Introduction from the Librarian

Those of you who were here last year will see that over the summer vacation we have built a smart new Special Collections area on the second floor.

If you are new to the University let me welcome you warmly to the Library. We do all we can to support the University's learning, teaching and research, and we are proud of the services we offer. (You can find out much more about what we do at www.sussex.ac.uk/library)

Remember that we are all here to help you, and that if you have any concerns about the Library you should let us know.

Debby Shorley, Librarian

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New resources

We have bought a number of important digitised journals archives for access by Sussex staff and students. These include the journal archives from Nature (from 1869-1996) and Science (from 1880) in addition to the entire digitised back catalogue from the publisher Sage and a number of online back issue collections from Taylor and Francis.

In response to requests from a number of academics we have also bought Eighteenth Century Collections 1 and 2 and British Periodicals I. Both contain collections of rare and hard-to-source journals from the late 17th century to the early 20th (the earliest periodical begins in 1681, the latest ends in 1937). In addition we have extended the Science Citation Index (available from the Web of Knowledge) back to 1900 to extend our historical coverage of article searching.

We are aiming to increase the number of eBooks we have access to as we are keen to build our collection. We have recently bought a Psychology collection from Elsevier which contains 178 titles across several areas of psychology.

eBooks

eBooks allow you to access books you need for your studies at any time of the day or night from any computer connected to the internet. We have an ever-growing eBook collection which covers many different subject areas.

There are many advantages to using eBooks. You can do more than just read from the screen. Printing and downloading is quick and easy, you can search inside the book for specific keywords or go direct to an individual chapter if that's all you need.

eBooks are available to you as individual titles accessible through the Library catalogue. You can search for them in the same way as you would search for printed books - look out for the disk icon next to the title - or as part of larger searchable eBook collections, eg Oxford Scholarship Online or Early English Books Online.

For more information and to see the eBooks available visit the Finding Resources page on our Library website www.sussex.ac.uk/library/resources

If you need any assistance with accessing and using our eBooks ask staff at enquiries or email Learning and Teaching Support at library.learning.teaching@sussex.ac.uk

www.sussex.ac.uk/library
Making research at Sussex available to all
Sussex Research Online is a new service which makes the research carried out by academics and researchers at Sussex available publicly online. Traditionally, research by academics is published in an academic journal, book or other form. However, this leads to research - paid for by public money and universities - being locked away on subscription only journal websites. While universities like Sussex subscribe to a large number of journal websites (such as ScienceDirect or Project Muse) no organisation can subscribe to all of them. With the price of journal subscriptions going up consistently higher than inflation, many universities are finding it a challenge to be able to afford to provide all the journals they would like.

Sussex Research Online is a digital archive of research produced at Sussex. The papers and articles in the archive are published in journals and books, and peer-reviewed to ensure a level of quality. As well as appearing on the publisher’s subscription website, the research will also appear - copyright permitting - on Sussex Research Online. This allows those interested throughout the world to access the research, notably those people in poorer countries and those who are not affiliated with any university. It also ensures that the research produced at Sussex is seen by the largest possible audience and promotes the fact that the research was carried out and produced at Sussex.

Although you may be able to have immediate access, we recommend that you book a time in advance. Call us on 678157, email library.specialcoll@sussex.ac.uk or ask staff on the Special Collections reception desk on the top floor. We are normally open Monday to Thursday 9.15 am - 5.00 pm. For further details on the archival, manuscript and book collections in Special Collections, including the Mass Observation Archive, take a look at our website www.sussex.ac.uk/library/specialcoll or come and see us.

All new Special Collections
The Special Collections reading rooms on the top floor of the Library have undergone a major refurbishment over the summer vacation. Alongside the expansion of our manuscript reading room we now have a reference reading area which houses some of the oldest and most fragile journals that were previously kept in the ‘A’ sequence in the Main Collection or in the stores. You can now browse and consult items such as the Illustrated London News, Picture Post or Local History collections amongst many others, in our new reference reading area.

Study Direct
The Library now has a set of links inside your courses on Study Direct. These links will take you directly to the Library website, your subject pages, resource list catalogue and the Electronic Library. We will also be launching our own course, Information Skills. This will contain quizzes, handouts, hints, tutorials, and links to websites. These are aimed at helping you find, use and evaluate information in your subject area. Material will be added throughout the term so if your subject area isn’t there please keep checking.

Library book sale
The Library is holding a sale of withdrawn books - these are extra copies withdrawn from the collection following a detailed evaluation of usage figures. The sale will take place in the Library Foyer. Books from classmark L (education and children’s stories), Short Loan and Core collection will be on sale on Wednesday 10 October. On Thursday 11 October books from classmark J (politics), P (literature), and B (philosophy) will be on sale.
New circular meeting area
As we do not have any more rooms which we can make available for group study we have installed a circular meeting area on the first floor by the AV group rooms. Please use it for quiet group work - there is no need to book. The inside walls can be used as a white board (pens can be borrowed from the Enquiry Desk) and two of the panels are metallic so magnets can be used to attach sheets of paper for brainstorming etc. Please ensure that you leave the area as you would like to find it and remember it’s not an enclosed space, so be careful of the noise level. We have also replaced some of the old study carrels with furniture specially designed to be used with audiovisual equipment. Help us give you the Library that you need and fill in a comments slip also available at the Enquiry Desk. If the meeting area is useful to you, it might be possible to install more.

View your Library account in SussexDirect
A new service will be introduced during the autumn to allow you to view your library account using SussexDirect. You will be able to see your current loans and reservations, and any fines you may have. Perhaps the most useful feature is a link which takes you straight to your account on the library web catalogue system, where you can renew your books and perform other tasks, without needing to enter your borrower number.

Search for all the items on your reading list in one place
The Resource List catalogue provides links to the different resources your tutors have told us you need for your course. You can search using your tutor’s name, your course title or the course code. Depending on the type of resource it is, the links may lead you to an online journal article, a digitised copy of a book chapter or journal, an eBook or the Library catalogue. If you can’t find your course please let us know and we will investigate. Fill in an online enquiry form or email library@sussex.ac.uk
Can't find your book?
It can be hard work finding a book in the Library. It’s a huge building with 30 kilometres of shelving holding nearly 800,000 books, journals, documents and audiovisual recordings. And it is all in constant motion: in one week we can have 23,000 returned loans. That’s a lot of re-shelving, and Library staff work hard to ensure items are as ordered as possible.
Please help us by putting books back in the correct place on the shelf, or in a sorting bay for re-shelving once you’ve finished with them.
Please also avoid leaving books on the floor, at the end of shelves or hiding books. We don’t want to spend money replacing books that are still in the Library - we’d rather spend it on new resources. This is a fantastic library, and it’s the best study resource you have - help us to keep it that way.

Self Issue and Returns units - a few tips to avoid the more frequent pitfalls:
• Make sure that you are using the right machine for the right job. The Self Return and Self Issue units are all marked accordingly with signs, stickers and on-screen messages. There is also a scrolling LED display above the Self Return units.
• Make sure the spine of the book is placed against the blue strip on the base of the unit. If you hold the book with its spine towards you the unit will not work.
• Keep the book’s cover fully open against the back plate of the unit until the transaction is complete. If the cover is not completely open, or you move it before the transaction is complete, the unit will ask you to try again or take the book to the counter.
• Read any information given on screen, including the small print. This may give you an indication of why you are experiencing problems. For example, you might be trying to return a book that has been reserved by another borrower.
• Using the unit when in a rush means it is easy to make mistakes.

The Library wants to help you make the best possible use of its self service units. If you have any comments or suggestions to make about the location, signage, usefulness, difficulties or other comments about the units, please contact library@sussex.ac.uk

Term-time opening hours
Monday - Thursday
8.45 am – 9.30 pm
Friday 8.45 am – 8 pm
Saturday and Sunday
12.30 pm – 7.30 pm

Christmas Closure Days
The Library will be closed on the following University closure days:
24 December 2007 – 1 January 2008 inclusive

For vacation hours, please see the Library website.

Suggestions
Contact us with your suggestions/comments about Library services. Forms are available in the Library or on the Library web pages www.sussex.ac.uk/library