

**Department of Information and Learning Services  
Annual Report to Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee  
2007-2008**

## **1. OVERVIEW**

The Department of Information and Learning Services (ILS) has continued to contribute to the research profile of the University by supporting the culture of scholarship and research within academic departments and also within ILS. A key development has been the creation of a new Research Team comprising of Ann Craig (Research and Development Manager), Rachel Johnson (Research Librarian) and Janet Davidson (Research Cataloguer). In addition, support is provided for each academic department by a named Academic Liaison Librarian and an Elearning Technologist.

External links continue to be maintained through Judith Keene, Judy Reed and Ann Craig's active committee membership of the West Midlands branch of the University, College and Research Group of CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Information and Library Professionals). In addition, others within ILS are active members of relevant professional bodies and groups and the Research Team are building links with colleagues at other universities. Rachel Johnson is an active member of the International Research Society for Children's Literature and The Children's Literature Society America and a committee member of the Henty Society. Debbi Boden is a founder member and current Chair of CILIP's Information Literacy Group, is on the organising committee for LILAC: Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference and also on the editorial board for the Journal of Information Literacy.

## **2. SERVICES TO RESEARCHERS**

Services for full-time and part-time research students have been reviewed in terms of equity of provision. As a result, all research students now have the same borrowing rights and none will pay for inter-library requests.

Information on services provided by ILS will be in future induction programmes.

### **2.1 Electronic Resources**

During 2007-2008 Business Source Elite was upgraded to Business Source Premier.

### **2.2 IT packages and facilities**

A subscription to RefWorks was taken out in December 2007. This service is available to all staff and students and can be accessed off campus. RefWorks training is delivered by the Academic Liaison Librarians and the Research Team. ILS continues to provide access to NVIVO.

PILS: Programmes of Information Literacy, an online tutorial package, was developed over the summer of 2008 to be piloted with research students within RTP401.

### 2.3 Collections

The University of Worcester Research Collections have continued to develop with the acquisition of the following collections and additions to stock. Discussions have also been held about the deposit of the Kay's Archive.

#### ***The Tsushina Collection***

This collection consists of items for and about children e.g. games in Czech, French, Japanese and English.

#### ***The Wynne Collection***

This consists of books written by 19th Century authors contemporary with G.A. Henty with an emphasis on adventure. The collection was deposited in June 2008.

In addition, some conservation work has been completed on items from the Williams Collection and the Percy Westerman manuscripts.

Information on the Research Collections is available at:

<http://www.worc.ac.uk/ils/635.htm>

## 3. OUTPUT AND DISSEMINATION

A selection of the Department's activities is included below:

### 3.1 Publications and conference proceedings

#### *Debbi Boden*

Boden, D. (2007) *Gaining a PILOT's Licence: Supporting researchers through the Postdoctoral Information Literacy Online Tutorial*. In: Konstanz University Workshop on Information Literacy, 7th-9<sup>th</sup> November 2007, Konstanz University, Germany.

Boden, D. (2008) *Information literacy: still in the wings or taking centre stage?*(keynote) In: Inforum Conference 2008, 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May 2008, Prague, University of Economics. Prague, Czech Republic.

Boden, D. & Ahearn, A. (2008) *A Dramatic strategy against plagiarism*. In: JISC Plagiarism Conference, 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008, Northumbria University.

Boden, D. & Stubbings, R. (2008) *Do Librarians Learn Online?* In: IFLA Conference 2008, August 2008, Quebec, Canada.

#### *Sarah Hayes*

Hayes, S. & Rothery, A. (2008) *Is there a role for online repositories in e-Learning?* In: EUNIS2008, 25-27 June 2008, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Rothery, Andrew and Hayes, Sarah (2008) *Repositories for learning and teaching materials: our recipe for success*. Discussion Paper. JISC DRaW Project University of Worcester.

*Rachel Johnson*

Johnson, R. (2007) *Recreating England: the settler and his homecoming in the work of G.A. Henty (1832-1902)*. Worcester Papers.

*Andrew Rothery*

Rothery, A. (2008) *Managing and sharing e-learning resources: how repositories can help*. JISC.

Rothery, A. & Hayes, S. (2008) *Repositories for learning and teaching materials: our recipe for success*. Discussion Paper. JISC DRaW Project University of Worcester.

Rothery, A. & Bell, V. (2008) *Wider Horizons: a regional portal for lifelong learning*. : In: EUNIS2008 25-27 June 2008, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Rothery, A., Cilia, J. Stenalt, M. H. & Dupuis, M. (2008) *EUNIS E-Learning Snapshots 2008*. In: EUNIS2008, 25-27 June 2008, Aarhus University, Denmark.

*Paul Williams*

Williams, P. (2008) Don't believe the hype: blogging with your feet on the ground. *SCONUL Focus*, 43 (Spring 2008), 4-6.

Williams, P. (2008) Are their real people in there. Blogging at the University of Worcester. *UKSG Serials*, 21(1), 9-13.

### **3.2 Conferences / workshop presentations**

*Debbi Boden*

Boden, D. (2007) *Gaining a PILOT's Licence: Supporting researchers through the Postdoctoral Information Literacy Online Tutorial*. Konstanz Workshop on University Information Literacy, Konstanz University. November 2008.

Boden, D. & Stubbings, R. (2008) *Snapshots of the future: SirLearnaLot and SMILE*. LILAC Conference, Liverpool John Moores University. March 2008.

Boden, D. & Ahearn, A. (2008) *An information literacy approach to designing out plagiarism*. 'Grasping the Nettle' HEA Plagiarism Seminar, University of Oxford. May 2008.

Boden, D. (2008) *Information literacy: still in the wings or taking centre stage?* (keynote) Inforum Conference, University of Prague. May 2008.

Boden D. & O'Beirne, R. *From POP-I to LolliPop*. (2008) COFHE/UC&R 2008 Joint Study Conference, Liverpool Hope University. June 2008.

Boden, D. & Ahearn, A. (2008) *A dramatic strategy against plagiarism*. JISC Plagiarism Conference, Northumbria University. June 2008.

Boden, D. & Stubbings, R. (2008) *Do Librarians Learn Online?* IFLA Conference, Quebec. August 2008.

*Ann Craig*

Craig, A. (2008) *Ringing the changes: reflections on delivering an information literacy module*. LILAC Conference, Liverpool John Moores University. March 2008.

*Sarah Hayes*

Hayes, S. (2008) *E-Learning Case Studies presentation*. EUNIS Task Force Meeting, Malta. February 2008.

Hayes, S. (2008) *Using Repositories for Learning and Teaching: Can we find a recipe for success?* JISC Programme Meeting, Worcester. May 2008.

Hayes, S. (2008) *Is there a role for online repositories in e-Learning?* EUNIS 2008 Conference. Aarhus University, Denmark. June 2008.

*Rachel Johnson*

Johnson, R. (2008) *Personal and Political Identity and Disguise in The Tiger of Mysore by G.A. Henty (1832-1902)* Children's Literature Association India Conference. January 2008.

Johnson, R. (2008) *The University of Worcester Research Collections in Collaboration with the International Research Centre for Children's Literature, Literacy and Creativity*. Plenary. Children's Literature Association India Conference. January 2008.

Rachel Johnson. (2008) *Looking and Seeing: into picture books*. Seminar conducted for the Education Librarian's Group. Seven Stories, Newcastle upon Tyne. March 2008.

Johnson, R. (2008) *Goblinization: a reading of the marginalisation of the colonial subject in The Princess and the Goblin (1872) and The Princess and Curdie (1883) by George MacDonald (1824-1905)*. C.S. Lewis and Friends Colloquium, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana, USA. May/June 2008.

Johnson, R. (2008) *The University of Worcester Research Collections in Collaboration with the International Research Centre for Children's Literature, Literacy and Creativity*. Plenary, C.S. Lewis and Friends Colloquium. Taylor University, Upland, Indiana, USA. May/June 2008.

Johnson, R. (2008) *Personal and Political Identity and Disguise in The Tiger of Mysore by G.A. Henty (1832-1902)*. Henty Society Gathering, Duxford, Cambs. June 2008.

*Judith Keene*

Keene, J, Colvin, J & Sissons, J. (2008), *Role delineation in an iterative, cognitive skills based model of Information Literacy*, LILAC Conference, Liverpool John Moores University. March 2008

*Libby Symonds*

Symonds, E. & Gallop, R. (2008) *Implementing Pebblepad at Worcester – the story so far*. Telling ePortfolio Stories Conference, University of Wolverhampton. June 2008.

*Paul Williams*

Williams, P. (2007) *There are real people in there? Blogging, IM and more in Worcester*. UK Serials Group Seminar, London. November 2007.

### **3.3 Other activities**

Rachel Johnson was Director of a Reader's Theatre Production of 'Dramatic Illustrations from the Second Part of The Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan by Louisa MacDonald' at the C.S. Lewis and Friends Colloquium, Taylor University, Upland, Indiana, USA. May 29 - June 1. 2008.

## **4. FUNDING / PROJECTS**

*Debbi Boden*

JISC is currently funding the SMILE Project (Study Methods and Information Literacy Exemplars). The outcome of this one year project will be an online information literacy package for undergraduates. This is a joint project with Imperial College London and Loughborough University. Katy Wrathall has been appointed as Project Manager.

*Sarah Hayes*

Project leader: "DRaW: Developing Repositories at Worcester." Development of the institutional research repository "WRaP: Worcester Research and Publications" has continued as part of this JISC funded project. It is University policy to put all research publications into the WRaP repository.

Further information on WRaP is available at:

<http://www.worc.ac.uk/ils/678.htm>

*Libby Symonds*

Project leader: "Formal Learning in an Informal Setting." This project, which has been given TQEF funding aims to investigate the students' experience of their learning journey and to discover where they carry out their learning, who they interact with, which technologies they use and when these activities occur in relation to assignment deadlines. This is a joint project with the University of Gloucestershire.

## **5. CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Rachel Johnson has submitted her PhD thesis "*A Complete Identity: the image of the hero in the work of G.A. Henty (1832-1902) and George MacDonald (1824-1905)*" and the outcome is awaited.

A number of ILS staff are currently registered on higher degree programmes. Those in progress include:

Su Fagg	MSc Econ Library and Information Studies	University of Aberystwyth
Sarah Hayes	PG Cert in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education	University of Worcester
Catherine Hunt	PG Cert in Professional Studies	Association of University Administrators
Pete Thornton	MA Education	University of Worcester

Sarah Hayes graduated from Lancaster University in December 2007 with an MSc in Advanced Learning Technology (Distinction)

Gerry Beattie has completed an MA in Media Production at Birmingham City University.

Roger Fairman has completed an MSc in Electronic Information Management at Birmingham City University.

## **6. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

Throughout 2007/2008 staff within ILS have endeavoured to meet the strategic aims and objectives of the University and the department in relation to research. ILS aims to support accessible learning, teaching and research with particular reference to the aims relating to Generating Knowledge and Promoting Enterprise in the University of Worcester Strategic Plan 2007-2012 and the aims relating to Research, Scholarship and Collections within the ILS Strategic Plan 2008-2011.