



National University of Ireland, Galway
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

inform

Nuachtlitir na Leabharlainne
James Hardiman Library Newsletter

Issue 25, November 2005

Focal ón Leabharlannaí



Welcome back to all and especially to those new to NUI Galway. Orientation this year was a great success with the Library really buzzing – and this has made us busier than ever. Thanks to all Library staff involved. Build on your orientation and take some of the information literacy programmes on offer – well worth the investment, and with our new all-day Saturday and Sunday opening throughout the semesters no excuse for lack of study time.

We are busy analysing and responding to the recent survey of researchers reported at <http://tinyurl.com/dng85>. It is great to see the increased use of electronic resources – 77% of you access these over the network at least once a week (up from 67% in 2003). It is now easier than ever to do this from home using EZProxy. Resources continue to expand (see news on IReL) and we are confident that we will be offering significant additional e-resources for Arts and Humanities in 2006.

The beginning of a new academic year is also a new financial year for the Library. We are delighted to acknowledge an increase in budgets this year, and as usual our Information Librarians will be pleased to liaise on new acquisitions. Finally, the Library isn't only about study. Enjoy our exhibitions between now and Christmas – photographs from the National Library's "Congested Districts Board and Connemara Album" are on display, and, to soothe exam nerves, Con Tempo will play a lunchtime concert in the Library on Wednesday 30 November.

Go mbaine sibh aobheas as bhúr gcuid oibre sa Leabharlann!

Marie Reddan, Librarian

323 More Opening Hours

It is a pleasure to notify readers of a significant extension to the Library's opening hours. Lengthy discussions have resulted in an increase of 323 hours annually. The Library now opens at 0830, half an hour earlier than previously on weekdays and Saturdays. The biggest change is at weekends during term time with standard hours of 0830-1730 on Saturday and 1000-1730 on Sunday. Longer opening at weekends has been one of the most commonly requested improvements in surveys and other feedback from users. This has been made possible thanks to the cooperation of the team of Library Stewards, financial support from the University Management Team and expert advice at all stages from the Human Resources Department, particularly Colm Flannery. Ann Mitchell, Head of Reader Services, has coordinated the implementation of the new hours.

Another enhancement in service hours has resulted from the implementation of flexitime in the Library. This has enabled the opening of a range of service areas, notably the Information Point, continuously from 0900 to 1700. Lunchtime opening proved popular with Library users during a pilot phase last year and it is good to be able to formalise this. Flexitime offers staff the opportunity to vary their hours of attendance and to work up time before 0900, at lunchtime and until 1900; although a regular staff presence is not guaranteed at these times, please feel free to call into offices if they are open or to ring staff who, if at work, will be happy to provide service.

John Cox, Deputy Librarian



Members of the Library Stewards team, (l-r): Sinéad Magee, Frank D'Arcy, Gerry Thornton, Mary Gleeson, Michael O'Connor and Mike Faherty

Off Campus Access: as EZ as ABC

EZProxy, the Library's new off campus access system allows for much easier access by students and staff to Library databases and journals from home. You only need your student/staff number and your Library PIN number or Computer Suite password to gain access to our resources. Most importantly, there are no changes to internet settings in your browser software as previously required.



You only need to enter your details once in any session and can locate your PIN number via the "Retrieve your PIN" link shown. For more information please contact Peter Corrigan, Head of Library Systems, at ext. 2497 or peter.corrigan@nuigalway.ie

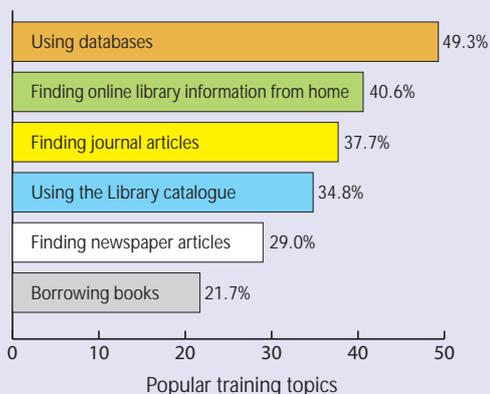
To access e-resources off campus, simply:

- open the Library website
- select a resource from the Database List
- enter your details as prompted

ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES STAFF SURVEY

Trish Finnan, Information Librarian for Commerce and External Liaison, conducted a survey of the University's administration and services staff in June. This was the first survey of the information needs of this diverse group, representing 36 departments in all, eg Access Office, Careers Service, Student Services. The survey revealed varying levels of service uptake and awareness. There is a preference for visiting the Library in person but use of online resources, notably journals and newspapers, is also quite common.

There is a definite interest in a range of training topics such as databases and off-campus access and this will be a key focus of our follow-up activity. The survey itself has heightened awareness of Library services and we look forward to supporting increased uptake. A summary report is at: <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/news/admin05.html>



NetLibrary: popular texts on your screen



One of NetLibrary's online books

The Library now provides access to a number of high quality electronic books through the NetLibrary service, accessible via the Database List on the Library website. Users can access the complete contents of any one of these 15 titles from any PC on or off campus 24 x7. There is a search facility and pages/chapters can be printed or downloaded as required. The books are presented in PDF format, a perfect reproduction of the printed page.

The titles selected were particularly high use copies from Desk Reserve that were available in this format. The restriction is that only two users can view the book at the same time. This exciting development builds on our existing e-book services such as Safari Tech Books Online. It points to new accessibility for high-demand books and also improved service for distance and part-time students.

Some of the titles available electronically are:

Coakley, John, Gallagher, Michael. *Politics in the Republic of Ireland*. 4th ed. London, New York: Taylor & Francis Routledge, 2005.

Bryman, Alan. *Research Methods and Organization Studies*. New York: Taylor & Francis, 1989.

Shaw, Malcolm. *International Law*. 5th ed. Cambridge, U.K., New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

For more details about NetLibrary and other e-books please contact the Information Librarian for your faculty.

QUALITY MATTERS



Quality Steering Group meeting in progress

Throughout the past year the Library has been undertaking a quality review in accordance with the requirements of the Irish Universities Act 1997. The journey has been long but fascinating and the destination is in sight in the shape of a visit from a Quality Review Group on 21-23 November. The key deliverables of the process to date have been a detailed Library plan and a self-assessment report.

The review has encouraged us to put our operations, procedures and structures under the microscope and the overall aim is a continued improvement in service based on clearly defined priorities. Library staff, led by an enthusiastic Quality Steering Group, have committed themselves to this initiative and we hope for a positive outcome for all service providers and users.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS: IMPROVED ACCESS



The Official Publications collection from 1985 onwards has now been catalogued and placed on open access within the compact shelving on the Ground Floor of the Library. This is a welcome development and means that material from high-level government reports to specific departmental publications is now more readily available to students and staff.

In practice this means that it is now possible to see from our Library Catalogue what publications are available, check holdings by Government

department and access these documents on the floor without restriction. As was the case previously, Official Publications cannot be borrowed.

Pre-1985 material is still held in the Law and Official Publications Office and it is hoped to catalogue this material in time as well. If you have any queries about Official Publications, contact Hugo Kelly in the Law and Official Publications Office (ext. 3359; email hugo.kelly@nuigalway.ie).

Hugo Kelly, Law Librarian

IREL – AN UPDATE



Negotiations on the IREL (Irish Research Electronic Library) resource continue with several recent additions available through this SFI/HEA funded initiative, including:

- American Institute of Physics
- American Physical Society
- Cell Press
- Current Protocols
- Engineering Sciences Data Unit (ESDU)

The full list of IREL resources is available on the Library website

(<http://tinyurl.com/4vksz>).

Negotiations continue for Embase, Taylor and Francis, GeoSciences World and Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins. There is also further dialogue with the HEA regarding a proposal from earlier this year

to fund online resources in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

While the funding model of IREL requires the Library to continue to fund electronic resources already held, negotiations with publishers have resulted in savings on print subscriptions. While some publishers have insisted on maintenance of print subscriptions, other IREL deals have allowed cancellations and significant discounts where a subscription is maintained. Permission to cancel print was sought from all affected departments and the resulting cancellations and discounts resulted in a saving of €123,000. These savings will be used to subscribe to additional journal titles or will be diverted to departmental book funds.

LOCATING E-JOURNALS

Having difficulties finding out if we have access to a particular journal online? One very useful solution is the Find E-Journal option available from the top menu on the Library Catalogue. This option searches across a list of electronic journals available from various databases and journal publishers to which we subscribe.

When you use this facility you are checking journals available via Science Direct, JSTOR and Oxford University Press amongst many others. For each journal, the range of years is presented with a link to the journal full-text. Unfortunately for technical reasons journals on some databases such as Lexis-Nexis cannot be included in the search but this still represents a convenient method of searching for subscribed e-journals. Work is in progress to improve further the coverage of e-journals in the Library Catalogue. This newsletter will update developments.

If you have any queries about the Find E-Journal option, please contact Rónán Kennedy, our Electronic Resources Librarian, at ext. 5067 or ronan.kennedy@nuigalway.ie

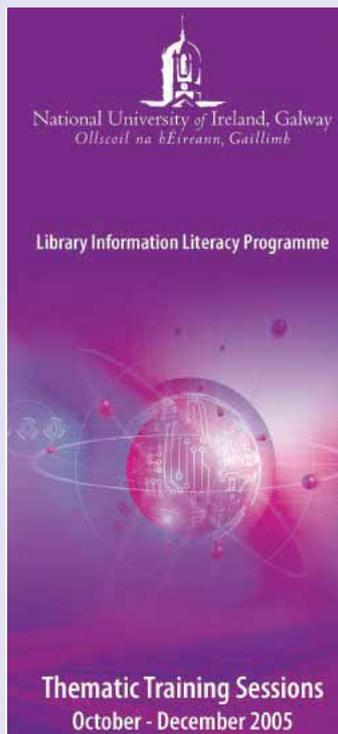


Information Literacy

The Library is currently running a programme of themed information literacy courses, designed to help users develop their information and research skills. Niall McSweeney, Head of Information Services, notes: "The subject areas being offered are quite varied and cover both print and electronic resources. We hope that there will be something of interest for everyone: students, staff, postgraduates and researchers".

Sessions include:

- Library Catalogue
- Finding Journals
- Company Information
- Theses
- Web of Knowledge
- Alerting Services
- Early Printed Books
- Maps
- Inter-Library Loans
- Newspapers



Each session lasts either 30 or 60 minutes; you can book a place at the Library Information Desk on the Ground Floor (ext 3005; email library@nuigalway.ie). Sessions for Semester 1 are detailed at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/news/libtraining.pdf>

BOOK ORDERING: NOT JUST IN MAY!

In the 2003/2004 financial year the Library introduced a clawback procedure, whereby unspent departmental funds are transferred to Faculty funds at the end of May and spent on interdisciplinary resources. This clawback had a very negative effect this year on the speed of order placement by the Acquisitions department. Many departments waited until the threat of clawback was upon them before placing orders with the Library, and during May we received more orders than in the eight months prior to that, as the table below shows:

Orders Requested During:	Value	% of year total
Oct 04 – April 05	€256,033	36%
May 05	€320,856	45%
June-Sept 05	€138,566	19%
04/05 Financial Year	€715,455	100%

As staffing numbers in Acquisitions remain the same throughout the year, and in fact are reduced during the summer because of staff holidays, the normal lead time for conversion of an order request into a firm order with a supplier was impossible to achieve during Summer 2005. Long delays ensued from the sheer quantity of orders received and some of the requests received at this time were not placed with suppliers until well into August. A more even pattern of ordering throughout the year is clearly in everyone's interest and the Library will be considering ways to encourage this in 2005/2006.

Monica Crump
Head of Bibliographic Services

30 Years of the Druid Theatre



Garry Hynes, Professor Jim Browne and Marie Reddan at the exhibition opening

July 12 last saw the opening of an exhibition to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Druid Theatre, coinciding also with the premiere that week of *DruidSynge*, a major production of the plays of J.M Synge which attracted large audiences in Galway, Dublin and beyond. The Registrar opened the exhibition, which featured a range of material from the Theatre's archive held by the Library, including programmes, posters, photographs and press cuttings for various productions since 1975. The large attendance at the opening included Druid founders and NUI Galway graduates Garry Hynes, Mick Lally and Marie Mullen.

LIBRARY ORIENTATION: LAPTOP WINNER



Library Orientation Week, 12-16 September, was a huge success; 1484 students attended and Ronan Kavanagh (left), Mechanical Engineering, won the top prize, a Dell laptop, presented by Peter Corrigan, Head of Library Systems.

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