Focal ón Leabharlannaí

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter. Library staff and users are busier than ever and there is a great sense of energy everywhere. There is some modest progress on space pressures. Plans are in hand for a new Nursing Library as an extension to the Main Library, we have a new Library store at Ballybane, and the Working Group on Library Space has just met to progress plans for a bigger and better library for students and staff.

On electronic resources, there is good news for the Humanities and Social Sciences with the agreement of the HEA to fund a new phase of IReL. We are delighted also to note the acquisition of all of the recordings of Scoil Éigse since its inception in the '50s down to the '90s as recorded by An T eanglann. These were presented to the University Library and County Galway VEC in January on 110 CDs, with a searchable database to enhance access to the treasures in the collection.

On a sadder note, Christy Townley, a staff member of the University for 50 years, and Librarian from 1960 until his retirement in 1982, died at the end of December - go dtuga Dia suaimhneas síoraí dó.

Two events to note are “Buy-a-Book Day” on 9 March (www.library.nuigalway.ie/buyabook/) and another lunchtime Con Tempo concert in the Library at 13.00 on 8 March - bí linn!

Gach rath agus sonas oraibh sa mbliain atá amach rómhainn.

Marie Reddan, Librarian

IReL – Humanities and Social Sciences

A major boost to researchers at NUI, Galway is the decision by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) to fund a new phase of e-journal access for the Humanities and Social Sciences for a four year period from 2006-2009. This decision has been warmly welcomed by the IUA Librarians and complements the provision since 2004 of a range of Scientific, Technical and Medical titles – an initiative spearheaded by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), and now co-funded by SFI and HEA.

Pending further discussions, an initial grant of €1 million for 2006 has been made available, but it is expected that the annual grant thereafter will be in around €4.2 million. The total grant in the four-year period is expected to be about €16 million.

Titles selected for phase one 2006 are not currently subscribed to by any of the IUA Libraries and, subject to satisfactory negotiation with publishers, include the following:

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<tr>
<th>Publisher Package/ Title</th>
<th>Full-text titles</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sage Journals Online</td>
<td>360</td>
<td><a href="http://online.sagepub.com/">http://online.sagepub.com/</a></td>
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<td>Taylor and Frances Journals Online</td>
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Further information about succeeding phases will be provided in this newsletter. In the interim, please contact your Information Librarian (http://tinyurl.com/eytcc) for further details.
In response to demand from academics, the Library has developed an online order form, which may be used to place requests with the Library for the purchase of new books or journals. The order form can be accessed at http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/orders

As books and journals are purchased using departmental bookfunds, they must be authorised by the head of department or the department’s library liaison person. To replicate the authorisation given by a written signature, we have created a username and password for each department. These will be provided to the head of each department, who can then circulate them to those members of staff who have authority to spend the department’s bookfund. Some departments may wish to allow all staff ordering rights, while others may decide to restrict this to the head of department and library liaison person - this will be entirely at the discretion of the head of department.

Reminder: Please make sure to spend 75% of your departmental bookfunds before the May clawback to faculty bookfunds!

Online Book Ordering

Using the self issue station is a very straightforward process due to the easy to follow onscreen instructions and the intuitive touch screen functions. For more information contact Ann Mitchell at ext 2738 or ann.mitchell@nuigalway.ie

Self Issue – Help Yourself!

Library users may have noticed a striking new machine in the foyer of the Library between the two stairwells. This is one of two new self-issue stations (the other is in the Desk Reserve area). These stations allow you to borrow, return and renew books by yourself, thereby avoiding queues and delays. They also extend the hours when you can borrow or return books when the Circulation desk is closed – very important with the longer weekend opening hours.

Ann Mitchell, Head of Readers Services notes: “Self service is becoming more common everywhere and libraries are no different. The new stations offer staff and students an alternative means of using our service, essentially complementing the Circulation Desk”.

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Focus on the Science and Engineering Subject Team

There is a view that Science and Engineering students and staff are pretty autonomous when it comes to Library resources. They tend to be IT competent and therefore, the theory goes, they can look pretty much after their own information needs. After all everything they need is on the Internet isn’t it?

Rosie Dunne and Jane Mulligan, our Science and Engineering Librarians, challenge the simplicity of this model. Rosie knows that Science research is a more complex affair: “Carrying out a literature search is more than just knowing Google or Science Direct. There is a process and range of resources with which students and staff need to be familiar.”

Jane agrees strongly: “The new IReL resources are a case in point. We have acquired literally thousands of journals, not to mention sophisticated research tools like Essential Science Indicators. But people need to know they are available and what they can do.”

Not surprisingly, therefore, Jane and Rosie spend much time providing training to students and staff as well as helping students who call into the Information Office on Floor 2. It is work they know has immediate benefit for all concerned.

The team is completed by John Joyce, the Information Assistant for the floor. John’s experience in the Library has made him keenly aware of the needs of undergraduates and the importance of dealing with drop-in queries: “It’s all about a balanced service. We still need to make sure that books and journals are available. Not everything is electronic - and even when it is, print still has benefits. The means of delivery may have changed but I find that the key questions remain the same.”

The Science and Engineering office is located on Floor 2. For more information about subject support and training, please contact Rosie (ext. 3945; rosie.dunne@nuigalway.ie), Jane (ext. 3351; jane.mulligan@nuigalway.ie) and John (ext. 2403; john.joyce@nuigalway.ie).

(1-r) Rosie Dunne, John Joyce and Jane Mulligan
The Library has in recent months received a number of reports of problems with on-campus access to online resources. Normally when the Library subscribes to an online resource, e.g., Irish Times online, staff and students should have seamless access from on-campus locations such as academic or service departments, PC suites and the Library itself. The most common model is to click on a resource from the Database List on the Library website. Apart from a few exceptions, identified when selected from this list prior to connection, there should be no requirement to enter username and password details, since you will be recognised as calling from within the NUI, Galway IP address range. Certainly after selecting an item from the Database List you should not see messages like:

It is very important to report any instances of this nature to enable further investigation and rectification. Problems typically relate to network configuration and can be resolved if reported. Please report any problems to library@nuigalway.ie

Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer

John Costello, Library Systems Technologist, achieved the qualification of Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer in 2005 and was recognised at a ceremony in the Aula Maxima last November. Attaining this qualification is a tall order, involving extensive training, study and six exams, providing a full test of proficiency with Microsoft systems administration. Congratulations to John on his achievement and thanks to the Staff Training and Development Office for their generous support.

On-Campus Access to E-Resources

The Library is currently taking over support for EndNote software from the Computer Services department. EndNote complements the Library’s range of online resources in a number of ways:

- Creation of personal databases of references for research
- Searching of databases through simple EndNote interface
- Transfer of references from online databases
- Generation of formatted bibliographies for publications and theses

The last feature is probably the most attractive, saving a lot of drudgery in the output of cited references to match the style requirements of a range of journals.

Library staff have recently received training in EndNote and will shortly be providing sessions, initially for a backlog of users who have requested training over the past few months. To join the list for future training, please contact John Cox (john.cox@nuigalway.ie). Please contact the User Support Centre in Computer Services (x3325) to obtain a copy of EndNote.

EndNote Support

Christy Townley (1915-2005)

Christy Townley died on 29 December 2005 in his 91st year following a long, healthy and happy life, with the proud record of having served the University well for 50 years.

He was Librarian from 1960 until his retirement in 1982, the first full-time librarian since the retirement of John H. Richardson in 1876 and the first librarian to be accorded professorial status. He also had the almost unique record of serving under five University presidents. Christy saw the student body grow from 400 to 3,600 in this time and had the distinction of serving in the Old Library in the Quadrangle - with its beautiful bookcases, gas lamps and open fires - and influencing the provision of a prize-winning state of the art new library in 1973.

His interests spanned many areas both within and outside of the University. These included numerous University clubs, such as Athletics, Boxing, the Men’s Club and the Dramatic Society, Cumann Céimithe na Gaillimhe (who continue to honour him with a biennial lecture), An Taibhdhearc, An Taisce, and the Galway Historical and Archaeological Society, to name but a few. Because of his connections with An Taibhdhearc, the Library will be forever in his debt in identifying people and performances when we came to listing our Taibhdhearc Archive. He was, as will be known to everyone on campus, an encyclopaedic record of all things UCG, but sadly he could not be persuaded to commit to print.

My personal memories are of a welcoming, kind, knowledgeable and helpful “íar Leabharlannai” when I came as Librarian in late 1991. I valued his wisdom, enjoyed his company, and will miss his cheerful presence at so many of our Library events. He will be sadly missed by many. Ar dhe go raibh a anam dílis.

Marie Reddan, Librarian
Three rooms on the upper floors of the Library are reserved for staff and postgraduate use. Floor 1 has a Postgraduate room, while there is both a Postgraduate Room and a Staff/Postdoctoral/Postgraduate room on Floor 2; the latter also contains 5 PCs, each with word processing and other facilities, including full network access.

In addition, although not restricted to researchers only, the area for consulting microform publications on the Ground Floor has been upgraded. PCs with large flat screen monitors have been provided beside two of the microfilm readers so that people can save notes when reading through the material on the screens.

**Researcher Spaces**

**Irish Dictionary Online**

Do you ever find yourself stuck for a word in Irish without immediate access to one of the Library’s dictionaries? Or perhaps you need to look up an Irish word to get its English translation? If so, help is at hand in the form of *The Pocket Oxford Irish Dictionary* which you can access as part of the Library’s subscription to *Oxford Reference Online*, accessible via the Database List on the library home page. This bilingual dictionary, edited by Breandán Ó Cróinin, was first published in 2000; it contains over 100000 words and phrases. You can enter a term and view a translation as shown in the screenshot below. Simply go to *Oxford Reference Online* in the Database List, select Bilingual Dictionaries and then the English-Irish or English-Irish version.

**New Resources**

**Ecology & Botany Collection (JSTOR)**

A welcome addition to JSTOR, this is a collection of 29 full text journals such as *Ecology, Evolution and American Botany*. Coverage dates back to the 19th century, comprising approximately 1 million pages of journal literature in the biological sciences.

**Essential Science Indicators**

Covering a multidisciplinary selection of 11,000+ journals from around the world, this in-depth analytical tool uses scientific performance statistics and scientific trend data to help researchers rank journals, institutions, scientists and countries.

**Inspec**

Inspec is now available via El Village, providing access to the over 8 million citations in physics, electrical engineering, communications, manufacturing, production and mechanical engineering.

Please note that all of the above are accessible via the Database List at [http://library.nuigalway.ie/](http://library.nuigalway.ie/)

**Opening Hours**

**MAIN LIBRARY** (to 21 May)

- Monday - Friday: 08:30 - 22:00
- Saturday: 08:30 - 17:30
- Sunday: 10:00 - 17:30

**MEDICAL LIBRARY** (to 20 May)

- Monday - Friday: 09:15 - 22:00
- Saturday: 09:00 - 13:00

**NURSING LIBRARY** (to 20 May)

- Monday - Friday: 09:00 - 20:00
- Saturday: 09:00 - 13:00

**All Libraries closed:**

- Friday March 17
- Friday April 14 – Monday April 17 inclusive (Easter Closing)

**Medical and Nursing Libraries closed:**

- Monday May 1

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Tel.: +353 91 492540
Fax: +353 91 522394
E-mail: library@nuigalway.ie
Web: [www.library.nuigalway.ie/](http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/)
Issue Editors: John Cox, Hugo Kelly; Illustrations: John Costello