Alumni access to databases

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The Library is pleased to be able to provide alumni with off-campus access to three new databases. These are in addition to ProQuest, which has been available to registered alumni for several years. Off-campus access is now available to:

AustLit

AustLit: Australian Literature Gateway is a non-profit collaboration between eight Australian Universities and the National Library of Australia. It provides authoritative information on hundreds of thousands of creative and critical works of Australian literature and on Australian authors and literary organisations, from 1780 to the present day.

CABI Leisure/Tourism Database

An index containing information on all aspects of leisure, tourism, recreation and hospitality. Subject coverage includes the specific industries, policy making, management, travel, transport, sociology, education, community development and ecotourism.

ProQuest

A multidisciplinary set of databases providing online access to an extensive collection of journals and periodicals across a wide range of subject areas. Many articles are available in full text.

TimeBase

Contains full-text legislation for the Commonwealth, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. Commonwealth legislation is updated daily and state legislation is updated weekly. This service also includes full-text repealed legislation for these jurisdictions.

To obtain off-campus access to these databases, simply register with the SCU Alumni Office. For more information, see the SCU Alumni webpage: http://www.scu.edu.au/services/alumni/

By becoming a member of the Southern Cross University Alumni, you may also register with the Library and borrow free of charge. All you need to do is provide photo ID and proof of Alumni membership. Library registration is valid for up to 12 months and will expire on 15 March each year. Once registered, you will have walk-in borrowing privileges and access to the Library's electronic resources as our guest. If you wish to use our Document Supply Service, there are fees that apply (from \$20 per item). Document Supply is available only from suppliers within Australia.

If you would like more information, please contact the Library on 02 6620 3752.

Quick Facts 2008

Number of Books	239,645	Off-Campus Student Requests	5,422
Items Acquired	6,359	Opening Hours Per Week (Lismore)	70
Current Journal Titles (Print & Electronic)	40,586	Number of Staff	43
Loans	150,759	Visits to Library	311,578
Interlibrary Book Loans	1,193	Number of Libraries	3
Photocopies Requested	4,556	Seating Capacity	966

(Figures as at the end of 2008. Statistics supplied from CAUL Statistics/ Finance One/ Library Statistics)

















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Need help? That's why we're here

If you're a new student needing to get started, or if you're a continuing student who is just a bit out of practice, librarians at all our campus Libraries are there to help you with your information research needs. Librarians working at the Information Desks on each campus will assist you with finding information in our print and electronic collections. They will help you work out what it is you need, recommend the best sources to search and then show you how to search them most effectively.

Starting the search for information can often be a difficult and frustrating experience. The best thing you can do to avoid this happening is to ask for our help right from the beginning. We encourage you to come to the Desk at your campus Library whenever you're not sure of where to start, where to go next, or even when you just need some reassurance about what you have been trying. If you can't come to the Library in person, you can always phone us for help during opening hours or use the services available through the *Ask a Librarian* link on the Library website home page.

If you think you need more in-depth assistance at any time, librarians are always happy to make time available for individual appointments. All you need to do is ask at your Library Information Desk to book something in advance. Librarians also maintain and monitor discussion lists in a wide range of units on MySCU. Next time you are logged on, check out your units to see if we have one available for you to use.

Journal database alerting services

Did you know that a journal database alert is an easy way for you to keep up to date with the latest articles published in your favourite journals? By setting up an alert, you will receive an email of the latest table of contents as soon as it's published. You can also set up alerts to regularly run a specified search automatically in your favourite databases, and email any new search results to you. In many cases, your alert can be received as an RSS feed. The alert facility is available in ProQuest, EBSCOhost, Expanded Academic, ScienceDirect and Web of Science, to name a few. To find out more information and learn how to set up alerts, visit the Library's Databases page:

http://www.scu.edu.au/library/index.php/52/

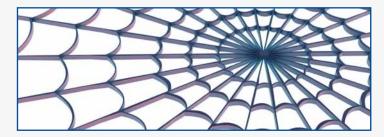
Database in the spotlight

Web of Science indexes the world's leading scholarly literature in the sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities, including proceedings of international conferences. As well as the usual search options provided in other databases, Web of Science provides citation searching, enabling you to find articles that cite a particular author's work. In this way, you can trace research from an earlier paper to the present, discovering the papers that have cited the earlier paper.

Included in our Web of Science subscription are:

- Social Sciences Citation Index (1993-present)
- Science Citation Index Expanded (1993-present)
- Arts and Humanities Citation Index (1993- present)

These can be searched together or individually. To go to Web of Science click on the 'Databases' link from the Library home page, then select 'W' from the alphabetical listing. Click on 'Web of Science' from the resulting list.



Subject guides - new look

A subject guide is the starting point to help you locate the best resources for your subject area. We have launched a new look for our subject guides, utilising the popular LibGuides platform. This platform allows the Liaison Librarians to easily add new pages, links and resources. The integration of web 2.0 components is supported and many pages feature videos and RSS feeds. Simple navigation is by use of tabs and drop-down menus across the top of each page. As well as the new features, the guides continue to provide links to the catalogue, relevant databases, journals and websites. Contact details for each campus Library, individual Liaison Librarians and liaison teams are also on each guide.

Liaison Librarians are currently transferring over 40 subject guides to the new platform. Individual subject guides are linked from our A-Z index page at http://www.scu.edu.au/library/index.php/113/ and you can also browse the entire range of completed guides at http://libguides.scu.edu.au/index.php





Academic staff profile

Professor Richard Bush - Director, Southern Cross GeoScience

What is your background, and what attracted you to working at SCU?

My academic background is in soil research, particularly soil chemistry. I did my PhD at the University of New South Wales on acid sulfate soils, with a focus on the floodplain soils of northern NSW. Professor Leigh Sullivan from SCU was my co-supervisor, and that's how I first became aware of SCU. With Leigh's support I was fortunate to have ready access to the new scanning electron microscope at SCU, which in 1994 was the leading facility of its type in Australia. In 1999 I took up my first position at SCU as a Postdoctoral Fellow in the CRC for Sustainable Tourism, which had a program looking at environmental sustainability. I then worked for NSW government in salinity management and returned to SCU on an ARC Fellowship.

What are your research interests, and what is the role of Southern Cross GeoScience?

My current research focuses on issues affecting water quality and wetland processes, and the impacts of large scale development in the coastal zone. The opportunity to establishment a special research centre in my field at SCU has been the most exciting, challenging and rewarding aspects to my career to date. With my co founding Director Professor Sullivan, we now have a research centre of 25 staff, largely funded by ARC and other national competitive grants with facilities and equipment that allows a new found capacity for national scale geosciences research. As a Director of a Special Research Centre, my teaching role is focused on the supervision of research students at Honours, Masters and PhD level. GeoScience plans to have an involvement in undergraduate teaching through guest lectureships and assistance with the development of course content, as well as providing opportunities for integrated projects and internships.

At GeoScience we undertake both fundamental and applied research. For our applied research we collaborate closely with industry and government, often by developing industry partnerships through ARC Linkage Grants. Such research assists industry partners to solve complex environmental issues.

We also work with environmental resource managers and policy makers on commissioned research consultancies which are generally outside the expertise of commercial consultancy firms. Typically these are large scale projects with funding of up to \$1 million. Southern Cross Geoscience also provides government with expert advice on the development of policy and management guidelines for land and water management.

Our work has included working with the Murray-Darling Basin Authority advisory committees on the management of wetlands.

Professor Leigh Sullivan and I were recently commissioned to study acid sulfate soil processes in the lower lakes area – Lake Alexandrina, Lake Albert and the Coorong - and to examine ways of managing this issue. Some of the strategies examined included pumping water between the lakes and from the ocean, and bioremediation technologies such as the use of plants to ameliorate some of the acidity.

I was also recently invited by Federal and State governments and the CSIRO to assess the scientific validity of a controversial approach to land repair advocated by Peter Andrews (recently profiled on ABC TV's *Australian Story*). I put together a team from ANU, the University of Newcastle, NSW and Federal Government, and industry partners to assess the transferability of these methods to other landscapes. This has been a very interesting project as it has captured the interest of a huge number of landholders throughout Australia, sparking strong debate on issues of water security, salinity and river management.

At the East Trinity tropical wetlands near Cairns, through a project in partnership with the CRC for Contamination Assessment and Remediation of the Environment (CARE), have established a national flagship demonstration site for wetland remediation. At this site we have recently developed new techniques for understanding arsenic in the environment. The National Committee for Acid Sulfate Soils held its biannual meeting in Cairns to include a field tour and full day of presentations on our research findings. Groundwater contamination by arsenic is a major health issue in many parts of the world, causing the loss of thousands of live annually. Through our research we aim to better understand the causes and dynamics of arsenic in groundwater systems which may help alert communities of critical periods when groundwater will be contaminated.

GeoScience has an emerging interest in the potential impacts of climate change, particularly the seawater inundation of coastal lowlands and its effects on the chemistry of the landscape and water quality. Last year we were awarded an ARC Linkage Grant to investigate the impacts of climate change on coastal landscapes.

We also have links with Curtin University, the University of Western Australia, three State Government agencies, and two Local Government agencies on a \$1.8 million project to study the chemistry of sediments in the Peel-Harvey estuary wetland south of Perth. The estuary is high on the list of Australian environmental assets and an important site for migratory birds.

What are your interests outside of academic work?

I come from a rural background and worked as a shearer in western New South Wales and southern Queensland 12 months prior to tertiary education and continued during vacations while I was student. It was hard work, but in hindsight I feel that working with landholder and people from regional and rural areas has given me a genuine appreciation for the challenges they face. I now have a cattle and sheep property in the Hunter Valley and for the past 6 years have experienced firsthand the ravaging impacts of drought. It is very difficult for landowners at present to manage their properties sustainably, possibly becoming more so into a future of a changing climate. My fundamental desire is to develop knowledge that is accessible and practical for rural and regional communities and that will ultimately lead to better land and water resource management. For recreation I enjoy playing guitar, and I have five children – so that keeps me busy!

What do you like most about the Library, and how do you make use of its resources and services?

The way I use the Library has changed dramatically over the years. As a student, I was seeking primary sources using databases and other electronic services. Now my focus is mainly on retrieving electronic journal articles, and I also use the document supply service, mainly for theses and select books. I also make use of the professional training offered by the Library, such as EndNote classes, to assist my PhD students with their studies and to develop their study skills.

If there was one thing you could change about the Library, what would it be?

My colleagues and I would really benefit from full access to the ScienceDirect database. This is a particularly useful (almost essential) resource for the geosciences discipline for conducting primary research and preparing scientific publications, and would assist us in defining research problems, seeking solutions, and generating new knowledge.

In memory of Jenny Mewing 1959–2009

The University Library was deeply saddened by the recent passing of Jenny Mewing after a battle with cancer. Jenny was born and raised in the Lismore area and started work at Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education in 1980. In 1999 she completed her Library Technician qualifications at Wollongbar TAFE. For most of her 29 years in the Library she worked in the Resource Services section, primarily in serials management, acquisitions and cataloguing. She will be greatly missed by all of her friends and colleagues.



Library exhibition space

As part of the Fusion Festival activities, the Library exhibition space was privileged to play host to the University's new Vice Chancellor, Peter Lee, as he announced the winner of the festival's photographic competition.

The primary purpose of the exhibition space is to enrich the intellectual, educational, and cultural life of the SCU community. Events held in the Library provide the opportunity for SCU students, staff, and the local community to come together to share a diversity of ideas, values, and artistic expressions.

Other events this year have included an exhibition of student artist Sunie Sun's works, student work from Digital Art and Design 1, works by student Elvina Hughan, and the Works in Progress exhibition.

Events in the Library may include exhibitions, launches and displays. If you would like to hold an event, complete and submit our online application form available from the Library Events web page at: http://www.scu.edu.au/library/events/



Above: This is My Landscape, Elvina Hughan Left: House Dress, Alison Bailey

Contacts

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