EndNote

Spending lots of valuable time creating reference lists and inserting citations into your written work?

Help is at hand! Ask your Liaison Librarian about EndNote - the Reference Management Software available to all staff and students on campus which allows you to:

• Store and organise your references
• Help is at hand! Ask your Liaison Librarian about EndNote – the software available to all staff and students on campus to help you with inserting citations into your written work?

Struggling to keep track of your references?

Reference Management Software available to all staff and students on campus provides assistance in managing and organizing your references. Staff and students can benefit from using this tool to efficiently store and access their references.

The Law Library

it’s not just for lawyers!

The Law Library, located in the Scrymgeour Building, has seen several changes in recent months. In August last year, David Hart, the previous manager, moved over to manage the Reader Services team in the Main Library.

After 5 years in other roles at the Main Library, Ewan McCubbin moved down to Law to take on the management of the Law Library and be an academic liaison librarian for the School of Law. Ewan shares both these roles with another one of our librarians, Sharon Nangle.

Ewan explains, “The Law Library is completely different to the Main Library in that it’s in a much older building and has a really specific subject focus. I’ve been keen to build on the excellent work already done at Law, to continue improving our services and, most importantly, to ask the students what they would like to see done.”

“We’ve been doing various things to help ‘de-formalise’ some of the space in the Library. For example, we’ve re-named physical spaces to bring them a bit more up to date: “Lower Reading Room” and “Senior Reading Room” have become Silent Study Zones 1 & 2 respectively.

We’re hoping to move the lending books and journals up from the Silent Study areas up to the General Study Zone. It’s seems impractical to have material that is being brought in and out of the Library a lot in an area that’s still silent and is further away from the front door!

IT provision and options for informal study/soft seating are also being looked at as well as the introduction of a dedicated Help Desk service.

We’ve had some very positive feedback from students and academic staff on some of the changes that we’ve been introducing, which has been very encouraging.

One thing I’m particularly enthusiastic about is making sure everyone knows that the Law Library can be used by all students and staff of the University. So even if non-Law users just prefer the nice stained-glass windows, they are very welcome!”

The new Director writes -

The Library and Learning Centre (LLC) represents a new enterprise for the University of Dundee, and it will capitalise on the existing strengths of the Library services and Learning Centre services. I am very privileged to be given this opportunity at this University, at this time and with this group of colleagues.

The Main Library extension is working extremely well with regular visits each day supporting learning, teaching and research. Students are utilising the zones for individual, group and silent study. Our consultation with students and staff provides us with suggestions for enhancements, the most recent example being the request for extended opening hours (the Main Library is now open 8 am to midnight in semesters). The Main Library has bookable rooms for meeting, teaching and IT instruction, and it has a designated research room ideal for staff seeking a disturbance-free environment. University staff are also welcome in the café.

We are extending our support for College-based research. National and local agreements with publishers are delivering bundles of journal subscriptions providing cost-effective access to research resources. Use the Library website to access your subject resources and you can directly utilise the Cross-Search facility to obtain full-text publications delivered direct to your desktop. The LLC is joining with ICS and the University Research Committee to instigate and deliver an online institutional repository for research publications and research theses.

Expect to see rapid progress on this in the next few months.

In support of learning and teaching, we can highlight the new booklet available to outline eLearning opportunities and work in the field of information literacy, including instruction for Endnote software, now available to staff and students. Our online staff education modules in learning and teaching online, and assessment online are underway with strong uptake in both.

The Library and Learning Centre development will align closely with the University’s strategic goals. We need to be organised, operating in an effective manner, and making early use of new technologies to enhance efficiencies.

Our communications and brand must be clearly understood, and we must remain consultative and responsive to patron and University demands. We will enhance our joint work with professional colleagues in other support services and the School and Colleges.

I can close by acknowledging that the strength of the LLC services lie in the capabilities and commitment of my staff colleagues. We are proud to be a friendly, efficient, popular and responsive operation. The Library and Learning Centre services are highly rated by students and staff and we will continue further enhancements in response to feedback. I welcome your comments at any time.
The University has recently acquired the leading web conferencing solution, Adobe Connect™ Pro. Web conferencing facilitates one-to-one or multiparty conferencing via the internet. The audio/video features of this Flash-based system allow individuals in dispersed locations to conduct, interviews, meetings or tutorials online. Multiple video, chat, polling and application/desktop sharing are all supported features alongside powerful online recording and editing functionality. Adobe Connect™ Pro is supported centrally by the Library and Learning Centre and works on Windows, Macs and Linux, and with Internet Explorer, Firefox and Safari browsers.

The adoption of the Adobe Connect™ Pro system represents the culmination of an extensive options appraisal process which evaluated available solutions on the basis of ease of use; range of functionality and cross-platform compatibility. Interest from across the University in the new system has been high, with the two launch events in November oversubscribed. Further training sessions are planned for 2009 and will be advertised on the Academic Professional Development (APD) website. Individual or departmental training in the new system is available on request.

For further information or to arrange training please contact Dr. David Walker: (d.j.walker@dundee.ac.uk)

DIGITISATION: MAKING INFORMATION AVAILABLE MORE EASILY!

Do you want to make ‘must read’ print articles/chapters available to your classes through My Dundee? Contact the Library and Learning Centre and we’ll take care of it!

You may already have used the Library Digitisation Service so you’ll know that we’ve been using the trial HE BLANKET PHOTOCOPYING AND SCANNING LICENCE to convert print to (text) PDF since 2006.

The success of this service resulted in the renewal of the licences with permission extended beyond UK publishers to include the digitisation of material from US publishers. We are now also able to digitise material from electronic only originals (exceptions apply).

The University of Dundee has signed the new licence, now called COMPREHENSIVE: PHOTOCOPYING, SCANNING AND DIGITAL MATERIAL RE-USE LICENCE which runs from August 2008-July 2011.

Make information provision easier; use the Library and Learning Centre Digitisation service.

For further information on how easy this service is to use, contact your Liaison Librarian.

To view the licence, go to http://www.cla.co.uk/UKguildhe_members.php

Big Changes at Ninewells Library

Ninewells Library is to undergo some significant changes over the next few months, with the creation of a suite of small-group teaching and study rooms within the Library, and the relocation of nursing & midwifery to the City Campus.

The main work to be conducted at Ninewells will entail the conversion of two study areas into small classrooms, providing the School of Medicine with additional teaching facilities. When not in use, these rooms will be available to Library users for quiet study or group study. The siting of classrooms within the Library will help to create a genuine ‘learning space’, with students being taught within the Library for the first time. Both students and their tutors will be able to draw on the resources of the Library as part of their classroom activities. This work forms the first phase of what will hopefully be a large-scale redevelopment of teaching and learning accommodation on the Ninewells site.

Refurbishment of the existing Library facilities is planned in latter stages of the redevelopment, with the Library transformed into a modern, flexible learning environment.

Building work will commence in April 2009, with the first phase to be completed in time for the start of the academic session 2009-10. During this work, there will naturally be some disruption to Library services and to the study environment. It is hoped that users at Ninewells will bear with us while we work to transform the learning environment.

The relocation of the School of Nursing & Midwifery from Ninewells to the City Campus means that some of the resources supporting this subject are being relocated to the City Campus Library. Once again, there may be some minor disruption to Library services to nursing students and staff caused by this work, which should be completed over the summer.

Information Skills - Learning to Learn

The issue of information skills for students (and staff!) has come to the fore through the University’s work on the employability and professionalism agenda. ‘Information literacy’ is now seen by employers as a highly desirable attribute of a University graduate, and the University has recognised this through its adoption of an information skills framework for Schools and Colleges.

The framework will encourage Schools to embed information skills in their curriculums. Schools will hopefully move towards providing a more coherent range of activities geared towards the development of independent learning, focusing on key areas:-

- Recognition of the need for high quality information to support study
- The ability to construct systematic strategies for literature searching
- The ability to locate and use the key search tools to support a particular information need, e.g. Web of Knowledge, SCOPUS, Intute
- The ability to critically evaluate the quality of information sources
- The ability to organise information using reference management tools
- The ethical and legal use of information, especially plagiarism avoidance
- The use and re-use of information to create new knowledge
- An understanding of the relationship between research and professional practice

In developing the information skills of students, it is hoped that their information-seeking behaviour will be transformed from the use of simple but largely unmediated sources of information such as Google and, to some extent, Wikipedia, into evidence-based and peer-reviewed sources of academic knowledge. This will be done through the development of learning activities within the curriculum, contextualised to the student’s discipline and relevant to other activities within their course of study.

If you wish to know more about how you can develop information skills teaching within your curriculums, please contact Andy Jackson (Learning & Teaching Librarian) at a.z.jackson@dundee.ac.uk

Exam Papers Online

Session 2007-08 exam papers which have been provided by the Schools to Registry are now available in digital form on My Dundee, along with those for sessions 2005-06 and 2006-07. Papers can be accessed in the following ways on My Dundee:

1. Within each module, by selecting ‘Tools’ from the menu and choosing ‘My Past Papers’ from the list.

2. Searching from the My Dundee homepage by entering the module code in the search box.

3. Browsing within ‘My Files’ through the appropriate Schools folder in ‘Institution Content’.

More information on finding papers can be found on the Library web site, or go to the My Past Papers - Help link on the My Dundee homepage.

Please note that past exam papers are not made available by every School, nor are they provided for all modules. Please contact your Liaison Librarian in the first instance if you need more information.

The aim has been to provide the broadest possible range of material to ensure relevance across a whole range of academic disciplines, and so includes some of the most newsworthy events of the past century such as the Suffragette Derby (1913); the first interview with Nelson Mandela (1961), and the death of Diana, Princess of Wales (1997). The material can be browsed or searched, and the actual clips downloaded for viewing by subscribing institutions.

Have a look at this wonderful resource at http://www.nifo.ac.uk/ (Login via the UK Federation, select the University of Dundee and enter your username and password)

News Film Online

News film online - a century of news goes online

3,000 hours of television news and cinema newsreels at your fingertips! This huge collection is based on the ITN/Reuters archive and includes material from the Gaumont newsreel collection, as well as clips taken from three other newsreels - Universal, British Paramount and Empire News Bulletin.

News film online - a century of news goes online