



NEWS

THE UNIVERSITY
OF ADELAIDE
LIBRARIES

Number 3

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Law online

RECENT re-cabling of the Law School means that academics and other researchers are now able to reach legal databases from their own desks, using personal IDs and passwords.

For the past six years the Law Library provided the only link to the LAWPAC database, which contains the full text of cases and legislation from all Australian states except Queensland, and to SCALE for Commonwealth (or Federal) legislation and High Court and Federal Court decisions.

As well as now having individual access to the Australian legal databases, the Law School's subscription to LEXIS makes possible full text searching of material from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom.

The provision of searchable full-text databases in the offices of the Law School may be the beginning of major changes in the practice of legal research; for the moment, one of the most obvious advantages of the databases is their comprehensive indexing power.

Current indications are that Law Library staff will continue to have a regular role as intermediaries in the research process, but these developments are a step in the direction of extending the Library beyond the walls of the Ligertwood Building. If documents can be delivered efficiently we can expect to see some changes in the Law Library's collection policies; meanwhile, almost everyone is a beginner in the often bumpy process of extracting legal literature online.

Peter Jacobs

Senior Systems Analyst

Current Contents service takes off

WELL, it's been a very brisk first six weeks for the fledgeling national journal contents database service.

So far, 36 departments from all sections of the University have registered to use the service and now have access to the contents pages of 7 000 core academic journals, updated weekly.

Improvements have been made to the processing of stored research profiles and identifying the latest issues. Work is also being done to improve downloading to eliminate extraneous screen information; by the end of 1993 it will be possible to download 'clean' copies of records in a variety of formats including plain text and most bibliographic file management packages.

Some users are not sure how to terminate a search session when they have quit *Current Contents* and are at the opening menu screen. Simple! — hold down the SHIFT key and press '6' three times!!!

If you haven't yet registered as a *Current Contents* user please ask your Subject Librarian or Branch Librarian for details.

Steve Cramond

On the

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Electronic databases on the network

ONE of Australia's largest online information networks is being developed by the Library and should soon be available on the University's local area network.

The funding implications are such that we will have to phase in the network over a period of time. Ultimately, however, by this means we will be able to provide direct access to approximately 80 CD ROM databases which are currently available only in the Library.

A full list of databases to be made available on the network is nearing completion and will be published shortly.

The necessary network hardware is being assembled by the helpful staff of the

Information Technology Division, and it is hoped that testing will have been completed by early December.

The Library will be offering a wide range of seminars to assist those using the electronic databases for the first time, and to enhance the searching skills of seasoned users.

There are some databases that will not be available on the network because they involve prohibitively expensive licence fees, or where copyright restrictions preclude networking, but they will continue to be accessible from the Barr Smith Library's electronic database service, behind the Information desk.

Patrick Condon



Hours of Service Summer Vacation 1993/1994

Barr Smith Library

Saturday 27 November 1993 to Sunday 27 February 1994

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday	9.00am - 6.00pm
Wednesday	9.00am - 8.00pm
Friday	9.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

[Note: Special collections will be closed from 24 December 1993 to 9 January 1994 inclusive]

Law Library

Sunday 28 November 1993 to Sunday 27 February 1994

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	9.00am - 5.00pm
Wednesday	9.00am - 8.00pm
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

Performing Arts Library

Monday 29 November 1993 to Friday 11 February 1994

Monday - Friday	2.00pm - 4.00pm
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[access outside these hours may be arranged by special application to the Performing Arts Librarian]

Roseworthy Campus Library

Monday 29 November 1993 to Friday 25 February 1994

Monday - Friday	9.00am - 5.00pm
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

Waite Campus Library

Saturday 27 November 1993 to Friday 24 December 1993

Monday - Friday	8.30am - 5.00pm
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

Tuesday 4 January 1994 to Friday 11 February 1994

Monday - Friday	8.30am - 6.00pm
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

ALL THE LIBRARIES WILL BE CLOSED FROM 25 DECEMBER TO 3 JANUARY 1994 INCLUSIVE

AND ON AUSTRALIA DAY, WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY 1994

Thammasat University visitors

AWTA Tachatawewan and Kanya Chokewatvikul, cataloguing librarians from Thammasat University, Thailand, spent two weeks in the Technical Services Department of the Barr Smith Library in October. They were shown our online cataloguing procedures which involve both the maintenance and growth of the local library catalogue as well as the interface with and addition to the national database, the Australian Bibliographic Network.

We arranged visits to two branch libraries, as well as a day at Flinders University Library and a session in the State Library of South Australia, before they left us to spend two weeks in the National Library of Australia.

The experience for us has been enjoyable, and made us more aware of how Library technology is developing in Thailand.

Patricia Scott

REMINDER

Will your students have enough books in 1994?



NOW is the time to send copies of 1994 reading lists, especially lists of new items, to your Subject Librarian. We need to check them and place orders before Christmas so that titles arrive in time for the new academic year. In the past we could at least order some textbook titles from the galley proofs of the *University Calendar*, but textbooks are now no longer being listed.

We are, where possible, liaising with Unibooks, who also need to know what books are being recommended for 1994, but Library and bookshop requirements for students are often different. We need to know how many extra copies to buy and which items need to be placed in the Reserve collection.

Please help us to help you and your students!

Margaret Hosking

South Australian University Librarians (SAUL)

Resource sharing

LIBRARIANS of the three universities in South Australia have regular meetings to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern, and to foster cooperation.

A major issue at the moment is resource sharing concerning development of library collections; this concern is stimulated by a reduction in the regional resource base (for example, both Adelaide and Flinders have had to effect substantial journal cancellation programmes in the past year). At the same time there is a considerable amount of new research material being published, both books and new journal titles, and, due to ready access to bibliographic

databases and increasing use of information technology, there is a more informed awareness by Library users of what has been published and is available.

SAUL recognizes that it would be impossible to purchase every title which could potentially be needed for research purposes locally; however, SAUL believes that with careful and coordinated planning and negotiation between our Libraries and the research community, we should be able to maximize the amount of published material held in South Australia, for example, by avoiding unnecessary duplication of that research material which is not essential or 'core' to the teaching and research interests of an academic unit.

At the same time, we are laying the foundations for a regional document delivery service in order to improve access to this material.

We have started a project which will explore the research interests of the three universities and determine where there is scope for collaborative collection development, taking into consideration other research library collections in Adelaide.

We recognize that for the project to be effective, considerable input and deliberation will be required from both librarians and academics.

Ray Choate

If you would like more information about any of the topics mentioned in this issue, please get in touch with the person named in the article, or the University Librarian, Ray Choate, at the Barr Smith Library.

DEET grant for music cataloguing

ONE of the recommendations of the report of the Working Party on Library Provision in Higher Education Institutions (the Ross Report) was concerned with enriching the Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN), the national bibliographic database, with bibliographic records for music scores and sound recordings. The University of Adelaide Libraries made an application on behalf of a consortium of six libraries (the others were the libraries of Sydney University, Monash University, Edith Cowan University, the University of Western Australia and the National Library of Australia) for DEET Mechanism C funds for a music records conversion project, and we were successful in getting \$100 000.

It was decided that priority should be given to creating machine-readable records for music scores. The funds were allocated to members of the consortium who were prepared to match the grant either by employing additional staff or by redeploying existing staff. This allocation was made on the basis of the number of scores in each library to be converted.

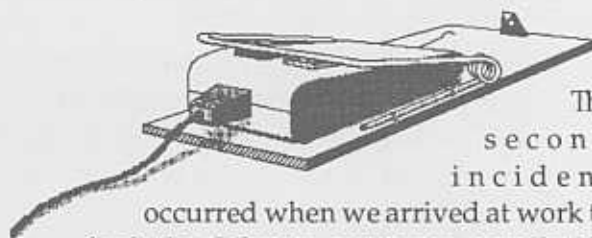
The National Library has made good progress in converting some Australian material to ABN, but the university libraries have made slower progress due to other demands on staff time during the teaching periods in the middle of the year. It is anticipated that progress will improve dramatically during the December/January break.

Gordon Abbott



Roseworthy happenings

DURING last month there were two rather unusual happenings that affected the operation of the Roseworthy Campus Library. One of the PCs ceased to operate for no apparent reason; on further investigation (pulling it apart), four dead and two live mice were found, together with copious evidence of their occupation. We're still waiting to hear the result of our insurance claim, the last of which from our campus was for drowned turkeys!



The second incident

occurred when we arrived at work to find the Library entrance completely blocked to above the doors with bales of hay. This appeared to be a student prank which delayed the opening of the Library until nearly midday, when the hay was removed.

Margaret Emery

STOP PRESS

Departments will be pleased to hear that the Library Committee has decided that orders may now be placed for Library books, with a maximum commitment of 50% of their 1993 allocation.

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