Explore, browse, discover, refine

Introducing the Beta Catalogue
Not a replacement catalogue - just a different way of searching.

What’s so good about it?
• Cunning spell checking. Enter ‘dikkins’ and it will ask ‘Did you mean to search for Dickens?’.
• Relevance ranking. The closest matches to your search are at the top.
• Word cloud (and here it is a shame that this newsletter can’t be animated). A swirling cloud of words gives you related terms, spelling variations and translations. This gives you ideas for focusing your search, often in ways that may never have occurred to you. It also looks good fun, which isn’t something you get to say very often about library catalogues.
• Too many results? Refine your search by format, author, language or subject reading list.

Don’t take our word for it. Follow the links on the University website, the Library webpages, the catalogue, and tell us what you think. Do you love it? Tell us. Do you hate it? Tell us. Would you like extra features? Tell us. The more feedback you let us have, the more of your ideas we can channel into developing the Beta Catalogue to give you more of what you need.

Library survey: research and teaching faculty
Following on from the Library’s Student Survey last year, to make sure we got the whole picture, we distributed an online questionnaire to all teaching and research faculty at the beginning of June. Although the response rate wasn’t huge (16 per cent), we were very pleased to see that all academic departments were represented. As well as contributing to the emerging plan for the Library refurbishment, these results will inform our future plans in all sorts of other areas over the coming years, such as research support, collection management, training and liaison. If you are interested in seeing a summary or the full results, go to www.sussex.ac.uk/library/informationfor/academics.html
New features for the Electronic Library
Over the summer we added new features to the Electronic Library, called QuickSearch and SubjectSearch, which allow you to search across several resources at the same time. These features are exciting because they offer a different approach to searching, a quick and easy way to start finding information for an essay or project. There are currently two webcast tutorials available - one for QuickSearch and one for SubjectSearch, with another being launched in the near future. These tutorials are available from the Electronic Library homepage www.sussex.ac.uk/library/electronic/
We would like to provide more of these to help you use our resources and services but we need your feedback:
• Is this type of help useful?
• Do you like these tutorials?
• Should they be shorter or longer?
• Do you need the commentary?
If you have any comments at all, please email us at library@sussex.ac.uk or fill in a comment and suggestion card available at any service point in the Library.

Supporting researchers
We have recently employed a temporary project officer in the Library, who is devising and producing an online tutorial for researchers. It is hoped that the resulting resource will increase the Library’s support for doctoral students and academics and help satisfy the many diverse needs of this set of users. The creation of this temporary post has been made possible by the Roberts funding, an allocation of money to support research students. We expect to launch the tutorial for the start of the academic year 2009/2010.
We are currently investigating and liaising directly with academics and students to clarify their needs and establishing the content of the resource. If any researchers are interested in contributing ideas, please contact Research Liaison at library.researchliaison@sussex.ac.uk

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

Don’t forget your Library card
Only five cardless visits to the Library will be allowed per year. Please ensure you have your card to avoid the disappointment of being refused entry.