BUILD ME AN APP: TECHNOLOGY AND THE NEW UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The world has gone mobile with big implications for universities and their libraries. Smart phones are commonplace and iPads and similar tablet technologies are flying off the shelves. eBook readers can be seen on beaches and in buses, music and videos are streamed or downloaded continually. Wireless network access is more robust and widespread, moving out of organisations and homes into the street.

Although the Blake Library already had wireless throughout and the University Library had long delivered eJournals and eBooks as well as an extensive range of Internet delivered services, 2010 was a watershed year for embracing mobility. An important policy decision was to move to ‘electronic preferred’ for books, now that their provision has achieved some maturity, as the Library did for eJournals a decade ago. Printed books will still be acquired when needed but the focus will be on developing a collection that can be accessed anywhere, anytime.

The Library bought and tested a range of eBook readers. Some performed better than others: the BeBook was slow and overall unsatisfactory while the iRiver, Kobo and Kindle showed promise, the iPad had more versatility but some drawbacks such as short battery life and not being able to read in sunlight. The readers are now available to students for testing with particular interest in their value to students with special needs.

Considerable work also went into optimising the Library’s services for use on mobile devices including the creation of apps and extending the use of Twitter and Foursquare.

Of course this specific focus on mobility was only one area of the Library’s work and development in 2010. Many other examples are given in this Year in Review.

Alex Byrne
University Librarian

PROMOTE LEARNING VIA PHYSICAL AND DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

Social Networking Sites
During 2010 UTS Library opened a Flickr and a Foursquare account. We have maintained the impetus for staying connected to our Library clients providing interactive spaces for clients to engage and experience all that is on offer at the Library.

Quick Response (QR) Code
QR Codes have been attached to our printed material giving our clients immediate access to our web content.

Mobile Website
A new mobile friendly UTS Library website was made available during 2010. The mobile website features all the key elements of the website, including the Catalogue, news, corporate information and PC availability.

Reading Club
There are strong links between reading and essential communication skills required for success at university. During second semester, students were invited to join the Read@UTS Club to have fun, relax and meet with peers, but also with the purpose of improving literacy and other essential academic skills.
LIB:DigiStory Competition

UTS Library ran a competition for students to tell the story of the Library of the Future through online digital social media. A high standard was set by the finalists in the competition. All were highly entertaining and provided the students perspective on what the Library of the Future entails.

The winning entry titled ‘Conceptual Synergy Dome’ was submitted by Stephanie Foran. Runners up were ‘Future Library’ (Kim Neville, Yuxi Lei and Nimesh Garala) and a tie for third place was shared between ‘A Vision for 2015’ by Dale Joachim and ‘Extra Extra, the Library of the Future is HERE!’ by Chantell Basiacik and Alana Greig.

All are available for viewing on the Library’s YouTube Channel – youtube.com/user/UTSLibrary

Physical Spaces

Since its completion in early 2010, students have been using the Create Space Room (Level 3, City Campus Library) to collaborate on research and study activities. The new facility represents the future of studying facilities. The room has a full length whiteboard wall, green glass board for writing on with whiteboard markers, a traditional whiteboard, a data projector and a ‘teamboard’ – the interactive whiteboard.

One side of the room is lined with desktop computers and facilities for laptops and wireless connection are available.

Adding to the ambience of the room are interchangeable tables that allow for a small gathering or large numbers in a circular formation. They are coupled with the brightly coloured, ergonomic and highly functional furniture.

Digital Futures Australasia 2010

In February, the UTS Library collaborated with Kings College London to host Digital Futures Australasia. Led by Simon Tanner of King’s College London, this is only the second time this long running course has been held outside of the UK and we were pleased to be able to host it again following last year’s success.

The week long course covered different aspects of digitisation, including strategic, financial, access and sustainability.

The University Librarian Dr Alex Byrne presented a paper on ‘Djorra’ Djagamirri: The importance of context in digitisation of cultural resources.

The program was further enriched with presentations by senior staff of the State Library of New South Wales and the Powerhouse Museum who also organised guided tours of their digitisation, multi-media facilities and exhibitions.

Discussions are underway for hosting a 2011 course.

Markets Forum 2010

In March we welcomed a talk by Elaine Lally on developing the creative and expressive sides of a future workforce. April’s Markets Forum saw Will Davies, Historian, Author and Film maker, discuss the presentation of History.

The two June forums were presented by Kevin O’Brien and Frank Howarth. Kevin O’Brien discussed an Indigenous concept of ‘Sep Yama’, which means Finding Country, from an Architectural perspective, using the elements of nature and every day Indigenous lifestyle activities to incorporate and complement modern architecture.

Frank Howarth, Director of the Australian Museum, looked at the transition of the Australian Museum from a traditional institution of curation and education to a more interactive and inviting place in both the physical and virtual world where patrons help to create the collections.

Extended International Support

The Library has extended its support for international students. A team of International Librarians have been reviewing and developing the Library’s services and resources for international students. A new Library flyer in Chinese has been prepared for distribution in Shanghai to potential Business students. There are plans to present EndNote and RefWorks classes in Mandarin. This is complemented by the Library’s Chinese language website.

Digital Futures Australasia

Visit to the State Library

Visit to the State Library

Digital Futures Australasia

Visit to the State Library

Visit to the State Library
Students had a great time navigating their way around the activities and developed a good understanding of who to go to for help and the services, resources and facilities available to them.

The start of Semester Two was marked by two weeks of online fun. Students were encouraged to find hidden treasures in the online Treasure Hunt, and to test their Library IQ with the Library Trivia Challenge. Daily movie prizes were awarded and the event was a great success.

Earth Hour Competition
The annual UTS Library Earth Hour Competition produced the inspiring winning entry by Ben Schuman suggesting we turn down the heat and wear outside clothing indoors, and join a knitting group.

Knit Wits
Ben Schuman, winner of the 2010 Earth Hour Competition inspired a weekly gathering of staff and students to knit squares for the community project ‘Wrap with Love’. It has been such a successful event that The Knit Wits, as they call themselves, have chosen to continue meeting on the last Tuesday of every month in the City Campus Library foyer.

The fourth annual Indigenous Literacy day was celebrated in September. UTS Library together with Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning and the Co-op Bookshop, hosted a forum with the mother and daughter combination, Dr Anne Sarzin and Lisa Miranda Sarzin who co-authored the book Hand in Hand: Jewish and Indigenous people working together.

The keynote speaker for the September forum was the Honourable Michael Kirby AC CMG, a former Justice of the High Court of Australia. He addressed the controversial topic of the Relationship between Religion and HIV, presenting a message of hope and possibility.

The final Markets Forum for 2010 was presented by Dr Suzanne Grob who examined the role of organisations and their purchasing habits and the impact this behaviour is having on the planet and society.

Sydney 2000 Olympics 10 Year Anniversary
To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Sydney 2000 Olympic & Paralympic Games, Kuring-gai Campus Library hosted a day filled with Wii games, a physical collection of memorabilia, an extensive online collection of photographs, and a sausage sizzle.

Food for Fines
UTS Library held the second annual Food for Fines campaign in December 2010. The initiative was a great success with 1100 food items collected and donated to Mission Australia.

The centre is the first of its kind in Australia and aims to provide homeless people with skills that will give them a bridge to greater social and economic participation.

Library Fun Day & Online Fun Day
For new students participating in O Week during Semester One, the Library hosted a Fun Day designed as a fun and interactive day where new students get to experience what the Library has to offer.

Students were able to participate in online trivia, treasure hunt, Wii games and other activities throughout the day. Library staff hosted a barbeque and the Art of Food Café generously supplied drinks for the event.

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DISCOVERY AND ACCESS TO SCHOLARLY INFORMATION

More Catalogue Enhancements
Traditionally clients of a library came in with the sole purpose of using the catalogue to gather information.

While times have changed, the catalogue remains the central component of the library. So it’s no wonder that we are continuously striving to improve it and make it more efficient and user friendly.

Some of our more recent changes are:

Relevance Ranking
Relevance ranking has been improved and, based on extensive testing, is returning high quality search results, even for tricky one-word journal and newspaper titles like ‘The Age’ or ‘The Australian’. The cut off point for including records in the search results has also been raised so searches are generally returning smaller result sets. For clients searching for a known item this should make scanning result lists easier.

Relevance Ranking

Open Access Week
Open Access is free, immediate, online access to the results of scholarly research, and the right to use and re-use those results as you need.

Open Access Week is a global event in its fourth year. Over the course of a week seminars were held at UTS Library discussing the various aspects and advantages associated with open access to scholarly work.

Seminars included publishing, exposing research output to a wider audience, maintaining control of intellectual property, managing research data, and climbing the ERA rankings.

Opening the proceedings for Open Access Week were a panel of UTS academics and ePress editors Hilary Yerbury, Johnson Agbinya, Goran Runeson, Paul Allatson, Paul Ashton, Shankar Sankaran, exploring the benefits of publishing open access publications.

RESERVE SEARCHING

It is now possible to search for reserve items in the Catalogue by subject name or number or by lecturer name. Simply enter all, or part, of the subject information into the search box. Refinement options Reserve by UTS Subject and Reserve by UTS Lecturer will help to narrow the search. At the top of the search results page, clients will be prompted with suggested subjects to search and, once within the results for a particular subject, reminded to also check for eReadings and exam papers.

Availability Information
For some items in our collection with multiple copies the availability status information can be quite long, making it necessary to scroll to scan the result list. To overcome this, we’ve added an option for clients to personalise the screen display; they can select the Show all or Hide all link at the top of the result set to expand or roll up the availability status for all results on the page.

AIATSIS
UTS Library, in conjunction with Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning, has national responsibility for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive (ATSIDA). As part of this important national project we have entered into an agreement with the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), which will include collaboration on projects. This is an important partnership for ATSIDA as AIATSIS is the world’s premier institution for research and information about the cultures and lifestyles of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, past and present.

Information Literacy Conceptual Challenges
In August, the Library collaborated with the UTS Centre for Information and Knowledge Management to host a talk by Dr Heidi Julien, Professor and Graduate Coordinator in the School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alberta, Canada that explored the concepts of Information Literacy.

The event attracted a great deal of interest from both within and outside the University. This was the first UTS Library event to be live streamed following requests from as far away as Western Australia.
New datasets and collections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dataset</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scopus</td>
<td>An international multi-disciplinary abstracting and indexing database updated daily.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sage Premier</td>
<td>Providing access to over 560 SAGE journal titles in business, humanities, social sciences, science, technology and medicine. Coverage is available from 1999 onwards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liebert Online</td>
<td>50 journal titles from the fields of biomedical research, biological sciences, biotechnology, public health, nursing, clinical practice, chemistry, food science, law engineering and bioinformatics. Coverage includes the full back file.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BuildingGreen.com</td>
<td>Provides resources to help building-industry professionals design and build construction projects that minimize ecological impact and maximize economic performance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences database (CSA)</td>
<td>Includes ‘DEEP INDEXING’ of content represented in tables, maps, photographs and other figures. It provides access to literature from over 8,000 serials, conference proceedings, technical reports, monographs, and patents in biomedicine, biotechnology, zoology and ecology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Taylor &amp; Francis Journal Archives</td>
<td>Engineering, Computing &amp; Technology and Business, Management &amp; Economics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simply Scripts</td>
<td>Links to hundreds of free, downloadable scripts, movie scripts, screenplays, and transcripts of current, classic and possibly a few soon-to-be-released movies and radio shows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove Art Online</td>
<td>Includes the full text of The Dictionary of Art, edited by Jane Turner. It also offers over 6,000 searchable images of works of art, maps and line drawings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Online: Contemporary World Music</td>
<td>Contemporary world music will contain 50,000 tracks that delivers the sounds of all regions from every continent.</td>
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