Welcome to the Spring Edition!

We'd like to wish all our Library users the very best in the run-up to final examinations and assessments.

Don't forget that our Skills Hub provides useful information on writing, referencing, exams and assessment so do take a look if you get the chance. You can access the Skills Hub at: sussex.ac.uk/skillshub

We hope you find the Library a pleasant and conducive environment for study.

However, we know that this is traditionally a very busy time for the Library building. Please remember you can use the pop-up Library in Mandela Hall in the Students Union during May if the Library feels too busy for you.

If you have any comments or feedback on the Library services and facilities, please do get in touch with us via social media, or our instant messaging service: sussex.ac.uk/library/contact/askus

Jane Harvell, Director of Library Services

Green Group

At the beginning of 2018 we created a Green Group to look at the ways we can reduce the footprint of the Library.

A member of the Student Union has been invited to join the group. Working directly with the student body allows us to better communicate, encourage and listen to our users. With thousands of students using the building on a daily basis we understand how vital that connection will be moving forward.

Initially the group has looked at easy to achieve goals, so that staff and students can quickly start to make a change in this aspect of library usage.

For example we now have a battery recycling point for students and staff, located in the vending area. There will also soon be stationery collection points for any non-working pens, correction fluid bottles, mechanical pencils and erasers.

Going forward, we are working on more long term projects and are exploring ways to achieve our aims.

We are also championing the Green Impact Initiative that is happening across campus. We are happy to report that we gained the Bronze grade last year and will continue to pursue the Silver and Gold grades throughout 2019.

New Outdoor Furniture on Campus

Following consultation with students the University will be installing new outdoor furniture to provide more seating areas. There will be nine sets of benches placed between Library Square and Falmer House and six outside Jubilee. As summer approaches we hope the new furniture will be a welcome addition to your breaks from studying in the Library.

Go Green

Bring a reusable cup for your drinks in the Library and save 30p when buying a drink from the cafe!
We have recently started working with students from the University’s Data Science course to find out more about how Library Search is being used. Findings from these analyses will enable us to improve our Library Search tool and the associated training that we deliver through the Skills Hub. For example, one of the students, Maria Mathioudaki, discovered that only a small number of people tend to sign into Library Search when using it. However, if you do not sign into Library Search you may not find everything that you should; some results will only appear if you sign in with your ITS username and password as they are exclusively available to members of the University through our Library subscriptions. This is particularly important if you are searching off campus (where most searches have also been found to happen). As a result of this we’re looking at whether we can make the prompt to sign-in more prominent and will continue to cover this in training, along with many other useful things that are sure to be uncovered.

We are really pleased to be able to tell you that from this summer vacation the Library will stay open until 11pm, Mondays to Fridays.

You asked for a microwave so students can heat up their own food and eat in the vending area space.

There is now a microwave for your use located in the cafe.

You asked for more study spaces in the Library.

We are delighted to announce that the area previously occupied by the British Library of Development Studies is being refurbished as a new study area with over 100 spaces and is due to open in September 2019.

You asked for longer opening hours over the summer vacation.

During assessment periods the Library is very busy so to address the need for more study space we have arranged the following:

- A pop up study space with wifi in Mandela Hall, from 6th - 10th May, between 7am - 12am (midnight).
- Additional study space in the Careers and Employability seminar rooms on the ground floor of the Library from 15th - 26th April and 14th - 31st May.