No, it's not a radical new plan to turn the Reid Library building into a multi-storey car park but a blueprint to guide the Library's development over the next three years!

Twenty three objectives will give direction and shape to the Library's development over the next three years. These have been drawn together under five strategic themes:

• Responding to our users
• Integrating information
• Communicating knowledge
• Fostering collaboration
• Transforming the organization

The introduction to the Strategic Plan notes: 'the plan affirms the importance of the Library as a place where people gather and learn, taking advantage of the space and facilities for both individual and collaborative learning that the Library provides. At the same time it acknowledges that the Library must increasingly reach beyond its buildings, locating its services alongside each of its users, enriching all the University's research and teaching at the point of need.'

The Library must re-place itself or else it will be replaced.

Re-placing the Library: Strategic Plan 2005-2007 can be found at:

State’s cultural heritage at your fingertips

The Western Australian Cultural Heritage Portal is a new web service that offers access to the cultural resources of WA’s major libraries, archives and museums. This is the first State-based portal of its kind in Australia and will serve as a model for other states to follow.

The Portal allows local students, researchers, international scholars and members of the community to perform a Google-type search of the holdings of several major cultural heritage institutions.

"In the past, the basic problem for researchers was the fact that the Western Australian cultural material they were researching - related, say, to the gold rush of the 1890s - was scattered through different libraries, archives, museums and galleries, and it was not always easy to find out exactly what material each institution held," Dr Toby Burrows, Principal Librarian at UWA’s Scholars’ Centre said at the recent launch at The University of Western Australia.

Funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC), the Western Australian Cultural Heritage Portal enables people to search the catalogues and databases of the National Archives, the UWA Library, the State Library of WA, the John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library, and the Berndt Museum of Anthropology.

There are plans to add the State Records Office, the New Norcia Library and UWA’s Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery to the Portal in the near future. At present the service is limited to WA institutions but could include WA-related material held elsewhere, including the United Kingdom.

"The goal is that the Portal will include all the public institutions that hold publicly-funded material, because the community ought to be able to find out easily what is in all these collections," Dr Burrows said.

The Portal has been developed by UWA, Curtin University of Technology and the WA Department of Culture and the Arts. It was launched by Professor Margaret Seares, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of UWA.

The Western Australian Cultural Heritage Portal can be found at:
http://chp.library.uwa.edu.au
IRIS blooms - a first for the University!

IRIS, a new ‘Introductory Research and Information Skills’ unit, is the culmination of 18 months of collaborative planning and preparation by the HSS Library and staff from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. The University’s Academic Council approved IRIS at a recent meeting. This is a significant development for the Library as it’s the first time the University has approved a unit designed to teach only information literacy skills.

IRIS is an online information literacy unit within the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. All new FAHSS students will be automatically enrolled in IRIS in their first semester at UWA. IRIS includes a quiz which students must complete during the semester, to be credited with a pass. IRIS will be delivered entirely via WebCT starting in semester 1, 2006.

Notable Acquisitions

A group of rare books once held in the British Garrison Library in Malta were donated by Maltese born historian, Roger Vella Bonavita. They included:

- **The History of the Reformation of the Church of England** (1679) three volumes by Gilbert Burnet
- **A Complete History of England** (1719) three volumes
- **Illustrations of British History, Biography and Manners** (1791) three volumes by Edmund Lodge
- **The History of Persia** (1815) two volumes by John Malcolm
- **The History of France** (1795) three volumes Nathaniel William Wraxall

For an interesting biography of Roger Vella Bonavita, please see:

http://www.maltamigration.com/settlement/personalities/vellabonavitaroger.shtml

Another notable acquisition for the Rare Book Collection is a facsimile of the **Panorama of Istanbul** drawn in 1559 by Melchior Lorichs. This purchase was partly funded by the Faculty of Architecture and Visual Arts.

Library’s guide is guide for other libraries

InfoPathways, the Library’s online self-paced information literacy tutorials, was recently included in a new book **Web-Based Instruction: A Guide for Libraries**.

Permission was sought from the Library to include a screen capture from InfoPathways as an example of the use of popup windows. The book is being published by ALA Editions (American Library Association, Chicago), a non-profit educational association. The targeted audience for this book is practicing librarians.

Donation from China

The Library recently received a wonderful collection of books on Chinese history. The collection was presented to the University to mark the visit to Western Australia of His Excellency Mr Wu Bangguo, Chairman of the 10th National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China. His visit coincided with the launch of the Confucius Centre at UWA by His Excellency Mr Raidi, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China.
Funding for expensive items

Now is the time to make your recommendations for purchases from the Expensive Items Fund. Each year the Library reserves a small part of its budget for the purchase of resources which cannot be easily funded from its faculty allocations. Such items may be large sets of books, reference works or research collections, with a cost of more than $1,000. These special funds cannot normally be used for new journal subscriptions.

Titles ordered in 2004 from the Expensive Items Fund include:

- *Encyclopedia of nanoscience and nanotechnology*
  
  This 10 volume work provides an ideal introduction and overview of the most recent advances in nanotechnology, spanning science, engineering and medicine. Also includes online access. BIOL R 620.5 2004 ENC

- *New Catholic encyclopedia (Online)*
  
  Updated and revised version of the Catholic Encyclopedia which was first published in 1914. New content includes papal pronouncements on controversial topics such as abortion, gender and reproduction. Available via the UWA Library catalogue.

- *Rook's textbook of dermatology*
  
  This four volume set covers all aspects of skin disease. The 7th edition contains three new chapters on immunodeficiency, AIDS and skin aging. MEDICAL Q616.5 2004 ROO

- *Nature Encyclopedia of the Human Genome*
  
  This five volume work contains articles dealing with both current aspects and the historical development of human genomic analysis. It is a comprehensive reference work devoted to the scientific basis of genetics and genomics research and the complex commercial, philosophical, and ethical questions that arise from it.

  It is due for publication in late 2005.

  Recommendations accompanied by a brief statement explaining how the title can support the research priorities of the University should be sent to Faith Rayney, Co-ordinator Budget and Planning, Information Resources Access Management, by 31 August 2005. Faith may be contacted at:

  frayney@library.uwa.edu.au

Network for Early European Research

The Network for Early European Research (NEER) is a new Australian initiative to broaden and deepen research in the field of medieval and early modern European studies.

Dr Toby Burrows, Principal Librarian of the Scholars’ Centre, has recently taken up a part-time secondment to NEER as director of its digital services programme. Among the digital services he will be managing for NEER are Web sites, databases and digital repositories of research data and publications. Toby will be working in both the Library and the Faculty of Arts, and will continue to have responsibility for development and management of the collections in the Scholars’ Centre.

NEER is based at The University of Western Australia, where its executive and secretariat are located, but its academic activities (conferences, seminars and workshops) take place all over Australia. The Network’s structure is a mixture of individual researchers and institutional members. Its individual participants include researchers in at least thirteen of Australia’s universities, ranging from eminent academics through to postgraduate students and early career researchers. More than 200 individuals are currently listed as Network participants. Their research covers all aspects of the culture and history of Europe in the Middle Ages and the Early Modern period, extending up to the initial European connections with Australia in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

NEER is one of 24 research networks funded by the Australian Research Council for the period 2004 to 2009. The aim of the ARC’s Research Networks programme is to build large-scale groups of researchers and encourage them to collaborate across institutional and disciplinary boundaries.

One of the key areas in which the ARC envisages that the networks will be active is the development of shared information technologies and knowledge management tools, new databases, and new technologies for communication and interaction. These activities are seen as part of the crucial infrastructure which is needed to underpin collaborative research in a national setting. NEER is addressing these requirements through its Digital Early European Resources (DEER) programme, which integrates various digital strategies and initiatives.

More major manuscripts

**Robert Drew**

A recent addition to the Robert Drew manuscript collection is a new consignment of manuscripts and correspondence documenting his prolific work over the last five years. It covers both *The Shark Net* and the film version of *Our Sunshine*, as well as his prize-winning novel *The Drowner*.

Robert Drew is one of Australia’s most successful and well-known contemporary writers. In recent years his re-creation of the life of Ned Kelly, *Our Sunshine*, has been turned into an international film starring WA’s own Heath Ledger, and his gripping memoir of Perth in the early 1960s, *The Shark Net*, has been made into an ABC television series.

The Library has an extensive collection of Drew’s manuscripts, stretching back to his first collection of short stories, *The Body Surfers*. The Robert Drew manuscript collection is held in the Scholars’ Centre.

**Peter Cowan**

The Library has acquired Peter Cowan’s valuable and wide-ranging Australiana book collection as well as an extensive collection of his manuscripts. These include various drafts and versions of his published novels and short stories, meticulously organised, arranged and preserved. They cover the full range of his long writing career and provide an excellent illustration of the process of creative writing at work.

Peter Cowan was the grandson of Australia’s first female parliamentarian, Edith Dircksey Cowan. After graduating from UWA, he began writing the short stories, novels and biographies that established him as an Australian writer of note. His novel *The Color of the Sky* won a Premier’s Book Award, and in 1992 he won the Patrick White Award. A senior tutor at UWA for many years, Peter Cowan was also co-editor of the literary journal *Westerly*. He was named one of Western Australia’s Living Treasures in 1999.
Jane Long – Science Librarian

Jane Long has recently been appointed as the Science Librarian, managing the Biological Sciences Library and the Mathematics and Physical Sciences Library.

Jane has been the Biological Sciences Librarian since May 2002. Coming from a varied background with qualifications in science, health and librarianship, Jane has previously worked at James Cook University Library in Queensland and Curtin University Library & Information Service.

Jane has also completed a Masters in Information Management where she investigated the congruence between organisational and personal values.

Jane said she is very much looking forward to her new role, especially planning for the new Science Library.

Please feel free to contact her at: jlong@library.uwa.edu.au or on extension 2836

New Associate Science Librarian(s)

Jodi Headlam and Catherine Clark have been appointed as the new Associate Science Librarian. Job sharing the position and based in MPSL, they will assist Jane with the day-to-day management and will direct the reference team.

Catherine has worked at UWA for 13 years, with most of this time being spent in the Law Library and the Medical and Dental Library. However, other stints in the Scholars’ Centre, the Fine Arts and Architecture Collection and the Biological Sciences Library have given her an overview of many of the University’s teaching and research areas. Prior to arriving at UWA, Catherine worked as Youth Services’ Librarian at the City of Cockburn and then spent 12 months working in London. This included a contract at The City of London School for Girls where students were delivered by chauffeur driven Rolls Royces!

Having just completed her Master of Information Management at Curtin University, Catherine is looking forward to spending her spare time at her “other job” - being a parent to Ruby and William (aged 10 and 7).

As Associate Science Librarian, Catherine and Jodi will work from the Maths and Physical Sciences Library until the amalgamation of the science libraries in 2007. As a job share arrangement, Catherine will be working the first half of the week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday morning) and Jodi will be working the second half of the week (Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday).

They may be contacted on 6488 2327 or by email: cclark@library.uwa.edu.au jheadlam@library.uwa.edu.au

Jodi has worked at the UWA Library for three years in the Mathematics and Physical Sciences Library. She has a strong knowledge of activities and research in this area. Prior to starting at UWA Jodi has worked in a variety of libraries. She worked at the Defence Library on HMAS Stirling (Garden Island), which made getting to and from work interesting during storms and high winds, when often the bridge linking HMAS Stirling and the mainland was closed.

Jodi worked in London for 2 years at the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants Library, also Edith Cowan University Library and spent a year in Japan teaching English.

She is looking forward to dividing her week between spending time with her son, Rory, who is nearly one year old and working in this new position.

Friends of the Library: forthcoming events

13 July: Des Gurry talking on The childhood of Kaiser Wilhelm II: from a paediatrician’s perspective
10 Aug: David Tunley talking on Early 19th century French glimpses of the exotic in music
14 Sept: Fiona Crowe talking on Forensic archaeology
12 Oct: Monica Anderson talking on 19th century women travellers
7 Dec: Christmas party