

GMIT Library Newsletter

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September 2004

Welcome back to all our returning students and staff and a special welcome to all our new students. We hope your time in GMIT will be enriching and useful and a stepping-stone to wonderful things.

In this issue of GMIT Library Newsletter we have lots to enjoy.

- We show you the Cluain Mhuire campus library and what is available there.
- The Suggestions feature in the WebOPAC is used widely by library patrons, but what happens to those suggestions? Are they consigned to the great black hole of cyberspace? Check on Page 3 to find out.
- Lecturers can now book library induction tours via the WebOPAC.
- The bad news is....overdue fines have increased!
- New acquisitions - books and journals
- Electronic Services News

Online booking for Library Induction Tours

Lecturers, you can now book your library induction tours online. Here is what you do. Follow the links from the WebOPAC homepage, click on *Booking Rooms/Student Induction*. From the Course Reserves page click again on *Booking Rooms/Student Induction*. Follow the links to *Book this item* to get to calendar to enter details. Enter your name, ID number and PIN. (If your books are overdue, please renew, as the system will not let you enter a booking if your account is not up to date)

Please remember to add the name & size of the group in the note box & your email or phone number for booking confirmation. Please note the maximum number of students per group is 25.

GMIT hosts IIIUG Conference

GMIT library hosted the 3rd Irish Innovative Users Group Conference in June. Innovative Interfaces Inc. is the developer of the integrated library system now in use in all Institutes of Technology libraries in Ireland. In June, over 70 delegates from all IT libraries gathered in Galway to discuss aspects of the system, proposed new developments and the use of certain modules in individual libraries. Topics for discussion included the Z39.50 protocol, customising a WebOPAC, packages available for managing web resources. Workshops were held on all the modules of the system including Acquisitions, Cataloguing, Circulation, Systems, and Inter Library Loans.

The Conference was a great opportunity to share experiences with colleagues from other libraries, and of course to show off our own new library.

Electronic Services News

The Electronic Services department of the Library manages and maintains online services, including databases, online journals, exam papers and other aspects of library computing. We also carry out training on any or all of the above. Please contact Maura Stephens (Rm 981, ext 2784 maura.stephens@gmit.ie) with your training needs, groups from 3 to 20 are catered for.

For up to date information on new resources, new features or current trials, check out the **Electronic Services News** page available on the Web at <http://gmitlib.gmit.ie/screens/electnews.html>

This issue we look at three different resources available electronically from the Library's WebOpac (<http://gmitlib.gmit.ie>) covering the subject areas of engineering, humanities and business respectively.

Barbour Index Construction Expert

This excellent online full text resource is geared towards staff and students from the Civil and Construction courses. It contains full text standards for the construction industry (British and Irish Standards) as well as thousands of texts on legislative aspects of construction from bodies and government agencies such as BSI, BRE, CIRIA and DETR.

Searching Barbour Construction Expert is easy with simple and advanced options, and the unique filtering modes make it easier to find the documents most relevant to your search immediately. A subject index with different search options is also available if the searcher doesn't know the exact title or publisher but knows it relates to a specific subject area.

To access the Barbour Index Construction Expert service, click on the link from the 'Engineering Databases' section of <http://gmitlib.gmit.ie/screens/edbases.html>. The **Company ID** to login is 'GALWIX207' (in caps). **Username** is *your own name or initials* (remember you will have to enter your name and email address the first time) and the **password** is 'gmit' (lower case).

Construction Expert is available to GMIT patrons from outside the Campus using the Athens authentication service (see Athens brochure in the Library for further details).

Ingenta.com

Ingenta.com is a unique online journal provider for academic and professional communities. It supplies access to 6,000+ full-text online journal titles and 27,000+ publications and serves over 260 academic and professional publishers along with 14,000 libraries incorporating 25 million users worldwide.

For GMIT users Ingenta provides full text access to 298 journal titles, many going back to 1997 and 1998 (abstracts are available for the other titles on the service).

Titles available include:

- *Active Learning in Higher Education*
- *Art History*
- *Distance Education*
- *Employee Relations*
- *European Journal of Marketing*
- *International Journal of Heritage Studies*
- *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*
- *International Journal of Operations and Productions Management*
- *Structural Survey*

Users can click on a list of all titles available on GMIT's subscription, or simply browse all Ingenta titles. Profiles can also be set up whereby searches can be saved for running at a later date and alerts received by email notification when new articles pertinent to a saved search are added to the service.

N.B. When linking to the full text of certain articles a page telling you that you are not a current subscriber and looking for payment may download. Simply click on the IngentaSelect link and you will cross over to another database (usually Emerald) for the full text of the article in question.

To access Ingenta from the GMIT Library WebOpac click on the link in the 'Online Journals' section. From outside the college users registered with Athens may also access the Ingenta service.

Business.ie

Business.ie is a comprehensive online service providing information on over 150,000 companies trading in Ireland along with a worldwide business directory of over 1.8 million companies.

Contents of this service include:

- 150,000 live businesses
- Full contact details
- Products & Services Listed
- Executive Contacts Listed
- Trade & brand names listed
- Search by Company name/size
- Search by Product / Industry
- Search by area / district / county

This is the richest database of Irish companies available anywhere. The information is collected daily from companies all over Ireland and in many cases the companies themselves submit the information by email.

Worldwide Business Directory (kompass.com)

- 1.8 million companies worldwide
- Cover 72 countries
- 23 million product references
- 790,000 trade and brand names
- Source Products & Service globally
- Link to web site worldwide
- Search 90 top industries

Kompass.com is ideal for people in sales, marketing and purchasing for finding customers, products, suppliers and distributors. It has no equal in worldwide terms. The data for each country is gathered locally, which gives results more accurate and relevant information for the users worldwide.

To access **business.ie** from the GMIT Library WebOpac, click on the link under the 'business databases' heading on the Electronic Resources page. The username is 'gmit' and the password is 'benoml'.

Please submit any queries you may have on the databases covered above or any of GMIT Library's online resources to Maura Stephens (maura.stephens@gmit.ie) or Helen Flatley (helen.flatley@gmit.ie)

Cluain Mhuire Art Library

Many students from the Renmore campus may not have found their way to the Art Library in the Cluain Mhuire campus, but it is certainly worth visiting.

Cluain Mhuire library opened in one very small room in November 1997 in cramped conditions without a catalogue or even a phone. The library moved to its new home in December 1998. The new library was designed by the deBlacam and Meagher Architects and is built within the former Redemptorist Monastery. The library measures 450m² with 5 levels. American oak is used throughout on the connecting stairs, study desks and benches. The design reflects the

ecclesiastical history of the building. It is reminiscent of the great monastic libraries of the Middle Ages yet is designed for the requirements of 21st century art students. The library serves the needs of the 350 students who study art and design, fine art, textiles and film and television. An extension has been planned to provide facilities for a music library. So if you want to examine books on art from Botticelli to Bacon, the Art library in Cluain Mhuire is for you and of course students from the Renmore campus have full borrowing facilities, as have Cluain Mhuire students in the Renmore campus.

News from Cluain Mhuire

Welcome back everyone, hopefully you all had a wonderful summer.

A special Céad Mile Fáilte for those of you coming to Cluain Mhuire for the first time. There will be an introductory lecture by the Librarian with a tour of the Library for all first year students, so look out for that. Support and help is available for all students with special needs, e.g. dyslexia and I urge you to make yourselves known to us here in the Library.

We had a wonderful Degree and Diploma Exhibition here in June, the largest yet held in Cluain Mhuire, Tremendous efforts went into staging this spectacular event and great credit is due to all those involved

Our Library had a "makeover" during the summer with the help of our colleagues in the main campus. We created much needed space on the ground floor. A floor plan is available on each floor giving details of Dewey numbers on that floor. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of journals as research tools for information on all art matters.

We have a wonderful selection of art books, journals and videos in all disciplines, well worth browsing through and, of course, all the theses of past students are available too.

The Library staff are here to help in whatever way we can so do not hesitate to ask for assistance at any time.

Suggestions on the WebOPAC

The Suggestions option in the WebOPAC is the users chance to air views on what may be wrong, or right, with library services. Looking at the suggestions made over the last year, many were for acquiring new books. 29 new titles have been purchased due to suggestions submitted. Many suggestions were for books already available in GMIT libraries, so please check the OPAC before submitting a suggestion for a book. We may already have it! Others were for different equipment, e.g. a slanted map table for viewing ordnance survey maps. So rest assured, your suggestions are being taken seriously and acted upon. Some of the suggestions were slightly outside the scope of our power, like locating the pub and Jacuzzi at the back of the library! Other suggestions related to opening hours, particularly the request to open at 9.00am, we are still working on that.

If you want a reply to your suggestion, please leave a number or email address and a library staff member will contact you. Also, if you are making a suggestion about new books to add to library stock, please be as specific as possible. For example, one suggestion was books on bridges. There are books in the library on bridges, but perhaps there is a specific area of bridge construction or design that we do not have covered, so more detail would be a great help.

But the important thing is to keep the suggestions coming.

Fines for Overdue Books

We have increased the fine for an overdue book from the general stock from 10c to 20c per day. This is not a huge amount of money and is low in comparison to some other institutions. The main purpose of fines is to serve as a reminder to users to return books on time. Library books are for all our library users. It is not fair if users hold on to valuable and much needed books when others are waiting for them.

Fines have not changed on other categories of stock. There is a fine of 10c per hour on 1-Day Loan items and 50c per hour on Desk Reserve material.

Fines on Overdue Items	
General Stock	20c per day
1 Day Loan	10c per hour
Desk Reserve	50c per hour

Staff Exchange in Letterfrack Library

We extend a warm welcome to Ms. Shonagh Love from the Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology in New Zealand. Shonagh will be working in the library in the Letterfrack Campus for a year. We also wish Malachy Higgins a wonderful year in New Zealand.

New Acquisitions

New Titles in Teaching and Learning

There is a focus on new approaches to teaching and learning, as reflected in the creation of a new post of Head of Teaching and Learning in GMIT. This area is examined in a new collection of books recently acquired on the subject. Some of the titles are as follows:

Understanding Learning and Teaching, the experience in Higher Education by Michael Prossed and Keith Trigwell,

The Module & Programme Development Handbook by Jennifer Moon

Facilitating Problem-based learning, illuminating perspectives by Maggi Savin-Baden

What's the Use of Lectures? by Donald A. Bligh (far be it from us to ask!)

These books are available on the ground floor in the education section. They are marked with a T&L sticker for easy identification. More titles on this subject are on the way.

The Great Book of Irish Genealogies

The Great Book of Irish Genealogies, which was compiled by the Co. Sligo scholar Dubhaltach Mac Fhirbhisigh has just been published in five large volumes, beautifully printed and bound, by Éamonn de Búrca, of De Búrca Rare Books. The edition is the work of Nollaig Ó Muraíle, formerly of QUB, and now of the University of Ulster, Coleraine. O'Muraile in his introduction described the Great Book "as a compilation from a variety of sources, of Irish genealogical lore relating to the principal Gaelic and Anglo-Norman families of Ireland and covering the period from pre-Christian times to the mid-17th century".

As Professor Donncha O'Curraín says in his foreword, "the genealogies are the product of the early Medieval Latin and Irish learning of the ecclesiastical schools" and are modelled on biblical genealogies. Dubhaltach Mac Fhirbhisigh, the last of a line of hereditary Gaelic scholars, began his work in the College of St. Nicholas in Galway about 1649. He had also completed translation of the Rule of the Order of the Poor Clares for the Convent in Galway. Mac Fhirbhisigh worked in Galway during the siege of 1648 and the outbreak of the bubonic plague which hit the city in August of 1649 and lasted for nine months, killing some 3,700 inhabitants. Nothing of this is mentioned in his work, apart from a remark in the foreword "I ask him who can to improve it, till God give us another time more tranquil than this to rewrite it" Unpublished for three centuries, this is the first scholarly edition of his work.

Nollaig Ó Muraíle began work on this publication in the autumn of 1971. Prof. Gearóid Ó Tuathaigh of NUI Galway said, "it was the kind of task that nowadays is undertaken by a team of postgraduate researchers, backed by a hefty research grant and using the most modern IT equipment". This, however is the work of a single individual, without external funding, undertaken in his spare time. The early work of transcription was done with pencil and paper, later moving on to electric typewriters, and only using computers in the later stages of the enterprise.

The completed edition runs to five large volumes and about 3,640 pages. Following a lengthy introduction and detailed table of contents, the entire Irish text of Mac Fhirbhisigh's larger and smaller genealogical works (the Book of Genealogies proper and the Cuimre) and (on facing pages) an English translation of both prose and poetry occupy the first three volumes.

The fourth volume includes:

- a detailed catalogue of every extract from the work that has appeared in print,
- a series of cross-references to other genealogical manuscripts,
- colour photographs of more than forty manuscript-pages
- a general index and indices of families, tribes, placenames and historical figures

The fifth and final volume contains one of the most valuable features of the entire work, an enormous index of nearly 700 pages of all the personal names in the book. This, the largest collection of Irish-language names ever compiled, contains the names of some 30,500 separate individuals; between them they bore 6,625 different personal names, the most popular of which was Aodh.

New Journals

Some new journal titles just in:

Béascna

Béascna is a new journal of folklore and ethnology produced in University College Cork.

Training Journal

Training Journal is a UK-based magazine dedicated to the continued professional development of trainers. A monthly publication, it aims to provide workable solutions to everyday problems.

Inside the Internet

What's new, what's cool, what works on the internet describes this US publication produced by Element K Journals.

Aperture

This quarterly American publication is devoted to photography and the visual arts.

New Fiction

Two titles flying off the shelves of libraries and bookshops everywhere

The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown

Around the world it has sold in excess of 10 million copies, nearly 8m of those in hard covers, making *The Da Vinci Code* the best-selling hardback novel ever. The novel is a breakneck thriller with a plot that moves like a rattlesnake, with twists and turns on every page. Much of the book is set in the Louvre in Paris, where the Curator has been shot but has managed to leave coded messages for his granddaughter, the brilliant young French code-breaker, Sophie Neveu. The central puzzle is none other than the Holy Grail itself and the author sets out an alternative, and far from complimentary, history of Christianity and the Catholic Church. Protagonist Dr. Robert Langton who is being pursued for the murder, looks like Harrison Ford, author Dan Brown tells us. *The Da Vinci Code* is now being adapted for film by Columbia Pictures. Any bets on who plays the lead?

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon

Not many novels include an Appendix containing mathematical problem, but as the protagonist of this novel, Christopher Boone, relaxes by doing maths problems and as it is *his* book, it is of course appropriate. This is the story of Christopher, fifteen years old and autistic, and his discovery of the body of his neighbour's dog. He is accused of the "murder" and sets out to prove who killed the dog. His teacher, Siobhan, encourages him to write a book and the story is told entirely from his perspective. Unable to feel emotions himself, his story evokes a deep empathy for the wonderfully honest, funny, and lovable protagonist.

Reminder! Please switch off mobile phones!
On the spot fine of €5.00 for mobiles ringing in the library, please switch it off!