

Millennium update

The millennium library system has many exciting features to make your study and research that little bit easier. Our webopac located at <http://gmitlib.gmit.ie> offers remote access and many self- service options. Why not try out the following features:

1. My Millennium

Many of our services require authentication where you have to enter your name, student id number and pin number. By going straight into View Your Record you just have to authenticate yourself once thus eliminating the need for continuous authentication.

2. Pin Numbers

Please ask a member of the library staff to set up a pin number for you if you don't have one. You can then change that pin number yourself via <http://gmitlib.gmit.ie>, View Your Record and modify pin.

3. Requests Online

It is now possible to request books online by searching the catalogue, selecting the book you want and hitting the request button. Please note that it is not permitted to request available books in your home library but it is possible to request available books at another campus library. This service is for books that are on loan and books located in another campus.

4. Interlibrary loans

Don't forget that interlibrary loan forms are accessible online. Just choose the appropriate form.

5. Featured Lists

Need to find out if the library stocks a particular video, DVD, cd-rom, thesis etc, just

click on featured lists. Please note that it also contains a list of our online journals, thesis and new books received in the library for 2004.

6. Renewing

Getting near the due date and you can't come to the library to renew your books, just go online again, View Your Record and renew your books provided they are not requested by another student.

7. Databases

Need an article or to catch up on the latest research, why not try our selection of databases arranged according to subject. Many of our databases contain full text so the entire article is available for printing or downloading.

8. Exam Papers

Exam time is looming again. Do you need a copy of past exam papers? Why not access it online by clicking on exam papers and scrolling down to the one you need. We hold 4 years exam papers online. Hard copies of previous years papers are located in the library opposite the photocopying room.

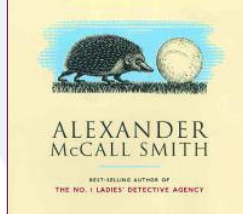
9. Suggestions.

Please make recommendations for improved library services. Don't forget to include your email address if you would like us to respond to your suggestion or query.

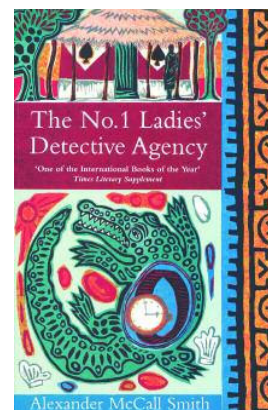
NEW FICTION

If you need a break from the serious study, you should try some of our fiction selection. "The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency" by Alexander McCall Smith is one of our newer acquisitions. This is the first of four titles in a series. 'Tears of the Giraffe', 'Morality for Beautiful Girls' and 'The Kalahari Typing School for Men', complete the series and you can't go wrong with titles like that.

These books are set in Botswana where Mrs. Ramotswa opens her detective agency. You will find these books in the crime section of bookshops but they are more about the lives of the characters and Africa than crime. The Daily Telegraph says they are the "art that conceals art" and they do have a simplicity that is far from simple.



'Portuguese Irregular Verbs' is another of McCall Smiths works. Set in the academic world, lecturers may be interested in its view of learned professors. It has little to do with the Portuguese language but this short novel should certainly raise a smile.



Opening Hours

1st Term

Monday - Thursday 09.30 - 21.30
Friday 09.30 - 17.30

2nd Term

Monday - Thursday 09.30 - 21.30.
Friday 09.30 - 21.00
Saturday 10.00 - 13.00

3rd Term

Monday - Thursday 09.30 - 21.30
Friday 09.30 - 21.00
Saturday 10.00 - 13.00

Holidays

Monday - Friday 09.30 - 17.00



Welcome Back

Welcome back to students and staff. We hope you enjoyed the Easter break and that you come back ready for the all the hard work ahead. Once Easter comes, there is never much of the academic year left. We wish all our students every success in their exams.

In this issue of GMIT Library Newsletter we highlight services for Postgraduates, examine some new products in the Independent Learning Unit and have some important information for Athens account holders (no, its not an offshore account!). We have suggestions for some light reading and news from the Cluain Mhuire Campus Art Library. We also have news of an upcoming Institute of Technology librarians conference that will be hosted by GMIT Library.

Clear Your Account!

From Monday 19th April, books will not be issued to users with fines on their account or with overdue books. So, please, bring back those overdue books and clear those fines.

GMIT Library to host Institute of Technology Librarians Conference

GMIT library will be the venue for the Third Irish Innovative Users Group conference from June 24th to 25th. Innovative Interfaces is the US based company that makes the Millennium Library System, the system running in all Institute of Technology libraries. Staff from all IT libraries will attend. The conference is a useful forum for the exchange of ideas on all aspects of the system, including enhancements required by the libraries. It is a great opportunity for Institute of Technology library staff to meet their colleagues and representatives from Innovative Interfaces from the US who will also attend. GMIT library staff are looking forward to welcoming the delegates to this event.

Research Room and IT Room available as study spaces

From Monday 19th April until the end of May, the Research Room and IT Training Room will be open and available as study areas for all students.



Director Marion Coy and Mr. Micheál Ó hUiginn, Chairperson of the Governing Body, bring Mr. Ahern on a tour of the Learning Centre

An Taoiseach visits the Library

An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern T.D. visited GMIT on Friday 12th March. Mr. Ahern, was greeted by the Director, Marion Coy, and Chairman of the Governing Body, Micheál Ó hUiginn and given a tour of the building. In the library he was introduced to library staff and greeted students studying in the library.



An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern TD, greets Librarian, Ann Walsh, on his visit to the Library in March

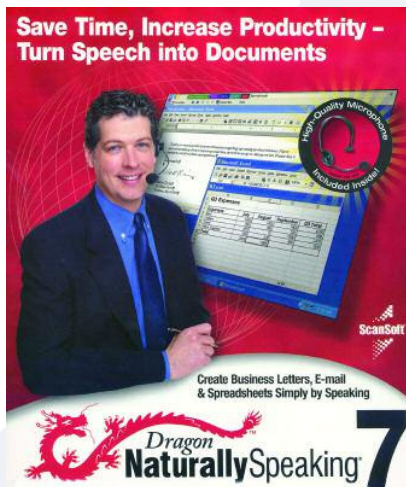
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NEW PRODUCTS IN THE INDEPENDENT LEARNING UNIT

The Library has purchased further new software and equipment to enable easier access to printed and virtual material.

TextHelp Gold is a new product to supplement TextHelp Read and Write already available in the ILU. It can read out the student's own written work, which helps review text or identify errors. This package will also read out texts and articles that have been scanned. Students whose reading pace is slow or inaccurate can speed up their intake with this software; over time it may help to increase their reading speed. The text is highlighted whilst being read out, so the reader can follow the script. TextHelp Gold also features a talking scientific calculator.



Dragon Dictation Package available in the Library

Dragon Naturally Speaking dictation software is dictation software for all pc applications, including programs and Internet, based on a user's natural speaking voice. Users must train their voices so that the system picks up on each individual's accent, speed, tone and intonations. This is the superior dictation product on the market as it allows for individual speaking characteristics as well as full correction facilities. We have also purchased an Olympia portable magnifier to compliment the Aladdin Genie Pro already in place. This is a portable video magnifier designed to assist someone who is visually impaired to read printed text and to view pictures in black and white or in full colour. It enlarges text or pictures up to 26 times on its high-resolution screen, and offers a range of magnification settings, adjustable brightness and a tilted screen to reduce glare. Another new addition to this facility is the Intellikeys keyboard, which enables keyboard use for visually impaired, and/or users with varying degrees of mobility. Users of the Independent Learning Unit must be registered with GMIT's special needs tutor, Anne Owen-Jones.



OIS student Arun Asan using the equipment in the Independent Learning Unit

Reminder Re. Athens Accounts

The providers of the EduServ Athens service, which enables patrons of an institution to access online resources from outside, have asked that all Athens patrons include an ID number within their account details. Thereby it is necessary that all new accounts created from now have their college/library ID numbers (previously optional) input in the appropriate field (part 2) of the gmit self-registration webpage.

For existing account holders, you need to email your ID# to the GMIT Athens Administrator. The email is athens@gmit.ie. Staff members may need to contact the Library to get their ID number; if you have lost or mislaid your library card please bring a passport photograph to your campus library and the library staff will replace it for you. Students, please supply your ID number as it appears on your college ID card.

N.B. All gmit created Athens accounts which do not have valid ID numbers inserted will be deleted from the Athens system, users will have to re-register, inputting their ID numbers.

Barbour Index Construction Expert back with a new online service

Many of our construction department staff and students will be familiar with the Barbour Index Construction Expert service, providers of full text British Standards, which was formerly available on cd-rom.

This service is now available online in GMIT Library. The subscription includes a license for up to 50 simultaneous users. Documents available on this online database include full text British and Irish Standards, monographs and periodical publications pertaining to the regulatory aspect of the building industry.

To access the service, go to <http://www.barbour-index.co.uk/content/home/index.asp> or click on the link from the Engineering heading of the Electronic Resources page of the WebOpac.

Company ID: GALW1X207

Username: (your name or initials)

Password: gmit (case sensitive)

SELF ISSUE AT GMIT LIBRARY



Business Studies students Rebecca Lawless and Liz Lenihan checking out books using Self Issue

Why not escape the queues at the Library Desk and use the Self Issue Unit to borrow books? The Self Issue Unit is conveniently located to the left of the Library Desk on the Ground Floor of the Library.

Using the Self Issue Unit is easy. Simply scan your GMIT ID card to access your account. Scan the barcode on the inside page of the book you want to borrow. Wait for the 'Accepted' message, remove the book and take your receipt, which helpfully lists the items you have borrowed and their return dates. N.B. The Self Issue will only work on accounts that are free of overdue loans and fines, another incentive to clear those accounts!



Self Issue Unit in the Library

Cluain Mhuire Campus Library

The Library is a very busy place at the moment; it is satisfying to see so many students using all the facilities. The journals are really coming into their own having been promoted continuously as a great source of information on all art matters. "Film Ireland", the bi-monthly journal of the Irish film industry has restarted publication after a break of over a year. The book orders are coming in on a weekly basis. Details can be viewed in our "New Arrivals" section. In February, Director Marion Coy opened the 2nd Arts and Culture Week. Exhibits of ceramics and textiles were on display and short films were on view as were performance art pieces. Photographs of the Arts and Culture Week can be viewed in the library. Congratulations to Ms. Amanda Coogan, visiting lecturer in Performance Art, who won an AIB bursary of €20,000 to create a new work.

Diploma and Degree students are working hard to complete their work for the opening of their exhibition on 12th June. For any students or staff who have not attended the annual exhibition of art in Cluain Mhuire, make a special effort to attend this year. The quality of the work is always high and the imaginative concepts impressive. Most works are also for sale, so bring the chequebook.

Services for Postgraduates

GMIT now has 70 Postgraduates studying in the college. Their areas of study include Engineering, Science, Hotel and Catering and Humanities.

Library services for Postgraduates include the full range of services available to undergraduates plus

Borrowing

Postgraduate students may borrow 5 items for a loan period of 1 month

Inter Library Loans

Postgraduate students are entitled to 30 items at no cost, the charge thereafter is €2.00 per item.

Research Room

This dedicated facility may be used by individuals or groups involved in research. Facilities include 12 PCs, photocopier, collection of reference material and books on conducting academic research, thesis writing and publication.

Subject Librarians

Subject Librarians are available for specialist subject information queries.

