It’s been a while, but welcome to another issue of AXIS: the Library’s very own news magazine.

2013 has been another big year for the Library, as we draw closer to completing our Library of the Future, whilst improving facilities both online and in our existing library. We’ve been readying our physical collection for its big move to the Library Retrieval System, as well as developing a greater digital presence through the Library website. The Library’s online functionality, including social media, continues to grow. This year a big emphasis has been placed on making more resources Open Access, as well as on the relaunch of UTS’ publishing arm, UTS ePRESS Publishing. This is also the first time that AXIS has gone digital-only, which recognises our commitment to sustainability at UTS. We hope you enjoy this issue, and look forward to what 2014 has to offer for the Library. Please feel free to let us know your thoughts, either through the Library website or on social media:
IT’S BEEN A BIG YEAR
FOR UTS LIBRARY,
WITH A NUMBER
OF DEVELOPMENTS
CURRENTLY UNDERWAY.

The Library Retrieval System (LRS) is on time and on budget, with the cranes currently being installed and our collections prepared to load low-use books into this state-of-the-art system in mid-2014. To accompany these changes we’re planning a major refurbishment of the current City Campus Library to improve study spaces. We’re also expanding our services, and have made progress in embedding information literacy across the curriculum through the Graduates Attributes Program, and expanding our training programs for staff and students in the areas of Evernote, Twitter, blogging, metrics, data management, and researcher identity management.

2013 saw a fresh focus on making Open Access (OA) a priority and responsibility UTS-wide. Significantly Academic Board approved the UTS Open Access Policy in October, which aids UTS in its commitment to disseminate its scholarship as widely as possible. We also expanded the Library’s open access publishing activities with the launch of our re-designed UTS ePRESS Publishing website, just in time to showcase our exciting new series of open access monographs, Media Object. Underpinning these achievements has been a year-long effort to raise awareness of Open Access, culminating in a major program of events during OA Week, with seminars, workshops, debates, and interviews provoking thought and conversation.

It’s also been a year of collaboration, with our second Artist-in-Residence program drawing to a close with a new exhibition, The Library Book. The Library also played host to an exhibition of student work, SUB/SYDNEY, offering an exploration of the relationship between books and objects, and prompting visitors to consider the way in which knowledge is distributed between texts and things. Finally, Masters students in several faculties engaged with the Library and its plans for the future, making it the focus of their research projects, the outcomes of which will help inform our thinking about the future library.

I think this is an impressive list of accomplishments. I’m proud of the work that has been done this year, and look forward to seeing what exciting ideas come to fruition in the new year, as we continue to work to connect people, knowledge and culture in our libraries, and ensure our wonderful collections, services and spaces give you the competitive edge you need to succeed in your learning and research.
BUILDING CONTINUES ON THE FUTURE LIBRARY, WITH WORK CURRENTLY UNDERWAY INSTALLING THE GIANT CRANES WHICH WILL RETRIEVE BOOKS FROM THE LRS.

In May this year the concrete foundations of the Library Retrieval System (LRS) were laid. This work continued for several months, with the roof finally poured and completed in July. Above this roof will be the redeveloped Alumni Green, which will provide a large open area for students to congregate and socialise.

With this concrete vault completed, installation of the racking and cranes (which will store and retrieve the collection) commenced. Once loaded, items in the LRS will be available via a simple request from the Library catalogue. More photos of the construction can be accessed at: flickr.com/photos/malbooth/sets/72157635257955302/
BOOKPLATE DESIGN COMPETITION

The Library ran a competition to find a new bookplate design. Open to current students, the brief was to design a bookplate reflecting UTS as a City Campus. This garnered a variety of responses which were all of a high calibre, making picking a winner challenging. The entries were judged by an esteemed panel, including Dr Kate Sweetapple, a senior lecturer from the faculty of Design, Architecture and Building, Dr Mark Ferson, president of the New Australian Bookplate Society, and Andrew Ensor, an artist and member of Library staff. The winning design (shown above) was created by Katherine Generalao, and will be placed in all books donated to the Library over the next three years.

EARTH HOUR: BURN CALORIES NOT COAL

Did you know that 80% of electricity in NSW is generated from burning coal? For Earth Hour 2013, UTS Library ran an initiative in April to encourage students to use the stairs rather than the lifts. Students were encouraged to place stickers on the stairwell as a symbol of their pledge to use their own form of renewable energy: calories! For each floor you walk up using the stairs, you burn roughly 5 calories. By the end of the month, thousands of stickers covered the stairwell in demonstration of the commitment of students to this initiative.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

INTRODUCING CHRIS CAINES
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Following on from the contributions of Chris Gaul to the Library last year, Dr Chris Caines was appointed as the 2013 Artist-in-Residence. Chris is a senior lecturer for the Creative Practices academic group and Director of the Centre for Media Arts Innovation in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences here at UTS. The role of the Artist-in-Residence program is to help ensure the continuing relevance and development of a dynamic library. His latest work, Making Photographs, is a series of artworks located near the back stairwell on level three of the City Campus Library. His final exhibition as Artist-in-Residence, The Library Book, will be on display at the DAB LAB Research Gallery until 31 January 2014. You can track the development of his work at: thelibrarybook.net/
OPEN ACCESS (OA) WEEK IS AN INTERNATIONALLY CELEBRATED EVENT, HELD TO PROMOTE OPEN ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

Now in its 6th year, OA week was celebrated at UTS Library from the 21st to 27th of October. OA Week provides an opportunity for students, academics and staff to learn about the benefits of OA and help inspire wider participation. OA journals achieve greater citation and research impact by being freely available to be used and expanded upon. The more people are able to gain access to your work, the more likely you are to be cited and expanded upon. It’s not only good for the readers of the work, but also for the creators. Not being able to access this research because of subscription costs is a huge impediment to education.

Left: Dr Sandra Peter at the Open Access Panel Discussion

A series of workshops were conducted by Library staff, which covered topics such as: Open Educational Resources, Finding OA Materials, OA Publishing, Open Data and Altmetrics. A Panel Discussion titled Gold and Greener Pastures: Open Access Explained was also held, and offered a fascinating discussion on the significance of OA publishing from the perspectives of universities, editors and researchers. Our esteemed panellists were Shirley Alexander DVC, Professor Paul Ashton, Sharyn Wise and Dr Sandra Peter.

A new section of the Library website, Open Access, explains more about the benefits of OA. This section also gives more information about how you can put your research in UTS’ Open Access repositories, as well as find a high-quality OA journal to publish in. Find out more at the Library’s new Open Access Page: lib.uts.edu.au/open-access

OA WEEK ALSO OFFERED THE OPPORTUNITY TO LAUNCH A REDESIGN OF UTS ePRESS.

UTS ePRESS was established in 2004 to encourage simpler access to scholarly works, and has since become the leading publisher in Australasia of peer-reviewed OA journals. The launch showcased the 14 academic journals published by UTS ePRESS, all of which are freely available to the public on the new website: epress.lib.uts.edu.au

This event also marked the release of the first in a series of MediaObject eBooks, Live A/V in Australia, by Dr Grayson Cooke from Southern Cross University. MediaObject is a unique OA book publishing series which allows practice-based creative arts researchers to publish in a variety of different mediums, such as video. This is an exciting leap forward for digital publishing as it extends the capabilities of the traditional scholarly book or monograph into a multi-modal digital experience. Live A/V in Australia is available as a free download from the ePress website, or the iBookstore for iOS devices.
As part of UTS' commitment to the environment and sustainability, World Environment Day was celebrated this year on the 6th of June. The theme for 2013 was Think. Eat. Save., which was an anti-food waste and food loss campaign to encourage students to reduce their footprint. To celebrate this theme, a debate was held at the Library between the Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF) and the UTS Debating Society. The topic for this debate was Worm Farms Should Be Mandatory in Every Kitchen, which offered a lively and engaging discussion with compelling arguments from both sides.

UTS Debating Society, as the negative, argued that worm farms are easy to misuse and that mandatory ownership of worm farms would be both difficult to enforce and discourage people from cooking at home and therefore needing to deal with food waste. In fact, their doomsday message was that this would cause a complete collapse of the inner city property market due to a stench cloud which would loom over all apartment buildings!

The Institute for Sustainable Futures argued as the affirmative, taking a far more practical approach. They explained the benefits of worm farms, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the cathartic, meditative-like properties of worm farming.

Overall it was a very close debate, but our official Clap-O-Meter, Mal Booth, University Librarian, announced that the winners of the debate were the UTS Debating Society, despite his gentle coercion to sway the results in favour of the ISF.

Research Week 2013 was held in February, and targeted research students and academics. The week was designed to complement the Graduate School’s Researcher Induction Program, and the following sessions were held: PhD survival guide, expert search tips, research reading and writing, data management and visualisation, publishing and self-promotion, and finally, proving the impact of your research. For those who missed out on these workshops or wish to connect with other researchers, you can visit the Research @ UTS Blog: lib.uts.edu.au/blog/research or investigate the new pages we’ve created under the Research section of the website: lib.uts.edu.au/research. The Library continues to hold Research Power Sessions throughout the year, so be sure to check the website regularly for more information and times.
IN APRIL, LIBRARY STAFF COOKED UP A STORM FOR OUR ANNUAL EDIBLE BOOKS FESTIVAL!

Staff were tasked with selecting a book and then cooking a dish to represent that book. First prize went to Ashley England, with her delightfully decadent Pride and Prejudice and Zombies cake. We look forward to seeing what zany ideas people come up with next year.

THE AUTUMN SEMESTER 2013 STARTED OFF WITH A BANG THANKS TO THE LIBRARY’S ANNUAL PLAY DAY.

This year Play Day took on a zombie apocalypse theme, with the purpose of playfully enhancing the information literacy skills of students. Play Day was held at both our libraries, and offered a fun day full of games, food, freebies, and prizes. It provided a perfect opportunity for students to meet other students and chat to Library staff. The highlights included: Angry Birds in Real Life, Giant Jenga, Paper Planes, Xbox Kinect, trivia, and more.

PLAY DAY 2013

EDIBLE BOOKS 2013

Bottom Left: Edwin Kwan and Ashley England
IN WHAT SEEMS TO HAVE BECOME A BIT OF A TRADITION, THE LIBRARY HAS CONTINUED TO HOST FILM SCREENINGS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. AFTER ALL, WHO DOESN’T LIKE TO ENJOY A FILM WITH FRIENDS, FREE POPCORN, AND BEAN BAGS?

In March Deepa Mehta’s Water was shown, which explores the lives of widows at an ashram in Varanasi, India. This is a critically-acclaimed masterpiece which offers a fascinating insight into the plight of widows under Hindu fundamentalism.

April saw the screening of The Extraordinary Adventures of Adele Blanc-Sec, a French fantasy adventure film based on the comic book series of the same name by Jacques Tardi. The film follows the eponymous writer and his adventures in 1910s Paris and beyond.

In September, the Australian classic Ten Canoes was shown. This film has the honour of being the first film entirely in Aboriginal languages, and arose from anthropologist Donald Thomson’s iconic photograph of ten canoeists poling across a swamp. This film was screened on Indigenous Literacy Day to mark the occasion.
**UPDATES TO SERVICES & FACILITIES**

**OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**

As an advocate for Open Access, UTS Library also provides assistance with locating and using Open Educational Resources (OERs). OERs are learning materials that are free to use, re-use and re-purpose. They include textbooks, full courses, videos and software to name a few. OERs make learning materials freely available to everyone including people who may not traditionally have access. There is a great societal benefit in sharing education and knowledge. One of the benefits for educators are the efficiencies in re-using and re-mixing existing learning materials rather than creating all aspects of a course from scratch. OERs encourage the exploration of new, more participatory ways of learning and the introduction of blended and flipped approaches to learning. For more information and a Directory of OERs visit: lib.uts.edu.au/teaching/open-educational-resources-oer

**DISCOVERING THE DEWEY DECIMAL SYSTEM**

Since April, the Library website has been sporting a colourful new band above all search results. Each colour represents number ranges on the Dewey Decimal System. This was inspired by Chris Gaul’s *Shelf Life* exhibition, which explored new ways of visualising the Library’s collection. This sort of serendipitous discovery is important as the Library explores different methods of facilitating the discovery of new materials. The multi-coloured band is clickable, which allows the user to sort their results based on the areas in which these books are catalogued. Check out the system simply by searching on the Library website.

**BTW**

**UTS LIBRARY INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT**

Are you on Instagram? UTS Library has just created an account. We’d love it if you’d follow us at instagram.com/utslibrary. You can share pictures with us, too, by using #utslibrary when you upload photos.

**SHUT UP & WRITE**

Have you ever found yourself struggling in an ongoing battle against procrastination? Spring semester saw the Shut Up & Write writing club return, aiming to assist postgraduate research students improve their skills and develop the discipline to get their work done. The program featured weekly writing sessions and the opportunity to network with other students.

**FOOD FOR FINES**

Our annual appeal for food donations is on again from the 18th of November to the 15th of December. This year will be the fifth year in which UTS Library has participated, and all donations go to Mission Australia to help those who are living in poverty, unemployed, or homeless.

**NEW RETURNS CHUTE**

Have you seen our new returns chute? You now have the ability to offer feedback by placing your returned item into one these chutes: Books you loved, Books you didn’t, and Everything else.

Books you loved
Books you didn’t
Everything else