

phoenix

ISSUE THREE ■ MARCH 2008



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Students getting ready for a new year of study. Image by Aperture Architectural Photography (Scott Burrows)



...a FRESH generation of students

The new academic year has brought with it a fresh generation of students to The University of Queensland. As we seek to enrich their time with us, we are adopting a number of approaches to better understand their use of libraries and learning spaces and their interactions with people, places and technology as they undertake their studies. This work will complement, but not replace, the various client perception surveys that we undertake on a regular basis.

Last year, we conducted our biennial InSync survey which revealed continuing high levels of satisfaction with our staff, services and collections. This year, the InSync survey will be complemented by our participation for the first time in the international LibQUAL+ exercise. We have chosen to participate in this new survey so that we can benchmark the perceived quality of our library against those of universities internationally. These surveys are an important part of our quality assurance processes and I am grateful to those who take time to complete our questionnaires. Last year's survey attracted over 4000 valid responses which reflects tremendous interest in and support for our work.

In addition to these surveys, we are determined to create a much richer picture of the ways in which our libraries are used and how we might further develop them in the future. During Orientation Week around 600 students participated in a survey gathering information about their ownership of, and access to, technology, their use of the internet and libraries, their participation in social networking services and support networks for their studies. We are still analysing the data but early indications show widespread ownership of laptop computers and extensive access to the internet off-campus. We need to ensure that we respond to these directions: for example, we are installing laptop lockers where students can connect their computers to the power supply, to re-charge their batteries and leave their computers in a secure environment.

We continue to develop and evolve our website to reflect the 24 x 7 use of our electronic resources and we continue to integrate with other learning technologies such as Blackboard to provide the best possible presentation of course-related support materials.

During the course of this year we will be seeking to work with a group of student volunteers to understand the ways in which they undertake assignments. Building upon work at The University of Rochester, we will be asking students to maintain log books and photographic records of their working environment and their interactions with libraries, other learning spaces and people as they complete essays, projects and group work. Data arising from this study will be used to inform a subsequent assessment of the most optimum layout of library space in the future.

Of course, to properly design our libraries for the future, we need also to understand the information behaviours of students who are currently in the secondary school system. A major review of the information behaviour of today's school students was published in the UK earlier this year and provides valuable insights into the computer skills – and weaknesses! – of those who will be arriving at university over the next five to ten years. The study reinforces the need for us to recognise that students prefer the global searching offered by Google and to ensure that where possible we integrate with their workflow in that space. We need to ensure that the Library's websites gain maximum visibility through exposure to search engines, as well as developing routes into our electronic content which fit contemporary student behaviour. Of course, in seeking to achieve these aspirations, we must ensure that we do not interrupt the high quality service for which we have been praised in our client perception surveys.

I was pleased to be joined by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paul Greenfield, to celebrate the formal launch of UQ eSpace, our open access institutional repository. UQ eSpace already has some 7000 documents and tens of thousands of images and these will be enhanced by the addition of a further 50,000 references of University of Queensland staff research publications in the near future.

I conclude by wishing all readers of *Phoenix* a happy and successful new academic year.

by Keith Webster
University Librarian and Director of Learning Services

orientation EXPECTATIONS

A new academic year begins.

And the Library certainly played its part with tours, talks and training sessions - not to mention free lollipops and coffees for tour groups.

Marketing and Community Outreach Manager Tanya Ziebell said, "The campuses were buzzing with orientation activities and the Library was a key participant. In addition to program events, market days and social events, students could attend Library and IT training sessions as well as Library tours, and these were very popular."

Across the branches, the Library provided:

- Welcome talks for new students
- Orientation sessions for International students
- *Discover the UQ Library* talks
- Library tours
- Poster displays highlighting services and facilities
- Library and IT training sessions.

Amongst other things, UQ Gatton Library provided training for external students, giving useful tips and demonstrating techniques on searching for information from home.

UQ Ipswich Library ran tours for nursing and midwifery and health sciences cohorts and gave welcome talks to students in various programs.

The St Lucia branches ran a series of talks and information sessions and offered many Library tours. Student tour guides did a good job of introducing new students to the Library from their perspective, highlighting things about which many new students are curious.

More than 2000 students took part in tours across the branches during Orientation 2008. Hospital libraries held sessions in January to coincide with the earlier academic year for medical students.

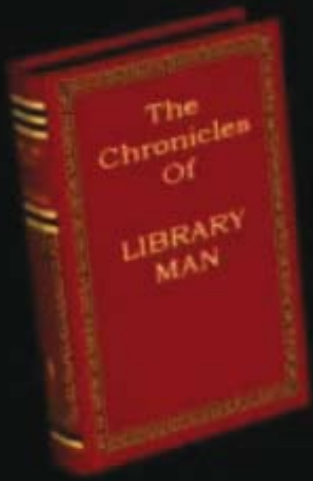
"With thousands of participants, Orientation 2008 was a very busy and very enjoyable week," said Tanya.

Good luck to all who are embarking on a new year at UQ.

"The campuses were buzzing with orientation activities....market days, training, social events... Library tours were popular."



Above top: UQ Gatton's Ask I.T. help desk staff prepare for the new year's demand for computing help and training; below: the Orientation display near the Social Sciences and Humanities Library at UQ St Lucia.



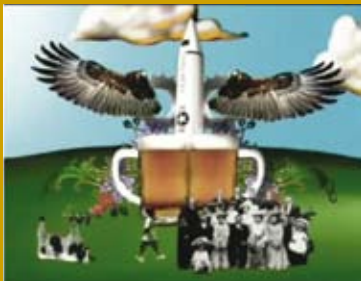
library on VIDEO

The winning videos are hosted on UQ eSpace and can be viewed via: www.library.uq.edu.au/hotnews/index.phtml?id=493.

Ben's video has proven very popular with more than 1100 people viewing or downloading it since it was first made available on 8 February.

Thanks to all entrants for participating in the contest.

If you have not yet seen the videos, check them out and discover some things students wished they had known when they started university: what saved them time and helped them when they were using the Library, and what they think makes UQ Library stand out from the crowd - essentially, why they think it just makes sense to use UQ Library.



During summer semester the Library ran a contest inviting students to create a two-minute video that would help first year students learn about the Library and the services it provides.

Ben Jones won the contest with his video *Chronicles of Library Man* which provides a humorous and informative introduction to the Library, including the online resources and support that are available to students and the 14 branches that make up UQ Library. The video was played in the *Discover the UQ Library* presentation delivered to new students in sessions run every day during Orientation Week 2008.

Ben, who wrote and directed the video, shared his (tongue-in-cheek) appraisal of his *Library Man* experience:

"I'm an avid movie producer and jumped at the chance to work on this project. My aim was to have a laugh and try and educate the masses using my profound, yet humble, multimedia abilities...but mostly have a laugh.

"The librarians at the Mater were very supportive from concept through to filming and may have even got a little more than they bargained for when they came across a semi-dressed library man practising his lines.

"I can't speak highly enough about the UQ library services which I have used exhaustively over the course of my PhD at the Mater campus, with helpful staff making the biggest impact on my experience.

"*Library Man's* alter ego is actually quite a respectable and high standing member of the community, much the same as Batman's Bruce Wayne. I think people stare at him and think 'don't I know you from

somewhere?' but they can't quite put their finger on it.

"*The Chronicles of Library Man* was a project I had wanted to work on for a while and finally when the money was right and I could get the actor I wanted it just all came together. I'm really pleased with the film and hope it inspires others to follow their dreams."

Runners up were students, Phil Helliwell and Scott Veitch, who submitted a team entry.

When asked for a comment about their video, Phil said "our aim was clear, but above all I thought we should make something students would actually want to watch. After a couple of misfires I pitched a Monty Pythonesque idea, complete with comical, jittery animations.

"We've ended up with a result that we're proud of and the reaction has been overwhelmingly positive, which is awesome."

Scott pointed out that "it was a bit of a challenge getting a balance between entertainment and information, especially when it was aimed at first year students who weren't familiar with the features of the UQ libraries."

It appears they found the right balance: useful information about the Library supplemented with creative images of the Duhig Building and smiling librarians (see stills at left) - the result: an entertaining and informative video.

www.library.uq.edu.au/hotnews



library as GALLERY

In 2005, the UQ Ipswich Library hosted the first Year 12 Art Exhibition for Ipswich Girls' Grammar School and Ipswich Grammar School. Since that time our educational institutions have enjoyed a very rewarding association.

The exhibition has an alternating program, with the girls exhibiting every year and a combination exhibition with the boys every second year. It is a unique event in that it is the only occasion on which the art students from both schools exhibit their artworks together.

The UQ Ipswich Library is a perfect venue. It has a stunning, open, airy space with a beautiful indoor garden which offers a perfect backdrop for the artworks.

The large, well-lit display window at the entrance to Building 8 at the UQ Ipswich Campus was used to provide an introduction to the exhibition, with the schools' banners displayed alongside three-dimensional artworks.

UQ students are always interested in the display and are very keen to read the artist statements which give an insight into the ideas and motivations behind the works. Often the students comment on the works as they are being hung for display, and ask questions about the ideas behind what the school students have created. Student artwork is very different to that of adults, and the university students seem to relate to them.

The University of Queensland has been outstanding in the assistance it has given us over the years. In

2005 we were looking for a new venue for our exhibition as the Old Ipswich Court House, where we were to have our exhibition, was under lengthy renovations and was unable to accommodate us. In an extremely short time frame the University came to our rescue and was willing to host our Year 12 combined exhibition. Since then we have continued to exhibit at the UQ Ipswich Library.

Our students are introduced to the University in a unique way and many are amazed at the facility, having been unaware of its existence prior to the exhibition.

Families and friends also visit the exhibition, and some of the visitors who have lived in Ipswich for many years are also surprised at what they find inside the very modern Library at the UQ Ipswich Campus. Our schools are privileged to have access to this facility and for the students to be able to exhibit their work in public is a rewarding experience and one that has become a highlight of their final year of schooling.

We are indebted to Professor Alan Rix, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Ms Tanya Ziebell, UQ Ipswich Library Manager in 2006 and 2007, and the staff of the UQ Ipswich Library for their support and assistance in this venture.

by Paula Lange, Teacher-In-Charge Art
Ipswich Girls' Grammar School

Ipswich Girls' Grammar School and Ipswich Grammar School Year 12 Art Exhibition

- a teacher's perspective



Above: IGGS student Tara Dempster with her award-winning work



Bundaberg Teaching and Learning Centre: adaptive re-use of an older space

A year ago it was a run down old surgical ward converted into makeshift office space (see inset). But in a joint effort by The University of Queensland and Queensland Health, the second floor space on the grounds of the Bundaberg Base Hospital has since been transformed into a vibrant teaching and learning centre headquartering the Rural Clinical School's Bundaberg operations - home to the UQ Library's RCD Branch, Bundaberg, service point (see picture above).

The renovation has created a clean modern aesthetic whilst preserving as much of the original character as possible. Historic touches abound, with high pressed metal ceilings, ornamental rosettes and the ward's original doorways and windows providing real and notional interstitial transitions between areas.

The main room is alive with the day's passing, noticeable through the edge sky-lighting. Dazzling red furnishings maintain the energy to learn into the night.

The learning spaces, both physical and virtual, have been significantly enhanced for now and into the future. In comparison with the old Library, the Centre provides over 85 percent more floor area for teaching and learning activities. A range of versatile human centred learning spaces has been created, both formal and informal. Computer facilities have doubled and wireless access is available to all UQ patrons.

The Centre's shelving capacity has increased eight-fold to keep pace with the growth of the local collection needed to service the School of Medicine's 3rd and 4th year MBBS students and the hospital's medical education commitments. The Centre is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

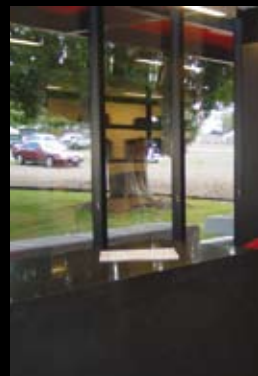
The Centre was officially opened by the Head of the School of Medicine, Professor David Wilkinson, on 26 February 2008.

by William Chun, liaison librarian, RCD Central Queensland.
William visits Bundaberg from Rockhampton every 4-6 weeks.

rural clinical division



Top: Local media and guests at the official opening of the new Bundaberg Library, and inset: how the area looked before the refurbishment



...enhance



REFURBISHMENTS...



Left and below: Different views of the new Toowoomba Library and School of Medicine building



Toowoomba RCD: “it actually looks like a library now”

Clients of the Rural Clinical School Library Service in Toowoomba are taking advantage of the facilities at the School’s new building which opened in mid-January. Having operated from an office in Cossart House (Toowoomba Hospital’s former nurses’ quarters) for more than four years, the service’s collection had out-grown the shelves and study and computing facilities were limited.

The new Library and Resource Centre is located on the ground floor of the modern glass and concrete structure, surrounded by teaching rooms. Expanses of internal glass create an impression of openness and interaction forming a vibrant learning hub. The building’s distinctive ‘holes’ pattern on the façade is featured throughout the interior and smart black shelving complements the decor.

The study room is popular with the students and wireless access is available throughout the building. The outlook to established trees and a green lawn is particularly pleasant. While finishing touches remain to be done, the Rural Clinical School Library Service in Toowoomba has a wonderful new home; and, as a long standing staff member commented, “it actually looks like a library now”.

by Kaye Lasserre, liaison librarian, RCD SW Queensland

St Lucia Upgrades

Law and Fryer Library branches at UQ St Lucia are being updated to streamline workflows and improve efficiency. The Fryer staff area is being refurbished and a new client consultation area is being built.

The Law Library’s entrance is being completely remodelled to incorporate a new information desk, new site for the High Use area, and new autoloan machines - and to accommodate the installation of new RFID technology.

According to Library Facilities Coordinator David Smith, these projects are “part of the ongoing process to improve service to clients.”

ance LIBRARY service

spotlight on the COLLECTION

Whether the 'strange new worlds' are in outer space or outer society, UQ Library has resources to suit...

Correctional Medicine at PAH Library

If you are a prison inmate, everything about your private life becomes public, including your health. As detailed in *Clinical practice in correctional medicine*, your headaches and your haemorrhoids, your in growing toenail and your out growing pregnancy are all part of the daily ritual of 'sick call', a term used to describe how prison inmates in the US request and receive health care attention. Self medication, like privacy, is part of the world outside.

There is a growing body of literature that is focused upon Correctional Medicine and the particular problems of a large body of people who are not free to buy cream for their athlete's foot and must line up for 'sick call' with people who may have been diagnosed with a chronic illness and who must also take their turn with 'sick call'.

This somewhat esoteric branch of medicine forms a small, but growing part of the collection at the Joint Princess Alexandra Hospital/ University of Queensland Library. The Library supports the Hospital's Security Unit which houses the Correctional Centre and watch house patients. This Unit is the only such inmate facility in Queensland.

(Reference: Puisis M. *Clinical practice in correctional medicine*. 2nd edn. Chicago: Mosby, 2006)

The philosophy of Star Trek at UQ Ipswich Library

Gene Roddenberry, creator of the *Star Trek* series, always said that in the guise of fanciful situations controversial topics could be more freely discussed. This certainly proved to be the case with the original TV series able to express views on racism, sexism and even anti-war messages when other genres of entertainment were being pulled sharply into line by a zealous censorship regime. A UQ Ipswich Philosophy lecturer suggested the Library purchase some *Star Trek* episodes for his courses.

The Prime directive..."As the right of each sentient species to live in accordance with its normal cultural evolution is considered sacred, no *Star Fleet* personnel may interfere with the healthy development of alien life and culture. Such interference includes the introduction of superior knowledge, strength, or technology to a world whose society is incapable of handling such advantages wisely. *Star Fleet* personnel may not violate this Prime Directive, even to save their lives and/or their ship unless they are acting to right an earlier violation or an accidental contamination of said culture. This

directive takes precedence over any and all other considerations, and carries with it the highest moral obligation."...has led to many a philosophical conundrum which can be discussed without the constraints of the actual.

The prime directive apart, philosophical ideas of identity are also interestingly dealt with in episodes such as *I Borg*.

Star Trek has been used to good effect in Cultural Studies courses too - as examples of colonial attitudes (*Errand of Mercy*) and addiction to technology (*Hollow Pursuits*). And other Arts Ipswich lecturers have used excerpts from *Star Trek* in their classes.

Strangely, it is not only at the times of these lectures that episodes of *Star Trek* are watched by students. Surely they are not watching them with only entertainment in mind? They're there to learn!

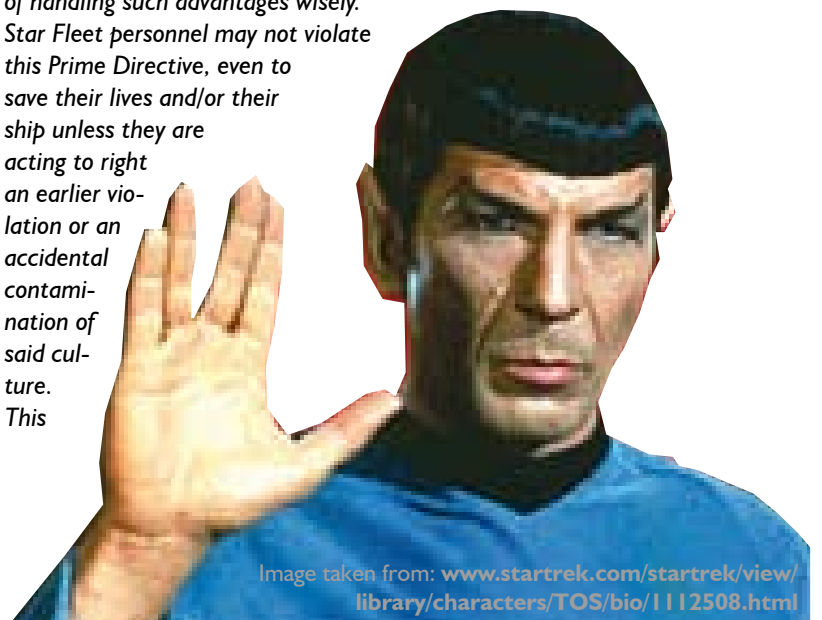


Image taken from: www.startrek.com/startrek/view/library/characters/TOS/bio/112508.html



AUSTralian LITerature in focus

Unobtrusively tucked away on level seven of the UQ Library's Duhig Building is the Queensland office of the Australian literature database AustLit (www.austlit.edu.au). Formed by a partnership of twelve Australian Universities and the National Library of Australia, AustLit employs more than forty researchers in all states with the management team and largest contingent of researchers based here at UQ. It is a perfect location for literary research because of the close proximity to the rich resources of the Fryer and Hayes collections of literary material.

Since 2001 the research team has been working quietly and diligently to create a complete electronic record of Australian literature from 1788 to the present and to publish a selection of these records in a four volume print publication *The Bibliography of Australian Literature*, jointly edited by John Arnold, from Monash University, and the former UQ Vice-Chancellor, John Hay.

It sounds very academic, very dry, perhaps even a little boring. Certainly, there is no doubting AustLit's academic credentials – the bibliographic research is meticulous and painstaking with plenty of dull moments of rigorous checking and double-checking. But in fact some exciting and innovative things are happening in AustLit. AustLit is a unique and dynamic pioneer in the field of e-research and is already developing an impressive reputation as a research repository. In fact, AustLit is soon to be the first humanities project in Australia to enter the Semantic Web through a new project funded under the National eResearch Architecture Taskforce. This project will mean researchers in Australian literature will be able to develop open or closed communities for collaborative research and textual annotation in the field.

Many of the projects operating within the wider database are colourful and engaging and reflect the vitality and vibrancy of Australian culture past and present. And with our new-look interface and logo AustLit is seizing making a new statement in design.

2007 saw the launch of the acclaimed **Black Words: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Writers and Storytellers** project at the International Indigenous Librarians forum at the State Library of Queensland. Black Words provides an important platform for the recording of Indigenous literature and story in all its

forms by Indigenous researchers employed at four of our partner universities. Features of the site include biographies of Indigenous writers and storytellers, records for oral histories, dreaming stories, a time-line of important events in Australia's Indigenous history of the past 238 years, alongside other interesting and intriguing information.

The **Australian Popular Theatre** project, led by UQ Faculty of Arts Executive Dean, Richard Fotheringham with Dr Clay Djubal, provides a fascinating insight into the history of vaudeville, burlesque and musical theatre through detailed biographies and production records with links to songs, photographs, theatre programs and even the annotated playscripts and performance run-sheets. Through the APT project, material from the Fryer library collection is currently being digitised and stored on UQ eSpace and delivered through AustLit.

Another project where AustLit is working with UQ's digital repository is the **Australian Popular Fiction** project. Dr Toni Johnson-Woods, UQ's specialist in pulp fiction of the mid 20th century, is developing an eSpace collection of the cover art from 'Carter Brown's' prolific 'literary' life so that through AustLit, researchers can see a complete history of all of his many hundreds of works alongside the cover art as it appeared in the various editions and translations right up to the present. This dataset will be the digital accompaniment to the biography of Alan Yates, the man behind the pseudonym 'Carter Brown', which will be published soon by the Sydney University Press.

These are just a few of the many AustLit-supported projects currently underway. There are others in the fields of multicultural writers, children's writers, writers from particular regions, magazine history, but the underpinning goal of AustLit is to support individual researchers' work in as many ways as we can – whether that's as an information tool or a fully fledged research project.

Find out more about what is happening in all areas of Australian literary culture and research through the bi-monthly newsletter, the AustLit events directory and just by exploring the database which is brim full of information, facts, full text, and links galore to the world of story, play, poetry, and on and on...

by Carol Hetherington, Senior Researcher, AustLit



“It is a perfect location for literary research because of the close proximity to the rich resources of the Fryer and Hayes collections of literary material.”

in BRIEF



Fryer Friends

Friends of Fryer finished the year with a very entertaining presentation by Professor Peter Spearritt (pictured above) who spoke on *Confessions of a Book Collector Who Threw It All In for Travel Ephemera*.



z-card proves popular

In an effort to make library information more accessible, UQL launched its new z-card to start the 2008 academic year. The credit card sized brochure which folds out in a 'z' shape has proven very popular with staff and students alike, providing instant information on library locations and hours as well as borrowing and collection details.

UQL Snapshot

Statistics recently collated for the Library's work in 2007 show a continuing trend for online access and self service by clients.

Compared with 2006, the number of website requests increased by 115% to 100,159,849 and Ask I.T. inquiries rose by 21% to 46,979.

However, participants attending face-to-face training classes dropped. Desk queries remained much the same, although more questions were asked at lending rather than information desks.

And there was a 5% increase in visitors, particularly after 5pm.



Expanded name for expanded role

In a joint function held in December, Herston Health Sciences Library celebrated its renaming (formerly *Herston Medical Library*) and acknowledged the generosity of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists for their many donations to boost the hospital collections over the years. Thank you very much!

(Pictured above: Guests mingling at the function and below: HHSL staff with their new welcome sign)



Late Nights at the Library

In response to requests from Library users, the Library is running a pilot of extended hours in one of its branches this year. The Biological Sciences Library will remain open until midnight Monday-Friday, as a pilot program during 2008. The pilot will run during semesters 1 and 2 and will be evaluated at the end of the year to determine whether it is to continue. All Library users are welcome to take advantage of this new service.

The Library will operate as usual until 9pm Monday-Thursday and until 5pm on Friday, with Library staff available for assistance and advice. After these times, security will take over the building and remain on site until closing at midnight. Users will have access to all levels of the building and to computers, group rooms, printer/copiers and the autoloan machines to borrow from the BSL collection.

There may be some restrictions on use of material from the High Use Collection and laptops will not be available for loan during the extended hours.

We would like your feedback, so please let us know what you think about this new service through Feedback and suggestions, via the blog *Blog It! at BSL*, or email the Manager, Biological Sciences Library.

THANKS and congratulations

Fryer gifts continue

Fryer Library, UQ Library's manuscript and rare books division, continues to receive interesting and valuable donations on a regular basis, including:

- A major addition to the papers of Frank Moorhouse covering all of the author's output from 2002 to 2006, including the manuscripts of *The Inspector-General of Misconception* (2002) and *Martini: A Memoir* (2005)
- Additional material for the Connie Healy collection, including taped interviews with members of the Unity and New Theatres and photographs of the Queensland railway strike of 1948
- Diaries for 2004-2006 to add to the Meta Truscott collection (Meta Truscott is an historian and life-long resident of Ashgrove who has kept a diary since 1934)
- A memoir by Derek Fielding, former University Librarian, entitled *Scenes from a University Life* to be added to the FDO Fielding collection
- Ephemera related to the recent federal election collected by UQ Library staff and others for the Fryer Vertical File
- An architectural plan by Arthur Bligh, with accompanying information
- Manuscripts of Percy Brier donated through the Music Teachers' Association of Queensland
- Research materials on central Cape York Peninsula languages collected by Bruce Sommer between 1964 and 2003
- Material on Australian and Queensland cultural policy over the past fifteen years, donated by Dr Stuart Glover, Senior Lecturer, School of English, Media Studies and Art History
- Historical material on UQ theatrical companies, donated by Nigel Pearn
- Historical photographs from Ipswich campus and the early days of the establishment of the UQ Research Building at Royal Brisbane Hospital
- Material presented to Prof SA Prentice, UQ's foundation professor of Electrical Engineering, on his retirement in 1974, including a photograph album with rare shots of the High Voltage Laboratory and The University of Queensland's Computer Centre, the first in Queensland
- Material related to Elizabeth Brentnall, one of the early advocates of women's suffrage in Queensland.

Recent Appointments



Majella Pugh, Manager, UQ/Mater Library
Hailing from Melbourne, Majella's extensive background in hospital and business libraries (including a placement in London) will be of benefit in her new role at Mater. She anticipates exciting times ahead with the building of the new Queensland Childrens' Hospital.



Nicky Foxlee, Manager, The Joint PAH/UQ Library
With more than 20 years experience in health science libraries across four countries, Nicky is well placed to take on the challenges of enhancing service provision to PAH medical, nursing and allied health professionals.



Tanya Ziebell, Manager, Marketing and Community Outreach
Tanya's recent MBA and experience in several UQ libraries provide good grounding for her new role promoting the Library and engaging with the community through UQL Cyberschool and UQ Alumni services.

Fryer Library Award

The Fryer Library and the Faculty of Arts of The University of Queensland wish to announce that Dr Katherine Barnes (pictured at right) from the University of New South Wales is the recipient of the Fryer Award for 2008.

Dr Barnes will commence her project on *David Malouf: The Poet's Fiction* with the Fryer Library in the second semester of 2008.

Fryer Library's collection of David Malouf's papers begins with the drafts of his first book of poetry *Bicycle and Other Poems* (1970) and includes the manuscripts of all his major novels. For more information on the Fryer Library award see: www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer



Well Done!

Congratulations to two Library staff who have recently been honoured for their work. As one of the top 2007 MBA students, Marketing and Community Outreach Manager Tanya Ziebell received an academic award for excellence in Organisation and Communication from the UQ Business School, one of only seven students to receive such an honour.

And Lisa Kruesi, Manager, Health Sciences Library Service, was recently awarded the Medical Library Association's (MLA) Cunningham Fellowship, enabling her to undertake a study tour of the US and Canada and attend the annual MLA meeting in Chicago. Excellent effort!



an EVENTful life

upcoming EXHIBITIONS



2008: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LANGUAGES

Level One Exhibition Space, Duhig Building, April 2008
- *Recognising the multitude of language teaching offered at UQ*



NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK

Level One Exhibition Space, Duhig Building, May 2008
- *Exhibition presented by UQ School of Archaeology*

EVENTS on soon



LIBRARY TOURS

Most branch libraries, Semester 2
- *Discover the Library's secrets!*

LIBRARY TRAINING

Learn how to find the information you need or how to make the most of computer software
- *For full details, see: www.library.uq.edu.au/training*



UQL CYBERSCHOOL UPDATE

Library Conference Room, 28 March
- Working with Web 2.0 - Learning with Library 2.0 - *for teacher-librarians*
See: www.library.uq.edu.au/schools



FRIENDS OF FRYER LECTURE

Library Conference Room, 3 April
- Australia doesn't have to rhyme with failure: Carter Brown as cultural export - *a lecture on Australian detective fiction writer Carter Brown by Dr Toni Johnson-Woods; cost: \$15; contact: n.daniels@library.uq.edu.au*



DIVERSITY WEEK

All libraries, 12-16 May
- General displays and activities
With its theme The spirit of diversity the week calls for acknowledgement, recognition and celebration of our differences while searching for and building on our commonalities and what binds us together as human beings.

VALE Harrison Bryan AO

23 September 23 1923 (Brisbane)
- 12 February 2008 (Melbourne)

HARRISON Bryan was one of Australia's outstanding librarians of the twentieth century. Between 1950 and 1985, he was successively the University Librarian at the Universities of Queensland and Sydney and the Director General of the National Library of Australia.

Schooled at Brisbane Grammar, Harrison went on to study history and then spent three years in an army signals unit - mostly in north Queensland. He married Florence Jolly on 21 February 1948 and then trained as a librarian at the now State Library of NSW.

In 1950 he became James Forsyth Librarian at The University of Queensland - overseeing a puny collection, even by contemporary Australian standards. It had had only two professional librarians in 45 years and many of the university's books and periodicals were held in its academic departments. Queensland was crying out for professionals of every kind and university enrolments were booming. Helped by a study tour in Britain and the United States in 1957, Harrison persuaded the university to lift its library holdings from 96,000 in 1949 to 289,761 in 1962. Zestful, outgoing, very productive through long workdays, he took on positions to promote the library's profile, such as secretary of the university's academic staff association.

Two of Harrison's enduring themes were the adequacy of collections, both locally and nationally, and the importance of inter library cooperation. Like many university staff members, he believed he had greater freedom as a public advocate than most state or local government employees. So he and Scott took leading roles in the Library Association of Australia locally and in representing Queensland nationally.

In 1963 Harrison Bryan was invited to become Librarian at the University of Sydney. Predecessor Andrew Osborn had engendered grand plans to create a building and acquisitions policy for books and periodicals on a scale far greater than any other Australian university. By slightly discounting these demands, Harrison Bryan made himself warmly welcome to his new managers.

At the University of Sydney until 1980, he managed Australia's leading university library, acted as consultant on senior library appointments and new library buildings at other Australian universities and, with UQ's Professor Gordon Greenwood, helped the emerging colleges of advanced education develop worthwhile libraries. He was President of the Library Association of Australia 1973/74 and for many years a leading member of the main cooperative body for libraries (AACOBS).

By 1980 the University of Sydney's library had grown to more than 2,600,000 volumes. Students and researchers had learnt to expect much more from libraries, and libraries were increasingly using computers to enhance their services. Harrison had been contemplating early retirement but when the position of Director General of the National Library of Australia (NLA) became vacant the library profession and the Council of the National Library of Australia virtually drafted him into the position. Some at least of his years at Sydney had seen university libraries comparatively well financed: in 1980 Canberra's watchword was frugality. Harrison had to cope with national and state politicians and bureaucrats keenly guarding territory and money as he strove for more effective inter library cooperation. In spite of these obstacles he ensured that NLA became much more decisively the centre that enabled libraries to share their cataloguing work and to locate individual items across Australia.

In 1985 Harrison Bryan retired. A book of essays in his honour *An Enthusiasm for Libraries* was published in 1988. He was awarded Hon LLDs by Monash and Queensland universities and an Hon DLitt by Sydney. In 1994 he published an autobiography, *No Gray Profession*. *Who's Who in Australia* regularly notes as a hobby 'gardening', but he also enjoyed hand printing, some landscape painting, reading and, most importantly, the grandchildren.

Less robust in health in his last years, Harrison Bryan died on 12 February 2008, not quite reaching the diamond wedding day of 21 February. Vale, Harrison Bryan.

by Dr Spencer Routh, library historian