Anne Webster is our new Business/Law Librarian

Anne Webster is our new Business and Law Librarian. Anne is familiar with the University Library, as she worked here as a Law Reference Librarian twelve years ago. She has been working in the legal industry, most extensively with national law firm Minter Ellison.

In her role as Business and Law Librarian, Anne is responsible for the management of both subject libraries, including collection development, reference and lending services, inter-library loan and document delivery services, and information skills training. Anne is keen to develop further the innovative use of technology in providing state-of-the-art reference and information services to the students and staff of both Business and Law.

PASH – Preserving Australia’s Sound Heritage

Dr Toby Burrows is on a part-time secondment from the Library to draw up a project plan for cataloguing and digitising the Peter Burgis Performing Arts Archive. Cataloguing and digitising the Burgis Archive is the major component in Preserving Australia’s Sound Heritage (PASH), a national project which also covers the Australian Archive of Jewish Music held at Monash University. The project director is Dr Victoria Rogers, manager of the Callaway Centre in the UWA School of Music.

The Burgis Archive, the most significant private collection of music and music-related resources in Australia, has recently been acquired by the University. The archive covers the work of Australian musicians and composers in all musical fields over the last hundred years. It encompasses Western art music, blues, jazz, country and western, folk, pop and rock, ethnic, indigenous, music theatre, radio shows and advertisements, recordings of historic events and oral history. In all, it contains almost 200,000 individual items: 112,000 sound carriers and 72,000 print documents. The sound recordings include rare cylinder recordings (3,000), Edison discs (2,200) and 78s (64,000). The print library includes posters, photographs, concert programmes, sheet music and biographical files. The value of the Burgis Archive for research into the history of musical composition and performance and the history of entertainment is immense.

Toby is working closely with the National Library of Australia, which is about to launch a new service known as MusicAustralia. This is a federated Web service which will provide access to comprehensive information about music and music-related resources in Australian collections. It will also establish a national framework for access to digital and digitised music scores and sound recordings. The Burgis Archive will form a key part of this national digital library of Australian music.

Introducing Kerrie Purse

Kerrie Purse is the new Personal Assistant to the University Librarian John Arfield, whilst Liz Tait and Pia Savage are on leave. Kerrie has had a varied career ranging from private enterprise, managing a small business with an annual turnover of around $1 million, to working in the public sector with the Department of Commerce and Trade and Water Corporation.

Kerrie enjoys gardening, playing bridge and taking her two gorgeous corgies for long walks in the Dunsborough bush.

Kerrie can be found in the Executive Suite on the first floor of the Reid Building, and may be contacted on: kpurse@library.uwa.edu.au or 6488 2356
LexisNexis AU

LexisNexis AU is the new and improved interface for Butterworths Online, an important law resource which is widely used by the legal fraternity.

LexisNexis AU provides access to a vast amount of Australian legal information, including Unreported judgments for the High Court, Federal Court and state and territory supreme courts. It contains the popular CaseBase database as well as an enhanced Australian encyclopaedic legal dictionary. The standard work on procedure for Western Australia – Civil procedure Western Australia, and the legal encyclopedia – Halsbury’s laws of Australia, are also included.

Access is via CygNET Online through the Information toolbox:

English poetry database

The English poetry database is now available through the Library’s Electronic Text Service. English poetry is the largest searchable electronic collection of English literary texts. It contains poems in English from Anglo-Saxon times to the end of the nineteenth century, by writers from the British Isles.

The database covers the works of 1,257 named poets and many items by different anonymous hands. In the pre-1500 period alone there are more than 2,000 separate romances, lyrics, and miscellaneous poems. The Tudor and Jacobean period are represented by over 35,000 different poems and from the nineteenth century there are 80,000 poems. In all, the database contains more than 165,000 poems, drawn from about 4,500 separate printed sources. Each of the original printed sources also has an entry in the Library catalogue, with a link to the database.

The English poetry database is available at:
http://etext.library.uwa.edu.au/dynaweb/engpoetrydb/

The Electronic Text Service is at:
http://etext.library.uwa.edu.au

For further information contact Dr Toby Burrows, Scholars’ Centre tburrows@library.uwa.edu.au

Albany and Geraldton Undergraduate Students Coordinator

The Library has appointed Jenny Golding to the position of Albany and Geraldton Undergraduate Students Coordinator from the beginning of Semester 2, 2004.

As Regional Coordinator Jenny’s responsibilities will include:

• coordinating Library services to undergraduate students at the UWA Albany and Geraldton centres,
• providing a central point of contact for students and staff at both centres,
• providing centralised administrative support within the Library,
• liaising with academic staff about Library services available for units offered in Albany and Geraldton.

In creating this position, the Library recognises the growth in the regional centres and the need to strive to continue to deliver the highest possible standard of Library services to our regional undergraduate students. For help and advice contact Jenny at: jgolding@library.uwa.edu.au

More time to listen

Now there is another reason to make the most of the Library’s sound recording collection which contains over 2000 compact discs and 10,000 vinyl discs.

The Library recently extended the loan period for sound recordings. Academics, staff and postgraduate students may borrow these items for a semester, while undergraduate students have six week loans. Previously sound recordings were only available for seven day loan. Readers who receive their library notices via email will be reminded when items are due to be returned or renewed. Items which are in heavy demand are still in the Reserve Collection and are available for 2 hour or overnight loans.
The Friends of the Library have recently purchased two rare 17th century maps, depicting early European charting of Australia.

Polus Antarcticus (currently on display outside the Scholars’ Centre) is a Dutch map produced by Jan Jansson in 1650. It shows the west and south coasts of Australia, and includes The Land of the Eendracht (Dirk Hartog’s discoveries), The Land of the Leeuwin, and The Land of Peter Nuyts. Antarctica still appears as Terra Australis Incognita. Polus Antarcticus is a significant map of Australia as it shows Dutch discoveries prior to Tasman.

Mare Del Sud is an Italian map by Vincenzo Coronelli, produced in 1696. Coronelli was a Franciscan and probably the best cartographer of his time. The map shows the Pacific Ocean, and includes New Zealand, Southern Tasmania and part of mainland Australia (Tasman’s discoveries). Mercator’s outline of Terra Australis is still shown in the eastern Pacific.

Library staff held a morning tea for Red Nose Day to raise money for SIDS research. There was a great turn out and we raised $444, and had a very enjoyable time doing so.

The Scholars’ Centre supplied several items from the Rare Collection to an exhibition held in David Jones City store 5 - 18 July. The exhibition, Treasures at Your Library, was part of a state wide library marketing campaign and commemorated the 175th anniversary of the founding of Western Australia.
Ritva’s Finn-ale: The Library farewells Ritva Matero

Ritva Matero, Mathematics & Physical Sciences Librarian, left the Library in April to take up the position of Collection Management Team Leader at the University of Waikato Library, New Zealand. Ritva takes with her our thanks and very best wishes for the future.

Ritva said that “moving to another work location (geographically or otherwise) should be seen as part of good career planning.” Following her own advice, she moved from Finland and began work in the Library in November 1979. Initially Ritva worked in the technical services area (Serials, Acquisition and Cataloguing) and later in Reader Services as a Reference Librarian. In 1986 she went home for a year to “improve [her] Finnish, which had become a bit rusty” and worked as a librarian with a state-run energy company. On her return, she started as the Reference Librarian in FIZ (now known as the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Library). She was appointed as the MPS Librarian in April 1995. Never one to avoid change, Ritva noted that “change is inevitable and should be viewed as a source of enrichment rather than a threat.”

Ritva greatly enjoyed providing reference assistance, training readers to use electronic tools and developing the collections in collaboration with the academic staff.

Ritva was very active in a range of Library-wide areas, specifically electronic resourcing including license negotiations, document delivery, lending, strategic planning, and as the Datasets coordinator. “Participation in the library wide teams and projects has also been very enriching by providing variety, new challenges and opportunities to learn new ways of doing things,” Ritva said. Her expertise will be missed.

Ritva said of her time with us: “I was able to meet and work with intelligent, educated and interesting colleagues and readers, and make lifelong friends who have sustained me over the years.”

Disability standards for education

Jenny Wildy, Music Librarian and the Library’s Disability Liaison Librarian, recently attended the National Conference of the Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities.

The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission’s Disability standards for education were outlined at the conference and were formally released in June. The Attorney-General will shortly introduce legislation to amend the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) to ensure that the standards are fully supported. The standards clarify what students can reasonably expect from their education providers, so that they can make the most of their educational opportunities.

The Library offers a range of services to assist students and staff with disabilities and cooperates with the University’s Disability Officers to provide course material in alternative formats for our students with print disabilities.

For information on these services available please see the Inclusivity services link on CygNET:
http://www.library.uwa.edu.au/services/inclusivity/disabled.html

Recently the Law Library featured in the ABC show, George Negus Tonight. The story focused on Pru Hawkins, a first year Law student, and followed her daily life on campus. Pru utilises some of the facilities provided in the Law Library for disabled students including a special height desk, raised power points, access to the staff lift, and improved signage.

Student Web News

Dr Toby Burrows of the Scholars’ Centre was interviewed for Student Web News as part of a programme on the Library’s on-line Anthology of Western Australian Writing. With more than 300 extracts from the works of nearly 200 authors, the Anthology uses the web to bring Western Australian writing to a global audience.

The five-minute video segment can be viewed on the web via Student Web News at:

The Anthology of Western Australian Writing can be accessed at:
http://wawriting.library.uwa.edu.au

Orchestral movement

The W.A. Symphony Orchestra has donated over 60 orchestral sets to be shared between the UWA Music Library and the Library and Information Service of W.A. The Library now has over 1000 sets of orchestral parts in its collection, which are used by not only the University’s performing groups but also orchestras throughout Australia.