resources offered by the CAS (*Chemical Abstracts*) databases.

### **Zentralblatt Math**

The world's most complete and longest running abstracting and reviewing service in pure and applied mathematics.

### **Journals such as:**

- *Molecular Biology of the Cell*
- *Journal of Clinical Investigation*
- *Journal Of Virology*
- *British Journal of Radiology*
- *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*

You can find details of current and forthcoming IReL resources at <http://tinyurl.com/4vksz> or by contacting your Information Librarian.

As detailed in the last newsletter, a submission has been made to the HEA for the funding of electronic resources in the arts, humanities and social sciences. The HEA is currently studying the proposal and its response will be reported.

## INTRODUCING E-INFORM

The editors make every effort to publish this newsletter regularly and to include the latest news about Library services. However, printing schedules and limits on space mean that it is not always possible to update you in a timely fashion and to cover everything. To address this, the Library has introduced a companion publication, *E-Inform*, to be published as an occasional online bulletin between issues of the printed newsletter.

*E-Inform* will be sent by e-mail to academic and administrative staff at NUI, Galway and will typically highlight new service announcements or topics with a particularly timely relevance. The first issue featured reading list procedures ahead of the coming academic year.

**e-inform**

É Nuachtáirín na Leabharlainne  
James Hardiman Library E-Newsletter  
Issue 1 | June 2005

## COPYRIGHT UPDATE



It is good to be able to report a successful conclusion to long-standing negotiations between CHIU and the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency regarding multiple copying of licenced material for educational purposes. The most common forms of copying covered are course packs or articles/extracts in the

Reprints section of the Library's Desk Reserve area. On payment by the University of the agreed fee, the newly agreed licence permits such copying within agreed limits and also provides for scanning and uploading of printed material from Irish copyright owners. The digital licence is experimental in the first instance but efforts will be made to expand its scope beyond Irish publishers.

## IREL: DELIVERING THE TOP RESEARCH JOURNALS

The *Journal Citation Reports* available through *Web of Knowledge* provide details of the highest ranked journals in each subject area. The list below gives the top ten journals in Organic Chemistry by impact factor (number of times their articles are cited) for 2004. A check of these titles for availability through IReL shows the very positive impact that this initiative is having in providing quality journals to the research community.

Rank	Journal Title	Total Cites	Impact Factor	Publisher	Availability
1	Aldrichimica Acta	618	8.833	Sigma-Aldrich	Free
2	Natural Product Reports	2027	7.890	RSC	IReL
3	Advances in Organometallic Chemistry	1132	5.500	Academic Press	IReL negotiating
4	Advanced Synthesis & Catalysis	1938	4.482	ACS	IReL
5	Organic Letters	21237	4.195	ACS	IReL
6	Bioconjugate Chemistry	4738	3.766	ACS	IReL
7	Journal Of Organic Chemistry	74650	3.462	ACS	IReL
8	Biomacromolecules	2535	3.299	ACS	IReL
9	Organometallics	27459	3.196	Wiley	IReL
10	Journal Of Mass Spectrometry	3313	3.056	Wiley	IReL

## WEB OF KNOWLEDGE – SEARCHING BY CITATION

An often overlooked method of finding relevant articles is the citation linking functionality that *Web of Knowledge* provides. Below in three easy steps see how simple it is to track other articles that have cited a particular paper.

### 1. The Search

Enter your search terms.

**TOPIC:** Enter one or more terms. Searches within article titles, keywords, or abstracts.  
Example: neural network\* AND ozone ([More examples](#))

helicobacter pylori  Title only

### 2. The Article.

Select a record and click on the "Times Cited" link to display other publications that have cited this article.

**Title:** Helicobacter pylori lipopolysaccharide-mediated gastric and extragastric pathology

**Author(s):** Moran AP

**Source:** JOURNAL OF PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY 50 (5): 787-805 Sp. Iss. SI, DEC 1999

**Document Type:** Article

**Language:** English

**Cited References:** 97 **Times Cited:** 24 [FIND RELATED RECORDS](#) [i](#)

### 3. The Citing List

The 24 articles are displayed. Within a few mouse clicks you can carry out a publication audit.

24 results found

Records 1 -- 10

Use the checkboxes to select individual records for marking, t

1. Baldari CT, Lanzavecchia A, Telford JL  
Immune subversion by *Helicobacter pylori*  
TRENDS IN IMMUNOLOGY 26 (4): 199-207 APR 2005  
Times Cited: 0



## NEW STAFF

The Library is delighted to welcome four new contract staff. Interestingly, the first three staff described here had a prior connection, having achieved their professional qualification at UCD in 2004.

**Mairéad Treanor** has been here longest, having joined at the end of February as Assistant Librarian for Collection Management. Mairéad's previous experience included a year's training at the Bodleian Library.



Mairéad Treanor

**Evelyn Flanagan** is working half-time as an Assistant Librarian in the Special Collections area with Marie Boran who is engaged in research with the Centre for Human Settlement on alternate weeks for the next two years. We wish both Evelyn and Marie well in their new roles.



Evelyn Flanagan

**Alan Carbery** commenced a four-month Assistant Librarian contract in the Cataloguing section in June. Alan's work will enable cataloguing of, and easier access to, a range of official publications.



Alan Carbery

**Fergus Fahey** joined as a Contract Archivist in May and over the next year will be engaged in processing and cataloguing the John McGahern, Shields Family and Lyric Theatre/O'Malley archival collections.



Fergus Fahey

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