



NEWS

THE UNIVERSITY
OF ADELAIDE
LIBRARY

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European Documentation Centre

Early in July the Vice-Chancellor signed an agreement with the European Commission establishing the University of Adelaide Library as a Specialized European Documentation Centre. This was the culmination of an extended period of enquiry and negotiation by the University Librarian and several members of the academic community over more than five years. In fact interest in becoming a European Documentation Centre was first shown nearly twenty years ago.

As a result of the agreement the library becomes a deposit library for a wide range of official documents emanating from the European Commission, and also gains access to several related online databases, and some Internet-based sources of European Union information. We expect to begin receiving materials within a month, and will continue to receive them indefinitely, so long as we meet certain conditions set down by the European Commission.

The process of detailed liaison between Library staff and the academic community is just beginning: we aim to promote an awareness that this collection is available and to give all

possible assistance in its use. The materials we have selected are likely to interest researchers in several fields. The Library will receive broadly-based documents such as legislation and regulations, case law, and basic statistics. We have also selected ten subject areas:

- Agriculture, Silviculture, Fisheries
- Employment and Labour
- Social Questions
- Law and Procedures
- Competition and Undertakings
- Finance
- External Relations
- Regional Policy
- Environment
- Information, Education and Culture

The Library will receive the material in various formats: some will be microfiche, but other material is either paper, or accessible through online databases. As a European Documentation Centre we receive one free licence to each of these databases. They provide valuable indexing of the collection as well as full text documents in some cases.

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European Documentation Centre (continued from front page)

The scope and potential of this material is very broad. The University's recently established Centre for European Studies has a clear interest in the collection, but so too have researchers in history, commerce and marketing, agriculture and trade, law, and international politics. Over the coming weeks, Peter Jacobs from Reference Services will be establishing contact with all potentially interested members of the University's teaching staff. His responsibility is to guide the establishment of this collection, and to assist with any questions regarding its use — including the online resources.

With this development we expect to be able to consolidate European Union materials held in the University of Adelaide libraries. Most of the documentation will be housed in the Barr Smith Library in one location; some agriculture-related materials will most likely go to the Waite Campus Library, while a series of law reports will go to the Law Library. The documents are complex in their structure, coding, and indexing, and we hope that by centralising the collection we will minimise the difficulties associated with their use. Our agreement with the European Commission also commits us to maintaining this collection as a discrete and recognisable entity, as far as practicable, within the University of Adelaide Library.

As a European Documentation Centre, the Library undertakes to provide and promote access to this material to the wider South Australian community, not only to researchers and students of the other two universities, but also to other researchers and scholars in this State.

Anybody with an interest in the European Documentation Centre is invited to contact Peter Jacobs in the Barr Smith Library:

telephone: 8303 5345

e-mail: pjacobs@library.adelaide.edu.au

Peter Jacobs



Peter Jacobs

Public Relations in (and out of!) the Library

Early 1997 saw the formation of a Public Relations Committee for the University of Adelaide Library, to promote the Library both within the University and the wider community. The Committee members are Alan Keig, Celia Brissenden, Ellen Randva, Janine Tan, Ray Choate, Stephen Beaumont and Susan Woodburn.

Susan Woodburn initially took on the one-day-a-week position of Public Relations Officer, but after six months had to resign the position due to other commitments. In July Susan handed over the reins of PR Committee Chair to Ellen Randva (Waite Librarian), and Celia Brissenden (Reference Services, Barr Smith Library) now works one day a week as the Library's PR Officer. Celia has been working on forging stronger links between the Library and the many elements of the University community, from the Students' Association and the Union to UniBooks and the Alumni Association.

Look out for changing exhibitions and displays in the Barr Smith Library in coming months, speakers and seminars in the Ira Raymond Room, and lots more!

Celia Brissenden

Eva Sallis: Vogel Award winner

The University of Adelaide Library warmly congratulates Eva Sallis on winning *The Australian / Vogel* Literary Award for 1997. Eva wrote her award-winning novel *Hiam* at the same time as she was working on her PhD thesis, when she was a 'power user' of the Barr Smith Library's resources and a regular visitor to the Subject Librarians' [now Research Librarians'] area. Eva is still very much a regular user of the Library and lectures in the University's English Department.

We are enormously proud of your achievement, Eva, and wish you well in your writing career.

Alan Keig

Inaugural lectures

The Vice-Chancellor, Mary O'Kane, is pleased to announce a series of Inaugural Lectures by recently appointed Professors of the University of Adelaide. Members of the University community and the public are warmly welcome to attend.

Lectures start at 5:15pm. Refreshments follow. Venue: Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, Barr Smith Library, University of Adelaide.

The first two lectures in the series were very successful (an account of Professor Tom Shapcott's talk is on the back page of this issue); here are the remaining lectures in this series:

Wednesday 8 October: **Professor Grant Townsend**, Faculty of Dentistry: **'Genes, teeth and faces: studying twins is twice the fun!'**

Wednesday 15 October: **Professor Doug Gray**, Deputy Director, CRC for Sensor Signal and Information Processing: **'Resolving finer than the Uncertainty Principle: Processing beyond Belief?'**

Wednesday 22 October: **Professor Reg Coutts**, Centre for Telecommunications Information Networking: **'Infocommunications - changing the way we work and play'**

Wednesday 29 October: **Professor James Weiner**, Department of Anthropology: **'For an anthropological history of indigenous discourse'**

Wednesday 5 November: **Professor Don Moyes**, Department of Anaesthesia & Intensive Care: **'While some must sleep, others must watch'**

Wednesday 12 November: **Professor Hugh Possingham**, Dept. of Environmental Science & Management: **'Active adaptive management: the new paradigm of environmental management'**

Coming up....



To tie in with the Australian Food and Wine Writers' Festival (Botanic Park, 9-12 October), the Barr Smith Library will hold an exhibition throughout the month of October relating to food and drink, and in particular to works by visiting writers such as Cherry Ripe, Jill Dupleix, Paul Levy, Marion Halligan, Diane Holuigue, Linda Jaivin, Kate Llewellyn, and Frank Moorhouse.

This will be in conjunction with a seminar in the Ira Raymond Room on 'Research Opportunities in Food and Drink' on Friday 10 October. The seminar is hosted by the University's Research Centre for the History of Food and Drink, and will involve a panel of visiting writers including Doreen Fernandez and Richard Hosking.

Celia Brissenden

New electronic databases



A selection from recently acquired databases. They are available only from terminals in the Electronic databases area in the Barr Smith Library, behind the Information desk.

A complete list of the Library's electronic databases is at:—

<<http://library.adelaide.edu.au/gen/edb/>>

ICEA: International Civil Engineering Abstracts [formerly CITIS]

References with abstracts to international civil engineering and construction literature. Coverage includes thinking practice and solutions from the entire management field.

Time span: 1972+ Updated: Six-monthly
Two other databases are included:

IBSSA: International Building Science & Structural Abstracts and **SAFE - Software Abstracts for Engineers.**



French Posters from World War I

A collection of posters held in the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress. The database contains 284 posters created by French artists to support the war effort in World War I, and is organised by subject with detailed descriptions of each image.



NTIS Ordernow (Government Reports Announcements & Index)

Comprises information recently added to the National Technical Information Service [NTIS] collection. It is a tool for identifying U.S. government research products available from NTIS. Replaces to a large extent *Government Reports Announcements and Index*.

Time span: January 1995- Updated: Quarterly



Politique et Société: La France des années Mitterand 1981- 1995

Texts and references on political life and society in France between January 1981 and May 1995. It includes official communications of the Ministers' Council, the Elysée, the Matignon and the Quai d'Orsay, chronology of the period, a complete list of the 12 French governments in the period, and much more!

This item is entirely in French.

Shapcott Inaugural lecture

Thursday 11 September saw the first of the 1997 Inaugural Lectures to be held in the Barr Smith Library's Ira Raymond Exhibition Room. Professor Tom Shapcott, newly-appointed Professor of Creative Writing in the University's English Department, spoke on 'Teaching Creative Writing within a Literary Culture'.

To a comfortably crowded audience he expounded first the notion of creating an Australian literary culture, with all the implications that has for regional identity and literary themes, and the growing confidence of young Australian writers in both those areas. Professor Shapcott touched on the need for retrospect, commenting that 'One of the marks of a culture is the way in which it can ... draw upon its own legacies and antecedents'. He called for a recognition of the 'hugely rich resource base' Australia's literary culture has, and went on to discuss the exciting times we are in, with five concurrent generations of writers 'all contributing at the same time to the creative ferment. This is without precedent or parallel in our culture'.

Teaching writing, Shapcott said, is less about examinations and marking than about what 'can be discussed, debated and exercised on such matters as language — words and perhaps the pauses between words'. The specific task of writers comes down to the essential yet inexact human need for communication; as Anaïs Nin said so eloquently: 'the role for the writer is not to say what we can all say, but what we are unable to say'.

Professor Shapcott closed by saying, 'I'm listening. As a writer that's my job. And as a Professor of Creative Writing that is also my job. And by listening we learn what we know'.

Celia Brissenden

A complete list of the Spring 1997 Inaugural Lectures series is on the previous page.

Journals for sale

The Library is offering for sale a number of journals which have been received as donations over a number of years, and which duplicate our holdings. They have never been part of the Library collections and have no Library markings.

The issues may be viewed in and purchased from Special Collections on Level 4 South of the Barr Smith Library, between 1 and 4 pm, Monday to Friday. Proceeds will go to the Library's general acquisitions fund.

Journal of Pacific History v.1-28 no.2, 1966-93 [missing 28 no.1 only] includes the annual bibliography 1979-93

Pacific Studies v.13 no.3-18 no.2, 1990-95 (imperfect) also *Journal of Pacific Studies*, odd issues 1994-96

Essays in French literature 1-8, November 1964-November 1971

Australian Journal of French studies v.1 no.1-v.6 no.1, 1964-69

Meanjin 1947-50 (impf) and 1955-60 (imperfect); also *Meanjin Papers* various issues 1942-46

Horizon 1940 (one issue only), 1945-49 (imperfect)

Quadrant 1957-1960 (imperfect)

Australian Quarterly Sept. 1938, March 1940 only

Also available for purchase are some odd issues of various other early literary/theatre journals.

Susan Woodburn

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