Are the residents of Claremont older than their neighbours in Nedlands? And are they more likely to cycle to work than the inhabitants of Subiaco? The answers to these questions can be discovered through AusStats, a new web based service from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

AusStats is now available at no charge to University departments under a licence agreement negotiated between the AVCC and ABS. Access is through the ABS web site (www.abs.gov.au) and is restricted to computers connected to a UWA server. All information is downloadable and manipulable.

AusStats provides access to:

- All ABS publications from 1998 onwards;
- Over 2,000 spreadsheets, including time series data;
- Census Basic Community Profiles to the Statistical Local Area (SLA) level;

The website is updated daily with new material available at 11.30am (EST) on the day of release. Australian Social Trends 2000, released on the 4th July, was available online immediately.

Dr Catherine Lees of the Organisational and Labour Studies Department:

*I noticed a TV news item on figures, released that day by the ABS, highlighting unemployment and retrenchment of older workers. As we were doing some research on employment of older workers this seemed worth following up, but I could not find the reported details anywhere. The Business Library alerted me to the AusStats service and we found the report in Australian Social Trends. The figures provide useful insights into the demographic distribution of long-term unemployment. This is helpful to our research, suggesting that the focus should be on the recruitment and selection phases of the employment of older workers."

The AusStats agreement permits universities to freely copy, distribute and print ABS content sourced from AusStats in support of their academic and teaching programs, including support of distance learning programs and off campus access. The information provided is not available for those pursuing any income-generating or commercial venture.

And the answers to those questions: The median age of people living in Claremont is 38; Nedlands is 39. 43 people ride to work from Claremont (1.5%); 215 people ride from Subiaco (3.7%).

**AusStats demonstration**

An ABS representative will demonstrate AusStats. The session will cover:

- Background of AusStats
- Copyright issues
- How to access AusStats
- Publication availability
- Spreadsheets
- Datasets
- Introduction to Supertable
- Search Facility
- Help
- Future of AusStats

Monday 21 August 2-3pm, Library Training Room, Reid Library building.

RSVP to the Business Library 9380 1589 or buslib@library.uwa.edu.au
... new on CygNET online ....

Why can’t I access databases from home?
If you wonder how to solve this problem, here are the answers - it’s all about ‘IP masking’.

CygNet - How to use the Library - How to connect to electronic resources

National Database of Electronic Finding Aids for Australian Literary Manuscript Collections
Six Australian libraries, led by UWA, are collaborating to build this database. The Encoded Archival Description (EAD) format will form the basis of this service.

CygNet - About the Library - Library programmes and operations

Australasian Medical Index
New! Produced by the National Library of Australia, AMI indexes and abstracts articles from over 100 Australian health and medical serials not found on Medline.

CygNet - Fastlane - ERL

SciFinder Scholar - Chemical Abstracts

CygNet - Web Resources by Subject - Science - Indexing Databases

Recent acquisition in the Map Library
Regional Forest Agreement – Vegetation Complexes coloured 1:250.000
Six maps: Perth, Pinjarra, Collie, Busselton/Augusta, Pemberton and Mount Barker
This series depicts the projected pre-1750 distribution complexes, using current distribution on cleared land, and extrapolated interpretation of cleared land using pockets of remnant vegetation and information from soil and landform systems.

New CygNET terminals
The Library replaced all the public access CygNET terminals in time for second semester, ensuring speedy access to all web resources. The marked improvement in performance has drawn many compliments from students, many of whom were experiencing frustration with the inefficiency of the old computers.

AGSTATS: Small area agricultural commodity data
AgStats has been an excellent acquisition for the Biological Sciences Library. This CD-ROM profiles small area agricultural commodity statistics for Western Australia. Local areas can be cross-referenced with more than 800 data items covering area and production of crops; pastures; livestock numbers; irrigated areas; use of fertilisers and issues relating to land management practices.

Available at BIOL Audio Visual 630.994 1998 AGS

MPSL Automatic Doors
Automatic doors were installed at the Mathematics and Physical Sciences Library. The new doors allow for unassisted disabled access to the ground floor of the library.

After-hours return chutes were added to the MPS and Undergraduate Physical Sciences Libraries.

Diseases charted
The Medical Library has acquired the complete meeting papers of the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), dating back to its inception in 1937. The Library already holds the minutes of Council meetings, but these volumes include reports and minutes from all the subcommittees of the NHMRC. They chart the course of diseases such as leprosy, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis and measles in the Australian community, as well as the development of quarantine services at airports, legislation on radioactive substances and dietary standards. The documents will be valuable for researching the history of public health or medical research in Australia.

Available at MED P610.6 P8a.
Remote students - just call us!

In response to the changing methods of course delivery at UWA, the Library has revised its delivery of services to remote students. UWA students living outside the Perth metropolitan area need to access appropriate Library resources and services to complete their studies or research. The Library staff have been working with academic staff to coordinate services for students studying at the Albany Centre, other regional areas in Australia and overseas.

Students studying off campus now have a flexible service and a single point of contact with the Library: the toll free telephone number that students in Western Australia can use to contact the Coordinator is 1 800 263921.

Those students living interstate or overseas can use the Ask a Reference Librarian form on CygNET Online (http://www.library.uwa.edu.au/requests/asklib.html).

Fortunately ...

Albert Facey’s A Fortunate Life: the Library’s original manuscripts of this work, together with works by local artist, Robert Juniper, are exhibited at The Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery until 17 August. Bill Dunstone read from Facey’s text to open the exhibition. Also present was the Shadow Minister for the Arts, Hon Tom Stephens MLC.

This picture, taken by Don McSkimming, shows Bill Dunstone and the Minister in front of Juniper’s painting A fortunate life which was used as the cover for the Fremantle Arts Centre Press edition of Facey’s book.

Jane Hughes Retires – Shopping Heaven

After working at the Library for over 15 years and in the University for nearly 26 years, Jane Hughes has retired. Jane started out in the Library working part-time as the Clerk in the Administration section and in July 1990 became the full-time Administrative Officer.

Jane was a Jack-of-all-trades and master of many, including staff security and evacuation procedures, down to the finer points of toilet plumbing and duck biology.

Her extensive knowledge of Library and University working life always enabled her to ‘get the job done’.

Well known for her friendly, outgoing and chatty personality, Jane will also be missed for her humour and never ending supply of ‘tall, dark and handsome’ stories. Much knowledge has been lost to the University on her retirement.

On 28 June, Jane and husband John set off for three months holiday in Europe. Jane plans to shop and send John out to work to keep her in the manner to which she has become accustomed.

The Library wishes Jane all the best.
A new news source

Finding current worldwide news information is always a challenging prospect. Now that the Library has a subscription to Dow Jones Interactive - one of the premier electronic sources of news information available - this task has been made much easier.

There are two main components to the new service:

The Publications Library provides access to over 80 million full text articles from more than 6,000 global sources. It has strong Australian content and includes the full text of:

- Australian Financial Review
- Sydney Morning Herald
- West Australian
- Australian Stock Exchange company announcements
- Sydney Morning Herald
- West Australian
- Australian Stock Exchange company announcements
- Internationally, the Publications Library includes popular titles such as the Wall Street Journal, The Straits Times, New York Times and The Washington Post.

The Business Newsstand allows you to browse the last 90 days of major newspapers. Also available for electronic browsing are the latest issues of some weekly magazines such as Business Week, Fortune and the Far Eastern Economic Review.

Access is available on any computer connecting through a UWA server. You do not require a password. We have licences for three simultaneous users, so if you are unable to connect, please try again a little later.

To access this resource through the UWA Library Catalogue do a title search on Dow Jones Interactive.

Building Bridges in learning…. 

Partnership between the Library and the Faculty of Engineering

Information Literacy classes were held at the start of second semester for first year engineering students undertaking the unit Introduction to Professional Engineering. The library component of this new course was developed to give students the necessary information skills to assist them in their future studies and their professional careers.

Prior to the commencement of the unit, reference librarians William Hamilton and Simon Lewis conducted five information literacy sessions for the tutors from all the engineering departments. The sessions outlined the content and format of the library tutorials, including assistance with CygNET Online and selected databases.

The student information literacy sessions were held in computer laboratories throughout the Engineering Faculty and were supervised by reference staff from the relevant subject libraries. The students investigated the North West Power Feasibility Study project, using a relevant search strategy to negotiate databases, and compile an annotated bibliography.

The development of this course has strengthened the teaching and learning partnership between the Library and the Faculty of Engineering.